

Helen Keller Elementary is proud to announce that they are one of two schools in the state of Washington chosen to take part in Red Ribbon Week. This week happens every year near the end of October. This year, Keller will be taking time on October 7<sup>th</sup> to celebrate leading a drug-free lifestyle. To prepare students for this event, teachers have taken time to educate students on making safe & healthy choices when it comes to the dangers of drugs.

On the day of the event, we are encouraging all students to wear RED!

The celebration will kick off in the morning with a special parade consisting of a variety of police personnel and other safety vehicles. The parade will be followed by a school wide assembly led by Kirkland Chief of Police Eric Olsen. This educational assembly will reinforce our school Caring Mission:

- ❖ **Care For Yourself**
- ❖ **Care For Others**
- ❖ **Care For Your Community**

After the assembly, students will have opportunities to meet and greet with some of the safety personnel on campus. These positive interactions will give students an opportunity to ask questions and get a closer look at their safety vehicle and tools.

**You are invited to come and celebrate with us on October 7<sup>th</sup>!**

**When: October 7<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 9:15- Noon**

**\*\*\* The Helen Keller parking lot will be CLOSED to EVERYONE until the end of the event. Parents will still be able to drop students off safely with the help of extra adult supervision and alternative parking areas will be designated for the day of the event if you would like to stay and experience RED RIBBON DAY! 😊**

### **What is Red Ribbon Week?**

The Red Ribbon Campaign is designed to encourage healthy, drug-free, and violence-free lifestyles among youth. Drugs continue to be a threat to the health and welfare of our youth and this event is an ideal way for students & the community to unite & take a stand against drugs.

### **Why?**

Red Ribbon Week focuses on educating students about healthy choices, especially the choice to avoid drugs. The need for drug prevention efforts never diminishes. Each year there are millions of new students just starting their journey through school who have not yet heard the anti-drug messages expressed during Red Ribbon Week.

This event came out of tragedy. Undercover DEA agent Enrique Camarena was killed in 1985 by Mexican drug traffickers. To honor him, people in his hometown of Calexico, California, started "Camarena Clubs" that promoted drug free lives. The concept spread to other states. The U.S. Congress officially proclaimed Red Ribbon Week in 1988. The mission of the Red Ribbons Campaign is to present a unified & visible commitment the creation of a DRUG FREE AMERICA.

# Red Ribbon Day: October 7<sup>th</sup> 2010

## *REAL Life is Drug-Free*

The celebration of being drug free is not just a school event. Parents, please use this time to educate your child on drug awareness issues. As a parent, you can further promote the importance of 'Saying No To Drugs' with your child.

### 10 New Things to do instead of Drugs



- Make up a new dance
- Write a letter to a relative
- Make cookies with your family
- Volunteer
- Write a song
- Learn a new hobby
- Have an ice cream party
- Go fishing
- Start a club
- Help your parents make Dinner.

### 5 Ways to Say No To Drugs



1. "ARE YOU CRAZY? NO!"
2. "No, I like my brain the way it is."
3. "Gee, thanks but I'm high on life!"
4. "Not today, not tomorrow, How about never?"
5. "I don't have time for drugs!"