

April, 2019

"Work Hard Every Day...Every Day Work Hard"

Upcoming Events

4/2

**Astronaut Jose
Hernandez Visits
Grades 3-5**

4/2

**Fifth
Grade
Music Program**



4/3

**Idaho Power Vis-
its Grades 4-5**

4/5

**Second Grade
Field Trip**

4/9

**PTA Meeting 3:15
pm**

4/11



**2019-20 Kdg
Pre-Registration
1-4 pm & 5-7 pm
(call for appt.)**

4/16

**Fourth
Grade
Music Program**



4/17

**ISAT Testing
Begins**

4/25

**Second Grade
Music Program**



Coyote Courier



From the Desk of Mr. Hopkins

It is difficult to believe but we are nearing the end of another school year. Although it may seem very close to our students, it is so important that they finish the year strong, and in order to do that we need your support. Spring brings with it several very important assessments and the results serve to guide many of our decisions at the building and district level. ISAT testing will begin on April 17th and iStation (formerly the IRI) will begin not long after that. Please help us by seeing that your students get plenty of rest and a nutritious breakfast every day. Remember, breakfast at school is served every day and is provided at no cost to you. If you need anything else to ensure a productive day for your students do not hesitate to let us know. We have numerous community resources available to provide you with any help that you may need.

The change in weather means that it is once again time to make improvements to our native plant garden. This year we would like to add edging and are in need of a landscaper to hire. If you know of anyone, please let us know. We will also be adding some feature boulders composed of rocks that can be found in our state. Signage will also be going up explaining the geology of these boulders as well as identifying plants that we will be planting. I am hopeful that this garden is something that can serve as a resource to the community and can become a source of pride for our students. Any ideas or help with this project will be well received.

Lastly, thank you for maintaining such a positive attitude this school year. As I look back on all that has occurred that is a real testament to the grit and perseverance of the Purple Sage Community, a community that I am proud to be a part of. Thank you as always for partnering with me in educating your students. Make it a wonderful Spring Break!



2019-20 Kindergarten Pre-Registration -Thursday, April 11, 2019 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm & 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

This time is set aside for all children who will be five years old by September 1st, please contact our school office at (208) 455-1148 to setup an appointment for your child's screening & registration. Parents will fill out paperwork for the upcoming school year and will have a chance to ask questions if needed.

Please bring the following documents with you to register your child:

1. Certified Birth Certificate
2. Updated Immunization Record
3. Proof of Residency (utility bill, lease agreement, etc.)

Music Program Updates—from Mrs. Adams



5th Grade—April 2nd "Jazz"

4th Grade—April 16th "Idaho History"

2nd Grade—April 25th "Our Flag"



Students should arrive at 6:30 pm—show starts at 7 pm

This is your child's chance to shine for you!

There will be singing, dancing, narrative parts and instruments.

Theme attire is more than welcome!



Counselor's Den—by Mrs. Fogg

Online Safety



There have been various hoaxes going through social media and we thought parents might appreciate some guidance on how they might handle some of the situations. As a parent, you may or may not have heard about Momo and/or the Momo Challenge. If you haven't heard, that's good news. Momo is a nasty looking, cartoon-like bird with a distorted human face. She could easily be scary, especially to younger children. There were reports that Momo would have children contact her via an app and give them challenges - the final challenge being suicide. This wasn't true, however like anything else on the Internet, it spread and caused a good deal of alarm. While there were no reports of serious harm to children, this offers an opportunity to talk with your child about online safety.

Here are some tips taken from ParentInfo.org, (a collaboration between Parent Zone and NCA-CEOP)

1. Try to follow your child's lead – in this case, introducing the idea of the so-called Momo challenge to your child, if they're not already familiar with it, might just lead them to become more curious and investigate for themselves.
2. Ask your child a general question about whether they have seen anything online that upset or worried them. Explain that there are often things that happen online that can be misleading or frightening and that some things are designed to get a lot of attention.
3. If your child does know about it, take their concerns seriously. Reassure them that it's not real and has been put online to try to frighten people.
4. Supervise your child when they are online so you are aware of what platforms they are using and what they are seeing.
5. It's a good opportunity to ensure that your child has enabled any privacy settings on the apps they use as well as having live locations settings turned off.
6. Parents of younger children may want to install YouTube Kids, a more controlled version of YouTube intended for families, for better control of what young children come across online.

For more information regarding online safety, we invite you to check out ParentInfo.org. There are several articles that cover a number of concerns parents might have with online safety.

Cover to Cover—by Mrs. Solomon, Librarian



"I read to them." When I was a young mom and I was asked what was the most significant thing I did to help my children achieve in school, that was my answer. In fact, I am so passionate about the importance of children being read to, and children reading themselves, that I became a librarian. I've learned since that the data agrees with me.

I could quote here all the research that shows how cognitive development is affected, new brain cells are formed and strengthened, language sounds are learned, the relationship between sounds and the printed word develop, vocabulary increases, how reading affects social, emotional and character development and on and on and on. But I'm not going to do that.

I could also speak about children reading to themselves every day. How the magic of reading just 15 minutes a day, or more, improves their achievement. "Between kindergarten and twelfth grade, students with an average daily reading time of 30+ minutes are projected to encounter 13.7 million words. At graduation, their peers who averaged less than 15 minutes of reading per day are likely to be exposed to only 1.5 million words. The difference is more than 12 million words. Children in between, who read 15-29 minutes per day, will encounter an average of 5.7 million words—less than half of the high-reading group but nearly four times that of the low-reading group.* I'm sure you can imagine how knowing 12 million more words when you graduate than someone who doesn't read much, could improve your all around knowledge. And this is just one aspect of why children reading every day is important.

But there are other advantages. When you read together, you form a bond with your kids. You spend time with them that they know is just for them. No distractions. Just you and your child (children). Now, when that child becomes a preteen, you have set the foundation of trust (you can be counted on to spend time with them each day) and the sharing of knowledge. I can't guarantee the teen years will be easy because of the time you invest as your child grows, but in our family, I believe it helped. And now that we have adult children? That sharing of information and trust has only grown stronger.

Snuggle up with your child tonight. It is never too late to start a lifetime of reading and learning ~ together.



* Renaissance Learning. (2016). *What kids are reading: And how they grow*. Wisconsin Rapids, WI: Author.