

# Meredith Hill Messenger

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## Kindergarten Registration is Happening Now

Registration is going on through May 15th. At the time of registration, parents are asked to bring: (1) a certified copy of their child's birth certificate, (2) their child's current immunization record, and (3) proof of residency. In addition, we hope to meet your student before school starts, to learn his/her skills and talents.

## Free Drug and Alcohol Prevention Information

Free information is available for drug and alcohol prevention. There is an Alcohol/Drug 24 hour helpline at 877-345-8336 (toll free) or 206-722-3700. This number also offers crisis intervention and referral 24 hours a day. The Teenline 24 hour helpline is 877-345-8336 (toll free) or 206-722-4222. Online resources are accessible at [www.adhl.org](http://www.adhl.org).

For a *free* copy of "Growing Up Drug-Free, A Parent's Guide to Prevention" contact Mrs. Patty EagleCruz, Meredith Hill counselor. This book is a great resource for any parent. To quote this resource: "The average age at which teens start using tobacco is a little past 12 years old. The average age at which they start drinking alcohol is almost 13. And the average age at which they start smoking marijuana is 14. Although the majority of young people do not use these substances, some children are using at even younger ages than these."

## New Hours for the 2007-2008 School Year

Within the Federal Way School District, school start-time and end-time schedules cycle every two years. Next year, Meredith Hill Elementary will officially become a "late school" in the district, which means that class times will all be reset to a half hour later than they are this year.

Classes for All-Day Kindergarten and Grades 1-5 will begin daily at 9:20 am, and will end at 3:50 pm. AM Preschool and Kindergarten will begin at 9:20 am as well, and will end at 12:05 pm. PM Preschool and Kindergarten will begin at 1:05 pm, and end at 3:50 pm with the other classes.

Bus schedules will correspond to the new time changes, and will be posted along with class assignments shortly before our September 4 start date.

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## Highlight Health This Spring

Some recommendations for a healthy springtime:

- Asthma and allergies are more common in spring. Use proper medication to alleviate or lessen symptoms and complications.
- If your child has an inhaler at school, please remind him/her to come to the Health Room to use it before participating in field activities if asthma is a concern.
- Apply sunscreen to your child before coming to school on days that will be especially hot and sunny to prevent sunburn.
- See that your child wears appropriate shoes for playing outdoors at recess to prevent injuries and insect bites and stings.
- Avoid stinging insects by being cautious when walking near bushes, hedges, tall grass, and garbage areas. Remember that bees are drawn to scented substances such as hair products, deodorants, powders, soaps, perfumes and lotions.
- Because of playing outside in the nice weather, children should have a daily bath/shower and a clean change of underwear and clothes each day. Children can be unkind to others when noticing body odors.
- Encourage generous water/fluid intake as children play hard and long in the warm weather.

Have a happy and healthy spring!

## Free Immunization Clinic

There will be a free immunization clinic on Saturday, May 19, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, at the Federal Way Public Health Center. The center is located at 33431 13th Pl. S., in Federal Way, and the telephone number is 206-296-8410.

This year, there are some new immunization requirements for elementary and secondary students.

All students attending kindergarten through 12th Grade are required to show proof of vaccination with two doses of mea-

sles, mumps and rubella vaccine (MMR).

Students attending 6th Grade, and who are at least eleven years old, are required to show proof of Tdap vaccination if it has been five years since receiving a tetanus containing vaccine (DTaP, DT, or Td).

The Varicella (chicken pox) vaccine is required for children entering preschool, kindergarten, 1st Grade and 6th Grade. Children can meet this requirement if they have had the vaccine, had the disease, or

show evidence of immunity through blood testing. The Varicella vaccine is recommended but not required for children in Grades 2-5.

Please check your student's immunization records prior to the start of school. Documentation of vaccination or a properly documented exemption will be required for school attendance.

Please call the school nurse at 253-945-3209 with any questions. Thank you.

## Choice Enrollment Open Until 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 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.

## Classroom Assignments for 2007/2008

Teachers at Meredith Hill work very hard to create the best possible classroom assignment for your child. The amount of thought and energy that goes into this selection is tremendous. We consider the needs of over 400 children, and strive to make the best classroom placement. Please remember that all classroom placements are not final until after the start of school. As students enter and leave school over the summer we often need to make adjustments.

Please drop by the office if you wish to fill out a Student Classroom Placement form to identify the needs of your student/s next year. Please do not request a specific teacher. Class lists will be posted in the office window Thursday, August 31, at 4:30 pm.

### May Calendar

- 1-14- Kindergarten  
Registration
- 4- Last Read/Lead Store
- 5- Qualifiers Meet  
FWHS Mem. Field  
9:00 am
- 10- Music Concert Gr. K/1  
2:00 pm Rehearsal  
7:00 pm Performance  
Choice Forms Due  
at District Office
- 11- Waiver Day  
NO SCHOOL
- 16- Cookie Day  
PTA General Meeting  
6:00 pm
- 17- Read/Lead Assembly  
9:15 am

- 19- PTA/Tacoma Rainiers  
1:35 pm
- 22- 5th Gr. To Kilo 1:30  
Volunteer Tea  
3:30-4:15 pm
- 25- GATE Notifications  
Go Home
- 28- Memorial Day  
NO SCHOOL
- 29- School in Session
- 30- Cookie Day
- 31- Honor Choir/Steel  
Drums Concert  
7:00 pm

### June Calendar

- 7- Steel Drum Tour
- 8- Steel Drum Tour
- 11- Safety Patrol Celebration
- 14- Steel Drum Tour
- 15- Steel Drum Tour
- 20- Last Day Preschool
- 21- Last Day  
1/2 Day Kindergarten  
Field Day  
5th Gr. Celebration
- 22- Last Day ADK-5



### Thank You Volunteers

Our warmest thanks to the many volunteers who put in 98 hours during the month of April, to help the students and teachers at Meredith Hill. Your presence here makes Meredith Hill an even better place to be.

### Track News

Meredith Hill participants powerfully represented their school at the April 21 Track Meet at Memorial Field at Federal Way High School. Qualifiers included Bodan McGraw, Sierra Silva, Tyson Sonnenfeld, Jacob Swanson, Amandre Williams, and DeShon Williams. These students are competing for final honors on May 5, once again at Federal Way High School.

Congratulations to Mrs. Yula, Mrs. McCann, and all the athletes in the Track program.