

MADISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

LION NEWS AND VIEWS

1225 Legion Way SE, Olympia, WA (360) 596-6300

"We Succeed with Pride"

October, 2009



MADISON MISSION

To create a nurturing environment for students, their families, staff, and the community which encourages caring, respect, academic excellence, life-long learning, and citizenship.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The weather is changing... Autumn is here! At Madison, it's a busy time filled with a fall fundraiser, coat drive, Cub's Club, Likable Lions, A-Team, community service, generosity, friendship, and new learning. Madison is a school of excellence in part because of dedicated staff, caring families, and a giving community.



**CONFERENCE
WEEK
OCTOBER 12-16
12:52 PM Dismissal**

CONFERENCE TIPS



A parent-teacher conference is a time when important people in a student's life can talk about how that student is doing in school. When a child knows parents and teachers are regularly working together, the child will see that education is a high priority requiring commitment and effort.

Teachers need your help to do a first-class job. Together, you can help your child have a great school year.

BEFORE THE CONFERENCE

Talk to your child - Have your child talk about some goals for the year at school.

Make a List—You may want to talk about the child's home life, personality, concerns, habits and hobbies, and other topics that may help the teacher in working with the child (e.g., religious holidays, music lessons, a sick relative, separation or divorce, military parent deployed).

DURING THE CONFERENCE

Ask questions—It's a good idea to ask the important questions first, in case time runs out.

Special Services- Be sure to ask about the frequency of services and your child's progress.

Addressing problems—Listen to the teacher and design a productive plan with your child and teacher to solve any challenges. Follow-up conferences are welcomed too.

Questions to ask during the conference:

- What can I do to help my student with subjects he finds difficult?
- How can I help my student improve his work?
- Is my student trying as hard as he can?
- Does my student participate in class discussions and activities?
- Is my student in different classes or groups for different subjects? How are the groups determined?
- How well does my student get along with others?
- How are you measuring my student's progress?
- What kinds of tests do you give? What do the tests show about my student's progress? How does my student handle taking tests?

AFTER THE CONFERENCE

Be positive. Talk about the action plan. Stay in touch with the teacher.

**INDIVIDUAL
PICTURE DAY
October 9**

**No School – Teacher Inservice
Oct. 23**

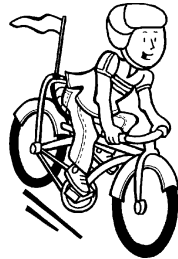
International Walk to School Day Oct. 7 "WALK AND ROLL"



Madison students will be joining others from around the world to walk, bicycle, or ride the bus to school on October 7th. This event launches a year-long project whose goal is to build a generation of safe and healthy kids. Remember Walk and Roll

Wednesdays.

Thanks to Meg Schmidt, our Americorps member along with City of Olympia, Intercity Transit, Thurston Regional Planning Commission, and Safe Kids Worldwide.



PTO FALL FUNDRAISER



Thank you all! Over 45 students earned a treat at our VIP party for helping with the fundraising effort. PTO will be sponsoring family fun events like the Holiday Store, Bingo Night, and the

Sock Hop. Last year, PTO funded a musical, field trips, playground improvements, student incentives, 5th grade awards, staff appreciation, Field Day snacks, and classroom supplies. Best of all was their generous support in helping build the new Reader Board. The PTO looks forward to your involvement again this year!

Upcoming PTO Meetings: Wednesday, Oct 21 (Elections for the board) and Nov. 18 at 6:30pm.



COMMUNITY COAT DRIVE Oct 12-16

Looking for donations of gently worn coats and other winter gear. All sizes accepted. Bring your donations to the school office.

WINTER WEAR GIVEAWAY

Saturday, October 24 10:00am - 2:00p,
McKenny Elementary Gym,
3250 Morse-Merryman Ave. SE

All items free.

Limit one coat per family member.

Contact information: Ruth Middlebrook or
Elena Smith at 596-8404

KELSO'S CHOICES

Disagreements are normal and often happen when children get together. However, hurtful words, gestures, or physical attacks are unacceptable ways to deal with conflict at school.

