



Lena Whitmore Elementary School

110 South Blaine St., Moscow, ID 83843
208-882-2621 FAX: 208-892-1202
<https://lena.ms281.org>

Parent Bulletin, September 8, 2019

Amazon Fundraiser - There is an easy way to support building an ADA friendly playground at Lena Whitmore through every Amazon purchase. The current wooden structure is slowly reaching the end of its lifespan and is needing replaced. We want to build a playground that is accessible for the whole Moscow community and is ADA friendly. Parent volunteers and teachers have been fundraising for the past two year, but we are still far from our goal (\$70,000 raised of \$200,000). Amazon has created an easy way to donate...Go to this website: smile.amazon.com Select Lena Whitmore Elementary Parent Advisory Team. They donate a small percentage of your purchase to the fundraiser, and it doesn't cost you anything extra! Thank you for helping to build a more inclusive playground!!

Fall Assessments and Data Analysis - Over the course of the next two weeks students at all grade levels will be given a variety of short reading and math assessments to determine who needs extra reading and math support as well as enrichment. Throughout the state of Idaho, we are once again implementing a new reading assessment called iSIP. It is a computer-based assessment through the iStation software program. It gives a comprehensive picture about each child's reading abilities. In math, students will be given a couple of short screeners using Aimsweb Plus, another online software/assessment program. In two weeks each grade level team will meet with Lacey Watkins (our Title 1 teacher), Janice Weesner (our Extended Learning teacher), either Melica Haarr or Kaelyn Yandt (our Exceptional Child teachers), Meghan Raney (our counselor), and myself to review the data and determine who needs extra support/enrichment, when it will take place, who will provide it, with what materials, and how we are monitoring their progress. Over the course of the first semester, our grade level teams will meet again in November to review progress made. Then in January, another round of mid-

Lena Whitmore Elementary School is a community of caring people who believe that each individual has a right to a rich and rigorous education, to feel welcome, safe, and worthy of respect.

year assessment takes place and we repeat the process second semester! In my opinion, this data review and planning process is a key to our academic success with students (as evidenced by the SDE report card, where Lena ranked #28 out of 652 k-12 schools in Idaho this past spring: <https://www.idahoednews.org/news/find-out-where-your-school-ranks/>). I appreciate how much time and energy our staff puts into reviewing data and developing individualized interventions at all levels for our kids!

Lena Makerspace - The Lena Makerspace in our library is a place where students can self-direct their learning through open-ended exploration and play! The Epic LEGO Wall is always an option; we rotate other building materials such as wooden blocks, Lincoln Logs, Strawbees, Keva Planks, and Tinkertoys into the mix. We are excited to feature robotics, chess and coding activities this year as well! Each grade level has a designated day of the week to come to the library during their lunch recess, starting mid-September and running through the end of May. We are looking for volunteers to help set up and supervise the Makerspace activities from 11:15-12:30 Monday-Thursday (Monday - 3rd grade; Tuesday - 2nd; Wednesday 1st/4th; and Thursday - 5th). Thank you in advance for volunteering your time to supervise these amazing and fun activities: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084FABA92CA2FE3-1stquarter>

Ticket Raffle (a message from our new Music Teacher, Ms. Davies) - I would love to give more students the opportunity to experience real, live music! The Washington Idaho Symphony is a great community orchestra that rehearses and performs in Pullman, WA. I will be raffling off tickets to interested families for a student and an accompanying adult to attend the concert totally free! The first concert is Saturday, September 14th at 7:30 pm at Pullman High School. If you wish to enter your family into the raffle, please email me at daviess@msd281.org by Wednesday at 5 pm. I will be drawing for the tickets at 8 am Thursday morning! Please only enter if you or another guardian is able to accompany your child to the concert.

Lena Whitmore Elementary School is a community of caring people who believe that each individual has a right to a rich and rigorous education, to feel welcome, safe, and worthy of respect.

Up-coming events:

9/11 - 5th grade Parent Night, 5:30 p.m. in your child's classroom

10/1 - 5th grade attends the UI Young Persons Concert, 12:30-2:15 p.m.

10/2 - Walk To School Day

10/3 & 10/4 - No School, Professional Development Days

10/15 - individual picture day