

# Meredith Hill Messenger

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## Classroom Assignments for 2008/2009

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 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 Friday, August 29, at 4:30 p.m.

## Playground Equipment Missing

Parents, we need to make you aware that most of our playground balls have disappeared. The budget for playground equipment has already been used for this year so we are asking that if students bring their own basketballs or other playground balls to school, that those balls are clearly marked with the student's name, and carried in a plastic bag.

All Meredith Hill balls are marked with the school's name. If you see any in the neighborhood, would you please notify the school or have your child bring them to the school.

Thanks for your help and cooperation with this problem.

## Track Season Winding Down

Track season is winding down at Meredith Hill with qualifying students turning out for weekly practices every Tuesday and Thursday after school. Practices for the remaining meet start at 3:50 and end at 4:45. Hats off to our dedicated coach, Mrs. Blanca Phillips, and to her regular parent volunteers, Mr. Dickson, Mrs. Scott, Mr. Newenhof, and Mrs. Balster! We appreciate additional help from Mrs. Lunde, Mrs. Sprossig and Mrs. Miller!

The last meet, for Grades 3-5 athletes advancing from the qualifying meet on April 26, will be held at Federal Way H.S. Memorial Field on May 17th, starting at 9:00 a.m.

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## Pre-School Registration Continues

Registration continues for our fall pre-school program, with several places still available. Tuition will be \$190 per month on a ten-month contract.

A complete registration packet to hold your place in the program will include a \$25 registration fee, \$190 prepayment of the June 2009 tuition, a copy of the student's birth certificate, a signed contract, and proof of current immunizations.

District guidelines for current pre-school immunization are:

- Four doses of DTP
- One dose MMR, after one year old
- Four doses Hib, or one if after 15 mos. of age
- Three doses Hep B
- Three doses Polio
- Single dose of Varicella, after one year old.

If you are interested, please come to the office to start the application process.

**Summer School  
for Lake Dolloff,  
Camelot  
and Meredith Hill  
will be held at  
Meredith Hill this year.**

**Mondays—Thursdays  
June 23—July 31  
8:00—11:45 a.m.**

## Wanted: AmeriCorps Volunteers

Are you interested in making a difference in children's lives? Consider joining the 2008-09 AmeriCorps Team. What do AmeriCorps members do? They provide full-time national service to Federal Way students for 10-1/2 months, beginning September 2, 2008.

During the year they are involved in a variety of activities which include tutoring students in reading and math, developing before- and after-school programs, and providing community service. They are assigned to schools Monday through Thursday, and use Fridays for training, team-building and community service projects.

Each member receives a \$925 stipend, health benefits, training, federal student loan deferments, childcare, and a \$4,725 education award, and the satisfaction of being a part of a team that makes a difference in children's lives. For more information, or to apply, call (253) 945-2271 or contact [www.americorps.org](http://www.americorps.org).

## New Immunization Requirements 2008-09

*Attention 5th Grade Parents and Students!*

Students will be bringing home a letter soon regarding vaccines needed for 6th grade. Information on a Free Vaccination Clinic offered by Public Health – Seattle & King County, FWPS Health Services and Franciscan Health Services will be included also. Needed immunizations can be obtained from Public Health or your own physician according to the immunization schedule. Please contact the school nurse at 253-945-3209 with any questions.

All students are required to show proof of vaccination with 2 doses of **measles, mumps and rubella vaccine (MMR)**.

All students attending 6th grade, and are at least 11 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). Our last recorded tetanus-containing vaccine for your student will be written down on the letter; please check this information against your records.

The **Varicella** (chicken pox) **vaccine** is required for 6th grade. Students can meet this requirement if they have had the vaccine, had the disease, or show evidence of immunity through blood testing.

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

## May Calendar

- 1-14- Kindergarten  
Registration
- 5-8- Staff Appreciation
- 8- Cookie Day  
Pre-School Mothers  
Night in Classroom  
6:30-7:30
- 9- District Data Day  
NO SCHOOL
- 12- 25 Mile Club Family  
Walk Day
- 15- 2nd Gr. To Woodland  
Park Zoo 9:30-3:30  
5th Gr. Parents Night  
6:30-7:30 p.m.  
in classrooms
- 16- Last Day 25 Mile Club  
PTA Auction  
5:30-8:00 p.m.
- 17- Track Championship  
FWHS Mem. Field  
Qualifiers Gr. 3-5
- 20- Honor Choir and 5th  
Grade Steel Drums  
2:40 and 7:00 p.m.
- 22- Last PTA Board Mtg  
6:30 p.m.
- 23- Last Pantasia for Year
- 26- Memorial Day Holiday  
NO SCHOOL
- 27- Snow Makeup Day  
NO SCHOOL
- 28- Volunteer Celebration  
4:00-4:30 p.m.
- 29- Kindergarten Concert  
7:00 p.m.
- 30- Steel Drum Tour
- 31- PTA/Tacoma Rainiers  
Family Night  
7:00 p.m.

