

Newcastle Elementary PTSA

Parent Teacher Student Association

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

March 15, 2013
2012-2013 School Year
Issue 11

Cub News

Presidents' Note

Upcoming Events

Saturday, March 16th
5:30pm

[Reach for the Stars
Auction](#)

Westin Bellevue

Tuesday, March 19th
7:00pm

2nd Grade Concert

Thursday, March 21st
Student Banking
Lunch Time

Friday, March 29th
9:15am

Mochas with Marla

Thursday, April 4th
Student Banking
Lunch Time

Thursday, April 4th
7:00pm
3rd Grade Concert

April 8th - April 12th
No School - Spring Break

Thursday, April 18th
Student Banking
Lunch Time

Monday, April 22nd
7:00pm
General Membership
Meeting

We hope you are gearing up for an AMAZING evening where we will REACH FOR THE STARS for our children! Our auction chair, Georgia Forchuk, the auction committee and all of our wonderful volunteers have been working tirelessly to create an all-encompassing auction experience for Newcastle Elementary! Through our online auction, raffle ticket opportunities, unbelievable art projects and the soon to be fabulous auction evening we hope we have touched each of our families and that you have all felt a part of our 2013 auction! We would like to extend a very special THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed their time, talents, hard work and dedication to make the Newcastle Elementary auction a huge success. We would also like to Thank everyone who has participated in the online auction, raffle ticket purchases, and any other way that you have contributed to enhance the educational experience for our children!

And of course, a HUGE Thank you to all of the families, individuals, community members and businesses you have graciously donated to our online, silent and live auction! We can't do it without you.

Saturday evening we will come together as parents, teachers, staff and community members to make a difference in all of our children's lives!

Thank you,
Kim and Edana

Hello 5th Grade Parents!

5th Grade Promotion is just three months away - June 18th! We are looking for volunteers to help make this special event spectacular! Please contact us if you would be willing to help with the following:

- ★ Invitations
- ★ Decorations
- ★ Refreshments
- ★ Slide Show
- ★ Picture Coordination
- ★ Music Coordination
- ★ Programs
- ★ Certificates
- ★ 4th Grade Parent Volunteer Coordination
- ★ Thank You Gifts for Staff

Majority of the volunteering can be done from home. Please help make this event special for our kids and families.

Thank you so much!
Angie Moawad & Kim Elfstrom
angiemoawad@comcast.net, kkelfstrom@comcast.net

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

Join us for language camp this summer!

Sponge offers half and full day Mandarin and Spanish immersion camps at multiple locations. We help campers build language and cultural competency while having lots of summer fun! Our dynamic, native-speaking teachers will lead campers in crafts, games, sports, and drama. Together we will cook, write, create, and explore!

Summer Passport to China - Mandarin Immersion Camp

Build your language skills and learn cool facts about China. Campers will explore Chinese myths, festivals, and foods. We will tell stories about magical dragons, make boats for the Dragon Boat Festival and cook delicious dumplings!

Summer Passport to Latin America - Spanish Immersion Camp

Viva el Español! Travel to different countries and explore the food, art and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. We'll enjoy tasty treats, like empanadas and guacamole, make piñatas, salsa, and play outdoor games like futbol!

Camp for Pre-K, K-2nd and 3rd-5th graders will be held at multiple locations around Seattle, Bellevue, and Mercer Island. Go to <http://spongeschool.com/sign-up/summer-camps-2013/> for more information and to register or email us at info@spongeschool.com with any questions.

LAST CALL: Student Candids for the Yearbook!

Hello parents! The Yearbook Committee is looking for some great student photos from the school year thus far.

We are looking for pictures that capture:

- 1st grade performers from their November concert
- Read Across America Week festivities
- 3rd grade performers in "Westward Ho!"
- Fun times at the 4th Grade Wax Museum and Recorder Concert
- 2nd graders performing in their upcoming evening concert

If you have a great photo to share from any of these occasions, please email the image, along with the names of the students featured, their grades, and teachers (if known), to Natalie Roberts at newcastle.yearbook.photos@gmail.com.

NOTE: we need all candids submitted by Friday, March 22 to be considered for the yearbook. Thank you all for your help!

The PTSA is Seeking Nominations for Next Year's Executive Committee

Do you know someone who would be great on our PTSA's executive committee for the 2013-2014 school year? It could be you or it could be a friend. We need to fill the President (or Co-President) plus several Vice President (or Co-Vice President) positions. If you have a friend to suggest to us, or if you are interested in a position for yourself, or if you think you might be interested, or if you just want more information, please contact Lissa Wax (lissawax@gmail.com), Michelle Riley (mmriley628@hotmail.com) or Kara Beal (karawbeal@yahoo.com). We can give you more details on the open positions and we will keep the conversation anonymous or confidential if you would like us to. The deadline for making suggestions to the Nominating Committee is **March 31st, 2013**.



Auction Night is almost here!

Before the Auction

Money & Ticket Stubs DUE for \$1,000 Cash Prize Raffle

Please remember to turn in your **Raffle Ticket money and stubs** to the PTSA office no later than **Friday, March 15th**. The \$1,000 cash prize drawing will take place on Saturday, March 16th at the auction. You do not need to be present to win (and we will be sure to contact you if you do!). For more information, contact: karawbeal@yahoo.com.

