

# Newcastle Elementary PTSA

Parent Teacher Student Association

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

December 6, 2012  
2012-2013 School Year  
Issue 6

## Cub News

### Upcoming Events

Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup>  
10:00pm  
Holiday Online Auction  
ends

Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup>  
Last day to drop off Polar  
Express Items

Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>  
Student Banking during  
Lunch

Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup>  
9:15am  
Mochas with Marla

December 19<sup>th</sup>-January 1<sup>st</sup>  
No School - Winter Break

Thursday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Student Banking during  
Lunch

Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>  
Student Banking during  
Lunch

For the full calendar  
and all up-to-date  
information, please  
visit us on the Web!

<http://www.newcastleptsa.org>

### Presidents' Note

Happy holidays to all of our Newcastle lions and families! It's tough to believe this is our last issue of Cub News until January. We've had an incredibly successful slate of activities this fall and we want to thank everyone who has given their time to help make our kids' Newcastle experience so amazing. As we wrap things up, we want to remind you of a few ways we are helping you with your holiday shopping this year...

#### Holiday Online Auction - ENDS TONIGHT AT 10 PM!!!

Bidding closes tonight at 10 PM!!! [Link here](#) to browse and bid on the amazing items we have up for auction, including a Nook Simple Touch Reader, Olympic Physical Therapy's Individualized Performance Package, an electric guitar signed by The Temptations, Xbox games and much more!

#### Barnes & Noble/CPK "Book Fair" Fundraiser - ENDS TOMORROW: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7!!!

This is a great opportunity for you to shop for books, journals, magazines and gifts for holiday gifts or for yourself AND to have a night off from kitchen duty! Both businesses are donating a generous percentage of their sales back to our PTSA - just make sure to take in the flyer to show you're supporting our school! (If you need an extra copy of the flyers, you can link to them [here](#)).

Barnes & Noble information: 626 106th Ave NE, Bellevue 98004 and [www.bn.com](http://www.bn.com)

The special Newcastle code for online purchases is 10946887. If you have friends and family who would like to support Newcastle Elementary's book fair, please feel free to pass along the online code so that their purchases contribute to our final FUNdraising total! (The online customer is prompted just before payment if their purchase is in support of a book fair. Use the Newcastle code at that point to earn credit for our school.)

California Pizza Kitchen information: 595 106th Ave NE, Bellevue 98004

While at CPK, your child can sign up for the CPKids Adventure Club program! CPK encourages and supports students reading throughout the year. There are fun prizes available for our Lion Readers!

If you have any questions about B&N or CPK, please contact Laura Berry at [berryl@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:berryl@issaquah.wednet.edu) or 425-837-5825

You can also use these last-minute shopping opportunities to purchase a gift to contribute to our Polar Express gift drive, which goes through this Monday, December 10!

We wish you and your families a happy, healthy holiday season and New Year! See you in 2013!

Kim & Edana

**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

## Polar Express 2012 - Attention Newcastle Elementary Families!

We have only two more school days to make Polar Express a huge success. Please give back to our community this holiday season by donating new toys, games, clothes, stocking stuffers and gift cards to needy families in the Issaquah School District. General wish lists on train tags are available at the front entrance of school. Pick something out to donate and drop it off at school in the toy bins near the front office by **Monday, December 10th**. We are collecting gifts for kids 0-18 years old! If you can't grab a train tag, please bring a new, unwrapped gift to school by Monday. If you have any questions please contact Terri Catalani 425-306-4585 or [catalani@comcast.net](mailto:catalani@comcast.net).

## Announcing This Year's Newcastle Elementary Geography Bee Champion!

Congratulations to the following 4th and 5th graders who qualified during their classroom geography bees to be a finalist in the 2nd Annual Newcastle Elementary Geography Bee! A big round of applause for: Grace B., Allison C., Lauren C., Dillon G., Nathan J., Molly K., Theo K., Matty L., Abigail P. and Beau P.!

The questions (straight from the National Geographic Society) were especially challenging this year, which made the strong focus and perseverance of the participants all the more impressive! After great effort by all, the exciting Championship Round came down to Molly and Nathan, with Nathan capturing the title of school champion! Nathan will now have the opportunity to take a written test provided by the National Geographic Society. The top 100 students in the state (selected based on qualifying test scores) qualify to represent their schools and compete at the state level. State qualifiers compete in an oral competition, which is usually held in late March or early April. We all wish Nathan the best of luck!!

A big thank you to Rich Crispo, Mayor of the City of Newcastle, for judging our school bee, our very own Marla Newton for being our master of ceremonies and Mrs. Rickey for volunteering again this year to be the teacher coordinator.

## Drum roll, please...The "Magic of a Moment..." is Revealed

Congratulations to the following students whose Reflections entries moved forward to the Issaquah School District competition!

