
MEREDITH HILL MESSENGER

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Cindy Kelsey, Principal
Mary Jane Henry, Office Manager

Kerry Woller, Secretary
Lynette Edwards, Office Clerk

Dear Meredith Hill Families,

Students at Meredith Hill are readers! Great news about Meredith Hill students and their reading achievement is evident in the entrance of our school. A large banner is on display in the school foyer in recognition of our school meeting a three-year state reading goal. The banner reads, "This School Reads To Succeed! 2001 Reading Goal Achieved!" This recognition came from State School Superintendent Terry Burgeson, and was awarded to schools that made a 25% or greater reduction in numbers of students who did not meet the reading standard over the past three years on the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL). Our 4th graders' performance on the reading portion of the test grew from 55.6% mastery in 1998 to 77.3% in 2001. Congratulations to Meredith Hill students, teachers, and families! We take great pride in this success!

Sincerely,

Cindy Kelsey, Principal

Mark Your Calendar

NOVEMBER

- 21 – NO SCHOOL, Teacher Inservice Day
- 22-23 – NO SCHOOL, Thanksgiving Break
- 27 – P.T.A. Board Mtg.
- 29 – Cookie Day
- 30 – Blood & Guts Van, Pacific Science Ctr.
- 30 – End of 1st Trimester

DECEMBER

- 4 – P.T.A. General Mtg., 7:00 p.m.
- 7 – NO SCHOOL – State Inservice Day
- 13 – Cookie Day
- 13 – Burgi/Rea-Smith Field Trip to
Wolfhaven
- 14 – S.L.T. Mtg., - 7:30 a.m.
- 14 – P.T.A. Winterfest, 4:30-9:30 p.m.
- 24 – Jan. 2 – Winter Vacation

GATE Applications Available

GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) applications for the school year 2002-2003 for children in Grades 3-5 are now available at school. This is the District's program for students with very high learning rates. For more information on the GATE program you can call Gwen Knechtel or Kari Tinsley at 253-945-2093. If you are interested in nominating your child for GATE, please come in the office, and pick up an application.

Emergency Closures

Arrangements have been made with the radio and TV stations listed below to broadcast information about any school closures or late starts due to snow/ice or other emergency conditions. These announcements will begin at 5:30 a.m.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL OFFICE FOR THIS INFORMATION. The school staff gets info from the news stations the same time as you.

If the Federal Way School District is NOT mentioned during the news broadcast, it means that school will be open with buses operating on as normal a schedule as possible. This means that even though buses will begin their routes on time, road and traffic conditions could cause them to be late to their stops. Please be patient. We would rather the students be a bit late than to have accidents.

School closures are announced on the following stations:

Television: KOMO TV Channel 4
KING TV Channel 5
KIRO TV Channel 7
KSTW TV Channel 22
Northwest Cable News
Channel 35
Radio: KIRO 710AM

KOMO 1000 AM
KVI 580 AM
KLAY 1180 AM
KPLU 88.5 FM

Buy Tomorrow's College Tuition Today

The Washington State Guaranteed Education Tuition (GET) programs offer you one more way to help families and their children save for college. GET allows families to purchase future college tuition at today's price, locking in the cost of a college education. It's 100 percent guaranteed by the State of Washington. GET accounts grow tax-free when the proceeds are used for eligible college expenses. It is the only college savings plan that is guaranteed by the State, grows tax-free and is as flexible as the family needs.

Saving for college is an important part of planning for a student's future. With tuition at Washington State's public universities continuing to rise (approximately 13 percent by 2003), it is more important than ever for families to begin saving as early as possible.

GET account can be used at any accredited college, university, technical or trade school in the U.S. Accounts can be transferred among family members, making them flexible enough to meet the needs of more students and families than ever.

For more information, email GETinfo@hecb.wa.gov or call 1-877-GET-TUIT

(1-877-438-8848). You may also visit the GET web site: www.get.wa.gov.

Lunch Tickets

Your child's lunch ticket can now be charged to your Master Card or VISA. It's quick and easy and can be done over the phone. To take advantage of this program, please call the Central Kitchen at 253-945-5555. They will then notify the school of your payment. School lunches are \$1.75, milk is \$.50 and a lunch ticket is \$35.00 for twenty tickets.