



Christa McAuliffe Elementary McAuliffe Monthly



OCTOBER 2009

A Note From Your Principal and School

Dear Christa McAuliffe Families:

Thank you to all the parents and family members who were able to attend our Curriculum Nights this past month. During my presentation I was able to share the importance of being to school on time along with updated information regarding illness in the light of worries we hear regarding the flu. Please remember that we have supervision on campus at 8:45; please do not allow your children to arrive early and make sure to get them to school before 9:00. Learning begins as soon as the bell rings and students arriving late miss valuable instruction and may disrupt their learning and the learning of others in class. Please also schedule appointments outside the school day whenever possible, this will give your children the greatest opportunity for a successful school year. We also want to make sure that students who are sick follow the policy of staying home, getting plenty of rest and following their physicians' recommendations. All students who have a fever or have the flu must stay home 24 hours from the time the fever breaks or they were last ill. This prevents the spread of germs and minimizes the impact on both your child and the others in our school. We appreciate your help in following these guidelines so that we can all stay healthy and productive.

Please remember to keep informed by reading your McAuliffe Monthly, Weekly Stargazer, teacher newsletters and both the school and district websites. We are trying to be a "green school" so we are minimizing our consumption of paper whenever possible.

WASL

The Washington Assessment of Student Learning is one measure of student's progress. It is important to look at data over time and by individual students to get a clear picture of growth. The table below shows how students at Christa McAuliffe Elementary have scored over the past four years. This year students will continue to be involved in similar assessments even though the name may change. Many of the test questions on the new exams will be drawn from the same bank of items used to create the WASL, the writing section will continue to be the same, and students may be able to take the test online. We will continue to share information about the state assessment once we receive it so that you can continue to be updated. Regardless of what the tests look like, our teachers will continue to use the same effective methods of instruction that have proven to be successful and we will continue to work as a school to support all students in making growth.

Content	Grade Level	Year			
		2006	2007	2008	2009
Reading	Third Grade	91	94	91	92
	Fourth Grade	95	97	92	96
	Fifth Grade	90	90	97	89
	Sixth Grade	90	79	84	95
Math	Third Grade	88	84	88	87
	Fourth Grade	99	87	77	93
	Fifth Grade	79	90	89	89
	Sixth Grade	85	80	83	86
Writing	Fourth Grade	83	83	90	90
Science	Fifth Grade	63	63	85	74

Diversity and Disability Awareness

October is recognized as Disability Awareness Month by the United States Congress. At Christa McAuliffe we are supporting these efforts in a variety of ways. We will institute another Book Read which proved extremely successful last year. Students will have an opportunity to hear from their teachers, librarian, principal and other adults in the school about various obstacles that people experiencing a disability may face. I will continue to share by personal journey with MS with our community and our PTSA will be organizing another Walk Team in the spring. Please continue to look for more information coming home in teachers' newsletters and the PTSA website regarding these events and more! Below is the proclamation from Governor Gregoire's office:

DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, the month of October has been designated by the United States Congress as National Disability Employment Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Washington State Law Against Discrimination are founded upon the ideals of equal opportunity and independence for all of us; and

WHEREAS, to meet the challenges of the 21st century, we must continue to work together to help ensure everyone, with or without disability, may realize full and independent lives, contributing to their local and regional communities; and

WHEREAS, an estimated one in six individuals has a disability, and 85% of those with disabilities acquired the disability, and therefore, we, our co-workers, families, friends, and neighbors all benefit from an accessible society; and

WHEREAS, people with disabilities have vastly diverse talents and skills and abundant energy to contribute to our economy Washington State urges everyone to join in reaffirming our determination to achieve a society that affords independence, justice, and dignity for all.

OCTOBER

- 2 No School—LEAP Day
- 5-9 Walk to School Week
- 16 Picture Day
- 30 Reflections Art Due

NOVEMBER

- 11 No School—Veterans Day
- 20-24 Conferences—Early Dismissal 12pm
- 25 Early Dismissal—12pm
- 26-27 Thanksgiving Break

MUSIC NEWS

Welcome back to school!

The music room is in full swing. After going over rules, procedures and the grading rubric, we now have more time to play music games, learn the school song and listen to music by famous composers! Due to the enormous success, the music room will continue to be open this year to all 5/6th graders during their morning recess on Mondays. Students have found great fun in listening to each other sing with the microphone, play piano, and practice their "rock beat" on the drum set.

PE

Running Club starts on October

6th! Download the permission form from our school website or pick one up from the kiosk by the front office and return it to Mr. Johnson. Volunteers are also needed so please contact Mr. Johnson if you are interested.

During the month of September, students were introduced to physical education class as they practiced teamwork, safety, space awareness with scooters, balancing, fitness, chasing, fleeing, dodging, throwing, catching, juggling, and football skills.

Reflections 2009 Theme: Beauty Is

Entries at: www.mcauliffeptsa.org/reflections

From the LRC: 4th thru 6th graders were invited to participate in a reading/writing contest call Letters About Literature. Those students that were interested were given forms to pursue this challenge. Here are the access and passwords for this year's databases. If you have questions or concerns, please contact jahern@lwsd.org... J. Ahern Teacher/Librarian

Elibrary, Proquest and SIRS

URL: www.proquestk12.com

User ID: 60-30592

Password: bigchalk

Click on: My Products Page

PebbleGo

URL: <https://www.pebblego.com/>

UserLogin.aspx

User Name: lwsd414

Password: lwsd414

AP Images

URL: <http://apimages.ap.org/unsecured/logip.aspx>

User Name: lwsd

Password: lwsd

CultureGrams

URL: <http://online.culturegrams.com/>

User ID: lakewashsd

Password: culture

World Book Online

URL: www.worldbookonline.com

User Name: lakewashington

Password: worldbook