Literature: Kara B., Hunter L., Hannah W., and Jacob R.  
Visual Arts: Kelsea A., Ella W., Rose M., Christian K., and Paige B.  
Dance: Daniel F.

All of the student entries will be displayed and recognized at a reception in early February. In addition to the reception, those who submitted an entry will receive an invite for a special participation party in February.

Many thanks to all of the parents who encouraged and supported their student to participate in this wonderful program.

Chris Longfellow and Jahna Smith  
Reflections Co-Chairs



### Last Day to Shop the Holiday Online Auction!

Don't delay! The online auction closes at 10pm tonight! [Click here](#) to start shopping and support our students at the same time.

### Donation Deadline - Just SIX Weeks To Go!

Thank you to all who have donated or secured donations so far! Donations drive our auction revenue (and, in turn, what we deliver back to our students' education). We are still in need of many items (gift cards, wine, event tickets, unique experiences, etc.). If you haven't yet donated, we hope you will consider doing so. If you are interested in procuring but need a few ideas to get started, please contact [lissawax@gmail.com](mailto:lissawax@gmail.com) or [suewilkos@comcast.net](mailto:suewilkos@comcast.net).

### HELP WANTED - Database Entry

Do you have a few hours to spare? Do you prefer to work from home on your own time? We are in need of someone to help with procurement entries into our database. Absolutely no experience required.... just your time and willingness to help. Please contact Michele Maresh at [michele.maresh@comcast.net](mailto:michele.maresh@comcast.net).

### Wanted: Delicious Dessert Donations for Auction!

Amazing baker? Dessert savvy? Just generous? Make a sweet donation to the Newcastle PTSA Auction that fits your dessert profile. We're inviting you to bake a fabulous treat, purchase rich wonders at a special bakery, or simply contribute towards the purchase of something yummy. However you like to dish up dessert, we'll accept your addition to our wildly popular Dessert Dash at the March auction.

Dessert drop off will be Friday, March 15 or Saturday, March 16, details to follow. The Desserts team will remind parents of the deadline two weeks before the auction. To donate a dessert (12 servings) or to make a donation, please [click here](#) and return the completed dessert donation form by Friday, December 14.

Please contact Tiffany Ryan at 425-235-2635 or [rtrryan@comcast.net](mailto:rtrryan@comcast.net) with any questions.

## Focus on science and art... Imagine the possibilities!

What do science and art have in common? Both can be interactive, hands-on, creative and fun! Please mark your calendars for the PTSA-sponsored science and art family event on Friday February 8. Watch as gases become liquids, liquids become solids and matter fizzes, freezes and flies during Pacific Science Center's Super Cool interactive science show. Participate in hands-on activities provided by Kids Quest. Create your own salmon rubbing and witness a salmon dissection courtesy of Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery. Be among the first to preview the creative classroom art projects that will be highlighted at the PTSA Reach for the Stars auction on Saturday March 16. And join in the celebration of the Reflections entries that will be moving on to the Issaquah District competition.

If you are interested in volunteering to help at this event (with the hands-on activities, set up or clean up), please e-mail [danielle\\_dixon@comcast.net](mailto:danielle_dixon@comcast.net).

## Only One Banking Day left in 2012!

Student Bankers - don't forget to bring your deposit on Thursday, December 12th for the final banking day before Winter Break. Student Banking will return in 2013 on Thursday, January 3rd so start planning ahead to save some of your holiday gift money! Parents please take a moment to mark your new 2013 calendar with the remaining banking dates for this school year. Remember, it is never too early to start saving - open an account for your child this holiday season at HomeStreet Bank on Coal Creek Parkway and encourage them to set a long-term savings goal. Happy Holidays!

Thursday, September 20 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday, February 7 <sup>th</sup>
Thursday, October 4 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday, March 7 <sup>th</sup>
Thursday, October 18 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday, March 21 <sup>st</sup>
Thursday, November 1 <sup>st</sup>	Thursday, April 4 <sup>th</sup>
Thursday, November 15 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday, April 18 <sup>th</sup>
Thursday, December 13 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday, May 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Thursday, January 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Thursday, May 16 <sup>th</sup>
Thursday, January 17 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday, June 6 <sup>th</sup> - FINAL DAY!

## Food Drive



Thank you to all the generous families who donated to our Fall Food Drive! We collected almost 2,000 pounds of food for the Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank, which will distribute to families in our community who need a little extra support this holiday season and year-round. Special thanks to Kelly Hay, Terri Catalani, Anne Lehr and Allison Flash for their valuable assistance.

## A Message from Our Art Docent

Hello Newcastle Families!

I'd like to introduce the newly named LionArt Docent Program at Newcastle Elementary and funded by our wonderful PTSA.

