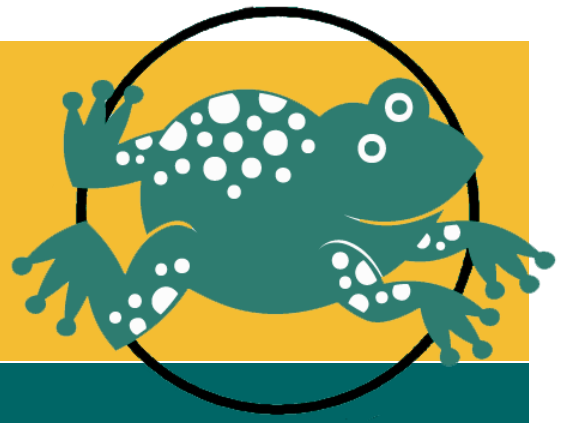


Penny Creek Frog News

PENNY CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



February 2019

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 6

From the Principal

Greetings Penny Creek Families,

Second semester started for our students on January 29, 2019.

It is exciting to see the growth in all of our students each and every day.

We are only half way through our school year and we all have so much more to learn!

In July of 2016 the State of Washington changed the school attendance law for elementary students. This impacts our students and families at Penny Creek because the new law addresses both excused and unexcused absences. The changes include:

- Students who have 5 or more excused absences in a month or 10 or more excused absences in a year will be required to schedule a meeting or phone conference with the school to discuss attendance barriers and any necessary support.
- Exceptions to this new requirement include the family providing prior written notice of absence or a note from a doctor.

This law means that if your student has 5 more excused absences in a month you will be invited to meet or talk on the phone with staff here at Penny Creek. If you would like to learn more about this new law, you can read more at:

<http://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=28A.225.018>.

Your student's attendance at school is very important to us. We want your child here each and every day but we also understand if there are circumstances that keep that from happening. If you ever have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Heater

Maggie Heater
Principal

Stefani Koetje
Assistant Principal

Penny Creek Elementary School
4117 132nd St. SE,
Everett, WA 98208
www.everettsd.org/pennycreek
425-385-7200

February
1, 8, 15, & 22

Learning Improvement Friday
2:15 p.m. Release

February 18-19

No School
Mid Winter Break

February 20

PTA Spelling Bee 6-8pm (Cafeteria)

February 21

Natural Leaders Meeting
Library 6-7pm

February 22

Noodle Palooza
Cafeteria 6-8pm

February 28

Class Picture Day



A Note from our PE Teacher:

The Kids Heart Challenge has started in the gym. Students are learning all about ways to keep our hearts healthy as well as how the heart and circulatory system work. There is an optional fundraising opportunity for your children to help other kids with special hearts get what they need through the American Heart Association. Any money collected online will be counted toward our fundraising goal. Monies collected in the envelope that went home on Thursday should be brought in the week of February 11th. We are also jumping rope and learning tricks in the gym. If your child would like to bring a jump rope from home to use at recess and in PE, please have them get a permission slip from Mrs. Wood to show that you have read the rules about bringing the rope to school. Any other questions can be directed to Mrs. Wood at swood@everettsd.org

Thanks so much!



Penny Creek Attendance Corner

If your student is absent from school, please email the attendance office pceattendance@everettsd.org to let us know the reason for the absence. There is also a direct link on our webpage at: <https://www.everettsd.org/pennycreek>

Cold and flu season is upon us. Never underestimate the power of an adequate sleep routine, and proper handwashing technique.

Don't let your child stay home unless they are truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.

If your student has had a fever of 100 degrees or above, or has vomited/diarrhea in the past 24 hours please keep them home and email or call the school.

WHEN IS SICK TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?



Send me to school if...

I have a runny nose or just a little cough, but no other symptoms.

I haven't taken any fever reducing medicine for 24 hours, and I haven't had a fever during that time.

I haven't thrown up or had any diarrhea for 24 hours.



Keep me at home if...

I have a temperature higher than 100 degrees even after taking medicine.

I'm throwing up or have diarrhea.

My eyes are pink and crusty.



Call the doctor if...

I have a temperature higher than 100 degrees for more than two days.

I've been throwing up or have diarrhea for more than two days.

I've had the sniffles for more than a week, and they aren't getting better.

