

Resources and Opportunities

According to the National Wildlife Federation, time spent outside is important for children for many reasons. One set of reasons has to do with physical health. Outdoor play can help reduce the risk of obesity – 1 out of 3 American children are in this category. Being outside raises Vitamin D levels – this vitamin helps to build strong bones and reduces the risk of heart disease and diabetes. Recent studies have suggested that time spent outdoors improves distance vision and may reduce the chance of nearsightedness.

Join us during February for a Math Information Night. Kindergarten through Fourth Grade guardians are invited on Thursday, February 28th. Fifth through Eighth Grade guardians are invited on Thursday, February 21st. Both nights will be hosted by CRSS Staff at 6:30. This Information Night will focus on ways to help your children with math and will also highlight some of the technology that is used during a student's day at CRSS.

<http://www.readwritethink.org/parent-afterschool-resources/> is a great website that offers many suggestions about reading and writing. It offers ideas and resources for students all the way through twelfth grade.

Cannon River STEM School News

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February 2013

Raptor League

In a joint effort between parents, staff, and Shattuck's U16 boys' soccer team, the Raptor League had its first event recently. The "School Wipe-Down" was the group's first attempt to bring families and the community together to benefit the school.

Almost five months in the making, the Raptor League has been meeting with the CRSS Board, Administration, and Staff to discover how we can best serve our school. In this process, three areas of concentration have been identified for this group to take charge of; gathering and coordinating volunteers, providing assistance with fundraising activities, and helping to provide opportunities

for families and the community to connect with the school and with each other. These areas of focus also helped the group to form our mission statement; "The Cannon River STEM School Raptor League is committed to providing support to students and staff by fostering family and community involvement."

We are currently meeting on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm in the school cafeteria to finish up the Raptor League bylaws. Once this process is complete, we will be meeting monthly and hope to have as many of you join us as possible. If you have questions about meetings or how to get involved, please send an email to raptorleague@cannonriverstemschool.org.

The Lottery is Coming!

As you all know, Cannon River STEM School limits class size. We use a lottery system as defined in state law to fill available openings in sections for next year. This year's lottery is on March 14th, and applications for inclusion in the lottery must be received at the office on Tuesday, March 12th by 4:00 pm. A few things to remember about the lottery:

- Students already enrolled and attending CRSS are automatically enrolled into the next grade. So if you have a child in 2nd grade now, we will automatically enroll him/her into 3rd grade at the start of the lottery. The first week of March, we will distribute forms to assess whether you plan on returning next year so that we can determine how many slots may be available for the lottery. If we don't hear back from you, we assume your child will continue at CRSS
- Siblings of currently enrolled students have preference in the lottery. After existing students are enrolled for the next year, any siblings of those students are enrolled in existing slots, or placed first on the waiting list. If there are more siblings than available slots, a sibling lottery precedes the general lottery to place siblings in order. If your enrolled child has a sibling you would like enrolled in CRSS next year, please submit an application as soon as possible, but definitely before 4:00 pm on March 12th!
- The general lottery then pulls and places applications in order for each grade, starting with 8th grade and working down by grade level to kindergarten.
- On the day of the lottery, the previous year's waiting list expires, and a new waiting list is created through the lottery process.

We could use your help! Encourage interested families to submit an application to enter the lottery prior to the March 12th deadline. Remember that our class size increases to 22 at grade 4, so we will have at least 4 openings in 4th grade next year! Parents of current students provide our best, and most compelling marketing!

Applications can be obtained at www.cannonriverstemschool.org/admissions or by stopping in the CRSS office.

February 2013

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

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3	4	5 Prospective Families School Tours 3:30 and 4:00 <small>(please call to sign-up)</small>	6	7 Science Fair Help Session 3-4:15 Raptor League Meeting 7:00	8	9
10	11	12 Prospective Families Info Night and School Tour 6:00 <small>(please call to sign-up)</small>	13	14 Board Meeting 7:00	15 No School	16
17	18 No School	19 Prospective Families School Tours 3:30 and 4:00 <small>(please call to sign-up)</small>	20	21 Science Fair Help Session 3-4:15 Parent Info Night 5th-8th 6:30 Raptor League Meeting 7:15	22	23
24	25	26 Prospective Families School Tours 3:30 and 4:00 <small>(please call to sign-up)</small>	27	28 Parent Info Night K-4th 6:30 Science Fair Help Session 3-4:15		