

Newcastle Elementary PTSA

Parent Teacher Student Association

PTA Unit: 2.6.18 • PTSA Presidents: Kim Plowman/Edana Peacock • Newsletter Editor: Elena Thibeault

June 8, 2012
2011-2012 School Year
Issue 19

Cub News

Upcoming Events

Monday, June 11th
7:00pm
PTSA General Membership
Meeting in The Commons

Tuesday, June 19th
9:15am - 11:45am
Last Day of School
No lunch served

Tuesday, June 19th
9:30am
5th Grade Promotion
In The Commons

Tuesday, June 19th
12:00pm-6:00pm
Newcastle Neighborhood
Life 3rd Annual Block Party
Lake Boren Park

Presidents' Note

This is our last issue of Cub News for this school year and we want to take a moment to thank everyone who volunteered their time this year to make our PTSA endeavors so successful! We're both so proud to be part of this Newcastle family that made all of this happen...

- 4 Family Events, including the wildly successful Science fair & our first Geography Bee!
- 2 successful food drives to help support local families in need, plus \$15,400 in donations in support of ISF, VIS and local organizations
- A new \$23,000 leveled-reading book room to support literacy development
- More than \$26,000 in classroom, grade-level and school-wide grants & science enrichment
- \$14,000 towards EA support to help turn our struggling readers into proficient readers
- 20 new Netbook computers on wheels (the new COW!)
- An extraordinary Art Docent program that takes a \$9000 annual budget and turns it into the most comprehensive program of its kind in the ISD

We hope that many of you will be able to join us this coming Monday night at 7 PM in the Commons for our last PTSA General Membership meeting of the year - this is when we'll review and approve our proposed 2012-2013 budget. Some of the highlights include...

- An additional \$16,000 to purchase ANOTHER new COW!
- \$10,000 for PE equipment to help Mr. Miller keep our kids moving and excited about staying active and healthy
- An additional \$6000 (for a total of \$20,000!) for EA support
- \$12,000 for science enrichment

The last thing we'd like to say is a really BIG thank you to some incredibly smart and dedicated women who have worked with us on the PTSA Executive Committee this year. When you see these women around, please take a minute to thank them for the hundreds of hours they spent on PTSA events and projects this year - we are so lucky to have them at our school! Lani Pedersen, Meri Hartman, Cindy Buono, Rachel Handsman, Georgia Forchuk, Allison Flash, Sarah Herr, Taneka Ogden & Molly Hegenderfer... you are amazing!!!

Our last thank you is for a special woman who has helped bring us from the Paper Age into the Computer Age this year. Elena Thibeault, your expertise, creativity, patience and dedication are unparalleled and we are very thankful to work on this PTSA team with you.

We wish you and your families a safe, happy, healthy and sunny summer!!

Kim & Edana

**Enjoy
your**



**Thank you to the following
business members for
supporting our kids!**

Orthodontic Excellence
Olympic Physical Therapy
Bob Moawad (John L. Scott)
Nick Sooy (Farmer's Insurance)
Acura of Seattle
Healthy Smile Dentistry
HomeStreet Bank
Lice Knowing You/Nancy Gordon
Loan Central (Doug Blik)
May Creek Landscaping
Melissa Larson (Financial
Advisor)
Sambica
Sean Nielsen (Realogics)
Sotheby's International Realty
A Kids Place Dentistry
Dr. Rod Nordberg
Eastside Pediatric Dental
Jayme Benson/Jayme's Hair
Design
Ken Cole, PT, COMT, FAAOMPT
Kendra Vadney/Stella & Dot
Marcie Maxwell & Lisa Lam
Michelle Woo (Windermere)
Paula Spence/Emergency-Pac
Rainier Ballet Academy
Lisa Jensen Websites

**Thank you to our
corporate sponsors for
their generous annual
contributions to Newcastle
PTSA!**

The more we use their services,
the more we can do for our kids
& school!

