

October 8, 2009

Dear Parents,

How many of you have heard the phrase “Power Hour” floating around Cosgriff? These two words actually refer to a 45-50 minute block of time devoted to small group language arts instruction in grades K-5.

Power Hour is organized and executed by a highly trained and very devoted team of teachers and reading aids led by Raquel Austin, Literacy Coach and former Kindergarten teacher, at Cosgriff. Four days per week a literacy team enters a classroom prepared to teach a specific and necessary lesson such as guided reading, vocabulary development, mechanics of writing, phonics, sorting words for patterns and fluency.

After a 15 minute instruction block, students rotate to the next teacher/aide in a classroom for a different lesson in language arts. Three to four rotations make up a day’s instruction. Power Hour is teacher directed with a quick steady pace focused on core standards and research based instruction. Grade level teams meet often with the regular classroom teacher and Mrs. Austin to assess instruction and regroup students as necessary. The students greatly benefit from this small, highly concentrated group instruction.

Much gratitude and appreciation goes to Mrs. Austin and her “Power” teams of instructors. Please note the following teams:

Kindergarten –	Gina Lester Danielle Gobar Aly Auer Alison LeDuc Kassi Mancini Charlotte Oliver	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade –	Dominique Aragon Lynn Teynor Kassi Mancini Sarah Stepan Kristin Bonacci Charlotte Oliver
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Sam Weyher Marissa Zuchetto Kassi Mancini Sarah Stepan Kristin Bonacci Rachel McCann	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	Sue Sause Alma Camp Charlotte Oliver Heather Luttmer
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Lisa Romero Holly Dean Kassi Mancini Rachel McCann	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Marsha Newman Charlotte Oliver Kristin Bonacci Sarah Stepan

Call or email Raquel Austin to set a date for a classroom visit during Power Hour at 801-486-3197 or [austin@cosgriff.org](mailto:austin@cosgriff.org). Learn first hand how this highly effective block of instruction works.

Please read the following:

- Sign up for parent teacher conferences October 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>- [click here](#) or call the office 801-486-3197.

- In support of Veterans who have served and those currently serving our country, Cosgriff students will participate in three service projects for October-
  1. Students will be asked via a bake sale or free dress to help purchase beautiful calendars of scenic Utah for our National Guard men and women currently serving in Afghanistan and Iraq. The calendars cost \$4.25 each and we hope to purchase as many as possible. The calendars will be sent soon, in order to reach Guard units by Christmas (a calendar is hanging on the student council bulletin board).
  2. The student council will host a bake sale on October 27, sell suckers on October 30, and ask for a \$1.00-\$2.00 donation at our Halloween celebration. The council also hopes to send a check to the VA Hospital rehabilitation fund, and to the National Guard Family Fund which helps families of soldiers currently serving overseas, by providing them with extra money for bills and living expenses during their deployment.

Please send a donation any day during October to support these projects.

- The end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter is October 19, and report cards go home October 21.
- Fall break is October 15 and 16.
- The Halloween festivities are as follows:
  - October 30-Halloween Mass at 8:45am, students may wear costumes to school.
  - Parade to follow Mass; the weather will determine the location (inside or out).
  - 30-45 minute classroom party to follow the parade.

The same rules for costumes will be required as in previous years. No costumes depicting gore, death, or violence. No weapons of any kind. No large masks or hoods allowed. Parents who choose to dress up must follow the same rules.

- **As of today, October 8, we do not have one secured item for our Mardi Gras live auction.** Every single Cosgriff parent is needed to procure an auction item, make a contact or volunteer on a committee. Call or email Ali Kelly, 801-520-7160, [kelly1493@msn.com](mailto:kelly1493@msn.com) and attend the solicitation meeting October 20, 9:00am in the library or the general auction meeting October 29, 7:00pm in the library. **Please help!**
- Click here for important information about the following:
  - Script
  - Parent Trivia Night
  - Community Cookbook
  - Book Fair
  - Fall Festival
  - Mardi Gras
  - Volunteers-Needed

Thank you for your support,

Betsy Hunt  
Principal