

The Falcon Spirit



Pat Cushing, Principal
October 16, 2009

2600 Mukilteo Speedway, Mukilteo WA 98275
356-1304 (Info Line 710-4494) - FAX 710-4321

Dear Parents,

I would like to invite interested parents to meet with me during Conference Week. These informal meetings are known as **"A Chat with Pat"**. This is an opportunity to meet with the principal and learn about the work going on behind the scenes, ask any questions you might have and meet other parents. Our first Chat with Pat will be on **Thursday morning, October 29th from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. in the staff room**. Light refreshments will be served. I always enjoy these informal chats and I hope you will be able to join me.

You will notice on the back of this newsletter some rules for school bus safety. Recently, we have had a smattering of unsafe behaviors on several of our buses. **I'd like to ask for your help in talking with your children about expected behavior on the bus.** The issue that keeps coming up is students not staying in their seats and bothering students in front of them, behind them, or across the aisle from them. The job of bus drivers is very difficult when they must constantly be monitoring students by looking into the rear view mirror and also keeping their eyes on the road. At Mukilteo Elementary, we talk a lot about respectful behavior and keeping our kids safe. We hope that our students transfer that respectful behavior to the buses so that all students and the drivers can have a safe and peaceful ride to and from school. We truly do appreciate any support you can give us.

Don't forget **Parent Conferences**, which will be coming up the last week of October. Sign up for an appointment with your child's teacher. We always look forward to having that time with our parents.

That's it for this week. Have a great weekend.

Best wishes,
Pat Cushing

OCTOBER

22 - Green/Beckman Field Trip to Museum of Flight

26-30 - EARLY DISMISSAL 12:45

(Parent/Teacher Conferences)

29 - "Chat with Pat" 10:00-11:00, Staff Room

29 - Wiebe and Katsh classes Field trip to "Gymagine"

29 - PTSA Halloween Bash, 6:30-8:00

NOVEMBER

1 - Turn clocks back to Standard Time

6 - PICTURE RETAKE DAY

6 - EARLY DISMISSAL, 12:45

10 - Veterans Day Assembly

11 - NO SCHOOL, Veterans Day

13 - Reflections Artwork Due

18 - Vision and Hearing Screening

25 - EARLY DISMISSAL, 12:45

26&27 - NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving

FOODS SENT TO SCHOOL FOR CELEBRATIONS/PARTIES

- All baked goods must be store bought and in original wrappers.
- All juices must be canned or bottled and unopened.
- All candy should be individually wrapped.
- Please avoid products containing peanuts or peanut oils. If you have any questions about food allergies in your child's classroom please contact your student's teacher.



Sorry, NO HOME PREPARED goodies should be served at school. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

VETERANS INVITED!

All parents, relatives and community members who have served, or who are currently serving in the United States Armed Forces, are invited to be our guests at our Veteran's Day Assembly on Tuesday, November 10, at 9:30. Please submit the names of veterans by Thursday, November 5. We want to be able to honor all of them. Coffee and cookies will be served to our guests immediately after the assembly. **Please have your child wear red, white and blue or their special organization's uniform.**



I am a veteran and will be attending your assembly on November 10 at 9:30.

Name _____
Rank _____
Branch of Service _____
Student Name _____
Relationship to student _____

HALLOWEEN BASH

Thursday, October 29, 6:30-8:00 PM



Come to the school Gym all dressed up for fun, dancing, pumpkin carving, etc. and have pictures taken with your friends and family! Contact Deb Bush @ (425)353-8190 for more information.

RULES FOR YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY ON AND OFF THE SCHOOL BUS



Please go over the following rules with your children - Thanks!

- 1. Always follow the bus driver's instructions.**
2. Get to your bus stop on time.
3. Stay away from the street when waiting for the bus.
4. Use the hand rail when getting on and off the bus.
5. Sit in your seat right away.
6. Sit safely in your seat with:
Your back to the back of the seat and
Your bottom to the bottom of the seat
7. Stay in your seat until the bus completely stops at your stop.
8. Always talk quietly on the bus. Never scream.
9. Keep hands, arms, and head inside the bus.
10. Do not play with the emergency door handle. It is best not to sit by the Emergency Door.
11. When crossing the roadway always look at the bus driver to give you direction to cross. Never dart into the street.

Destination ImagiNation News WE NEED YOU!

Thank you so much for showing your interest in M.E.'s Destination ImagiNation Program at the Information Meeting on the 29th. Teams are currently being put together and in order for ALL children to have a Destination ImagiNation Team we will need to have at least 10 more team managers! Two parents, per team, make this important volunteer work that much easier! I will be holding a detailed training session very soon for all new managers and am here to support you all the way! We have many talented, creative children who really need your time once a week. If you can help out in any way, please email Miss Wise at wisems@mukilteo.wednet.edu.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Many people think parent-teacher conferences are only called for when their children are in trouble at school. We see it as an opportunity to begin a working partnership with parents to see that children get the best possible education. Teachers and parents are natural allies in the effort to give children the best possible education. It makes sense that we should compare notes occasionally. We can accomplish more in the classroom if we have your support at home.

The parent-teacher conference requires preparation by both parties. The teacher will probably collect samples of your child's work and will make notes about his or her impressions of how your child is progressing. The following tips can help you have a more successful parent-teacher conference:

1. Plan for it. Before you come to your conference, write out some questions that you'd like to ask. Here are some suggestions:
 - Does my child get along with others?
 - How is my child's behavior in class?
 - Does my child read at grade level?
 - Is my child able to do the math that you would expect?
 - What are my child's strengths and weaknesses?
2. Keep an open mind. Your goal is to work cooperatively with your child's teacher. Even if the teacher says something you disagree with, try to listen to what he/she has to say.
3. Ask to see your child's work. There's no better way to see how your child is progressing than to look at his/her schoolwork.
4. Ask for suggestions. If your child is doing well, ask what you can do to keep things on a positive track. If there are problems, ask what you can do to help.