Kestrel Chronicle

Columbia River Elementary School
Amanda Wilson, Principal

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.

May 2026

Principally Speaking . . .

Dear Columbia River Families,

With the arrival of May, we are enjoying the signs of spring all around us—warmer weather, longer days, and more opportunities for outdoor learning and activities. This is always an exciting time of year for our students, with the school year beginning to wind down while learning and growth continue each day. Our school community remains committed to helping everyone soar together by supporting one another and finishing the year strong.

Teacher Appreciation Week (May 4–8)
Teacher Appreciation Week is a special time to recognize the dedication, care, and hard work of our incredible teachers and staff. Each day, they go above and beyond to support students academically and emotionally, helping them grow and succeed. Families are encouraged to show appreciation through kind notes, messages, or small gestures of gratitude. These acts of kindness help strengthen our community spirit.

State Testing (Grades 3-5)
This busy season also brings an important milestone—state and end-of-year testing. These assessments provide valuable insight into student progress and help guide planning for continued success.

3rd Grade
- Language Arts: May 5, 6, 7, and 8
- Math: May 19 and 21

4th Grade
- Language Arts: May 12, 13, 14, and 15
- Math: May 19 and 21

5th Grade
- Science: May 5
- Language Arts: May 12, 13, 14, and 15
- Math: May 19 and 21

Attendance during this time is especially critical. Please make note of these testing dates and avoid scheduling appointments during school hours whenever possible. We ask that all students arrive on time each day and remain at school for the full day, especially on testing days. Late arrivals or early checkouts can disrupt the testing environment and may require students to complete make-up sessions, which can add stress and take away from valuable instructional time.

Being present, well-rested, and ready to learn helps students perform their best. A consistent routine—including a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast—can make a big difference in how students feel and focus during testing.

End-of-Year Events
The final weeks of school will include a variety of end-of-year events and celebrations. More information will be shared soon, so please be sure to keep an eye on Class Dojo and ParentSquare for updates and details. These events provide meaningful opportunities to celebrate a year of growth and achievement.

Thank you for your continued partnership and for supporting our school. Your involvement and commitment make a meaningful difference each and every day.

Watch Us Rise!
Amanda Wilson



Dates to Remember

1st
- Friendship 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

4th - 8th
- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Totally 90's Spirit Week - see page 2 for details

6th
- School Nurse Appreciation Day

6th
- PTO Meeting
  6:00 p.m. - library

7th
- 4th grade field trip to Whitman Mission
  9:45 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.

12th
- Kindergarten Concert
  Family performance
  6:00 p.m. - cafeteria

13th
- Kindergarten Round-up
  2026-2027 Kinders
  5:00-6:00 p.m. - cafeteria

15th
- Kinder Grad Picture Day
- CRE Dust Devils Night
  5:30 p.m. - gates open

18th
- Velazco, Morfin & Carlson
  Reach Museum
  9:20 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.

20th
- Chick-fil-A Night
  4:30-7:30 p.m.

22nd
- Coffee with the Principal
  9:15 a.m. in room 204

25th
- Memorial Day - No classes

28th
- Rose, Martinez, T. Taylor & McCullough (2nd gr.)
  Reach Museum
  9:20 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.

- 5th grade Formal Spring Concert
  6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria

Columbia River P.T.O.

kestrelpridepto@gmail.com

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

Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the school library.

monthly EVENTS

- May 6 ~ PTO Meeting – 6:00 p.m.
- May 15 ~ CRE Dust Devils Night
- May 20 ~ Chick-fil-A Fundraiser

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June TBD ~ Family Fun Night

Teacher Appreciation Week



NURSE

National School Nurse Day is Wednesday, May 6, 2026.

Thank you Nurse Meghan for your vital role in student health, safety, and academic success. We appreciate everything you do for our students and staff.

2026-2027 Student Registration

2026-2027 Student Registration is Now Open

Registration is open for the 2026-2027 school year. We are encouraging parents of upcoming kindergarten students to get registered. As well as any student who is new to our area.

THE PROCESS IS EASY:
Go to www.psdl.org/register and click on the "Register your Student" button and follow the instructions.

INFORMATION NEEDED TO REGISTER:

- Age verification (state issued birth certificate, previous school records, entry in family bible, other)
- Immunication records
- Proof of district residency (utility bill, lease, other)
- Health histroy with list of allergies and current medications

Don't have access to a computer?
We have kiosks for you to use!

Kindergarten Round-up Night

Hello kindergarten

Our Kindergarten Round-up Night has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2026 from 5:00-6:00 p.m. We will distribute supplies to our 2026-2027 kindergarten students. We will also pass out folders with worksheets and helpful tips for parents leading up to the start of school. If you have any questions, please contact the office at 509-546-7440.

NEVER STOP READING

Books: a world of possibilities

MEMORIAL DAY

No classes will be held on Monday, May 25, 2026 in observance of Memorial Day.

Classes will resume on Tuesday, May 26, 2026.