

Newcastle Elementary PTSA

Parent Teacher Student Association

PTA Unit: 2.6.18 • PTSA Presidents: Kim Plowman/Edana Peacock • Newsletter Editor: Sangeet Kindra

February 14th, 2014
2013-2014 School Year
Issue 5

Cub News

Upcoming Events

Friday, February 14th
Math Olympiad
8:10 am

Monday, February 17th
to
Friday, February 21st
NO SCHOOL
2nd Winter Break

Friday, February 28th
Mochas with Marla
9:15 am
Newcastle Commons

Tuesday, March 4th
Golden Acorn Awards
Nominations Due

Thursday, March 20th
4th Grade Concert
6:30 pm

Presidents' Note

As the week draws to an end and we shift gears for Mid-winter Break next week, we want to let everyone know about what PTSA has been up to over the past few months and give you a heads-up on what's coming up next...

PTSA Winter Family Event

Wow, a night of inflatables and magic for everyone! Very special thanks goes to the wonderful Michelle Riley for pulling together a fun family night! We hope everyone who attended had a blast!

Special Newcastle School Grants Approved

At our January PTSA General Membership Meeting we approved a number of special funding requests including \$19,140 for the purchase of 30 new laptop computers, \$3,886 for emergency preparedness supplies and \$12,151 to upgrade the sound system in the Commons and the gym. All of those grants were funded through the hard work of our PTSA members and leaders. Thank you, Newcastle family!!

Spring Fundraiser: Orange Ruler Fun Run!

We kick things off on April 16th - look for more information below.

Nominating Committee is Hard at Work

If you know Janet Cloud, Lana Miller or Heather Ackermann, please take a moment to ask them for more information on getting involved in PTSA. These 3 ladies are responsible for putting together our team of PTSA leaders for the 2014-2015 school year. It is the most important committee in PTSA. Having qualified people step into leadership positions at Newcastle will ensure success for many years into the future. The work of this committee is paramount to fulfilling our mission as a PTSA. We're so excited to have new faces and new energy to add to our organization! Please contact them for more information or if you know someone who wants to get more involved:

Janet Cloud, robjanetcloud@yahoo.com

Lana Miller, chrisandlana@yahoo.com

Heather Ackermann, hm_ackermann@yahoo.com

We hope you and your families have a wonderful Mid-winter Break!!

Edana Peacock & Kim Plowman
edanatish@aol.com/kplowman@premieremarket.com
Newcastle PTSA Co-Presidents

Reflections 2013 Recap



We want to congratulate, once again, the Newcastle artists who submitted entries for this year's PTA Reflections Program.

Twelve submissions from Newcastle were forwarded on to the District level, and all were on display in early January at a district-wide gallery walk. We would like to congratulate Christian K., 3rd Grade, for winning in the Visual Arts category at the District Level. His artwork has been forwarded to the Washington State PTA Level. Those entries which will continue on to the National Level will be announced in late April. Good luck, Christian!

Thank you again for your participation this year. We will be announcing next year's theme in June so that those interested can get a head start over the summer!

Attention Newcastle Families: Spring Fundraiser!

Our big spring Fundraiser, the Orange Ruler Fun Run, is almost here! This year, we are excited to partner with Orange Ruler to facilitate the program and look forward to a very successful fundraiser.

This 2-week event will kick-off with a school-wide assembly on Wednesday, April 16. The Orange Ruler team has put together a fun-filled experience for our children and school community that focuses on teamwork, staying active and believing in yourself. This important program will help us raise much-needed money that will be used to continue to provide for PTSA-funded programs like Reading Club EA support, classroom grants and the art docent program.

** Please be on the lookout for the Orange Ruler parent letter and donation envelope, which will be coming home with your child on the day of the kick-off assembly.

We look forward to working together with you to help make this our most successful Fun Run yet! If you are interested in volunteering in any one of several volunteer capacities for this event, please contact Anne Lehr at lehrfam5@gmail.com or Eileen Rubenstein at edrubenstein@hotmail.com.



PTSA Winter Family Fun Night!

