

# View Ridge Viking News

VIEW RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

November 2023

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 3



## From the Principal:

Dear View Ridge Families,

November is upon us, and it's a time for reflection and gratitude as we approach the Thanksgiving holiday. It's also a time when we start to see the first signs of winter. With the cold weather approaching, please make sure your child is dressed warmly with appropriate (labeled) outerwear. We have some exciting updates and important events to share with you.

**Parent-Teacher Conferences:** Parent-Teacher Conference week and Book Fair is November 13-17<sup>th</sup>. School will be dismissed this week at 1pm. These conferences are a valuable opportunity for you to meet with your child's teachers, discuss their progress, and address any questions or concerns you may have. Your conference has already been scheduled and you should have returned your confirmation forms to your child's teacher. Also, take time to look through our lost & found as we have collected many items! We look forward to meeting with you!

**Viking Pride:** In October, our school was focused on the Viking Value of RESPONSIBILITY and the district Core Value of LEARNING. We will learn more about our November focus which will highlight the school value of KINDNESS and the district core value of EQUITY. We will also hear about ways to help our school and greater community through our annual Food Drive! Let's make the month of November a time of to reflect on the things we are grateful for and the importance of giving thanks.

**Veterans Day:** November is a month that we learn about our Veterans! We will be celebrating loved ones who are veterans at our assembly! Another reason to spread thanks!

As I mentioned last month, we are excited to welcome more students with our [boundary change](#) this year to include a new housing development (Four Corners). Currently, no families have moved into the new development, but we do expect families to move in later this month and enroll at View Ridge (Current enrollment at VRE from Four Corners- 0 students).

View Ridge staff wish you all a lovely November! Thank you for partnering with us!

--Ms. Tina Wood Principal [Kwood1@everettsd.org](mailto:Kwood1@everettsd.org)

**Tina Wood, Principal**  
View Ridge Elementary School  
202 Alder St.,  
Everett, WA 98203  
[www.everettsd.org/viewridge](http://www.everettsd.org/viewridge)

### 2023-2024 Student Calendar

#### **November 1**

- Vision Screening

#### **November 3**

- Early Release for students-1:00pm  
- Viking Pride Assemblies (Primary 9:35, Intermediate 10:00)

#### **November 6**

- CHC Dental Screening  
- PTA Meeting 6:30 pm

#### **November 9**

- Veterans Day Assembly  
- VRE Spirit Day-Red, White & blue  
- Hearing Screening K-3&5th

#### **November 10**

- Veteran's Day Observed-No School

#### **November 13-17**

- Parent Teacher Conference Week-  
Early Release 1:00pm  
- Scholastic Book Fair

#### **November 22-24**

- Thanksgiving Break-No School

#### **November 30**

- Picture re-take day



## From the Assistant Principal

Dear Vikings,

As we embrace the crisp November air, we want to provide you with important reminders on attendance and how it impacts your child's education at View Ridge Elementary.

### **Tardies and Unexcused Absences:**

We want to remind you that three tardies in our school system equal one unexcused absence. While we understand that unforeseen circumstances may occasionally lead to tardiness, consistent tardies can impact your child's learning experience. Regular attendance is crucial to ensuring they have every opportunity to succeed academically. Please review our school hours:

- 9:10am- 1<sup>st</sup> bell
- 9:15am- 2<sup>nd</sup> bell; any students who arrive past this time will be considered tardy

### **Chronic Absenteeism:**

Chronic absenteeism is a matter we take seriously. It includes any student who misses 10% or more of school days for any reason. This translates to approximately 18 or more days in a school year. Chronic absenteeism can significantly impede your child's progress and their ability to benefit fully from our educational programs.

- Missing 2 or more days per month can be considered chronically absent.

### **The Importance of Consistent Attendance:**

Every day of school offers valuable learning experiences and opportunities for your child to grow academically and socially. When a student is frequently absent, they miss out on essential instruction and interaction with peers. Moreover, regular school attendance helps establish a sense of routine, responsibility, and discipline that is valuable for their future. If there is anything we can do to help you and your child with getting to school every day, on time, please let us know.

