



The Owl's Nest

September 9, 2011

FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Dear Families,

What a fantastic first week of school we had! Your children came to school enthusiastic, energetic and ready for a new school year. Please be proud of each of them as they worked hard this week, in spite of our warm classrooms. Just a reminder that no matter what the weather, make sure your child dresses for the conditions inside and out. Comfortable children are happy and successful children! ☺

During school arrival and dismissal we experience heavy traffic around Audubon for about 15 minutes on each end of the day. Redmond Police have informed drivers that they may not block the bike lanes. In the past it has always been acceptable to wait next to the curb as long as we do not interfere with regular traffic moving along 180th. I am currently seeking clarification between the Redmond Police and LWSD, and as soon as I have new information I will forward it to the parent community. For now, please keep your car pulled close to the curb as you wait to enter our lot and do not block traffic flow, driveways and crosswalks along 180th. Also, keep moving through the inside driveway pulling all the way forward before stopping to allow for the maximum number of cars to wait *inside* our lot. Obey the "no left turn" signs when exiting our lot to keep traffic flowing, and **never** exit your car in our drive-through lane or along 180th, obeying the "no parking" signs. The Redmond Police are present during these peak hours and will ticket folks who are not obeying these traffic rules.

Please remember that every Wednesday is an early release day. Students are dismissed at 1:30p. It is important for parents to make arrangements for their child(ren) because we do not have staff available after 1:45 to supervise students. Also calendar all ½ day (11:30a) dismissals during conference days. You can find these important dates and dismissal times on our website.

Curriculum Night is an important event at Audubon. This is an opportunity for parents to hear about the school year straight from the teacher. You can experience sitting at your child's desk, learn about instructional goals and see curricular materials used in the grade level. **We ask that students remain at home for this event since no child care is available and children may not remain unsupervised anywhere in the school.** Teachers will present information and answer your questions. This event is not intended to be an individual conference time. We ask that you schedule a one-to-one conference with your child's teacher at another time to address concerns specific to your child. We split the night to help parents with more than one child in the school, or perhaps mom and/or dad can divide their time between classes to experience each child's class. Please put this important event on your calendar!

I hope you also plan to come to our PTSA sponsored Welcome Back BBQ! It is a great event and a perfect opportunity to get to know other families in the neighborhood. Your whole family is invited. Each year our PTSA responds to your feedback to improve this event, and they have done it again with fabulous food, entertainment and activities guaranteed to put a smile on your face. I will look for you on the dance floor – I'll be the one doing the Chicken Dance! ☺

Have a wonderful week!

Karen Dickens

Don't forget these important dates!

9/22/11	Curriculum Night 6:00-6:45 pm Primary classrooms open (1-3) 6:45-7:15 pm Meeting in the Cafeteria 7:15-8:00 pm Intermediate classrooms open (4-6)
10/3-4 and 10/6/11	Parent/Student Conferences – early dismissal 11:30a
10/7/11	LEAP Day, no school for students

Parking Lot and School Safety:

We work hard to keep our children, families and staff safe in and around our school:

- Our Staff and Student Patrol (in the bright vests) monitor the cross walks at three different locations to assist our walking children and families by stopping the traffic at appropriate crossings. Please only use, and allow your children to use, these cross walks when walking to and from school. Be sure to obey the crossing guards when driving to and from our school during these arrival and dismissal times. Failure to stop for a crossing guard is a violation of the law and will be reported to the Redmond Police.
- Our fabulous volunteer Parking Lot Valets direct traffic each morning to keep the flow moving. Please drive slowly, avoid using a cell phone, and obey the Valet's directions (also on the signs). Please allow plenty of time for picking up and dropping off in our busy lot so that you have time to be patient.
- Adults and children should walk bikes once on school campus, and skateboards and scooters are never allowed on school property.
- We are dog lovers at Audubon, but please remember that dogs are not allowed on campus when children are present.

IMPORTANT! NEW IMMUNIZATION EXEMPTION LAW:

Parents should read the attached news release from the Washington Department of Health regarding changes to the immunization exemption law. In Washington State we have the highest exemption rate in the country. In response, Governor Gregoire signed a law that changes the process for getting an immunization exemption. This new law goes into effect on July 22, 2011 and will affect our families and school. Please read the attached news release, and/or find the report at

www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6021a4.htm.