



# Cedar River Elementary

February 9, 2024

What You Otter Know

## Principal's Letter

Dear Otter Families,

This week has been National Counselor's Week. We are fortunate to have a wonderful counselor, Mrs. McKittrick, supporting students and families at CRES. Mrs. McKittrick is a well-loved support to students who provides lessons around social/emotional learning, friendship building, and strategies for solving conflicts and problems. We are blessed by her work.

Please join us at the PTO meeting on Monday evening. Our instructional coach, dean of students, counselor, and myself will be in attendance to gather some ideas for key actions we might take to further strengthen our partnership with families in the education of our students. Hope to see you there.

Warmly,  
Fritz Gere  
Cedar River Elementary, Principal

## Zero Hour Link

New classes have been added, check them out here.



**Family Fun Paint Night** - Family Paint Night tonight, February 9 with Clayopatra from 6-8pm.

**Yearbooks Dedications** - [5th grade dedication spaces are now available for purchase](#) on the PTO website. **Deadline for purchasing a dedication and sending photos is 2/9.**

**General Meeting** - Our February PTO General Meeting is this Monday, February 12th at 7pm in the school library. We have special guest speakers from CRES Leadership team coming to get insight from parents on how they can further parent school relationships. Please consider coming to give your feedback. We also will have a Google meet option for those you can not attend in person. Google Meet joining info - <https://meet.google.com/utt-xpvo-xhk>

**PTO Spirit Wear Store** - We are excited to announce the opening of the PTO's CRES Spirit Wear site! This store will be open year round and offer multiple sales throughout the year. [Take a look here](#) and see all the cool designs and customizable pieces offered. Enjoy 25% off site wide for our grand opening until 2/13!!

**Code Ninja Fundraiser** - A coding and Stem workshop for kids K-8 - \$30 Per kid.

1. Dates: Feb 3rd, Feb 10th, Feb 24th 12:30 - 2:00 PM

2. Event Link: <https://cn.mystudio.io/e/?=cncovington/411/30617//1705978926>

3. Details: Code Ninjas Covington: 17265 SE Wax Rd. Ste 104, Covington, WA 98042

**Yearbooks** - Have you ordered your yearbook yet? Final sales for them ends March 1st. [Get yours now by clicking here.](#) Keep sending in yearbook photos to [yearbook@crespto.net](mailto:yearbook@crespto.net)

**WatchD.O.G.S** - Want to sign up to be a WatchDOG? [Click here to sign-up.](#) Remember you must be cleared as a volunteer to sign up.

**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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## **2024-25 Kindergarten Registration is Open**

Kindergarten registration for next school year (2024-25) is now open for children turning age 5 on or before August 31, 2024. If you have a little one, or have a neighbor who does, please visit [www.tahomasd.us/kindergarten](http://www.tahomasd.us/kindergarten) to get started. **Families are encouraged to register as soon as possible** to receive important communication about transition events, such as Kindergarten Assessments, Kindergarten Camp and Family Connection Meetings.

## **Would 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

## **Noteworthy News Feb/March 2024**

### **Here's what's happening in music:**

*Fifth graders* have been celebrating Black History Month by spotlighting unique performers from that community. A highlight was listening to Bobby McFarrin's "Don't Worry Be Happy."

*Fourth Graders* have been working very hard to prepare for their concert next Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome!

*Third graders* have begun preparing for their concert, The High Seas, on Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. It has been a rollicking fun time singing songs in music!

*Second graders* are practicing moving with patterns in music. They are learning to match their body movement with sections of music. They are also learning songs for their concert on Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> (**the date was recently changed due to an unforeseen scheduling conflict**).

*First graders* are learning how to use pitches So and Mi and are exploring classroom instruments.

*Kindergarteners* are learning the rule of instruments in the classroom: "If you play before I say, then I have to take away." They have also been working on listening to contrast in music. Scarves and movement help identify what that looks like and sounds like.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at [jbauer@tahomasd.us](mailto:jbauer@tahomasd.us). I wish you a pleasant mid-winter break!

Stay musical,  
Mrs. Bauer  
CRES Music Teacher