

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



The White Pine Report



July 2009

In This Issue

Important Dates

Meet Kindergarten Team

Meet 1st Grade Team

Meet 2nd Grade Team

Meet 3rd Grade Team

Meet 4th Grade Team

Meet 5th Grade Team

Meet the Middle School

Meet Special Ed

Important Dates

:: Registration



Aug. 5th - Last Names A-L
Aug. 6th - Last Names M-Z
Aug. 7th - Open
10:00AM - 2:00PM All Days

:: Parent Orientation

1 Hour Mandatory Meeting

Aug. 13th, Thursday at 7PM
Aug. 14th, Friday at 1PM
Aug. 15th, Saturday at 9AM

:: Back to School Picnic

Aug. 17th, 6PM @ McCowan
Park - Assignments at
registration. All Grades!!!

:: 1st Day of School!

Aug. 20th, Thursday

Supply Lists

Dear Terry,

We are so excited about the coming year and want to introduce you to the exceptional team that is here to serve your children!

We are absolutely committed to challenging our students with a hands-on Core Knowledge curriculum while providing them a safe and warm environment.

Our teachers and staff have worked extra hard throughout the summer to prepare themselves, their teams, and resources to challenge and nurture our students. By remaining steadfast to a shared vision and through collaborative efforts, we will provide your child an exciting and dynamic learning experience!

Moreover, we will keep the channels of communication open and always welcome your feedback, questions, or concerns. We look forward to seeing you soon at registration, orientation and the family picnic and want to assure you that great things are in store!

White Pine Charter School

Meet Your Kindergarten Team

Kathie Petersen & Kathy McFadden

Welcome to Kindergarten where we will be exploring the world through books, games, songs, and fun hands-on activities. Basic units in science and social studies will include the elements of the Core learning program. Reading, writing, math and language arts will be integrated into themes such as:

"Apples"
"Trees"
"Magnets"
"Maps"
"Symbols of the United States"
"Native Americans"
"Sorting"
"Counting"
AND MUCH MORE

Character building is an important part of the kindergarten program. Children will have many opportunities to work and play together. Our goal is to help each child feel confident, happy and safe through positive social interactions.

READ ALL COMPLETE BIOS @ WEBSITE SOON...

Meet Your 1st Grade Team

Welcome to First Grade! This is **Ms. Prindle** and **Mrs. Morgan** and we can't wait for the year to begin. We are so excited we decided to spill the beans! Look closely as we tell you what a First Grader here at White Pine will learn.

Ms. Prindle and Mrs. Morgan will be teaching Reading, Writing, Spelling, Math, Social Studies and Science in their rooms. After much research and training, we are implementing an exciting reading program. First grade will now be mixed together into three different groups. Each group will be focusing on the specific needs of the students. The first graders will be discovering how letters form into words, and how these words create wonderful stories. As first graders, you will be reading a variety of stories and books so be ready to become reading experts!



Kindergarten
1st Grade
2nd Grade
3rd Grade
4th Grade
5th Grade
Middle School

Other lists will be added to school website under forms - so check back soon!

Quick Links

[White Pine Website & Calendar](#)
[School Charter](#)
[Idaho Department of Education](#)
[Teaching Study Skills](#)
[Preparing Kids for Kindergarten](#)
[Fun Educational Summer Act.](#)

Quote

"The illiterate of the future will not be the person who cannot read. It will be the person who does not know how to learn."

(Alvin Toffler)

Our Vision & Goals

The importance of having a clear mission and vision cannot be understated. While those are outlined in our charter, we, as a school and board, have decided to review them and our goals to ensure we are focusing on the absolute best practices for our children. Please share any suggestions you may have and look for these updates in the next newsletter.

New @ White Pine

WHITE PINE RADIO

Looking for the latest news, events, sports scores, relaxing music, student readings or even some talk-radio? Then tune-in to 88.5 FM when you're in the drop-off or pick-up line for the best in student produced radio broadcasting.

Coming Soon...

Students, direct inquiries to Mrs. Branter or Mr. Crisler in the Middle School if you are interested in an exciting career in radio broadcasting.

You also now have a big responsibility. You have homework each and every night! You will be asked to read for 10 minutes. At first, this can be your family reading to you, but as you become better readers, we want you to read to them.

As a Mathlete you will be learning about how numbers work together. You will be adding and subtracting numbers every day. Each night you will receive a Home Link for homework. These Home Links will make you into First Grade Math wizards!

READ MORE ON WEBSITE...

