



A Note from the Principal

Dear Woodridge Parents,

The initial excitement of the beginning of school is over and it is impressive to see the way your children are attending to their learning. The new school year brings new challenges and new opportunities. A new year means adjusting to a new teacher with perhaps a different teaching style, new classmates, and new classroom procedures. Since the children have moved up a grade the biggest adjustment may mean increased academic expectations at school and at home, in the form of homework. You can help you child be successful for the whole year right now by guiding him or her into establishing strong study habits. Often the way in which a child starts something new establishes a positive pattern that can be carried out all year. Setting aside a specific time, finding a quiet place and providing organizational direction for homework, and checking progress are examples of ways that you can get your children off on the right foot. Above all, your involvement shows that you care about what your children are doing, and that may be the greatest benefit of all.



Sincerely,

Brian Melody

Brian Melody	Principal	354-4600
Attendance		354-4606

September 4, 2009

Upcoming Events

September

Sept. 7	Labor Day	No School
Sept. 10	9:30 a.m. Start for Students	
Sept. 14	AM Kindergarten Open House	
Sept. 15	PM Kindergarten Open House	
Sept. 15	Primary Open House	
Sept. 16	Intermediate Open House	
Sept. 17	9:30 a.m. Start for Students	
Sept. 18	PTSO Innisbrook Sale Ends	
Sept. 22	First Day of Autumn	
Sept. 23	Volunteer Orientation	
Sept. 24	9:30 a.m. Start for Students	
Sept. 25	PTSO Back to School	
	Ice Cream Social and Bingo	
Sept. 29	Site Council	3:15 p.m.
Sept. 30	PTSO Skate Night	

Weed Spray Alert

This is notification that weed and grass control spray will be applied to the track lines on the Woodridge play field early in the morning on Friday, September 18. A variation from this schedule may occur as a result of inclement weather. This spray is to control unwanted grass and weeds in the track line around the playfield. Our school has taken steps to keep children away from the spray area for 24 hours. We would like to ask that you and your children refrain from using this area during that period of time. Thank you for your assistance.

Open House Schedule

September 14	AM Kindergarten	5:30 p.m.
September 15	PM Kindergarten	5:30 p.m.
	Grade 1	6:00 p.m.
	Grade 2 & 2/3	6:30 p.m.
	Grade 3	7:00 p.m.
September 16	Grade 4 & 3/4	6:00 p.m.
	Grade 5	6:30 p.m.
	Grade 6 & 5/6	7:00 p.m.

Counselor's Corner



With the start of school come new routines, schedules, and priorities. Daily attendance and being on time to school each day are two of the keys to your child's success.

Research shows that children who are in school most of the time get better scores on state tests, and conversely, students who are absent more often score lower. Students can copy notes or make up an assignment, but they can never get back what's most important: discussion, questions, explanations by the teacher and the thinking that makes learning come alive. It might seem that it doesn't matter whether or not a student is just a few minutes late, but being late for school hurts a child's learning, too. Did you know that a student who is 10 minutes late every day will miss 30 hours of instruction during the year? In addition, the 30 minutes between 8:45 and 9:15 provides quality socialization time with peers.

To assist in getting to school daily and on time, established routines really help. Examples of "ready to learn" routines and procedures include:

Using an alarm clock or radio to get up at the same time every morning.

Getting dressed in the clothes that were laid out the night before.

Beginning the day with healthy choices for breakfast.

Collecting the backpack and lunch from the established "drop spot".

Walking to the bus stop or getting into the car at the same time each day.

Having a time and place for homework to be used nightly with needed materials readily available, such as pencils, paper, erasers, etc.

Showing interest and connection to your child's school day by asking questions such as, "What was your favorite activity today?" or "What are you learning in math?" instead of "How was school?" The reply to this question is often, "Fine".

Establishing a set bedtime that includes reading, aloud to younger children and silently by older students.

Loving structure and routine help family life run more smoothly, set expectations, and assist in providing quality time together, all of which lead to school success.

Jodi Harmon
Counselor



Lunchroom Reminders

As the first week of school is ending students are becoming more familiar with the routine at lunch. Just a reminder that lunch meal prices have increased slightly. Breakfast is \$1.30, Lunch is \$2.10, Milk is \$.60 and Suppers, which is an extra main entrée, is \$1.25. If you have any questions about your child's lunch account please feel free to call Mrs. Flores at 354-4587.

When a student's lunch account nears \$5.00 the student will stamp their own hand with a "paw print" as a friendly reminder to bring lunch money the next day. Lunch accounts cannot exceed two meal charges, which includes breakfast and lunch meals.

You may pay in advance for your child's lunch by cash or check. Make the check out to Woodridge and include your child's name and room number. If you are paying on more than one child's account with the same check, indicate each child's name on the bottom and how you wish to divide the money.

If it's more convenient you may pay by the week, several weeks or by the month.

1 week	= 10.50
2 weeks	= 21.00
3 weeks	= 31.50
4 weeks	= 42.00

REMINDER: Fill out and return your **new** free and reduced forms. Forms will expire in October and the new forms are taking about 10 days to process. Forms are available online at www.spokaneschools.org

School Directories

If you have not already filled out the directory information form you received on the first day of school and would like to have your child in the directory, please stop by the office for another form. You do have a choice of how much information you would like to have published. Please return your form as soon as possible.

"Woodridge on the Web"

If you like to "surf the net" and get your information via your computer, below is a link to keep you up to date on things happening at Woodridge.

- * View the latest issue of the Woodridge Newsletter
- * Send us an email message by using staff links on our site
- * Check out information about upcoming events in activities and events
- * See what our PTSO is doing in the parent section
- * Find out additional information about Spokane Schools at www.spokaneschools.org