WOW, WHAT A MAGICAL NIGHT!!! This year's Winter Family event was a HUGE success and it would not have been possible without the help of our wonderful volunteers. We would like to extend a heartfelt "THANK YOU" to each and every one of them for helping out to make it happen! Thank you Meri Hartman, Stacy Tribble, Chris Longfellow, Kim Moger, Eileen Rubenstein, JuliAnne Diesch, Leanne Cole, Cindy Buono, Maya Bashoury, Stina Fluegge, Angela Oster, Stacy Oster, Heidi Brown, Thanh Pham, Kim Alhadeff, Therese Kosar, Mai-Linh Tran, Eva Hartman, Ella Buono, Stephanie McLaren, Ally Tribble, Mason Moger, and Karina and Lukas Fluegge. We truly appreciate all your help - thanks again! Also, a great big thank you goes out to the 4th Grade team of volunteers for organizing and selling Pizza - Michele Maresh, Stefanie Williamson, Scott Maresh, Kevin Williamson, Laura Derwin, McKenzie and Rose Maresh, Ella Williamson, Tori Derwin, and Rose Rice. We would like to extend a "Very Special" thank you to Stacy Tribble for all the Decorations and the music selection, Chris Longfellow for figuring out how to play the music and everything else she did that evening, and Meri Hartman for the many hours of recruiting volunteers and being our photographer for the entire evening.

Everyone had a fabulous time and it filled our hearts with joy to see so many families there and all enjoying themselves - after all, that's what it's all about!!! Thank you all so very much for making it a memorable evening, we are extremely grateful!

Michelle Riley

5th Grade Camp is Just Around the Corner!



The first week of March our 5th graders will embark on their memorable journey to Camp Seymour. For the first time in many years we have every 5th grade student attending camp. This will be our first year at Camp Seymour in Gig Harbor after 7 years at Camp Warm Beach in Stanwood. The teachers selected Camp Seymour after a 2 year search for a camp that would best align with our classroom science curriculum while also still allowing the kids an ample fill of fun.

We have had a record year of raising more funds than any other year since our outdoor education program began at Newcastle Elementary. Many thanks to Lani Pedersen, Kathy Nolan and Ania Murphy for their dedication to our camp fundraising efforts. A big thanks, as well, to Stefanie Williamson for her artist skills in designing this year's t-shirt. If you have questions about camp, please reach out to shaunacour@hotmail.com.



Newcastle Elementary Celebrates Read Across America March 3rd to March 7th

Monday

The school-wide kick off for our **Read Across America** celebration begins by reading the *Reader's Oath* with Mrs. Newton. Teachers will read aloud a Dr. Seuss book.

Tuesday

Each class will be given picture books related to one of the 50 states. After reading the books, the class will place the "book cover" on a United States map displayed outside the library. **By Thursday, Newcastle will have Read Across America!!**

Wednesday

Storybook Character Day! Students are encouraged to dress up as their favorite book characters. Show off your creative side!

Thursday

Read My Shirt Day! Wear a shirt with words on it.

Friday

Cat in the Hat Day! Wear red and white or a hat like The Cat in the Hat! Newcastle will **drop everything and read!** The whole school will be spilling out into the halls sometime on Friday to cuddle up with a good book. Be ready to read that day!



Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss!

Lost & Found!

Our Lost and Found is overflowing! Is your student missing any items? Please come by and check the collection of coats, sweatshirts, hats and gloves we've accumulated this fall and winter. Thank you!



Thank you! You made 2013 one for the record books. With your support we raised more than \$1.5 million. These contributions made it possible to add new initiatives—including Start Strong and the Port Blakely Environmental Stewardship Program—expand the VOICE Mentor Program, Pre-K/Kindergarten Summer School and Basic Student Needs fund and elevate education for every child, at every school. Thank you for your commitment to our students and schools. Best wishes for a terrific 2014.

Back and Bigger than Ever

Nourish Every Mind - our largest fundraising event of the year—is growing! This spring you can attend the traditional Luncheon on **May 8** at the Issaquah Community Center or our new **Breakfast** on Wednesday, **May 14** at Eastridge Church. Both will be filled with *Nourish Every Mind* hallmarks ... touching stories, memorable moments, socializing and lots of fun. **Save the date and spread the word!**

Help Wanted

Nourish Every Mind runs on volunteer power. If you're interested in joining our team, please contact Lynn Juniel, ljuniel@issaquahschoolsfoundation.org or 425.391.8557.