### **How You Can Help:**

1. Establish a Routine: Set a consistent schedule for bedtime and wake-up time to ensure your child is well-rested and ready to start the school day on time.
2. Open Communication: If your child is unable to attend school due to illness or a family emergency, please notify the school office as soon as possible (Attendance Line: [VREAttendance@everettsd.org](mailto:VREAttendance@everettsd.org) or 425-385-5405)
3. Monitor Tardies: Keep an eye on your child's tardiness to prevent it from accumulating into unexcused absences.
4. Plan Vacations Wisely: Whenever possible, schedule family vacations during school breaks to minimize disruptions to your child's education.

Thank you for your partnership in your child's education. By working together, we can provide them with the best educational experience and set them on a path to a bright future.



Warm regards, Ms. Amy Soeun Lee, Assistant Principal

## From the Viking Staff:

### Office Corner

Hello Viking Families!

Winter is coming our way which means fall/winter wear for our students. We ask that you please remind them or write your child's name on their sweaters, coats, or jackets so if they accidentally forget it, we can return it to them. Our lost and found bin is filling up again and we would like to make sure we can return lost items back to their homes. All items that are not collected and do not have names will be donated several times a year. The first time will be after Conference Week!

### Make-Up Picture Day is Right Around the Corner...

Make-Up picture day will be done by **O'Connor Photography Studio** on **November 30th**. If your student missed picture day in October or you would like individual picture re-takes, you can click the link below to pre-order their portraits today! [Link for Pre-ordering Photos](#)

You can also purchase by visiting their website at: [www.oconnorphotographystudio.com](http://www.oconnorphotographystudio.com) and clicking on the View Ridge Logo. If you have any questions or need assistance, please give their studio a call at 1-800-993-4929.

### Changes to a student's daily going home plan:

Occasionally, you may need to change the plan of how your child is going home at the end of the school day. If this is the case for your family, we ask that a guardian **sends an email to the classroom teacher AND calls the school office at 425-385-5400 no later than 2:45 pm OR at least 45 minutes before school gets out when school dismissal is an Early Release or Learning Improvement Friday.** Please include the name of your student, their teacher, and the change of plan. Our office will then deliver this information to your student. This method of communication helps to support our staff with accurate dismissal information.

### View Ridge Attendance Corner:

Regular school attendance is important, and we will work with you to ensure your child is present to benefit from an excellent education. If your student is absent or tardy from school, please email every day the attendance office at [vattendance@everettsd.org](mailto:vattendance@everettsd.org) or call at **425-385-5405** to let us know the reason for the absence or tardy.

**If email is not possible, and even if you leave a message with the school attendance line, please send a written note to the school office within 30 days after your student returns to school.**





## News from the Music Room...

Mark your calendars for these 2 upcoming music filled events!



## PE Corner with Mr. Wheeler and Ms. King:

The bike unit has begun for grades 3-5. In this unit students will be learning how to be safe and dependable riders and pedestrians. During this program, all students will be given helmets and bikes and will be instructed on how to properly fit a helmet. Please help your student to have proper fitting helmets using the tips below:

### Helmet Fit



#### Eyes

Helmet should be level and cover your upper forehead. You should be able to fit no more than one or two fingers between your eyebrows and the brim of the helmet. Once the helmet is level, turn the dial at the back of the helmet to snug up the inner band to prevent the helmet from wiggling side-to-side. If there's no dial, use thicker fit pads where there is space at the front, back and/or sides of the helmet to get a snug fit. Move the pads around to touch your head evenly all the way around.



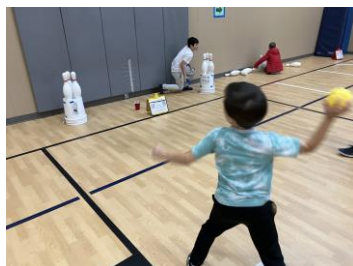
#### Ears

Helmet side straps should meet to form a "Y" just below your earlobes.



#### Mouth

Chin strap should be buckled and snug below your chin, so that no more than one or two fingers fit under the strap. If you open your mouth wide, you should feel the helmet pulling down on the top of your head.



Our throwing and catching unit wrapped up with a fun carnival game lesson in the gym. The children enjoyed this activity.

Tae Kwon Do presentations will be happening on Dec. 4 & 5 by Jung Do Tae Kwon Do academy. If you are interested in enrolling your child, please visit:

<https://jungdotkdonline.com/>

Running club is going great. Our last day for the fall will be Thursday November 16. Thanks to all the families who have joined us. We look forward to seeing everyone in the spring as well.



