Hello Cedar Park Families:

I invite you to join us at a special PTA meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21st to meet new staff, new families and get a look ahead. I look forward to seeing you all at the Welcome Back Event on the 21st.

I also wanted to mention that as the weather continues to improve so will the usage of the park after school. If you are playing in the park with your child after school or even on the weekend and you observe inappropriate behavior, please contact the Seattle Police Department non-emergency line to report park incidents. The phone number is 206-625-5011, option 6. Documentation of incidents will help build understanding of the needs of the neighborhood and perhaps lead to more frequent patrols of the park.

Doug Ouellette, MIT Cedar Park Elementary Principal
3737 NE 135th St, Seattle, WA 98125 | MS: EJ-210
Phone 206.252-4300 | Cell 206.552-4726
dcouellette@seattleschools.org
Website: http://cedarparkes.seattleschools.org/
https://twitter.com/Principal_SPS
SPS Family Survey

The 2019 Seattle Public Schools Family Survey was distributed April 16 by email to all SPS K-12 families. Paper surveys (with a web link option) were sent to households without an email address in PowerSchool. Surveys are being distributed in six languages and can be taken on any computer or mobile device. The survey window will close May 17.

The Family Survey is administered each spring to families of K-12 students. The survey provides an important opportunity to reflect on your child’s school and the district as a whole. All Family Survey responses are confidential. Surveys are also administered each year to all school staff and students in grades 3 through 12. Results from these surveys are used to guide improvements at the school and district level.

If families have questions about the survey, please refer to the Family Survey FAQ, easily accessible from www.seattleschools.org.

Families can contact research@seattleschools.org if they need assistance or did not receive a survey link.

Cedar Park Big 3 Expectations

Cedar Park Citizens are CARING, RESPECTFUL, and RESPONSIBLE. During the month of May Cedar Park will focus on the trait of Perseverance.

Perseverance is when you keep trying even if something is difficult. Our wonderful Librarian Ms. Levin has chosen the book The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind – Kamkwamba/Mealer for our students to discuss.

Perhaps you could read this book at home!

April Showers Bring May Flowers... And Mud!

Please make sure your student wears appropriate outdoor clothing and that they have a set of extra clothes in their locker for days when the mud gets the best of them! If you have any size 10-12 clothes that you would like to donate to the office for “mud emergencies” we would appreciate it!
LIBRARY UPDATES

Global Reading Challenge: Team Cranky

I’m so proud of our 4th and 5th grade Global Reading Challenge (Vanessa, Toussaint, Savion, Aleksei, Hugo and Beckett), who took the creative challenge this year: Cranky Contraptions (Shouts also to Aiden and Victor who were not able to attend our work sessions but were with us much of the way!) We partnered with Pacific Science Center Tinker Tank to learn how to engineer movable toys to represent our books. Our project was shared at the Global Reading Challenge Finals event in March. Check out the video* here:  https://vimeo.com/325108082

*Please note an error in the film. Beckett’s project was The First Rule of Punk and Hugo’s was the P.S. Brothers but their pictures were reversed in the titles. My apologies to both Beckett & Hugo while we work on getting this corrected!

3rd-5th grade Cedar Readers: Popcorn Celebration JUNE 13TH

On Thursday June 13th, we’ll celebrate readers who are reading through WA award lists including the OTTER award (transitional chapter books), the Sasquatch awards (middle grade novels) and Global Reading Challenge books. Students will be invited to attend who have read 8 titles (3rd grade), 10 titles (4th grade) and 12 titles (5th grade). There are still 6 weeks to get reading and join the celebration! Forms went home in the Fall (parent signatures required), additional forms and books available in the library.

Library Love Letters

A warm shout of gratitude to those who contributed to issue 1 of the Library Love Letters zine project, which I presented to the School Board on April 17th. Students Audrey & Jaqui Frans submitted art, and parent (and professional artist) Amy Camber contributed a comic. Our advocacy efforts across the district are working! Thanks to the levy lid lift and the many voices speaking out in support of libraries, it was announced yesterday that middle and high school library positions in question will be restored. We’re still working to advocate for full-time librarians in every elementary school. If you’d like to make your voice heard (and be included in issue 2!), we’re still accepting letters and art at spslibraryloveletters@gmail.com.

Check out issue 1 here! https://www.flipsnack.com/abbytat/library-love-letters.html

Overdue & Lost Books

I’ll be emailing out overdue lists in the coming weeks. If an item shows up that you or your student believed you returned, let me know. (With students supporting the check-in process, there is an occasional item returned to the shelf that still shows up as “checked-out.”) We will use our Library Work Party team to help locate these.

If you know that your child did lose or damage a book, you can replace it (or donate the listed cost). Alternatively, we also offer a Food for Fines program. You can donate food items to support North Helpline. For more information or account-specific questions, contact me at ahlevin@seattleschools.org.
VOLUNTEER & DONATION REQUESTS

Library Fundraiser: TitleWish Online May 15th-June 3rd

In lieu of a Spring Book Fair, we will be having an online fundraising campaign so I can honor our student book requests (Lego, Minecraft, Pokemon). An advantage of using Follett TitleWish is that the books we order will come pre-processed and ready for immediate checkout! Stay tuned for the link when it goes live on May 15th!

