

Cedar River Elementary

March 22, 2024

What You Otter Know

Principal's Letter

Hello Otter Families,

Just a couple things I want to share this week. First, our Otter actors and actresses will be performing next Friday evening, "Twice Upon a Time." We hope that you will have the opportunity to attend this play and recognize the hard work these students have put into this production, directed by our own Mrs. Huizenga and Ms. Niksich.

On another note, the placement process for next school year will be starting soon. The parent input form is being made available in our school office beginning March 26. If you're so inclined, please pick one up in our main office or request a copy via email from our main office. Once you've completed the form, please submit it no later than April 26.

Have a great week.

Warmly,
Fritz Gere
Cedar River Elementary, Principal



Science Fair – Tonight March 22nd from 5:30-7:30 @ Tahoma High School Commons. Are you able to volunteer for this event tonight? It is not too late to help out. [Click here to sign-up.](#)

Yearbook - Yearbook photos needed: winter break, music concerts, family fun nights, etc. send to: yearbook@crespto.net.

Read-A-Thon 3/31-4/12- Read-a-thons get your reader excited about reading and it gives friends and family the opportunity to encourage your child to read even more. Our Read-a-thon starts Sunday March 31, 2024. About one week before our Read-a-thon starts we will send home instructions on how to activate your reader's personal page. This is where you will be able to view and record their progress. We encourage you to activate your reader's account today by clicking on <https://www.read-a-thon.com/readers/r/323739373930/1> and following the simple instructions. Read-a-thon gives your child a reason to read and helps in the development of stronger reading skills. We hope EVERYONE participates.

Otters Are Readers - Make sure your student turns in their [March OAR form](#). Every student who turns in their March OAR form will get \$5 in scholastic bucks to use at the Bookfair in April. Email OAR@cresPTO.net with any questions.

PTO Spirit Wear Store - Spirit wear sale is on now until 3/26 - entire site is 25% off. [Take a look here](#)

Carnival Coming Soon - Save the date, the CRES Carnival is planned for June 14, 6-8pm.

Popcorn Fridays - Want to help pop popcorn? There are still a few spots left. [Sign up here.](#)

Nominating Committee - We want YOU to be a part of the Cedar River Elementary PTO! We are looking for nominations for PTO board positions for the 2024-2025 school year. Please nominate yourself (or someone else) by using the google form on our website <https://www.crespto.net/about/executive-board> or using [this link](#) by March 31st.

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.

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What You Otter Know

Coming Week's Events (3/25-3/29)

March 25

✍ Teacher Workshop Day-no students attend

March 26

✍ Play Practice 3:50-5:00 Gym B

✍ Discovery Orientation canceled

March 27

✍ Play Practice 3:50-5:00 Gym B

✍ 2G Music Concert 7pm

March 28

✍ Play Practice 3:50-5:00 Gym B

March 29

✍ Twice Upon a Time Evening Performance 7pm

Following Week's Events (4/1-4/5)

April 1

✍ 5th Graders leave for Camp Casey

✍ PTO General Mtg 7pm

April 2

✍ 5th graders at Camp Casey

April 3

✍ 5th graders return from Camp

April 4

✍ School Librarian Day

April 5

Coding and Robotics News!

Greetings otter families! Here's what's happening in coding and robotics:

Kindergarten - Students are creating short animations using Scratch Jr. They are learning to write programs with blocks to change how their character looks and move to different points on the screen.

First Grade - Students are practicing coding multiple characters that interact on Scratch Jr. We also learned how to add pages to an animation. Students are getting ready to begin creating a story with multiple pages and characters that interact.

Second Grade - Second graders are getting ready to code their own game with multiple levels and obstacles using Scratch Jr. So far, we have learned how to use the send/receive start messages for multiple characters. We coded a soccer game where students created arrow buttons on the screen to tap and move the soccer ball.

Third grade - We are finishing up coding our own version of Crossover using the Hopscotch coding app. Students created this interactive game by learning to code direction buttons on the screen to get their hero across the road, while avoiding obstacles.

Fourth grade is learning how to add sprites, change backgrounds, add sounds, make characters fly, glide, and talk using Scratch. We are getting ready to code an interactive game.

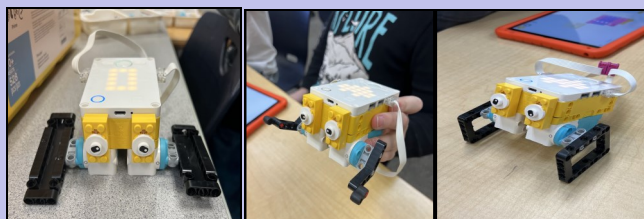
Fifth graders so far have completed 2 robotic builds using the Lego Spike Prime kits. The first robotic unit explores the Engineering Design Process. We practiced identifying a problem by building a robotic dog that reacts to different colors and produces sounds. Students then moved on to practicing building prototypes by creating different types of legs for a "frog hopper." Students were trying to build legs and modify the code to make their frog hopper faster. Here are pictures of some of the frog hoppers:

Please reach out if you have any questions!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Henninger

thenning@tahomasd.us



Do you have a child turning 5 by Aug. 31, 2024?

Register for Kindergarten!

You'll get info about:
• Kindergarten Events
• Kindergarten News
• Kindergarten Camp
• Class Placement

Visit bit.ly/TahomaK to get started!

Kindergarten Registration is Open

Do you have a child turning 5 years of age on or before August 31, 2024? If so, it is time to [register your child for kindergarten at Tahoma!](#) Our online enrollment is open, and parents are encouraged to complete their child's registration by the end of February. Families will begin receiving important kindergarten information, including our monthly Kindergarten Newsletter.

CEDAR RIVER ELEMENTARY PTO
FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND 5:30-7:30 PM
HOSTED AT TAHOMA HIGH SCHOOL

ANNUAL SCIENCE FAIR

FREE ENTRY

Register today at the link on the website or by emailing stem@crespo.net before March 15.

Volunteers needed!
Open to all grade levels!