



Cedar River Elementary

December 1, 2023

What You Otter Know

Note from the Principal

Dear Otter Families,

It's hard to believe it is already December. Earlier this week our students got to attend a Taproot Theatre presentation. The Taproot Theatre Company produces plays around topics such as friendship and bullying. All students in our school had the opportunity to view the play, *The Friend Ship*. I'm sharing some of the questions below that you might want to use to engage your child in conversations around the play's themes:

1. What parts of the play did you like the best? Were there parts that made you think more than others? Were there things in the play that surprised you?
2. What characters did you like best and what characters did you not like, and why? Who did you identify with?
3. What is bullying? What is cyberbullying?
4. What should you do when you see someone getting bullied?

We are grateful for your partnership as we work together to help our students not only identify unkind behaviors, but to also acquire a greater sense of empathy for others. Empathy and kindness are attributes that are helpful in building positive and lasting relationships. Thank you for your support as we work to promote these in our community.

Warmly,
Fritz Gere
Cedar River Elementary, Principal

Health Room Need; Help

CRES will be performing our annual hearing and vision screening beginning Monday December 4th. I am looking for volunteers to assist with the hearing portion. No experience needed.

[Click here to sign up.](#)

Chelsi Allard, LPN
School Nurse- Cedar River Elementary

Math Support

Did you know that we have a K-5 Math Support Site that is FILLED with resources that families can use to support their lil' mathematicians at home? Check it out:

[K-5 Math Support Site](#)

PTO NEWS

(click above for the PTO website)

Glow Dance Fundraiser - The Glow Dance party will be tonight, Dec 1 from 6-8 PM. The Glow Dance Party is open to kids who did not take part in the fundraising as well. Admission is free if they were registered otherwise there is a small fee \$5 for adults and \$2 for kids 5 and above.

Yearbooks - Have you ordered your yearbook yet? [Get yours now by clicking here](#)

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>

Watch D.O.G.S. - Watch DOGS have started! The staff are ready, and the students could not be more excited to get the DOGS back at recess. [Click here to sign up.](#) Questions? watchdogs@crespto.net

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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

Calling All Future Otters!

Online enrollment for the 2024-25 kindergarten school year opens Friday, Dec. 1, 2023. For more information, click [HERE](#).

Zero Hour Link

Counselor's Corner

Hello Otter families,

Below are resources available for families in our community. Maple Valley Food Bank and Vine Maple Place also have programs for holiday help.

- [Maple Valley Food Bank](#)
- [Vine Maple Place - Ending Homelessness](#)
- [Tahoma Wellness Support](#)
- [King County Holiday Assistance Programs - Free Food And Gifts \(ths-wa.org\)](#)

Please contact me if you have questions, need resources, scholarships, support or would like me to check in with your child.

Warmly,
Kalei McKittrick
CRES Counselor
kmckittr@tahomasd.us 425-413-5440

Message from the Milligans

In PE we have been working on components of fitness and skill related activities. Within our sports, games and activities the students are setting goals to improve in these areas and identifying which components connect to the activities.

In the next few weeks kids will be engaged in our bowling, frisbee, and net sport units. Our bowling unit will include a Disco Bowling Day, which the kids love! Students are welcome to dress up with disco or glow in the dark outfits on their PE days.

If your child has an injury or illness that prevents or limits them from participation in PE, please remember to email a copy or send a copy to school. Their teacher, nurse Chelsi and PE teachers will all need a copy.

The Toy Drive for the Maple Valley Food bank ends Dec. 1st. Thank you so much for all the generous donations for local children.

Lastly, we have a few more Zero Hour Sport classes that will be on the calendar soon. Please check out the Zero Hour Link above or the CRES website for sign-ups and more information.

Thank you for all your support!
The Milligans

See the email for a link
to the November Art
Specialist News

