



November 17, 2016  
2016-2017 School Year  
Issue 3

## CUB NEWS

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**November 16th**

**Reflections Reception**

6:00pm - 7:00pm / Newcastle Elementary Library

**November 18th**

**Coffee Talk with Rich Mellish**

9:30am - 10:30am / SAGE Classroom

**“Creative Hair Day” AND “Pajama Day” Spirit Day**

**3rd Grade Movie & Potluck**

6:00pm - 8:00pm / Newcastle Commons & Gym

**November 17th - December 2nd**

**Holiday Gift Barn**

**November 21st**

**“Run/Hide/Fight Parent Training”**

7:00pm - 8:30pm / Issaquah High Black Box Theater

**November 24th - November 25th**

**Thanksgiving Holiday**

NO SCHOOL

**November 29th**

**SCREENAGERS: Growing Up in the Digital Age**

7:00pm - 9:00pm / Liberty High School Theater

**December 1st - December 10th**

**Holiday Online Auction**

**December 7th - December 8th**

**Elementary Conferences**

NO SCHOOL

**December 9th**

**4th Grade Movie & Potluck**

6:00pm - 8:00pm / Newcastle Commons & Gym

**December 13th**

**Annual Staff Cookie Exchange**

**December 21st - January 2nd**

**Winter Break**

NO SCHOOL

### Presidents' Note

“Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of Gratitude.” - A. A. Milne, Winnie-the-Pooh

As we gathered the articles for this issue of Cub News, we were overwhelmed with the need to express our gratitude. For the 598 paid PTSA members who have stepped up to represent our students and advocate for their education, we are grateful. For the volunteers who pop the popcorn on Fridays and for those who have ensured that all classrooms are prepared for an emergency, we are grateful. For the people who draft, edit, copy, and distribute the Kidmail pieces that come home, we are grateful. For the leaders in neighborhoods who invite others to support the “Dare to Dream” Auction, for the ones finding new sponsors, and for those paying it forward to ensure that current and future students at Newcastle Elementary have access to great programs, we are grateful.

Often it falls to us to ask our community for help. We are all volunteers and we rely on each other to bring talents, energy, and ideas to make our community stronger, to make Newcastle Elementary School the best learning environment for each of our students. We have asked, and many of you have answered in the affirmative. And we are grateful.

Thank you for all you do!

**Angela & JuliAnne**

PTSA Co-Presidents

[NewcastlePTSA.President@gmail.com](mailto:NewcastlePTSA.President@gmail.com)

## Back to School “Picnic” Started the Year with Connections!

“Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.” - Marcel Proust

To 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Fundraising Chairs Marcia O'Donoghue and Molly Sandvick for corralling and coordinating the 5<sup>th</sup> Graders who volunteered to sell pizza, we are grateful. To JuliAnne Diesch, Stina Fluegge, Mary McGuire Brown, Susan Reinhold, Michelle Riley, the Scouts and the LHS Robotics Team who made information available to our community, we are grateful. To Helen Gray-Schnase and Lisa Lewis for energetically connecting with families about the **“Dare to Dream” Auction**, we are grateful.

## First Weeks of School Set the Scene for a Great Year!

“The essential attributes of a great leader are a positive attitude, humility, and gratitude.” - Debasish Mridha

To Allison Sweeney, for coordinating the volunteers in the first two weeks, we are grateful. To Heather Ackermann, Isabelle Banville, Jackie Bartel, Vivian Bastron, Marci Beppu, Marie Birve, Carol Anne Boone, Melissa Bowers, Becky Butler, Melia Cossette, Poonam Churi, Susan Crow, Khanh Dang, Teresa Fagan, Brittany Frank, Luisa Gass, Joy Gold, Christy Grabowski, Helen Gray-Schnase, Gina Hall, Rena Han, Joanna Hanson, Mikiko Imai, Jeanie Johnson, Renee Klein, Therese Kosar, Lakshmi Chaya Kotamarthi, Caroline Lilley, Chris Longfellow, Christine McClure, Lana Miller, Jennifer Nelson, Marcia O'Donoghue, Julie Pedraza, Loan Phung, Karen Saino, Ram Sarma, Huyen Sewell, Tina Subherwal, Heather Thibeau, Faye Till, and Erica Yang, we are grateful.

