



Kestrel Chronicle

Columbia River Elementary School
Amanda Wilson, Principal

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.



2026



Principally Speaking . . .

Happy March Kestrels!

March always feels like a little breath of fresh air — longer days, hints of spring, and maybe even a bit of “luck” in the air! We are lucky to serve such an incredible community. Thank you for your continued partnership and for the many ways you support our students and staff each day.

One of the highlights of this month is our upcoming Read Across America Week, inspired by National Education Association’s national celebration of reading. We have a full week of literacy fun planned, along with a schoolwide spirit week! On Monday, we will welcome parent reading volunteers into classrooms. Tuesday brings buddy reading across grade levels. On Wednesday, we will “Drop Everything and Read” as our entire building reads together in the hallway at the same time (such a powerful sight!). Thursday, we’ll host volunteer and community guest readers to share their love of books. It’s going to be a joyful week dedicated to building strong readers and celebrating the magic of stories.

I also invite you to join us for Coffee with the Principal on March 13 at 9:15 AM. This month, we will review our State of the School presentation that was shared with our school board on February 25. During this time together, we’ll walk through our reading, math, and attendance data from the school year so far and highlight some of the incredible work our staff and students have been doing. We are proud of the growth happening in our building and look forward to sharing it with you.

Conferences will be held on March 18 (no school for students that day). Our priority will be meeting with families of students who are currently struggling academically and/or behaviorally. However, if you would like to meet with your child’s teacher, please feel free to send them a message on Dojo to schedule a time.

As we move into this busy month, I want to thank you for the noticeable increase in families following our drop-off and pick-up procedures. We truly appreciate your efforts to keep our students safe. We are still seeing some families using the parking lot as a drop-off lane. Please remember that the parking lot is for parking only, and students should not walk through the parking lot unattended. If you choose to park, please walk your student to the crosswalk. Your partnership in following these procedures helps ensure a smooth and safe process for everyone.

Thank you for continuing to help us make Columbia River Elementary a place where students grow, achieve, and soar. We are lucky to do this work together.

Watch Us Rise,
Amanda Wilson



Dates to Remember

2nd

- Read Across America Parent Reading Day
- Grinch Spirit Day

3rd

- Read Across America Buddy Reading Day
- Twin Spirit Day
- PTO Meeting 6:00 p.m. in the library

4th

- Read Across America Drop Everything and Read in the hallways
- Pajama Spirit Day

5th

- Read Across America Volunteer/Community Guest Readers
- Oh! The Places You Will Go Career Spirit Day

6th

- Managing Me Assemblies 9:20-9:50 a.m.- 2nd & 3rd 10:10-10:40 a.m. - 4th & 5th 2:20-2:50 p.m. - K & 1st
- Read Across America Special book reading video
- Crazy Mismatched Sock Spirit Day

11th

- Trimester Break Day No classes held

13th

- Coffee with the Principal/ATP 9:15 a.m. in room 204

18th

- Conference Day–No classes held

26th

- Fifth Grade - Farm Fair @ B-F Fairgrounds 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

30th

- Silverwood Read 2 Ride log due



Columbia River P.T.O.

kestrelpridepto@gmail.com



- April 13 ~ Panda Express Fundraiser
- April 14 ~ PTO Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
- April 23 ~ Fun Run (during school day)
- April Fundraiser Night - TBD
- May 5 ~ PTO Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
- May Fundraiser Night - TBD

If you are interested in being involved in our PTO group, please send your contact information to kestrelpridepto@gmail.com

Monthly P.T.O. Meeting

Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the school library.

monthly



- Rollarena Skate Night ~ 6:00-8:00 p.m.
A free lesson is available at 5:45 p.m.
(No middle or high school students allowed)



Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher conferences will be on Wednesday, March 18, 2026. Teachers will be reaching out with your conference date and time.

No classes will be held on this day. Classes will resume on Thursday, March 19, 2026.

We hope that you will attend your scheduled conference with your child's teacher.



Notes From the Music Room

Thank you to all the families who came to support our performances. Second Grade showed our talent and hard work with our Winter program. Third grade demonstrated what goes into being a friend. Our fifth graders had an amazing instrumental concert demonstrating their dedication so far this year.

Looking forward, the districtwide SongFest will be held on March 28, 2026. Registration will be available soon, but please save the date. This event is open to ALL 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students in the district. This will be held at Sageview High School and will last approximately 8:30-11:30 a.m. Students will learn several new songs to sing and then will present to their families. This is a great chance to meet the secondary school choir directors and meet friends from across the district. A snack will be provided; transportation is family responsibility.

First Grade Creep Crawlies concert is on April 21, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. for the family show. Details have been sent home and posted on ParentSquare and Class Dojo.

Our Kindergarten students will present a "Moving On!" concert on May 12, 2026. The family show will be at 6:00 p.m. Further details will be shared soon.

Daylight Savings Time!

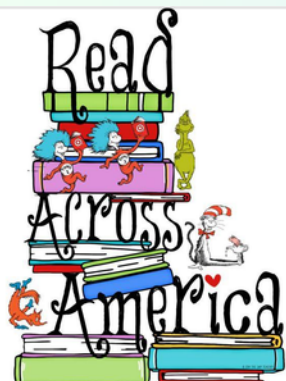


Remember to spring forward and move your clock ahead one hour on Sunday, March 8, 2026.



Literacy and Spirit Week

March 2 ~ March 6, 2026



Monday, March 2, 2026 ~ National Read Across America - Parent Day (sign-up)
Grinch Spirit Day

Tuesday, March 3, 2026 ~ Buddy Reading (classroom to classroom)
Twin Spirit Day

Wednesday, March 4, 2026 ~ Drop Everything and Read (hallways)
Pajama Spirit Day

Thursday, March 5, 2026 ~ Community Guest Readers
Oh, the Places You'll Go! - Career Spirit Day

Friday, March 6, 2026 ~ Krew Reading During the Assemblies
Crazy Mismatched Sock Spirit Day