Meet Your 2nd Grade Team

Mrs. Hasner, **Mrs. Treat**, and **Mrs. Zaraneck** will be teaching second grade this year. An exciting year has been planned enhanced by the Core Knowledge curriculum. Each child will receive comprehensive reading instruction using the Open Court anthologies leveled readers and novel studies. Writing and grammar instruction are also an important part of our Language Arts curriculum.

We use the Everyday Math series and spend time exploring math concepts through the use of manipulatives and games. Pre and post testing occur to determine proper skill placement and developmentally appropriate assignments.

The Core Knowledge science and social studies curricula provide the children with challenging avenues of study. We will explore our American symbols, study the westward expansion of the United States, ancient civilizations and so much more in social studies. Core Knowledge science covers cycles in nature including insects, plants, and frogs. Spanish instruction will occur each week and round out our exciting course of study.

We welcome all students and their families. We look forward to sharing a year of learning and fun with each of you!

READ MORE ON WEBSITE...

Meet Your 3rd Grade Team

Fasten your seatbelts as it is going to be an exciting ride in which you will have fun while acquiring new knowledge!

Mr. Graham will be teaching math and social studies while **Mrs. Carroll** will be teaching writing/grammar and science. Both of us will be teaching reading in our classrooms. Our school has adopted a reading system in which students will be mixed between classes to form different reading groups. Each group will have an adult leader that will work with you throughout the year.

In 3rd Grade we take homework very seriously. Each night you are to read at least twenty minutes each night. There will be various ways we will have you keep track of your reading each month in order to receive your Book It! certificate. There will also be math homework Monday through Thursday as we promise to give you a break on Friday.

We are going to learn some great things this year. Some of the highlights in science will be the human body, space, and of course animals! Our social studies curriculum involves the exciting studies of Ancient Rome, the Vikings, and famous explorers...

READ MORE ON WEBSITE...

Meet Your 4th Grade Team

Hello! I would like to take this time to welcome you to 4th grade! My name is **Ms. Todd** and together with **Mrs. Cunningham**, we will be your 4th grade teachers! We are so excited to come together to teach you Math, Reading, Science, Social Studies, and Writing. I will be teaching you Science, Spelling, Reading, Social Skills, and Math while Mrs. Cunningham will be teaching you Social Studies, Writing, Spanish, Reading, and Math.

This year, you will learn about Idaho History and even go to a Rendezvous where we pretend that we are pioneers! I had the

ONLINE SURVEYS

Using this Constant Contact email marketing service, we have the ability to send out surveys throughout the year to capture and put your feedback to use.

Look for a survey shortly regarding activities, athletics, clubs or other programs that you may want to volunteer for!

pleasure of going last year and it is so much fun! You will also read some great classics, such as, "Treasure Island", "King Arthur", and "Robin Hood" amongst many other exciting selections. For homework, there will be reading every night along with math and other important subjects. I love to read and hope that you will continue to grow in your love for reading!

I am so excited to start the year off with all of you and know that we will have some great times! I look forward to meeting all of you and hope that your summer has been wonderful!

Next Issue

- Administration Introduction
- Vision & Goals
- Middle School Update
- Staff Bios
- Announcements
- Core Knowledge Article
- And So Much More!

Please feel free to pass this issue on to any family or friends interested in White Pine Charter School. We are looking for candidates in the 5th and 7th Grades!
(see forwarding link below)



::

Meet Your 5th Grade Team

Ms. Wood and Mrs. Torgerson would like to welcome our new students to "Fabulous 5th Grade"!

Ms. Wood teaches Math, Science and Reading. **Mrs. Torgerson** teaches Social Studies, Writing and Reading. This new school year both of us will teach reading at the same time and all 5th grade students will be grouped and mixed. We will be reading from our Open Court Textbook and novels such as, "Holes," "Tuck Everlasting," and "Hatchet."

We hope to instill a love of reading in our students. Students are required to read 25 minutes each weeknight and record it on a reading log. Extra minutes become money to spend in our classroom store (items donated by parents).

Also expect math homework almost every night as well as any special projects that arise. Students will have spelling tests Friday along with writing assignments. Science is full of many exciting hands-on experiments and projects. Social Studies will include plays, speeches and other projects as we learn of America's beginnings.

Every Friday we have some free time as a homework reward and students who have not had any behavior issues. We work hard so we can play hard. Our students learn while having FUN!!!

