

# Meredith Hill Messenger

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April 2007

Cindy Kelsey, Principal  
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## FWPS 7th Annual All-City Marching Band Summer Program and Camp

Camp dates are July 16-20, 2007. The Marching Band will take part in four parades this year with extra practices scheduled for Friday mornings. The camp will be held at FWHS Memorial Field. Transportation to parades will be provided. Membership is recommended for students in 6th-12th grades. Students should have two years of experience playing an instrument. There will be a flag team for students who do not play an instrument (no experience needed), with only 15 spots open.

Due to district and state budget cuts we will be charging a \$175.00 registration fee. Lunch, t-shirt, pants, sheet music, and transportation to parades are provided. The students are responsible for a music flip chart, lyre and instrument and white tennis shoes. Students who attended last year and still have their pants and belt will pay \$115.00. Register by May 15, and pay \$160.00 for new students and \$100.00 for returning students. You may make a \$50.00 down payment to hold your spot. Partial and full scholarships are available for students who need assistance.

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There will be a registration and information night at Saghalie Middle School, 7:00 p.m. on April 18. Please feel free to contact me at 253.945-2270, fax 253.945-2265 or at ksaunder@fwps.org.

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### GATE Program Update

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The window for nominating your student in Grades 2, 3 and 4 for the GATE program at Meredith Hill Elementary will begin the week of April 16. Nomination forms will be available in the main office from April 16 to May 3. All forms must be returned to the office by Friday, May 4, 2007.

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The placement team made up of the principal, staff members, GATE teacher, and counselor, will consider information from the following:

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- Student test scores (state and district)
- Student portfolio (classroom work samples, etc.)
- DASI (Developmentally Accelerated Skills Inventory)
- Parent, teacher, community member nominations.

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Parents will be notified by Mrs. Kelsey regarding final placement in the GATE class by May 25, 2007.

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## Kindergarten Registration

We are ready to welcome our 2007-08 Kindergarten students and their parents. Registration will be in the Meredith Hill office on May 1 through May 15.

Before the first day of school, your child must be current on immunizations according to district guidelines:



- Four doses of DTP, last dose after four years old
- Three doses Polio, last dose after four years old
- Two doses MMR, both after one year old and at least 28 days apart
- Three doses Hep B
- Single dose of Varicella, after one year old, or documentation of having the disease (Chicken Pox).

In addition to bringing your student's immunization records, please bring with you for

registration: a copy of your child's birth certificate; addresses and phone numbers for paperwork; proof of residence.

We hope to again offer kindergarten parents the option of a half-day or full-day class for the coming year. This year, a full-day tuition was \$220 each month, on a ten-month contract. Next year's tuition will be specified shortly. To plan in advance for these classes, we need everyone to come in and sign up!

## Insect Bites and Stings at Home and at School

Children will come in contact with insects that bite or sting them. Many will experience a local reaction to the sting including pain, itching and swelling to the sting site. It's important to make sure the stinger is removed; an embedded stinger still contains venom. If you see the stinger, do not pinch it but lightly brush it away from the direction of insertion to remove. Clean the bite or sting with warm water and soap, and apply ice to reduce itching or swelling.

A serious, generalized reaction, called anaphylaxis, with the following symptoms requires a call to 911: Itching or swelling at other than the sting site, for example the eyes, face, or tongue; hives or skin rash; wheezing, difficulty breathing or swallowing; vomiting; or if you've had a life-threatening reaction in the past. These are signs of a dangerous allergic reaction (anaphylaxis). If you have a known bee sting allergy, it is recommended you have an EpiPen at school so

treatment can begin quickly and as directed by your health care provider.

As always, prevention is the best treatment. Use unscented soaps, deodorants, lotions, or hair products. Use insect repellent on clothing and exposed parts of the body. Wear shoes. Wear light colored clothing and light smooth fabrics. Avoid flowerbeds, bushes, hedges and tall grass, garbage areas - places where stinging insects gather.

## District Choice Enrollment Open April 1 through May 10

Parents and guardians who would like to have their students attend a Federal Way school that is outside their neighborhood attendance area may apply to participate in the district's Choice Enrollment Program. Applications for elementary students are available in the school office, and will be accepted from April 1 through May 10.

All applications must be submitted to the Educational Service Center (ESC), located at 31405 18th Ave. S. in Federal Way. All out-of-district applications must include a release from the home district. Three elementary schools in the district are currently at capacity and will not be open to Choice enrollment for 2007-08. These schools include Sherwood Forest, Mark Twain, and Sunnycrest Elementaries.

## Thanks to WASL Coaches

After Spring Break, the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students will be involved in WASL testing. The Meredith Hill community has been instrumental again this year providing additional support to our 4th grade students as they prepare for the test. We appreciate the time and effort of all the parent coaches. Our thanks to: Mrs. Debbie Rundle, Mrs. Ellen Bear, Mrs. Cindy Amato, Mrs. Kerri Bird, Mrs. Diana Camp, Mrs. Donna Van Bramer, Mrs. Jeanne Lunde, Mr. Rick Harrington, Mrs. Linda Poltz, Mrs. Linda DeVange, Mrs. Beth Shoemaker, Mrs. Cindy Flannagan, Mrs. Darla Sprossig, and Mrs. Michelle Hayes.