Did you know ... research shows that students, who are exposed to art throughout their school career, demonstrate higher skills in the areas of reading and language, math and critical thinking?

Our LionArt Program offers a basic visual arts education throughout the school year, creating a positive learning environment, exposing students to the wonders of art through fun and creative processes and ultimately, creating a greater motivation to learn.

Our new mission statement ... "Creating Motivation of Learning Through Art" ... reflects the efforts of every student in our school and many parent volunteers who go into the classrooms each month to teach unique art lessons; some of which are tied to the current curriculum, other projects are taught ... just for the fun of it!

The kids learn about different artists, art history, and art styles in a variety of mediums; like working with Oil Pastels and Water Colors; tooling Copper; fusing Glass and creating works of art from a simple slab of Clay. We even have our very own Kiln (which was donated by funds from our PTSA) to fire our clay and glass projects.

Tracy Haselman is our Artist-in-Residence, and presents a famous artist and/or art style to each grade throughout the year. She started with 5th grade in October, where they learned about drawing using an "One Point Perspective" method; currently, the 4th grade is learning about the "Kahnweiler Portraits" by Picasso.

The next time you're at the school, check out the sampling of the current projects from each of the grades in the Front Office or take an "Art Walk" through the halls of our school to see what our kids have proudly been creating, while being motivated to learn through art!

Laura Derwin  
Newcastle Art Docent Chair

## 2012-13 PTSA Executive Committee

### Presidents

Kim Plowman/Edana Peacock  
[kplowman@premieremarket.com](mailto:kplowman@premieremarket.com)  
[edanatish@aol.com](mailto:edanatish@aol.com)

### VP Volunteers

Lani Pedersen  
[beaubrooke261@msn.com](mailto:beaubrooke261@msn.com)

### VP Outreach

Allison Flash  
[eaflash@comcast.net](mailto:eaflash@comcast.net)

### VP Ways & Means

Meri Hartman  
[merimelissa@yahoo.com](mailto:merimelissa@yahoo.com)

### Co-VP Programs

Janda Keenan/Leanne Cole  
[janda@teamsoapbox.com](mailto:janda@teamsoapbox.com)  
[weezypt@comcast.net](mailto:weezypt@comcast.net)

### Secretary

Natalie Roberts  
[robertsmail05@comcast.net](mailto:robertsmail05@comcast.net)

### Treasurers

Cindy Buono/Taneka Ogden  
[cindy\\_buono@hotmail.com](mailto:cindy_buono@hotmail.com)  
[ogdenfamily4@msn.com](mailto:ogdenfamily4@msn.com)

## Mochas with Marla

Please join our Principal Marla Newton for coffee, juice and refreshments in the Commons area after morning drop off on Friday, December 14th, 2012. 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 (425)793-9708 or [karawbeal@yahoo.com](mailto:karawbeal@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.



### *All in for Kids Campaign Wrap-Up*

Thank You PTSA parents for kicking off the Foundation's holiday season with an amazing gift—a successful All in for Kids Annual Fund Campaign. You clicked, mailed and answered our calls to the tune of \$366,805. Because of your generosity, our students will continue to benefit from programs and initiatives that transform the basic education funded by the state to the comprehensive, 21st century education they need to succeed. Please join us in applauding our campaign chair, Camille Vaska, for her six-month long leadership of this critical fundraising event. Kudos also to our amazing PTSA/ISF Reps and Presidents who partnered with us every step of the way.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER**—Pledges and matching gifts are included in the All in for Kids campaign total. If you pledged and/or indicated an employer match, please follow through. Respond to your pledge remit letter and fill out any required matching gift forms to ensure every one of the \$366,805 anticipated dollars can benefit our students. Thank you!

### *Liberty High School's Schedule Update*

At the Wednesday, November 28th board meeting the Superintendent recommended to the board that Liberty move to a straight 6 period schedule. There was a work session where a lot of reasons were presented against the eight period schedule and an argument was made for the six period schedule. Only a small portion of time was spent on responding to the 7 period schedule recommendation that was presented to the Superintendent by the Liberty Schedule Committee. The reasons stated for rejecting the 7 period recommendation were cost and staff planning time equity issues. When pressed later in the meeting by the board chair, Dr. Rasmussen indicated that: "We have the money to do it, but that is not where I'd spend it." The cost would be about \$880,000 of the district's 170 million dollar budget. Just .52% (one half of one percent) of the districts total budget. You can read the Superintendent's recommendation at this link:

<http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/documents/highschool/schedule/Rec11.28.pdf>

The decision is now in the hands of the Board. They will likely vote on the issue at the December 12th board meeting. The board has been listening to the community input and you are encouraged to continue to share your thoughts with them about the Liberty High School Schedule change. Please e-mail the board at this link:

[schoolboard@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:schoolboard@issaquah.wednet.edu)