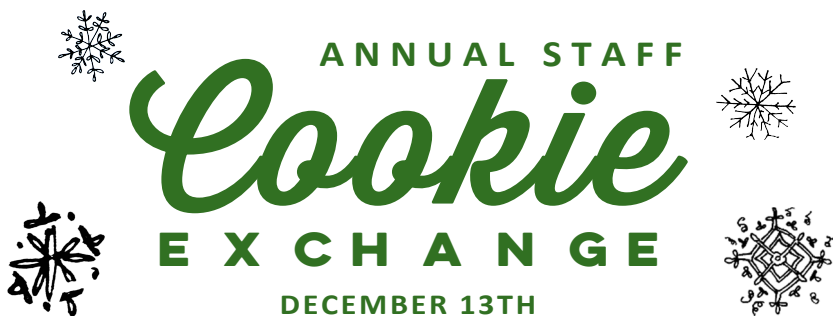


## “Crock-tober”: A Perfect Fall Staff Appreciation Luncheon

Three times a year, Staff Appreciation Chair Yvette Blauvelt invites families from specific grade levels to contribute to a Staff Appreciation Luncheon - and for Yvette's passion for this, we are grateful. In October, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade families

“Life is beautiful if you see it with the eyes of gratitude.” - Qasim Chauban

were invited to bring soups, salads, breads, and desserts to transform the Staff Lounge into a Crock-tober Fest. To all who answered the call to action - Jessica Anderson, Katie Burris, Becky Butler, Amber Carruthers, Khanh Dang, JuliAnne Diesch, Danielle Dixon, Eva Downs, Tina Ferencz, Stina Fluegge, Georgia Forchuk, Brittany Frank, Koreen Hirakami, Susan Houpt, Jennifer Jochumsen, Sara Klassen, Chuck Kim, Therese Kosar, Melissa Larson, Lisa Lewis, Jennifer Lincoln, Kate Lonning, Lana Miller, Marcia O'Donoghue, Maggie Peloquin, Renae Penner, Michelle Riley, Eileen Rubenstein, Tiffany Ryan, Alka Sandhu, Kelly Schoembs, Rachel Smith, Susan Tokish, Katherine Vu, Bettina Vuong, Stefanie Williamson, Rebecca Wyant - we are grateful. To those who helped with set-up and clean-up - Yvette Blauvelt, JuliAnne Diesch, Chris Longfellow, Kate Lonning, Amina Najam, Maggie Peloquin, and Michelle Riley - we are grateful.



"Gratitude fosters happiness." - Katie Hurley

We think cookies (in moderation) also boost happiness! They certainly are a great way to show our appreciation. Last year's inaugural Staff Cookie Exchange was such a hit - among families AND the staff - that we have made it an annual event! To Yvette Blauvelt for bringing this idea to Newcastle PTSA, we are grateful. Look for the Signup link in the next What's Happening or an email from your Room Parent after Thanksgiving break!

## Holiday Gift Barn

"Immensely grateful, touched, proud, astonished, abashed." - Borish Pasternak

From November 17th - December 2nd, Newcastle PTSA is sponsoring the Holiday Gift Barn gift drive. The Issaquah Food Bank collects new and unwrapped toys, clothes, and gift cards and sets up a "department store" inside Pickering Barn. For information or to sign up, go to [www.issaquahfoodbank.org](http://www.issaquahfoodbank.org) for details. Collection bins will be in front of the bulletin board near the main office for ease of contributing. In advance of the donations we are sure to receive, we are grateful.

'TIS THE  
Season  
OF Giving

## VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

### Picture Perfect Picture Day

"We thrive with thankfulness." - Lailah Gifty Akita

To Taryn Bailey, Jeanie Johnson, Michelle Riley, and Tiffany Ryan, we are grateful. Your efforts to tame the unintentionally wild hair and keep the line moving made the experience better for our students and the photographers, and everyone will benefit from your efforts when the 2016-2017 Newcastle Yearbook is in hand!