### April Calendar

- 4- Cookie Day
- 5- Music Concert Gr. 4/5  
Dress Rehearsal 2:00 pm  
Performance 7:00 pm
- 6- Third Grade and Mrs.  
Boggs to Experience Music  
Project 9:00-3:00 pm
- 9- 13 - Spring Break  
NO SCHOOL
- 18-Cookie Day  
PTA Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 21-Track Meet  
Gr. 3/4/5 8:30 a.m.  
Gr. K/1/2 2:30 pm  
FWHS Memorial Stadium
- 30- End of Read and Lead

### May Calendar

- 1-15-Kindergarten Registra-  
tion
- 2- Cookie Day
- 5- Track Qualifiers  
Meet Qualifiers from April  
21 only  
FWHS Memorial Stadium
- 10- Music Concert Gr. K and 1  
Dress Rehearsal 2:00 pm  
Performance 7:00 pm
- 10- Choice Forms due at ESC
- 11- Waiver Day  
NO SCHOOL



### ECEAP Program

ECEAP (Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program) and Head Start are now accepting applications for the 2007/2008 school year. Both ECEAP and Head Start are free preschool programs for low income families. Priority is given to children who will be four years old prior to September 1st, 2007. Eligibility for these programs is based on family income and child's age. If you have any questions or would like to request an application, call Nancy Baker at 253-945-5716, or the Information Line at 253-945-2379.

### Cambridge Checkpoint Preparatory Academy

Coming to Sacajawea and Lakota Middle Schools in the 2007-08 school year! Parents of current 5th, 6th and 7th graders are invited to informational meetings to be held on Mondays 7:00—8:00 p.m.

April 2	Lakota Cafeteria
April 16	Sacajawea Library
April 23	Lakota Cafeteria

What is the Cambridge Checkpoint Preparatory Academy program? What are the benefits of the Cambridge Checkpoint program? What is the application process? What is the criteria for acceptance into the Cambridge Checkpoint Preparatory Academy? Get the answers at this informational meeting.

Cambridge website:<http://www.fwps.org/info/ccambridge/>

## Interested in Tutoring Reading and Math?

Consider joining the 2007-2008 Federal Way AmeriCorps Team. What do AmeriCorps members do? They provide full-time national service for 10.5 months, beginning September 4; tutor students; develop before and/or after-school programs; and provide community service. What do you get back? A monthly \$900 stipend,

valuable training, health benefits, Federal Student Loan deferments, childcare a \$4, 725 education award and the satisfaction of being part of a team making a real difference for children. To apply, go to [www.americorps.org](http://www.americorps.org), program #00ASCWA0470116-0, or call 253-945-2271.

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 ★ **Thank You** ★  
 ★ **Volunteers** ★  
 ★  
 ★ Our warmest thanks to ★  
 ★ the many volunteers ★  
 ★ who put in 136 hours ★  
 ★ during the month of ★  
 ★ March, to help the stu- ★  
 ★ dents and teachers at ★  
 ★ Meredith Hill. Your ★  
 ★ presence here makes ★  
 ★ Meredith Hill an even ★  
 ★ better place to be. ★  
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## Family Walk Day

Host: Meredith Hill Students  
Location: Meredith Hill Elementary Walking Track  
When: Friday, May 4  
Time: Recess Lunch Times  
Contact E-mail: T.J. Navilio [tnavilio@fwps.org](mailto:tnavilio@fwps.org)

Meredith Hill Elementary students will be participating in our 1st Annual 25 Mile Walking Club during lunch recess Monday April 2 to Tuesday May 22. As part of this activity we will have one themed day each of the six weeks.

On Friday, May 4th our theme will be "Family Walk Day ". We would like to officially invite you to come over to our school and walk with your kids during their lunch recess. You're welcome to stay as long as you like. Thank you for supporting your kids!

- Lunch recess times:
- 3rd/4th Grade: 12:00 p.m.-12:20 p.m.
  - 5th Grade/All-Day K: 12:25 p.m.-12:45 p.m.
  - 1st/2nd Grade: 12:50 p.m.-1:10 p.m.

## District Battle of the Books Competition

The Federal Way School District 2007 Battle of the Books Competition took place on March 20 at Decatur High School.

Our school team, Over-Readers Anonymous, represented Meredith Hill well, finishing in 2nd place. Hayden Bauer, Drew Camp, Jess Nyland, and Ean Van Bramer were able to correctly answer 22 out of 25 questions correctly, just short of the 24 questions answered correctly by the Sherwood Forest team. Students from Meredith Hill's 2006 Battle of the Books District Championship team, David Camp, Paul Jaquish, and Ean Van Bramer, were present to pass on the trophy which had been held by Meredith Hill for two years in a row, a record in the history of the Federal Way School District Battle of the Books program.

## Safety Reminders

All visitors and volunteers are asked to sign in at the office prior to entering any space on campus, both classroom and playground areas. This is for your safety as well as the safety of all Meredith Hill students.

Also, Washington State Law requires that any person volunteering within a public school district have a Washington State Patrol background check completed. This form is available at any school office. It takes very little time to complete and is valid for two years. We appreciate your cooperation on behalf of the safety of all our children.