



Cedar River Elementary

November 3, 2023

What You Otter Know

Note from the Principal

Hello Otter Families,

In reflecting on the purpose of Veterans Day, I've thought about the freedoms we can enjoy here in the US. My father served in the military and my grandfather served as well during WWII. Their stories and the stories of other Veterans certainly influence my perspective about these privileges. The dedication and willingness our Veterans demonstrate protect our freedoms to travel, to worship, to speak our thoughts, and to live our dreams. Having lived abroad, I know from experience these are freedoms that we can take for granted at times, but they do not come without great sacrifice. For these men and women, I am indeed grateful. May your reflections include gratitude for these folks as you spend time with family and friends during the three-day weekend.

Warmly,
Fritz Gere
Cedar River Elementary, Principal

Cup Stacking Fundraiser

CRES students will start our cup stacking unit November 6th in PE. The activities are helpful to develop motor skills, patterning, sequencing, focus and ambidexterity. Mr. and Mrs. Milligan have had many kids ask in the past about getting a speed stack set. We have set up a fundraiser through Speed Stack if you are interested in getting a set. Students **do not need their own for PE**. Purchases through Speed Stack can be made starting October 30th and is open until November 17th. Please see the flyer on how to get a set sent directly to your home. Purchases through Speed Stack helps raise funds that will go to the PTO.

Picture Retakes

Picture Retake Day is November 13. If your student was absent on Picture Day [click here](#) and enter Cedar River to order pictures. If you were not happy with your pictures, simply send the package to school with your student on Nov. 13th for retakes. You can also pick up paper order forms from the office.

Assessment and Support for Elementary Literacy Success

Our Teaching and Learning Department hosted a parent webinar last week discussing the elementary DIBELS assessment and how we will use the data to support students, as well as a brief explainer about our elementary Reading Assistance Program, also called RAP!

[Check out the webinar recording here.](#)

PTO NEWS

(click above for the PTO website)

General Meeting - We will have our Monthly General Meeting in the Library @7pm.

Family Fun Night @ Clayopatra's We are hosting a Family Paint Night with Clayopatra Studio on November 17th from 6:00-8pm in Gym A. See the flyer for more information.

O.A.R. Shout Outs!!! - Please turn in your **October reading log by Tuesday, 11/7!** The [November reading log is here](#). Students who read each month will earn a special exclusive charm at the end of the year. Congrats to September class winners: K-2nd was 4-way tie between Ms. Campbell, Ms. Kalash, Ms. Huerta, and Ms. Turian's classes. For 3rd-5th, congrats to Mrs. Nickel's class with over 35,000 minutes read! Questions, please email: OAR@CRESpto.net.

Staff Appreciation - We have a *Teacher's Favorite Things* list and our Amazon Wishlist to stock the staff room. If you would like to help us stock the staff room with goodies for the staff, use this link- <https://www.crespto.net/programs/staff-appreciation>

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What You Otter Know

Do you enjoy working at your child's school?

Hello Families,

We have hired some great new staff members at Cedar River but we wish we had even more. We are still in need of substitute paraeducators. This is a great option for those of you who would love a more flexible option to work with the best students and staff around! Even if you are only able to work one day a week, we love having Otter parents as substitutes. If you are interested, please check out our hiring portal here:

<https://www.tahomasd.us/employment>

The Substitute Paraeducator position can be found on page two. The location says Central Service Center, but once you are hired as a substitute you can select which schools you are willing to work at.

Thank you for considering!
Fritz Gere
Cedar River Elementary Principal

5th Grade Families

Cedar River will have our Veterans Day Program on Thursday, November 9th from 9:45-10:20am in Gym B. Following the assembly, the PTO will host a reception in the Library for all Military Veterans and their spouses.

We will honor our guest Veterans with a special musical presentation by our 5th grade students. There will be some reserved parking near the front entrance of CRES for the cars of our Veterans.

MAPLE VALLEY FOOD BANK HOLIDAY GIFT DRIVE

The Milligans will be collecting toys and gift cards for the MV Food Bank again this year. They will be starting November 6th and ending November 30th in order to transport toys to the Food Bank on Friday, December 1st. There will be a collection bin in Gym A or parents can drop off items in the office.



**CHILDREN'S
CHRISTMAS
GIFT DRIVE!**

**MAPLE VALLEY FOOD BANK
HOLIDAY GIFT PROGRAM**

 **MAPLE VALLEY
FOOD BANK**
FIGHT HUNGER • FEED HOPE

*NEW, UNWRAPPED GIFTS
OR \$25 GIFT CARDS
GRACIOUSLY ACCEPTED
THROUGH 12/1!

MONETARY DONATIONS ACCEPTED AT MAPLEVALLEYFOODBANK.ORG/DONATE

MS. LISA'S LIBRARY LINE

HELLO OTTERS! SADLY, THIS IS MY LAST LIBRARY NOTE TO YOU. I WILL BE MOVING TO TAHOMA HIGH SCHOOL THIS COMING WEEK TO START A NEW JOB. MY LIBRARY WORK HAS BEEN A TRUE JOY AND I WILL MISS IT AND ALL OUR OTTERS TERRIBLY! THERE WILL BE SOMEONE HIRED THIS WEEK TO FILL MY POSITION. I WISH EACH OF OUR OTTERS ALL THE BEST AND I HOPE THEY WILL COME SAY HI TO ME AT THE HIGH SCHOOL, ONCE THEY ARE STUDENTS THERE, OR AROUND THE COMMUNITY.

Ms. Lisa
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Zero Hour
Link