Headphones: Lend or Donate?

We are in need of additional headphones to support classroom tech and assessment. Here is an example of the type we are using but will accept all kid-friendly headphones!

https://amzn.to/2ZLdSm0

Motown & Muffins! Library Work Shifts: May 31st and June 1

Calling all book lovers! I'll be hosting a Library Work Party to gather a team to do a little Spring spiffing in the library. We'll put on some tunes while we work and consume baked goods and coffee to keep us going!

My main goal is to process NEW BOOKS (so we can get them displayed and in kids hands!) but we will also organize makerspace materials, scour shelves for missing books, and do some laptop inventory. This is also a chance to receive an orientation for library shelving support in the Fall. There will be one Friday opportunity & one Saturday opportunity--choose a 2 hour shift that works best for your schedule.


Thank you for supporting our library!
Abby Levin, Teacher-Librarian at Cedar Park

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Important Information for Cedar Park Elementary Morning Bus Riders

On Friday, May 10th the bus drivers will be conducting Actual Emergency Exit Drills on the school buses. These are the final exit drills for 2018-19 school years. If this emergency drill results in your bus riding student being late to school that morning their lateness will be excused. Please talk to your student if they ride the bus and notify them of the drill and make sure they know it is simply a safety drill so that they are not surprised or scared.
Kindergarten Jump Start

Cedar Park is excited to host Jump Start for students starting Kindergarten in September 2019.

This free week-long experience helps our newest students become comfortable with the building and the classrooms, with staff and faculty and with typical school day activities and practices.

Additionally, Cedar Park will host parent information meetings each morning. Meet our Nurse, Librarian, PE Teacher, Office Staff and Principal and learn about Cedar Park operations and procedures.

We encourage every incoming Kindergartner to register for Jump Start.

[Download the Registration form] and return it to:
Cedar Park Elementary at 3737 NE 137th Street, 98125

Art Docent Program

April was an exciting month for art docent at Cedar Park. Parent Volunteer and Artist Amy Camber held a photography studio day in which each student got to the opportunity to be: photographer of their classmate, subject of a photograph, and light reflector. Students learned about Amy’s inspiration for the photography project: “Towards a Promised Land” by Wendy Ewald. Wendy is a US American photographer who has spent years teaching kids to photograph. Wendy took portraits of refugee children in England, had them write what they wanted the world to know about them on their self-portraits, and installed giant prints of the finished work on public buildings in Margate, England. She also taught the children how to photograph. After learning about Wendy’s project, Cedar Park students got straight to work writing on the 8x11 inch color prints of their own portraits. The guiding question for students was: “What would you like people to know about you that they might not realize just by looking at this portrait of you?” Students were able to try out different words and designs with erasable pens and the help of a protective transparent overhead sheet covering their photo. Once they were ready to commit to their final version, they used sharpies to write directly on the photo. Look for their projects on the walls of Cedar Park soon!

Thank You!

A huge thank you to parent volunteer Melissa Head for all of her hard work on our Marine Biology Expedition! She put in many hours of time and work to make the marine biology experience come alive for our students.

We Appreciate You Melissa!
Thank You!

Thank you to all of the families that attended our Expedition Open House on April 25th. We were pleased you could make it.

Thank you to the teachers, staff, field expedition chaperones and volunteers that worked hard to make the Marine Biology Expedition experience possible. We appreciate your time and your effort.

Students you did an AMAZING JOB and WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!

Stay Connected All Year Long

The Cedar Park Elementary School website is a great place to find current information, view the Cedar Park calendar and stay connected. There is currently great information about the Spring Assessments for our 1st-5th graders. The website is a great way for you to stay connected and informed over the summer months, too!

https://cedarparkes.seattleschools.org

May Calendar

Friday, May 3rd
Volunteer Appreciation Tea 1:30-2:25 p.m.
PTA Family Event 6:00-7:00 p.m. Daffy Dave Live Show

May 13th - May 17th
Grades 1 & 2 MAP testing

Tuesday, May 21st
New Families Welcome Event 5:30 p.m.
Returning Families A Look and PTA Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Friday, May 24th
Student Talent Showcase 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Monday, May 27th
NO SCHOOL Memorial Day

May 29th-June 5th
Grades 3, 4, 5 SBA testing (Reading and Writing)

Seattle Public Schools provides Equal Educational and Employment Opportunities

Seattle Public Schools, SPS, provides Equal Educational Opportunities and Equal Employment Opportunities and does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex; race; creed; color; religion; ancestry; national origin; age; economic status; sexual orientation, including gender expression or identity; pregnancy; marital status; physical appearance; the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability; honorably discharged veteran or military status; or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal. SPS also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. SPS complies with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations, including but not limited to: Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008; and the Washington Law Against Discrimination RCW 49.60. SPS's compliance includes, but is not limited to all district programs, courses, and activities, including extra-curricular activities, services, and access to facilities.