



THE CUB NEWS

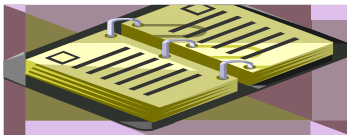
A PUBLICATION OF STEVENS CREEK ELEMENTARY

SEPTEMBER 2024



Stevens Creek Events at a Glance

- 9/4/24: 1st day for grades 1-5
- 9/4/24: PTA Meeting @ 6:30pm
- 9/6/24: Early Release @ 2:05pm
- 9/9/24: 1st day for Kindergarten
- 9/13/24: Early Release @ 2:05pm
- 9/16-9/27: PTA/ASB Apex Fundraiser
- 9/17/24: Sahara Pizza Night
- 9/20/24: Early Release @ 2:05pm
- 9/27/24: Early Release @ 2:05pm



Principal's Message

Stevens Creek Families:

Welcome back Cub families, as we kick off the 2024-25 school year together! We are energized by what's ahead for our Stevens Creek family! We have important work to do in the coming weeks and months, but before we get to that, it's equally significant that we pause and celebrate a fantastic achievement for our school community. We were recently awarded a Washington School Recognition Award from OSPI, recognizing our students' high growth and achievement. Only a handful of schools in the state receive such recognition for whole school growth and achievement. Congratulations STC! You don't achieve this without all team members- students, families, and staff working together and placing our kids at the center of everything we work toward. I'm truly proud to be the principal of this learning community!

The month of September is so much about getting to know our students, understanding their changing needs, appreciating their individuality, where they come from, and what they bring to STC that makes them special and unique. This takes time to develop that deep level of knowledge and appreciation. This of course is on top of assessing their current academic progress and related strengths and weaknesses, so we can target and enhance their knowledge and skills moving forward.

With this in mind, we will be utilizing our iReady diagnostic assessments in mathematics and literacy to gain a baseline knowledge of each student's current skills compared to grade level expectations, so that moving forward, our teachers and support specialists can plan for instructional goals- both short and long term for the school year ahead. Knowing our students' strengths and areas of growth allow us to be intentional, while setting achievable but lofty goals that students and their support staff can grow towards and monitor throughout the school year. This progress is what will be shared with you at various times throughout the year via report cards and parent/teacher conferences.

Additionally, we are assessing the social-emotional progress of our Cubs. Each student comes with a varying degree of skills in how to navigate their social world. School presents all sorts of potential opportunities and challenges for students who are learning to build healthy relationships, solve conflict as it arises, and learning to find one's voice so that self-efficacy becomes a reality for each kiddo. Understanding that we all come from different backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives, how do we come together as a school family and ensure that each student is seen, heard, appreciated and feels that true sense of belonging?! This is our work. The foundation is being built in September, but lasts all year long, truly. Just like academics, our kids are all working on mastering different things throughout the year.

We also built STC to ensure that students were enriched throughout the year with different experiences. With this in mind, September also brings our annual fundraiser, which our ASB and PTA are sharing this school year. Half the proceeds from the fundraiser will go to PTA, while the other half will go to our ASB. This way, we can continue to fund extracurricular activities such as House reward field trips, student recognition, and assemblies for our Cubs that enhance their learning and experiences here at STC. Once again, we will be partnering with the Apex Leadership Company, who will be leading our fun run fundraiser. More information to come on this, but it will be from September 16-27. Thank you for your support!

Stevens Creek Contacts

Main Office

425-335-1690

Attendance Line

425-335-1691

Matt Pewitt • Principal

matt_pewitt@lkstevens.wednet.edu

Toni Plemel • Secretary

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Pam Murkerson • Attendance

pam_murkerson@lkstevens.wednet.edu

Teresa Nickerson • Counselor

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Marie Chudnofsky • Dean of Students

marie_chudnofsky@lkstevens.wednet.edu

Stevens Creek PTA

stevenscreekpta@gmail.com

Matt Pewitt

Stevens Creek Principal

Weekly Folders & SeeSaw

At Stevens Creek we send home school/PTA information in a weekly folder & through email via Skyward. This information is sent home with students on Thursdays in a "Blue Cub Folder" provided by the school. You may also receive communication from your child's teacher through SeeSaw or a classroom folder. If for any reason you are not receiving your weekly folder, please contact your child's teacher and/or the office.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the office, 425-335-1690.



