

School Family Connections

October



Park Ridge Elementary October 2008

Please visit our website at: www.nsd131.org

Set rules for cell phone use by child.

Did you know?

Students in our school have access to 127 computers and we use several programs to provide extra help or enrichment for students.

Park Ridge Elementary
3313 Parkridge Dr.
Nampa, ID 83687

Principal – Keith Field
Counselor – Scott Ziemer

Phone: (208) 468-4622

Fax: (208) 465-2722

E-mail: kfield@nsd131.org

Important Dates

Oct. 20-24 – National Bus Safety Week

Oct. 27 – Boys (5th) Basketball begins

Oct. 31 – End of 1st Quarter - Teacher work day - No School for students

Nov. 4 – Voting at Park Ridge on Election Day

Nov. 5-6 – Parent/Teacher Conf.

Nov. 6-7 – No school for students

Cell phones can disrupt classroom instruction and create behavior problems at school so we asked that students not bring or use cell phones while at school.

We encourage parents to talk with their children about when and where to use a cell phone.

Cell phones can make communication between youngsters and their families a lot easier, especially for older children who may need rides to and from extracurricular activities or friends' houses.

Also, cell phones can be extremely helpful in emergencies. If your children have cell phones, make sure they keep their cell phone batteries charged and that they know how to dial 9-1-1.

However, as cell phones become more and more sophisticated, it is very easy to rack up enormous charges by using too many minutes or by accessing certain features, such as text messaging and the Internet. In addition, the mobility of cell phones makes their use difficult to monitor. This lack of adult supervision can lead to excessive bullying and other unacceptable uses.

The National PTA suggests some things families can do to promote cell phone safety:

- Learn how to use the phone with your children.
- Make sure your children know how to dial emergency numbers, how to keep the phone charged,

and what certain actions (such as text messaging or accessing the Internet) might cost. This is also a great time to talk to your children about any cell phone features you don't want them to use.

- Monitor your children's cell phone bill. The bill should give you an itemized record of any calls made or received. If the list contains unfamiliar numbers, ask your children about those calls or call the numbers yourself to find out who answers. You should also show the bill to your children and point out the places where they are using extra minutes or incurring additional fees.
- Establish a "Media Use Contract" with each child in your family.

It is important that you set rules and limits that are appropriate for each child.

Be explicit about how you intend to monitor your children's cell phone use and what the consequences will be if the contract is broken. Once the contracts have been signed, post them in a prominent place in your home as a reminder.



Book Fair 2008

Our Park Ridge library will be holding it's Book Fair from November 3 – 13. It will be open from 8am – 4pm on school days and from 8am – 8pm on November 5-6, our Parent/Teacher Conference days.

All proceeds from the Book Fair go to purchasing more books for our Park Ridge Library. The more you buy to

read at home the more you can read at school! If you have any questions be sure to ask our librarian, Mrs. Morgan.

More Important Dates

- Nov. 10-21** – Food Drive
- Nov. 11** – Veterans Day Assembly
- Nov. 12** – Picture Retakes
- Nov. 13** – Boys Basketball Jamboree
- Nov. 20** – Boys Basketball Jamboree
- Nov. 26-28** – No School, Thanksgiving Break

Please slow down and be aware of pedestrian traffic in the parking lot. Thank you so much for your cooperation and patience as we try to stay safe!

Opportunities to make money for Park Ridge

Because everything we do costs money we are always looking for opportunities to raise money that are as convenient as possible. The funds raised through these methods help us to purchase items for classroom use, teachers work room, PE/music equipment, etc. At this time the following opportunities are available: General Mills Box Tops, Albertson's

Cards (a % of you're your purchase comes back to Park Ridge), Campbells soup labels, Walmart shopping bags, bring in your old cell phones and ink cartridges, Subway cards, Target. If you have any questions about these or information on others that might be available, please contact our office at 468-4622.

Don't Forget Your Coat –It's Getting Cold

Remind your student that as the weather changes it is important to bring coats, hats, shoes, and gloves to keep warm. Even as things cool off and the wind blows, there will be outside activities such as recess, occasional PE classes, etc. and we would like to know that all students have the appropriate winter clothing.

Often there are children that do not have the proper clothing for the winter months. *Occasionally we are able to provide these items for students and would appreciate any donations of new or used winter clothing to be used for this purpose. We could also use sweatpants, jeans, underwear, and other assorted clothing. Contact Elsie at 468-4622 if you have these items to donate*

Parent/Teacher Conferences Soon

Please remember to reserve November 6-7 and plan to attend parent/teacher conference at Park Ridge. We are looking forward to talking with you about your child's activities, both academic and otherwise, here at school. Through a note home soon, you will be asked to schedule a time between 3:30 - 8:00pm on Nov. 6 or between 9:00am - 8:00pm on Nov. 7. Your teacher will be in contact with you to work out available times.