Orthodontic Excellence
Safeway
Everything Party
Precision Autocraft
Target
Office Depot
Bartells
GoodSearch.com

Fall Fundraiser is set to launch - Only no one is at the helm!



While the current school year is coming to an end, the PTSA has begun planning events for next year, and we could use some helping hands. Specifically, the fall fundraiser - Entertainment Coupon Books - needs a few parents to coordinate the fundraiser during the first few weeks of school. If your schedule will allow for it, please consider helping.

If this doesn't interest you, but you would like to help with other fundraising programs, there are other opportunities. Reach out to Meri Hartman at merimelissa@yahoo.com to learn more. THANK YOU!

Student Bankers - Great Job!

Yesterday was our last student banking day of the year, so I'd like to take a moment to thank all of the kids who participated, and their parents who helped get the deposits to school on the right days! When you have a moment, check your bank account balance and see how much it has grown since September...then keep up the good work over summer! A special "Thank You" to Sue Acheson from HomeStreet Bank for spending her lunch hour twice a month in the Lion's Den collecting deposits, to our custodian Ms. Trish for getting our table set up each time, and to Mrs. Annette for the lunchtime reminder announcements and to Georgia Forchuk and Rachel Handsman for their guidance and support. An extra big "Thank You" to Wendy Larkin for her dedicated student banking volunteering over the years - she will be missed next year when she moves on to Maywood! Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering in this capacity next year...the commitment is as little as 1.5 hours one Thursday a month! Many thanks, Michele Maresh (michele.maresh@comcast.net)

Summer Auction Procurement Blitz!

As you are out and about this summer, please ask your favorite businesses if they would support our students by donating an item, an experience or a service to our March 2013 school auction. Most businesses are more than happy to donate. Following are just a few ideas to get you started:

- Restaurants (casual to fine dining): dinner for 2+, chef's table, behind-the-scenes experiences, bartending or cooking classes, birthday parties, gift cards
- Summer fun: golf outings, local pool memberships, summer camps and activities
- Vacations: hotels (near & far), vacation homes, dining, entertainment

For procurement forms, click

<http://newcastleptsa.org/Doc/auction/2013%20Auction%20Procurement%20Form%20-%20FINAL.pdf> or contact gforchuk@msn.com or lissawax@gmail.com.

**For the Full Calendar and all up-to-date information, please
visit us on the Web! <http://www.newcastleptsa.org>**

Thank You to all of our Art Docent Volunteers

We would like to give a Huge “Thank You” to all of our Head Classroom Art Docent volunteers. It is because of you that we keep Art Alive in the classroom. These docents dedicated their time to provide your child with projects that followed the Washington States visual arts education requirements (EALR’s). Each grade level got to create a clay &/or glass project that followed their grade level curriculum, works by great master artists and projects that taught different techniques of art using various types of media.

We would like to thank the following Head Art Docents who made all this possible:

Kindergarten: Kiersten Byus, Christy Grabowski, Stefanie Williamson, Angela Oster and Becky Butler

1st Grade: Candace Berde, Cindy Buono, Aminta Procel, Tracy Pham, Sue Mystkowski, Lissa Wax, and Nikki Wiebe

2nd Grade: Rae Miller, Chris Longfellow, Angela Hei and Traci Schneider

3rd grade: Tiffany Wyatt, Shauna Cour, Kelly Hay, Kiersten Byus, Vivianne Rossi and Holly Parsons

4th Grade: Cindy Buono, Laura Derwin, Minnie Dhaliwal, Traci Schneider and Nikki Wiebe

5th Grade: Dana Harbert, Tracy Haselman, Donna Smith and Wendy Thomas

**We would also like to thank all who helped our Art Docents in assisting with the art projects in the classroom. We hope you ladies had a fun time being Art Docents and will continue to do it again next year.