## Library News with Ms. Peterson:



### Scholastic Bookfair Coming Soon: Conference Week

November 13-17 M-Th. 1-4 / Fri. 1-2:30 View Ridge Library Preview and purchase online visit our Scholastic home page. <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/viewridgeelementaryschool3>

### November and December Birthday Book Club Member



Mrs. Alexander 11/4, Wilson Wilds 11/8, Killian Kumbera 11/12,  
Ryan Nazari 11/16, Trace Grant 11/18, Lulu Rodgers 12/1, Sabriel  
Jones 12/3, Selena Trong 12/6,  
Mrs. Parks 12/22.

## Counselor's Corner with Mrs. Atrengenio

There is a new, free mental health referral service for children and teens 17 and younger run through Children's Hospital. Families can access the service by calling (833) 303-5437, M-F 8am to 5 pm to be connected with a referral specialist. Approximately 2 weeks after intake, families will receive information for one or two recommended providers that meet your criteria (i.e. in person, preferred language, time, etc). I have heard from several families that it has been difficult to find outside counseling, and this service has high family satisfaction ratings, so please take advantage! You can also find out more by visiting their website at: [www.seattlechildrens.org/wa-mental-health](http://www.seattlechildrens.org/wa-mental-health).

## Community:

### Everett Public Schools and View Ridge Elementary are on Twitter:

Please follow us at [https://twitter.com/EPS\\_VRE](https://twitter.com/EPS_VRE) to see photos and updates of the amazing work being done here!







## NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE HERITAGE MONTH

November is Native American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month. What started at the turn of the century as an effort to gain a day of recognition for the significant contributions the first Americans made to the establishment and growth of the U.S., has resulted in a whole month being designated for that purpose.



## HAVE A SAFETY CONCERN RELATED TO SCHOOLS? REPORT IT!

You can call, text or email your concern.

If there is reason for concern about safety on a designated walkway to school, call 9-1-1 immediately for authorized, quick help. We have strong partnerships with local law enforcement who share our interest in safe schools and neighborhoods.

Student safety is a priority for all of us. Working together, we can help make our neighborhoods and schools nurturing places for students to safely learn and grow.



**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS** November 5, 2023, Daylight Savings Time Ends and we “fall back” one hour.



## REMEMBER TO VOTE NOV. 7

Remember to deliver your ballot to a ballot drop box near you or put it in the mail by Nov. 7. Postage is not required for ballots.



## NOVEMBER HOLIDAYS – SCHOOLS CLOSED

This is a friendly reminder there is no school on November 10 for Veterans Day and for Thanksgiving break, which is November 22 - 24.

## SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT

Each school's performance report is available online on our school's website. More information is available on the [Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction website](#). At the bottom under data and research, click on "School Report Card" and select Everett from the list of districts.

## PLAY AND LEARN



Play and Learn is a free program for children from birth thru age five and their parents or caregivers to have fun playing together, creating art, listening to stories and singing songs! Sessions are held five days a week from 10:30 a.m. to noon at four locations.

[Click to learn more and see calendar.](#)

## HARVEST OF THE MONTH

This month, the Food and Nutrition department brings you squash grown in the PNW! Be sure to give them a try this month in our roasted squash or pumpkin custard! Did you know there are two groups of squash, winter and summer? Find out more by checking out the Harvest of the Month flyer on the district [website](#). May the gourd be with you!



## IS YOUR FAMILY PREPARED?

[Snohomish County Emergency Management](#) has helpful online resources to help you create and practice emergency response plans with your family & neighborhood in preparation for bad weather.

## VETERANS DAY FREE CONCERT

The United States Army Field Band is performing a free concert at the Everett Civic Auditorium on November 11 at 7 p.m. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. The maximum number of free tickets per transaction is four. Please visit [GoFan](#) to get your tickets today.





**IS MY CHILD TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?** Is my child too sick to go to school? It is no fun being sick, but we also care about protecting students and their families from contagious diseases, so we ask you keep your student home when they are sick.

Keeping ill students at home and encouraging frequent hand washing protects us all. While we regret any inconvenience this may cause, following these guidelines will result in fewer absences and less illnesses overall.