We want to teach students positive ways to deal with these situations. To do this, we are introducing Kelso's Choice, a conflict management program for children.

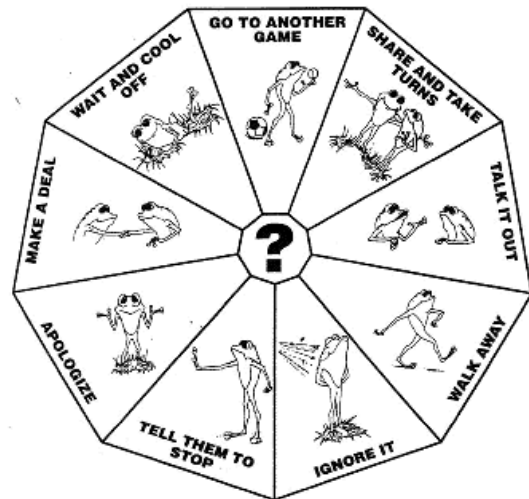
This program teaches students to figure out what is a BIG problem (get an adult) and how to solve their SMALL problems by themselves (i.e. teasing, making noises, tattling, arguing, making fun, etc...).

These are the nine Kelso choices:

1. Go to another game
2. Share and take turns
3. Talk it out
4. Walk away
5. Ignore
6. Tell them to stop
7. Apologize
8. Make a deal
9. Wait and cool off

IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

DO YOU HAVE A SMALL PROBLEM?
TRY 2 OF KELSO'S CHOICES:

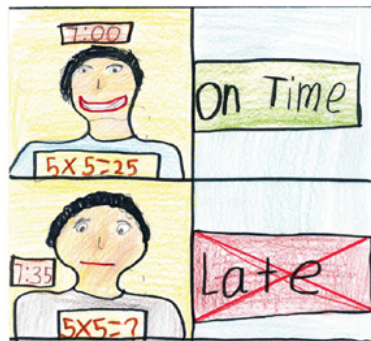


IF YOU HAVE A BIG PROBLEM,
TELL AN ADULT YOU TRUST.

ABSENCES AND TARDIES

Thank you for making sure that your children arrive at school on time and ready for class. The first bell rings at 8:55 am and students should be in their seats by 9:00 am. Children who arrive late will not only lose valuable learning time, but will be marked tardy.

IF YOU WANT TO BE A SMARTY, DON'T BE TARDY.



**NO Excuses
Go to School**

Please use the Attendance Phone Line if your child is going to be absent: 596-6303.

If students arrive after 11:00am, they are recorded as a half-day absence. Students who leave before 10:00am are considered absent for the full day. Students who leave school

before 1:00 pm will be recorded as a half-day absence.

If your child is going to be late or absent, please call our office to notify the school. Any absences without a phone call within 3 days will be considered unexcused and will be reflected on the child's permanent record.

We also ask that you schedule doctor or dentist appointments after school or on non-student school days.

PERSONAL SAFETY TIPS

For your child's personal safety, please be sure he/she:

- Knows his/her name, address and phone number.
- Knows the rules of the road when walking from home to school or to the bus stop.
- Brings a note to school if going to a destination other than home.
- Knows when you are not going to be home and where to reach you.
- Knows where to go if school closes early due to storm, power failure, or other emergencies.
- Knows how to deal with strangers.

For your information, our school is reviewing all our emergency planning procedures. We are coordinating our efforts with the city police and fire department. We will keep you updated.

KUDOS TO...



- **GARY STOREDAHL**, Olympia citizen and community supporter...he has donated the gift of paying for 7 high school tutors to help with our afterschool tutoring program. Thanks to Sara

LaPlante, our Americorps member and the two high school principals, Matt Grant and Mike Velazquez.

- **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**....for their continuous support in so many ways: reading buddies, donation to our library, school supplies and back packs, and dedicated assistance to the Welcome Room.
- **LION'S CLUB**: donating a personal dictionary to every 3rd grade student

BOWER'S BUZZ

Kindergarten celebrated "Race for the Record, 2009" sponsored by the tech company, Jump Start. Superintendent Bill Lahmann read the Very Hungry Caterpillar, by Eric Carle on Thursday afternoon. Each child got to take a copy of the book home. This is a national contest to see how many students are reading this book!