Stevens Creek Picture Day Tuesday, October 8th

Dorian Studio will be here to take individual student pictures on October 8th. ALL students will have their picture taken for official enrollment documentation. Picture order forms will be sent home with students on Thursday, October 3rd. The purchase of picture packets is optional. If you would like to order individual student pictures, complete the order form and return it to school with your student on Picture Day, October 3rd. Please do not return these order forms prior to our picture day as we do not have a secure place to hold them. You may also order pictures on-line. w/ Dorian Studio. This information will be included on the order form we send home.

Students who may be absent on this day will have the opportunity to have their picture taken on our "re-take" day, November 20th.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact the office.



Sahara Pizza Night Coming to Stevens Creek

Stevens Creek has once again partnered with Sahara Pizza in Lake Stevens for a monthly pizza night. For every pizza order placed, Stevens Creek ASB will receive a \$4.00 donation. The two classes with the most orders on our pizza night will receive a pizza party compliments of Sahara Pizza. The donations we receive from Sahara Pizza will be used for House Activities and support ASB activities such as assemblies & field trips. Our first pizza night is scheduled for Tuesday, September 17th. Look for the Sahara Pizza informational flyer to come home in your child's Thursday folder. Be sure you use this flyer with the teacher name noted and provide it to Sahara Pizza. Don't worry if the flyer gets misplaced, you can use any paper with Stevens Creek and the teacher name listed.



Stevens Creek Cubs Handbook

The Stevens Creek Cubs Handbook has been updated and will be available soon on the Stevens Creek homepage under the "Our School" tab. This handbook is a collection of the most important procedures, routines and expectations we have established which are intended to improve your child's and family's experience at Stevens Creek. Hard copies of the handbook are always available in the office.

We thank you in advance for discussing and supporting these common procedures and for helping your child understand what is expected at Stevens Creek.



Stevens Creek PTA

PTA Board 2023-2024

Rachel Beyer-President

Toni Plemel-VP

Danyele Peters-Secretary

Megan Gepner & Jessica Holloman-Co-Treasurers

The PTA is excited for another year @ Stevens Creek. Be sure to check your child's weekly Thursday folder, the STC PTA Facebook page, STC Instagram and emails for important information about our PTA.

Our PTA is ready to start another year, plan some fantastic events and support Stevens Creek in so many ways. We encourage you to attend a meeting, see how you can be involved and hear about our organization. Here are some important upcoming events:

- October 2nd PTA Meeting @ 6:30pm
- October 25th Trunk or Treat Event
- November 6th PTA Meeting @ 6:30pm
- November 22nd Bingo Night
- December 4th PTA Meeting @ 6:30pm
- January 8th PTA Meeting @ 6:30pm
- January 31st PTA Winter Carnival

To contact the PTA just drop them an email at: stevenscreekpta@gmail.com



Volunteers Welcome in our Schools

We love our volunteers!! They are valued partners in education of Lake Stevens' students. If you are interested in volunteering or visiting our school during the academic school day please review the information below.

- Fill out the LSSD Volunteer Form: Visit the LSSD website, www.lkstevens.wenet.edu, find the Community tab, then select Volunteer Program. You will then select the link "Complete an online volunteer application to get started". Be sure to submit at the end. You should receive an email from the district once this has been processed. Then you are ready to volunteer.

Look for volunteer opportunities to come from the school or PTA via email. We will soon be sharing a Sign-up Genius for our Tuesday/Thursday Cruisin Cubs Running Club and our Parents @ Play. Watch your email for these opportunities. Classroom teachers will be connecting with families regarding volunteering through SeeSaw.



