

Stephen Austin  
Principal

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Greeting Ponderosa Families,

Welcome back everyone! Spring is here and we're excited for all the exciting things happening at Ponderosa!

As most of you are aware, we have Spring Conferences next week. We'll have quite a bit of information available to you during these two days, so please plan on attending with your child at your scheduled time. The library will have the book fair open both days as well, and we'll also have some information regarding school start times for the 2019-2020 school year.

On Friday, April 20th, we will have our annual PTA Auction! This is always a very fun event with an amazing array of great items to bid on. The kids have some wonderful art they will be auctioning off, and there will be some fantastic items donated by many very generous businesses here in Bend. This is a large source of revenue for all the extra-curricular opportunities the PTA provides for our students. Thank you to all of you who have donated so far! We hope to see everyone at the auction the evening of the 20th!

April is also the month we start our State testing in the upper grades. You will be receiving more information from classroom teachers regarding these assessments. Please be sure your child(ren) are getting plenty of sleep and eating a healthy breakfast to ensure they perform their best.

As always, feel free to stop by or call if you have any questions or concerns. My door is always open.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Austin



**Friday, 4/6**-4th grade Pastries with Parents, 7:45-8:30am in the library (info below).

**Wednesday, 4/11**-NO SCHOOL- Conferences.

**Thursday, 4/12**-NO SCHOOL - Conferences.

**Friday, 4/13**-NO SCHOOL - Office/School Closed.

**Friday, 4/20**-PTA Auction, 5:30-8:30pm, Gym.

**Wednesday, 4/25**-Bend Food Project non-perishable food collection.

**Wednesday, 4/25**-Kindergarten registration kick off (info on next page).

**Thursday, 4/26**-Spring Pictures

**Friday, 4/27**-5th grade Pastries with Parents, 7:45-8:30am in the library (info below).

Please visit

[www.bend.k12.or.us/](http://www.bend.k12.or.us/)

[ponderosa](#) for more activities, field trips, etc. Follow Ponderosa Elementary on Facebook too!



#### PONDEROSA LUNCH SCHEDULE

KINDER: 11:45-12:05  
Recess Until 12:25  
1ST: 11:55-12:15  
Recess Until 12:40  
2ND and 3RD: 12:25-12:45  
Recess Until 1:10  
4TH and 5TH: 12:10-12:25  
Recess Until 12:50

#### Pastries with Parents

Each year we host a Pastries with Parents event for each grade. This month we would like to invite students and their parents from 4th and 5th grade to join us in the library for coffee, juice and pastries while you read a book together. Fourth grade will take place on Friday, 4/6. Fifth grade on Friday, 4/27. Each day is from 7:45-8:30am.

#### **GET YOUR YEARBOOK NOW!**

YEARBOOKS ARE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE BY FILLING OUT AN ORDER FORM (AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE) AND SENDING IT TO SCHOOL WITH CASH OR CHECK (MADE OUT TO PONDEROSA). YOU MAY ALSO PAY ONLINE WITH CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD AT [YBPAY.LIFETOUGH.COM](http://YBPAY.LIFETOUGH.COM). USE YEARBOOK ID CODE 10033118. **YEARBOOKS WILL ONLY BE FOR SALE UNTIL APRIL 20, 2018. THIS DEADLINE IS APPROACHING QUICKLY! GET YOURS SOON! THANK YOU!**

#### **MORE 2018/2019 INFORMATION**

We are currently making plans for the 2018/2019 school year! If your child(ren) in grades K-4th plans to attend Ponderosa next year, great! We will automatically place them in a classroom and plan for them to be here. If he/she will NOT be returning, please give Mrs. D a call and let her know.

ALSO, if you have moved, changed your phone number or need to update emergency contact information, please let us know!

#### **PTA HIGHLIGHTS**

Some of our PTA Board Members are "graduating" this year so we need you on our 2018-2020 PTA Board! Two positions are needed - Treasurer AND Secretary. Interested? Please contact us at [ponderosapta@icloud.com](mailto:ponderosapta@icloud.com) or drop your information in our "nomination box" (located on the PTA Events Board next to the PTA office in the school lobby). Nominate yourself or a friend! We will contact all nominees before our final May 24th PTA meeting. Our current secretary and treasure will show you the ropes before the year ends AND they will be available to train you in the fall.