Auction Night - Saturday, March 16th 5:30pm Westin Bellevue

We look forward to seeing all registered guests at **5:30pm** at the Westin Bellevue! Be sure to arrive on time for the best selection of wines from our Premium Wine Table and to try your hand at our Prize Wheel (over 100 prizes including \$50 gift certificates and Drew Bledsoe's Doubleback Cab!). Plus, we have many exciting Silent and Silent Spectacular items including wine tastings, restaurant gift certificates, golf, swim and sporting events, kids' camps, autographed memorabilia, Teacher Experiences and more. Then, get ready for the LIVE Auction!

Please remember to bring your catalog with you on auction night. For full details of all auction night items available, please check out our *Reach for the Stars* website: <http://newcastleptsa.schoolauction.net/reachforthestars2013>

Westin Parking

Complimentary self-parking is available in the Lincoln Square parking garage. Please park on **level P4 or P5 near the South Elevators** and take the elevator up to the hotel lobby. Valet Parking is available at the front door of The Westin Bellevue Hotel for \$9.

What to Expect - Payment

At Check-In, you will be asked to provide a credit card. All purchases made on auction night will be charged to your account. We accept **VISA, MasterCard, AmEx and Discover**. The great news? Once you've done this at Check-In, there is **NO** need to Check Out at the end of the night! Simply stop by Item Pick Up to collect your purchases. A detailed receipt will be emailed to you shortly after the auction. You will have time to review the receipt before your credit card is processed.

Thank you to all who have supported our *Reach for the Stars* auction! We look forward to celebrating on auction night with you!

Chat with Our Principal--Mochas with Marla

Please join Principal Marla Newton for coffee and refreshments in the Commons area after morning drop off on Friday, March 29th, 2013. Starting at 9:15am, this is a cordial, informal event for you to ask Marla questions or share what's on your mind regarding the school year. We will be wrapping it up around 10am; don't miss this opportunity! Sponsored by the Newcastle Elementary PTSA. Please contact Kara Beal at karawbeal@yahoo.com if you have any questions.



Author Kirby Larson visits Newcastle Elementary!

Thank you to our generous PTSA for bringing author Kirby Larson to talk to our students. She was a fantastic inspiration for our blossoming readers and writers! Kirby shared what it's like to be a writer every day. It's not as easy as you'd think! She told us that she gets a lot of wisdom and ideas from her dog, Winston the Wonder Dog! He taught Kirby how important it is to remember these ideas when writing: Sit. Stay. Dig. Play! Chase stories.

Some other helpful tips from this great writer of nonfiction and historical fiction books: Ask yourself, "*What if?*" when writing. Each word has to earn its way onto the page. Persevere until your writing is exactly the way you want it to be. You can visit Kirby's website: www.kirbylarson.com to see more about her books! Thank you, PTSA for a lasting and learning literacy experience!



Kirby Larson telling 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students the story behind writing.



Kirby sharing her writing with Mrs. Cakarnis' PM Kindergartners!



Kirby engaging students and adults alike.

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

2012-13 PTSA Executive Committee

Presidents

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CONGRATULATIONS to our **2013 Classroom Enrichment Grant** winners. Nine recipients received balloons and notice of their award on Friday, February 15. Included among the winning projects were grants for Math Support and Enrichment at Issaquah Middle, a History Day at Liberty and a community based Free Little Library for Discovery Elementary. Hats off to the staff who dedicated hours of personal time to completing their applications AND to our wonderful Balloon Brigade volunteers. See the complete list of winners at [2013 Classroom Grant Winners](#).

NEM Count Down

March 1 marks 69 days to one of the best events of the spring—the **15th Annual Nourish Every Mind Benefit Luncheon**. If you want to become part of the team ensuring the event's success, join us as a Table Captain. Cathia Geller, our intrepid Table Captain Chair, can tell you everything you need to know at our **March 22 Table Captain Kick-Off**. Contact Cathia at cathia@cathiageller.com. You're also welcome to come as a *guest* - just let us know!

Did You Get Your Year-End Tax Receipt?

Letters were mailed at the beginning of February. Email Tina Weber, tweber@issaquahschoolsfoundation.org if you didn't receive yours.

Donors Helping Kids Get on Track at Tiger Mountain High School

ISF donors are helping Tiger Mountain High School move one step closer to completion of a multi-purpose Teen Center. When fully realized, the Teen Center will offer Tiger Mountain students a safe and healthy after-school environment and the opportunity to satisfy high school credit requirements, prepare for state tests and gain skills for career and life. **A \$2,400 grant from the Foundation will underwrite one of the first phases—staff time to assist students with homework assignments, credit retrieval and state exam preparation.** We are grateful to our donors for making it possible to invest in this innovative project.

It's Time to Speak Your Mind about Building Better Schools

You have ideas on how to make our schools better. Share them with those who can help implement change. **The Community Forums Network is hosting the third survey in its Education Funding series.** Your responses will be compiled and packaged as a **"Where's the consensus?" REPORT** for policy makers and the media. **BONUS!** By taking the survey, you'll qualify the Foundation for a grant of up to \$2,500. Follow the link, CommunityForumsNetwork.org, complete the survey and select Issaquah Schools Foundation as the beneficiary. **Hurry, the survey closes on March 31. THANK YOU!**