School Attendance

Attendance continues to be a major focus for us, as we want to see our students attend each day for that consistency and scaffolding of learning that is essential for success! Thank you for continuing to make this an emphasis for your family to be here on time, each day of school. We appreciate it, and it really does help us grow our Cubs in so many ways!

A few attendance reminders & updated District policies:

- If your student cannot attend school due to illness, appointment, etc., please call email our Attendance Secretary, Pam Murkerson (pamela_murkerson@lkstevens.wednet.edu) or call our Attendance line, 425-335-1691.
- Our school hours are 9:15am-3:30pm Monday thru Thursday and 9:15am-2:05pm on Fridays.
- Our buses arrive and our drop-off gate opens at 9am
- The first bell rings @ 9:10am.
- The start of school bell rings @ 9:15am
- Students arriving between 9:15-9:45am will be marked as tardy.
- At the Elementary level the student day is divided into two periods, Period 1 {AM} and Period 2 {PM} When a student is absent for the whole day their absence will show as both periods (period 1 & period 2). This is often confusing to families as they see this as 2 absences, however, it is considered just one full day absence.
- Students that arrive after 9:45am will be coded as a Period 1 absence. This is a district policy change from previous years.
- Students who have an early dismissal from school that is prior to 3pm will coded as a Period 2 absence. This is a district policy change from previous years.
- Attendance letters will be generated when a student has 7 full day absence day, these can also be fourteen 1/2 day absences. If these absences occur within a 30 day period a TR (truancy) Incident will be generated in Skyward and an incident letter will be added to the student's cumulative file.
- Attendance incident letters will also be generated when a student has 15 or more absences. A TR (truancy) incident will be generated in Skyward and an Elementary Attendance Contract may be put in place.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding attendance and the policies/procedures, please reach out to Pam Murkerson our Attendance Secretary.

Phones and Smartwatches

Phones and Smartwatches will need to remain in backpacks while students are at school. If students are not following this expectation, the devices will be put in the office until the end of the school day and an email sent to the parent.

Why?

- Students have been using these devices during class and at recess.
- Content is not always filtered. We want to make sure every cub is using technology appropriately for themselves and for what they could be showing other students.
- Students are contacting family members to be picked up without telling staff, checking in with the office or seeing the nurse.
- It disrupts learning, engagement and the ability to build connections with their peers.
- The secondary schools have the same expectation. Their devices are "off and away," unless permission is given.

But family members need to track their student!

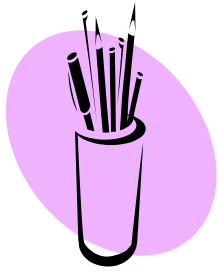
- When their device is in the backpack, families will know students have made it safely to school. Once they leave school, they can use their devices with the discretion of their family/adults.
- If the student has a medical need for a device, that will be cleared with Nurse Linda.

Why do staff get to have devices then?

- Staff have the same expectations to not be using their devices while with students. As adults, they have the discretion to use these for timers, schedule alarms, "remote" for classroom music, etc. as needed.

Thank you for working with us to ensure our students are getting the most out of each and every day at school!





September 2024

Sun

Mon



Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2 No School-Labor Day	3	4 1st Day of School 	5	6 Early Release @ 2:05pm	7
8 Grandparents Day 	9 Kindergarten 1st Day of School 	10	11	12	13 Early Release @ 2:05pm	14
15	16 Sahara Pizza Night	17	18	19	20 Early Release @ 2:05PM	21
PTA/ASB Apex Fundraiser						
22 1st Day of Autumn 	23	24	25	26 Apex Fundraiser Fun Run	27 Early Release @ 2:05PM	28
PTA/ASB Apex Fundraiser						
29	30	1	2	3	4 Early Release @ 2:05PM	5