#### **AUCTION NEWS:**

Friday, April 20th, 5:30-8:30pm is our annual auction. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. It's fun and exciting. Bring your friends, family, and neighbors. This event is open to the public. We will have food trucks selling dinner, desserts by La Magie and a supervised kids area where you can drop off children for \$5 each- dinner, snacks, face painting, bounce houses and games are all included in this basic price. Bump up the package choice and they'll get CuppaYo and additional raffle tickets for the exclusive Kids Raffle Area sponsored by Target. Look for the pre-registration link after spring break with all the details.

We ALWAYS love volunteers, and you do not need to be a PTA member to help.

Follow this link <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/>

[30E0B4DADAF22A4FB6-2018/36031288](https://30E0B4DADAF22A4FB6-2018/36031288) or email [ponderosapta@icloud.com](mailto:ponderosapta@icloud.com)

#### **~FROM THE MUSIC ROOM~**

March was a busy month! We worked hard learning new rhythms in 2nd-5th grades while also learning new music from our Composer of Month - Edvard Grieg. Ask your child to hum part of "In the Hall of the Mountain King" and see if you recognize it. The students were surprised to learn that this famous piece of music was written almost 200 years ago! The Kindergarten and 1st graders practiced various steady beat and rhythmic patterns on rhythm sticks, and also performed "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" with their own beat pattern creations. I want to personally thank the choir students for their tremendous work at our district Kids Choir Festival on March 17th. We had 41 of our 4th/5th graders participate! They worked hard to blend their voices with the other elementary choirs and put on an excellent St. Patty's Day concert at Bend High. Congratulations on a job well done!

Kari Sue, Music Teacher  
[kari.sue@bend.k12.or.us](mailto:kari.sue@bend.k12.or.us)

#### **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

Kindergarten registration for the 2018/2019 school year officially kicks off on Wednesday, April 25th. Please share with neighbors and friends who will have a child who is 5 years old by September 1, 2018. Registration packets will be available beginning at 10:00am until 3:00pm on April 25th and each day after as well. Please bring the following with you:

\*Proof of address (utility bill preferred)

\*Birth Certificate

\*Immunization Information

Early registration enables us to make plans for next year, so please plan to come in as soon as possible (on or after April 25th).

Thank you!

#### **Battle of the Books**

**Congratulations to the Little Einsteins for winning our Ponderosa Battle of the Books! Team members include Ava, Easton, Mason and Kiersten. These 4th graders did an excellent job of representing our school at the OBOB Regional competition on March 10th. Great job!**

**Ponderosa Battle of the Books for 1st and 2nd graders is now underway! Teams are being formed, with battles set to begin in April. The books for this year's battle include the following:**

**Extreme Survivors by Connie and Peter Room**

**Hamster Holmes: A Mystery Comes A Knocking by Albin Sadar.**

**Kingdom of Wrenly: The Lost Stone by Jordan Quinn.**

**Inspector Flytrap by Tom Angleberger and Cece Bell.**

**The Major Eight: Battle of the Bands by Melody Reed.**

**Mr. Putter and Tabby Feed the Fish by Cynthia Rylant.**

**Sam the Man and the Chicken Plan by Frances O'Roark Dowell.**

#### **THE SPRING BOOK FAIR IS COMING!**

Please join us in the Library on conference days for our Spring Book Fair. Hours are as follows:

Wednesday, April 11, 8:00am to 8:00pm

Thursday, April 12, 8:00am to 8:00pm

You may also order books online from March 5th-25th at:

<http://www.scholastic.com/bf/ponderosaelemschool2>

Online orders will be shipped at no charge to Ponderosa.

All profits will benefit the Ponderosa Library - THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

#### **SEL Happenings**

April's character trait focus is Acts of Service. Each classroom or grade level will be completing some type of act of service! So far we have classes collecting food, raising money, making placements, volunteering, writing letters and picking up garbage! At the end of the month, we will have an assembly to celebrate the great work done by all!

SEL is taking a pause for SafeTouch during the month of April. While SafeTouch lessons are taking place during SEL time, **it is not part of our SEL curriculum.**

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me! [heidi.thomas@bend.k12.or.us](mailto:heidi.thomas@bend.k12.or.us)

Heidi Thomas