## June Calendar

- 2- Pre-School Fathers  
Night in the Gym  
6:30-8:00 p.m.
- 2-6- Art Walk

- 3- 3rd, 4th Gr. & Carson  
Field Trip to Wash.  
St. History Museum  
9:30-3:00
- 4- Steel Drum Tour
- 5- Cookie Day  
Steel Drum Tour
- 6- End of 2nd Semester  
Report Cards Go Home
- 11- Pre-School Concert  
(During School  
time TBD) & 7 p.m.  
Field Day
- 12- 5th Gr. Celebration  
Last Day Pre-School  
Last Day AM/PM K
- 13- Last Day ADK- 5
- 23- Summer School Begins  
8:00-11:45 a.m.  
Monday-Thursday  
at Meredith Hill

## Federal Way Early Childhood Programs

Federal Way ECEAP (Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program) and Federal Way Head Start provide free preschool education, health and nutrition services, and family support to eligible low-income children. Eligibility for these programs is based on the child's age and family annual income. Priority is given to children turning age four prior to September 1st of the school year, with limited space available for three-year-old children. If you would like an application or additional information, call the Information Line at 253-945-2379. Leave a message with your name, telephone number, address, and your child's date of birth. We will return your call as soon as possible.

## Free Immunizations

Get your kids' immunizations free at the Public Health Department's Saturday Clinic on May 31 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Public Health Center is located at 33431 13th Place South, Federal Way. Primary immunizations will be available for students attending Federal Way Public Schools from pre-school through 12th grade. Students must come accompanied by one of their parents or legal guardian in order for the child to receive immunizations. Please bring your child's immunization records.

Available immunizations include: MMR (measles, mumps, rubella), IPV (polio), Hib (meningitis), DtaP (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis), Td (tetanus, diphtheria), Hepatitis B, Varicella (chicken pox vaccine), and Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis).

New Requirements for 2008-09 school year: Documentation of 2 doses Varicella vaccine and 4 doses of DTaP will be required for students entering kindergarten. One dose of Varicella vaccine is required for grades 1, 2, & 6. Hepatitis B vaccine (3 doses) is required for students entering kindergarten through 11th grades. Tdap is required for 11+ year olds entering grades 6 & 7 if it has been 5 years since their last Diphtheria or Tetanus containing vaccine. For more information, call 206-296-8410.

## Kindergarten Registration is Happening Now

Kindergarten registration is being held now through May 15, 2008. Your child must be five years old on or by August 31, 2008 to attend the 2008/2009 Kindergarten school year. To register your child, just come to the school office between 8:00 am-4:00 pm. The best time to register is 10:00 am-2:00 pm, due to before- and after-school traffic in the parking lot, and the high level of activity in the school office. Please bring the child you are registering with you. Things we ask you to have with you: birth certificate, immunization records, proof of residency, and emergency contact phone numbers. Kindergarten students without proof of age, and all children not fully immunized may not attend school until those requirements have been met. This is a Washington state law. If you are interested in the all-day kindergarten class, all forms must be completely filled out and a \$230.00 deposit, representing the June 2009 tuition payment, is required before we can put your child into the all-day kindergarten class. There are only 15 available spaces for the all day kindergarten class, and it may fill up quickly.



## 25 Mile Club

Rhubarb from the Tacoma Rainiers made a visit to MHL for our 25 Mile Club recesses on Thursday, May 1st.

Remember that Monday, May 12th is "Family Walk Day." Please join us during your child's recess for some fun. May 16th will be the last day of the program.

## "Study Zone" at the Local King County Libraries

There is now a wonderful opportunity for students, Grades K-12. Both the 320th Library and the Federal Way Regional Library have "Study Zone," an on-going free program that offers drop-in homework help. The spring schedule includes these dates and times:

Federal Way Regional Library is open Mondays through Thursdays, 6:00-8:00 p.m.; and the Library at 320th is open Mondays, 3:30-5:30 pm, and Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Study Zone is made up of wonderful volunteers who love to help students with homework problems, reading practice, and so forth. Please help us spread the word to all your students. If you have any questions, please let us know. Thanks!

For more information, please call the Federal Way 320th and Federal Way Regional Libraries, King County Library System, at 253-839-0257, or contact Lisa Barkhurst, Children's Librarian Supervisor, at [barkhur@kcls.org](mailto:barkhur@kcls.org).

*This event/activity/offer is not sponsored by the Federal Way School District, and the District assumes no responsibility for the conduct or safety during the event/activity/offer. In consideration for the privilege to distribute these materials, the Federal Way School District shall be held harmless from any cause of action, claim or petition filed in any court or administrative tribunal arising out of the distribution of these materials, including all costs, attorney's fees and judgments or awards.*

## Morning and Afternoon Drivers: We Need Your Help

Please help make the driveways and parking areas at school safer places for our children to be, and remember a few simple safety precautions. **Most importantly, take the time to see and be seen.** The speed limit is 5 MPH for a reason. Never park in the drop off areas. Drivers need to stay to the right, but never pass another car. Lastly, be aware of the striped walkways in front of the portables, and do not stop in these areas. With your attention and concern, we can keep the children safe. Thank you.

### Time to Plan for Next Year

Every year we have students who are moving or changing schools. Our enrollment determines how many teachers we will have for the coming year. It is essential that we know as accurately as possible who will be attending. Please complete the following and return it to Meredith Hill.

_____	_____	_____
Student Name	Present Grade	Teacher
_____	_____	_____
Student Name	Present Grade	Teacher
_____	_____	_____
Student Name	Present Grade	Teacher

- My child/children will be returning to Meredith Hill.
- My child/children will not attend Meredith Hill for the 2008/2009 school year.**  
**They will attend:** \_\_\_\_\_
- My child/children may change schools. Please call me in August and check with me.

Call: \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
Your name Phone