Thank You from the Art Docent Co-Chairs,
Rachel Handsman: Art Docent in 3rd Grade
Heidi Furman: Art Docent in 4th Grade

Before & After School Enrichment Programs

Looking ahead to next fall? Spanish, Chess and Lego will be returning to Newcastle Elementary to offer enrichment programs. Watch for registration information late this summer or early fall in Cub News and on these vendor websites. Tentative schedule is as follows:

Spanish: K - 2, Tuesdays before school; grades 3 - 5, Thursdays before school <http://spongeschool.com/newcastle>

Chess: K - 5, Tuesdays after school http://www.chess4life.com/Issaquah/School_Classes.php

Lego: K - 4, Wednesdays after school http://www.leap4kidz.com/After_School_Classes.html

MSN Offers for School

Don't forget to check for the special bargains in our area from MSN Offers for School during the summer break! Go to <http://www.msnooffersforschools.com/WA/NewcastleE/>

Remember, it's important to use this web link because it's how we track the amount of funds raised for Newcastle.

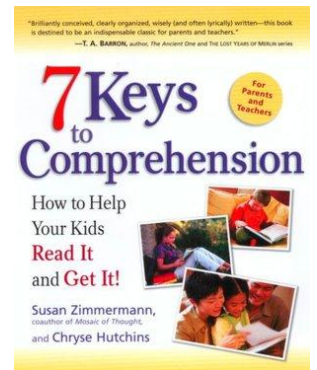


Summer Reading Suggestion For Parents

7 Keys to Comprehension: How to Help Your Kids Read It and Get It! by Susan Zimmerman and Chryse Hutchins

*Reading is the greatest single effort that the human mind undertakes,
and one must do it as a child.* –John Steinbeck

Several Newcastle teachers participated in a book study this spring. In order to best help our students, we would love to share some of the best of what we have read. This book is an excellent resource for parents who want to help their children become readers for life.



One of the authors' analogies to help children grow as readers is that their parents and teachers "water" them with words and books. *"For your child to become a great reader, her mind needs similar watering [to bamboo]. You water your child with words-- talking and reading. It doesn't take a lot of time, but you must never forget to water, a little bit every day, week after week, year after year."* (p. 2)

The biggest gift you can give your children is the love of reading! This book has seven "keys" to helping your kids love reading! They are:

1. Create mental images
2. Use background knowledge
3. Ask questions
4. Make inferences
5. Determine the most important ideas or themes
6. Synthesize information
7. Use "fix-up" strategies

In order to help parents utilize the same strategies teachers are using in the classroom, the PTSA will be sponsoring several round table discussions early next fall! We hope you enjoy the book over the summer and save any questions that you might have for our Round Table in September/October!

Here are a few ideas that the teachers put together to get you started... We hope these are helpful!

Visible and Invisible Reading Ingredients

Good news: You don't have to be an expert in reading to help your child become a great reader! Supporting a great reader requires both visible and invisible "ingredients." The "visible" (what's on the page) are the phonics, lexical and syntax ingredients. The "invisible" (what is in your mind) are the semantics, schema and pragmatic ingredients.

Surface Structures

Phonics: The knowledge of recognizing letters and sounds the sounds that go with them.

Ideas for parents:

- Use alphabet songs and books
- Play "I Spy"
- Encourage your child to write notes, lists and labels to express their ideas

Lexical: The knowledge of recognizing whole words rapidly without needing to sound them out.

Ideas for parents:

- Point out writing on signs and in stores
- Build their storehouse of sight words by rereading favorite books
- Talk about how the same word can sometimes look different in books

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Summer Reading Suggestion For Parents....*Continued*

Syntax: The structure of language: hearing when sentences sound right and recognizing correct grammar and punctuation.
Ideas for parents:

- Use wordless picture books to talk about what is happening in the pictures
- Read books with a lot of expression in your voice. Ask them if what you're saying "sounds right."
- Talk to your child! Kids need to hear themselves talk. They learn the structure of language by speaking and listening.