TECH TIPS

Check out these websites on the Madison homepage <http://madison.osd.wednet.edu/> and click on "Student Learning Links" - <http://suznbobod.googlepages.com/classroomlearninglinks>

You will find oodles of great things to do with your child in reading, math and much more!

KATHY'S CORNER

From Mrs. Moore, our librarian...

Don't forget: Book Faire during conference week is a great and inexpensive way to purchase books as gifts for the holidays or birthdays. Stop by Room 9 to check out the great buys!

KIMS COMMENTS

From Mrs. Swanson, our SSC...

Welcome back Madison families and students! After a very warm summer, most of us are ready for the change in seasons. It is also the time for our students to learn new skills and improve the skills they have already been taught. This not only applies to our children but to us as parents. It is always good to learn new ways of coping with and caring for our children.

There are a couple of resources in the community that provides parenting classes. This can be a great time to meet other families and realize that we are not alone when we face the challenge of parenting. **The Family Support Center** which is right downtown acts as a clearinghouse about parent education. When you call **754-9297**, you will find out about the various classes available in our community. Sometimes you need to leave a message and someone calls back but they are great about getting back within a day or so. Another resource is the **Family Education and Support Services**

(754-7629) where they offer a number of classes including “Winning at Parenting”. Although this program is housed in North Thurston School District, if there are spots available, parents from surrounding districts can also attend.

MADISON ACTION TEAM “THREE FOR ME”

The Madison Action team is a group of parents and staff helping to create ways to involve more parents in learning opportunities at home and school. Thanks to this group for organizing all the learning stations at our Family Learning Night in September.

Their newest project, Three for Me, is a promise that families can make to volunteer three hours at home, school, or in the community each year. Sounds like a win-win for our students and families! Look for the Three for Me Pledge card during Conference Week.



LIKABLE LIONS

Likable Lions are our “students of the month”. They are recognized for their unique talents, interests, and hobbies at our monthly Celebration Assemblies. Each classroom selects these students to be honored on for this occasion.

KINDERGARTEN- Ms. Rosenkranz

- Gage Comstock
- Spencer Essen
- Tyson Lauritzen
- Thalia Simkins

FIRST GRADE- Ms. Holmeide

- Tori Bahler
- Andrew Colley
- Gaberial Goentzel
- Layne Wies

FIRST GRADE – Ms. Stillwell

- Alejandra Garcia
- Louisa Sevier
- MaryJane Spears
- Rileigh Mosser

UPCOMING EVENTS

| | |
|---------------|--|
| 7, 14, 21, 28 | Walk and Roll Wednesdays |
| 7 | Late Start 9:55am |
| 7 | PTO Mtg 6:30-8:00 |
| 8 | Race for the Record –2pm |
| 9 | Individual Student Photos |
| 12-16 | Fall Parent-Student Conferences & Book Faire |
| 12-16 | Coat Drive |
| 21 | PTO Election Night 6:30pm |
| 22 | A-Team Recognition 2:45 |
| 23 | No School – Teacher Inservice |
| 27 | Ed Leadership 3:40 |
| 27 | Madison Action Team 3:40 |
| 28 | Reptile Man Assembly 1:00 & Family Night 7:00pm \$2/person |
| 24 | Winter Wear Giveaway, McKenny 10-2pm |
| 28 | Kindergarten Pumpkin Patch |
| 29 | PTO Cookie Dough Fundraiser |

SECOND GRADE- Ms. Hammaker

- Nicki Giordano
- Skylar Starkey
- Bradley Burke

THIRD GRADE- Ms. O'Donnell

- Anna Lies
- Catherine Glenn
- Sierra Rodriguez

FOURTH GRADE – Ms. Flynn

- Jake Brown
- Tessa Webster
- Nation Essen
- Dalton Scott

FIFTH GRADE- Ms. Starks

- Damien Barnwell
- Antonio Rodriguez
- Angel Juarez