### Vision and Hearing Screening Volunteers

"We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives."  
- John F. Kennedy

To Elizabeth Brecht for coordinating this important screening for all Newcastle students, we are grateful. To those who acted as runners and as screeners - Heather Ackermann, Vivian Bastron, Marie Birve, Sara Brester, Katie Burris, Becky Butler, Julia Cooper, Susan Crow, Khanh Dang, Danielle Dixon, Brittany Frank, Christy Grabowski, Ayesha Hakim, Gina Hall, Alison Handlin, Joanna Hanson, Melissa Harbert, Jeanie Johnson, Sangeet Kindra, Ruthie Keyes, Jeana Kim, Renee Klein, Chris Longfellow, Christine McClure, Johanna Miller, Shirin Mirza, Uma Naik, Marcia O'Donoghue, Tina Palmer, Elysa Piha, Michelle Riley, Huyen Sewell, Zornitza Shomev, Rachel Smith, Lisa Sunde, Heather Thibeu Faye Till, and Korre Veitengruber - we are grateful.

## Costume Carnival was a Monster Smash!

The Costume Carnival is the biggest PTSA Family Night of the year, and this year's was no exception! To the 5<sup>th</sup> Graders and their parents who served and sold food and Brown Bear Car Wash tickets, we are grateful.

To the team who organized, set up, and cleaned up after all the fun - including Carol Anne Boone, Becky Butler, Chantra

"The ghouls all came from their humble abodes to get a jolt from my electrodes!" - Bobby Pickett

Cruikshank, Khanh Dang, Koreen Kirakami, Ruthie Keyes, Renee Klein, Chris Longfellow, Uma Naik, Roopa Nair, Julie Pedraza, Susan Reinhold, Michelle Riley, Sarika Sikka, and scores of students from Maywood and Liberty - we are grateful. To the many who dropped off treats for the Treat Walk, we are grateful. To the Newcastle Teachers who showed up as donuts with sprinkles on top (or in any other costume or not), we are grateful.

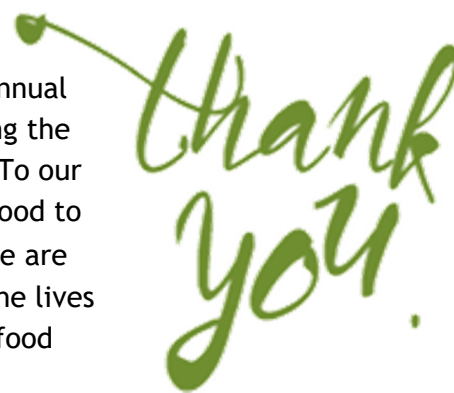
To Seth Miller, Rebecca Posten, and Michelle Robinson - that you stood on stage and allowed perhaps the least flattering photos of you to be taken (and publicized) in the name of the Fall Fundraiser for the "Dare to Dream" Auction, we are grateful. To the dozens of families who contributed to the \$923 we raised with this crowd-pleasing fundraiser, we are grateful.

## Phenomenal Food Drive!

"Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continually. And because all things have contributed to your advancement, you should include all things in your gratitude." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

To Heather Ackermann for coordinating our annual Food Drive (and to her entire family for sorting the boxes and cans collected), we are grateful. To our community that donated our highest-weight food to the Issaquah Food Bank - 1,112 pounds! - we are grateful. The difference you have made in the lives of families in our communities with unstable food sources is great.

Want to make more of a difference in the lives of those in need? The Issaquah Food Bank hosts a Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day, with registration proceeds benefiting the Food Bank.



## Yearbook Photo Submissions

"One can never pay in gratitude; one can only pay 'in kind' somewhere else in life." - Anne Morrow Lindbergh

For those who have already begun emailing photos from the First Day of School, Field Trips, Costume Carnival, LionArt Docent Projects, and other school events to Eileen Rubenstein at [Newcastle.Yearbook.Photos@gmail.com](mailto:Newcastle.Yearbook.Photos@gmail.com), we are grateful. Submit photos with event, grade level and teacher in the filename to make it easier to place photos.



## Auction News & Updates

Upcoming Holiday Online Auction will take place December 1st - 10th, 2016. Stay tuned for more details!

There's still time to be a corporate sponsor! We have over \$15,000 in sponsorships towards our overall profit goal! Many great sponsorship offerings are still available to include the highly visible Platinum and Diamond Sponsor packages! More information can be found here: [Corporate Sponsorship Packages & Info](#)

## Join The Auction Team!

Leadership and support opportunities are still available!

Contact co-chairs:

**Helen Gray-Schnase** at [helen.graymd@gmail.com](mailto:helen.graymd@gmail.com)  
and **Lisa Lewis** at [lisa@lisaraelewis.com](mailto:lisa@lisaraelewis.com)



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