I still have asthma symptoms after using my asthma medicine (and call 911 if I'm having trouble breathing after using an inhaler).



Adapted with permission from Baltimore City Public Schools.



Attention volunteers

Our schools rely on volunteers to support many important activities and our volunteer application has been updated. We are digital! All volunteer applications and background checks can only be processed online. We are focused on safety! We have new background check and safety training requirements. ALL volunteers must fill out a new application for the 2018-19 school year, even if you have previously been approved. The new application is now available online at www.everettsd.org/volunteer.

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

Many of our students arrive and depart from Penny Creek on assigned school buses. For those families that transport students to and from school by cars, we have designated specific [arrival and departure options](#). Student safety is our number one priority at Penny Creek and we ask that you read through each option and select the method that will work best for you and your student(s). You can view the [arrival and dismissal procedures](#) on the [Penny Creek webpage](#).

Changes to a student's daily going home plan

Occasionally, we need to change the plan of how our child is going home at the end of the school day. Maybe Dad is picking up instead of riding the bus or Grandma will be at Kiss and Go instead of the parent pick up location in the Courtyard. If this is the case for your family, we ask that a guardian sends an email to the school office at PennyCreek@everettsd.org and the classroom teacher by 2:50 pm on Mon-Thurs, 1:35 pm on Friday. Please include the name of your student, their teacher, and the change of plan. Our office will then send out a messenger to deliver this information. We ask that you please send this email before that time. This method of communication helps to support our staff with accurate message delivery.

Checking out a Penny Creek student during the school day

Sometimes it is necessary for a parent/guardian to pick up a student before Penny Creek's dismissal time. To help us prepare, please send a note or email the school office at PennyCreek@everettsd.org in advance, letting us know the specific date, time and who will be picking up your child. Students who are dismissed during the school day must be signed out from the school office, by their parent/guardian (or adult designee) before leaving the school grounds. If an adult designee is coming to check out your child, a note or email to the school office at PennyCreek@everettsd.org must be submitted by the guardian to confirm. Students will be called from the classroom for dismissal once parent/guardian (or adult designee) arrives at the office. For the safety and security of students, we will ask for photo identification.

Did you know?

Lots of valuable information about how our school is helping students achieve is available online. Our *School Performance Report* is linked directly from our school's home page. (Look under *QuickLinks* for a link to [OSPI Washington State School Report Card](#).) On that site you can browse through historical performance data for more than a decade – for any school in the district or the state. By following the prompts on that OSPI website, you can also find current and historical data aggregated at the district level.



Lunch payments are easy with the app



Want to see your student's lunch balance and pay a balance from your phone? If you're logged into the district's mobile app, you can find and pay your student's lunch balance under your student's info. An icon inside the app also gives a shortcut to deposit funds for your student's lunch account. To make a payment, look for the green chef's hat icon.

The latest school news and information in Everett Public Schools is available on smartphones and mobile devices with a mobile app. The free mobile app is available in the online iTunes® and Google Play® app stores. Once you've downloaded the app, log in to "student info" with your LMS password to see student-specific information for each of your children.



Parent safety tip

Six ways your student can protect their online identities:

1. Share carefully – don't give out any personal information to unknown sites or strangers
2. Go private – keep privacy settings high and limit location services when possible
3. Log out – especially after using shared computers
4. Mix up passwords – use different passwords for different apps and websites
5. Avoid clickbait – avoid quizzes and random questionnaires
6. Choose wisely – pick an appropriate username

Learn more about online safety, digital wellness, cell phones and learning with technology with age-specific tips and tools on

www.common sense media.org.



Do you have a student in special education?

Did you know there is a Special Education PTSA in the district? The Special Education PTSA serves students, families, and educators involved in Special Education. They encourage students, families, educators and community members to work collaboratively to provide programs and activities recognizing each student's potential and



3900 Broadway
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425-385-4000
www.everettsd.org

Everett Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Designated to handle inquiries about nondiscrimination policies are:

- Affirmative Action Officer – Randi Seaberg, rseaberg@everettsd.org, 425-385-4104
- Title IX Officer – Mary O'Brien, MO'Brien@everettsd.org, 425-385-4106
- 504 Coordinator – Becky Ballbach, rballbach@everettsd.org, 425-385-4063
- ADA Coordinator – Becky Clifford, rclifford@everettsd.org, 425-385-5250