Deep Structures

Semantics: Understanding the meanings of words in different contexts.

Ideas for parents:

- Share how clues to the meaning of a word can be found in pictures
- Show your child how to make a best guess about the meaning of an unknown word, then read ahead to see if the guess was right.
- Ask your child, "Does this word make sense?" or "What do you think this word means?"
- Show your children that words often have different meanings in different contexts: "The farm was used to produce produce."

Schema: Knowing there is a need to build and use background knowledge in order to enhance understanding.

Ideas for parents:

- Give your child experiences to draw from as a reader. Talk to him/her about the activity and help them connect this to their reading.
- Talk about your own memories when you're reading a book.
- Give your child books that connect to subjects they are passionate about.
- Prompt conversation by saying, "Doesn't this remind you of...."

Pragmatic: The knowledge of understanding the purpose for specific reading and reading differently depending upon the audience.

Ideas for parents:

- Talk to your child about the reasons you read and encourage him/her to think about why they are reading.
- Create specific reasons to read: using a map, following a recipe, book club.

Everyone who knows how to read has it in their power to magnify themselves, to multiply the ways in which they exist to make their life full, significant and interesting. -Aldous Huxley



Support our school when you shop at Everything Party!

Help out Newcastle Elementary while shopping for summer parties! Remember that Newcastle Elementary is enrolled in a give-back program with Everything Party at the Renton Landing. Every time you shop and tell the cashier you are with Newcastle Elementary, 10% of your transaction will be sent to our school. To participate in the program, simply notify the store cashier of our school name at the start of your transaction. Everything Party will automatically track the sales and send a quarterly check to our school!

If you have questions on the program, please contact Meri Hartman at merimelissa@yahoo.com

2011-12 PTSA Executive Committee

Presidents

Kim Plowman/Edana Peacock
kpLOWMAN@premieremarket.com
edanatish@aol.com

VP Volunteers

Lani Pedersen
beaubrooke261@msn.com

VP Outreach

Allison Flash
eFLASH@comcast.net

Co-VP Ways & Means

Meri Hartman/Cindy Buono
merimelissa@yahoo.com
Cindy_buono@hotmail.com

Co-VP Program Enrichment

Rachel Handsman/Georgia Forchuk
Jeffreywdiana@aol.com
gforchuk@msn.com

Secretary

Molly Hegenderfer
mhegenderfer@hotmail.com

Treasurers

Sarah Herr and Taneka Ogden
sarah.herr@comcast.net
ogdenfamily4@msn.com



NEWCASTLE
NEIGHBORHOOD LIFE
3rd Annual
Block Party

JUNE 19TH is the last day of school (for the Issaquah School District).
Let's get together with our friends and neighbors to celebrate!

12:00 pm - 6:00 pm at Lake Boren Park

School is out, HELLO summer!

Featuring:

DJ Brooklyn will be joining us again
for dance/musical entertainment

Bouncy House for the little ones,
sponsored by Chiropractic Wellness Center
plus FREE chair massages for the parents

Kim's Tae Kwan Do will host mini
workshops for adults and children

FREE face painting *sponsored by*
Interiors by Decorating Den

FREE hotdogs grilled by Traeger Master: Gordon McCollon
and Retired Seattle Seahawk Fullback, MACK STRONG

FREE bottled water *sponsored by Dr. Kevin Kay DDS*

A BIG thanks to resident Raymond Woo and AmericanWest Bank for sponsoring this year's venue at Lake Boren Park

SIDE DISHES provided by
Newcastle Residents:

Please bring:

- Salad or side dish (if your first name begins with the letter A-J)
- Dessert (if your first name begins with the letter K-P)
- Fruit or veggie (if your first name begins with the letter Q-Z)
- Lawn chairs or blankets for Picnicking

R.S.V.P. by Friday, June, 8th 2012

Koleen Morris | KoleenMorris@CenturyLink.net