1-1-1



Did you know that you can change **one** life by giving **one** hour of your time, **once** a week to a student in need? That's all it takes to become a **Volunteers Of Issaquah Changing Education (VOICE) Mentor**. Whatever your talent—reading, math, sciences, working with ELL students or being a supportive friend and confidant — there's a student who will benefit from your contribution. In honor of National Mentoring Month, please take 30 seconds to view the video below and consider becoming a VOICE Mentor. You'll transform two lives ... a student's and your own. **VOICE Mentor Program**, VOICE@issaquah.wednet.edu or <http://voicementorprogram.org/>.

All in for Kids Pledge Reminder

If you made a pledge and/or indicated an employer match during the *All in for Kids* Annual Fund Campaign, please follow through today. Respond to your pledge remit letter and fill out any required matching gift forms. You'll help keep our overhead costs low. Thank you!

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

Corporate Funding Updates: FREE MONEY FOR OUR SCHOOL!



eScrip: During the first 4 months of this school year, we raised a total of **\$1,276.47** with the eScrip program! Please continue to support our PTSA and students by shopping at Safeway using your Safeway card and debit payment, as well as many local merchants, including Bartell Drugs, Thai 65, Vince's Italian Restaurant, and IHOP. For participating merchants other than Safeway, all you need to do is make sure your eScrip membership is updated with the current credit and debit cards you utilize.

- To check or update your registration, go to: www.escrip.com
- For a list of merchants, please [click here](#). go to:



Target Red Card: For September through December of 2013, we earned **\$249 in donations** from our families who've designated Newcastle as their school for their Target Red Cards. If you utilize a Red Card, and haven't yet designated Newcastle as your school, you can do so at: <http://www.target.com/redcard/main> School down and click on the link under "Take Charge of Education".



Box Tops for Education: Thank you to everyone that helped raise funds for the Newcastle PTSA by sending in your Box Tops for Education during the month of December. **So far this school year, we've raised \$454 through this program!**

Our goal for the year is to raise a minimum of \$1,000 through this program by March 27th.

To encourage participation, we're having a **CONTEST!** The contest will be a school-wide initiative to hit our goal of \$1,000. If we succeed by March 27th, the entire school can have **CRAZY HAIR DAY** later in April!

Box Tops can be dropped in the designated box to the left of the elevator across from the main office or they can be sent through kidmail. Please submit all clipped Box Tops by March 27th. If you have any questions, please contact Christine Norrande at cnorrande@outlook.com.

2013-2014 PTSA Executive Committee

Co-Presidents

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Shopping Just Got Better!



Fred Meyer is putting control of community donations in your hands. With their new Community Reward Program, you can help earn money for our students and schools each time you shop. All you have to do is go online to connect your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to the Issaquah Schools Foundation (ISF). How easy is that?! Follow the directions below to get started. Thank you!

1. Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to the Issaquah Schools Foundation at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards<<http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards>>.
2. Search for us by our name or by our non-profit number: 91119
3. Now you're ready to shop and support our students and schools.
4. Rest assured ... you will still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates.
5. If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.

For more information, please [click here](#).

Golden Acorn Nominations



Each year our PTSA awards the Golden Acorn to individuals who have given outstanding volunteer service to the children and youth in our school community. The Golden Acorn is special and given for continued and dedicated service. This is an excellent way to honor our volunteers that have gone "above and beyond"! Award winners receive the Golden Acorn Award Pin and a special certificate from the Washington State PTA. The Issaquah PTSA Council also contributes in the winner's name to the Washington State PTA Scholarship Foundation, which provides scholarships to selected high school students entering post-secondary education.

THE NOMINATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 4TH, 2014.

Please take a few minutes and [complete the form](#) to nominate someone who is making a difference in our children's lives. Send the completed form to the PTSA, ATTN: Golden Acorn through Kidmail. The Golden Acorn Committee will make the final selections and notify the winners in mid-March. Questions? Contact: Laura Derwin at lgderwin@comcast.net, Georgia Forchuk at gforchuk@msn.com, or Michelle Riley at mmriley628@hotmail.com.