[READ MORE ON WEBSITE...](#)

Meet the Middle School Team**Science - Harold Strom**

Harold ("Hal") Strom has extensive experience as a teacher and school administrator. He received a bachelor's degree from Stanford University, a diploma in education from Makerere College, University of East Africa, and a Master of Science degree from the University of Guam.

Throughout his career, Hal has worked successfully with students of varied backgrounds and ages from eight years old to adult. Hal and his wife Nancy have collaborated closely to formulate individualized education programs to maximize student achievement.

Hal unequivocally views science as an activities-based course and has learned that effective science instruction is rooted in the principle that "science is doing."

Math - Jennifer Croft

I am a recent graduate from Idaho State University. I have earned a Bachelor's of Arts in Education with an emphasis in math and have been a long term substitute at Idaho Falls High School where I completed 2 trimesters as a math teacher prior to earning my degree. As a student, I worked as an intern at Bush Elementary in the first grade and student taught at Hawthorne Elementary in the sixth grade. I have vast experience at all grade levels, however, middle school math is where my passion lies. I have worked with students in preparation for the Direct Math Assessment and am very excited for the opportunity I have to be at White Pine Charter this year!

Language Arts - Christine Hansen

Christine Hansen received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting/Directing from Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA and her Master of Arts in Theatre from Idaho State University. Her career has included teaching, directing, choreographing, and performing, in venues ranging from elementary and secondary schools, to universities, national tours, and

regional theatre settings. Most recently Christine was on the faculty for the Pinellas County Center for the Arts at Gibbs High School in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Christine is married to an Idaho native, Rod Hansen, who shares her background in theatre and the arts. He is the new Director of Exhibits at the Museum of Idaho. They have a wonderful eight year old daughter, Abigail.

Christine says that she is "very excited to be joining the wonderful group of teachers, staff and parents at White Pine! And getting to know, guide, teach, and encourage a whole new throng of young people!"

Social Studies - Randy Crisler (TL)

Marhaban bikum (Hello everyone),
I am so excited to be teaching full time at WPCS this year. I will be teaching 6th grade social studies, which will consist of learning about the ancient civilizations of Greece and Rome as well as about the Enlightenment and the Industrial Revolution. I hope you are ready to invent some things! Yes 7th graders, you will be able to make hydrogen bombs and launch rockets but only after we study the first half of the 20th century, which includes WWI, the "Roaring Twenties", the Great Depression, and WWII.

Eighth graders will reach a new level of knowledge as we analyze the events surrounding the Civil Rights movement, the End of the Cold War, the Role of the Middle East and oil politics, and the rise of China and India in the world. Advanced Placement (AP) techniques will be used in analyzing the different histories and cultures in all three grades. This will help ensure students' success and their ability to excel in high school and beyond.

Exploratory - Elizabeth Branter

I graduated from the University of Idaho with a degree in Home Economics and have been working in education for the past five years. I am thrilled to teach Exploratory to your 6th, 7th and 8th graders! We will offer them a range of opportunities and experiences by introducing them to a variety of new ideas in technology, engineering, geography, Spanish, and connections to the "real world."

I enjoy spending time with my husband and two sons. We are big hockey fans and I love watching my boys play. I also like to travel, camp and read.

READ COMPLETE BIOS SOON ON WEBSITE... And look for in-depth updates on the Middle School, the schedule, after school activities, and so much more in the next WHITE PINE REPORT!

Meet Your Special Education Team

Mrs. Barrett, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Duplessis, Mrs. S. Arnold, Mrs. Dunthorne, Mrs. Rose, Mrs. Mason, Mrs. Miller...

Mrs. Barrett, Mrs. Duplessis and Mrs. Dunthorne work with special needs students in the kindergarten, first, second and third grade. Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Arnold work with special needs students in the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grade. We work with students in all areas depending on their need. We will also be working closely with the classroom teachers to help implement a dynamic reading time. We are very excited about this new program which we piloted in the second grade last spring and had fabulous success.

We have a very dedicated team that works to help all students become successful. We work on each students IEP goals and help them to close the gap between them and their peers. Mrs. Christensen is our school counselor and psychologist. She is available for all students. She does some of our testing and evaluations on students that are struggling.

This year, we have a new speech and language pathologist that will only be working at White Pine. We are very excited about this and know this will help make speech more exciting and constant for students.

We look forward to working with your students this year!

[Forward email](#)

✉ **SafeUnsubscribe®**

This email was sent to tsrothamer@gmail.com by tsrothamer@gmail.com.
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



White Pine Charter School | 2959 John Adams Parkway | Ammon | ID | 83406