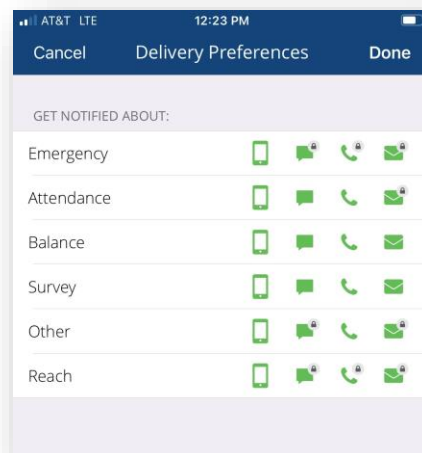
Please visit the [district's website](#) to learn more. If you still have questions about whether your student is healthy enough to come to school, contact the school nurse or your child's health care provider.



## RECEIVE INFORMATION THE WAY YOU PREFER

This is a friendly reminder that parents and guardians can select their preferred method of communication so they will not get the same message in multiple formats unless they choose to. Below are some steps to take:

- Download the district's mobile app. One of the many features is to select your delivery preferences. Once you have signed into your account, click on your profile tile and then "Edit Delivery Preferences" at the top.
  - Click on the icon for app, text, phone or email to turn off that mode. Green indicates the mode is turned on. Some modes are locked, as indicated with the lock in the upper corner of the icon.
- Keep your contact information current by updating the "Annual Student Update Form 2023-2024" in Home Access Center or by letting your school office know anytime there is a change.
- Please visit the communications department webpage for a list of timely and relevant information to strengthen connections among families, staff and community.



## IMPORTANT FAFSA/WASFA CHANGES

Big changes are coming to financial aid applications this year! The 2024-25 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) will not be available until December 2023. The WASFA (Washington Application for State Financial Aid) will also be delayed until the FAFSA opens.





Applications usually open October 1 of a student's senior year, so this is a major shift in the college planning process. The good news is that this delay is due to positive changes. The FAFSA form will be shorter and less complex, more students will be eligible for federal Pell Grants, and the average Pell award will be larger. Stay tuned for more information and find [resources](#) from the Washington Student Achievement Council.

## ONLINE SAFETY TIPS

- Keep the computer in a busy area of your home.
- Use an app to keep an eye on your child's online activity on their device.
- Talking about cyberbullying; ask if someone they know has been a victim. Ask if they have been victimized.
- Set up email and social media accounts with your children. Know their screen names and passwords and explain the reasons for not including any personal information in profiles.

Know who is in the "buddy lists." Get to know the cyberfriends just as you do those who visit your home. Parents and guardians may find the following resources helpful to begin a conversation about the dangers of engaging in cyberbullying and how to stay safe online:

- [Stop Bullying Now](#)
- [Ms. Parry's Guide to Correct Online Etiquette](#)
- [Common Sense Media](#)

Find out what Everett Public Schools students learn about digital citizenship on the [district website](#).

## MODEST FREE MARKET

Modest Family Solutions is an organization that is working to create a more just and equitable food system. They provide produce to families and communities in need across western Washington sourcing product from local growers, with an emphasis on supporting and building a BIPOC food value chain.

### Emerson Elementary School

8720 7th Ave SE

Everett, WA 98208

Produce available the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month from 9 to 11 a.m. Cultural, home-grown, fresh foods. Stay in your car and pick up in the drive thru loop or come to the walk-up area.



## NEWS AROUND THE DISTRICT

**Like knowing what's happening in the district?** Follow us on social media! Visit our [social media directory](#) for a list of schools, club or teacher accounts.

Want eflyers of student and family opportunities? Go to [Peachjar](#) and register a free account to receive eflyers emailed directly to you! And don't forget to check out the [district's news releases](#).





3900 Broadway  
Everett, WA 98201  
425-385-4000  
[www.everettsd.org](http://www.everettsd.org)

- Everett Public Schools does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of
- sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual
- orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or
- service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth
- groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints
- of alleged discrimination:

- **Title IX/Civil Rights Compliance Officer and ADA Coordinator:**

- Chad Golden
- 425-385-4100
- [CGolden@everettsd.org](mailto:CGolden@everettsd.org)
- PO Box 2098
- Everett, WA 98213

- **Section 504 Coordinator:**

Dave Peters  
425-385-4063  
[DPeters@everettsd.org](mailto:DPeters@everettsd.org)  
PO Box 2098  
Everett, WA 98213