



# WEDGWOOD

## *The Weekly*

By The Wedgwood Elementary PTA: *JOIN IN!*

Volume XI, Number 7, October 14, 2008

### CALENDAR



#### OCTOBER

Friendship Assembly  
**Friday, Oct. 17**  
Cafeteria  
9:30 – 10:15 am

Individual School Photos  
**Wednesday, Oct. 22**

Spooktacular Pumpkin  
Carving Party  
**Friday, Oct. 24**  
Cafeteria  
6:45 pm

Two Hour Early Dismissal  
**Wednesday, Oct. 29**

#### NOVEMBER

Scrip Orders Due  
**Thursday, Nov. 6**

Veterans' Day  
**NO SCHOOL**  
**Tuesday, Nov. 11**

Picture Retake Day and  
Class Photos  
**Wednesday, Nov. 19**

Parent Teacher Conferences  
**NO SCHOOL**  
**Nov. 24, 25 & 26**

Thanksgiving Holiday  
**NO SCHOOL**  
**Nov. 27 & 28**

### A Message From Your Principal

Hello Wedgwood Families,

What a productive week! We started last week with the first Monday Mixer, then I had a great time with 5th and 1st graders, the PTA board met on Wednesday, the teachers had a great day of collaboration and learning on Friday, and we ended our week with a brisk fall morning doing gardening to beautify our school!

I really appreciated the constructive comments and ideas that were brought up by the 30+ parents in attendance at our first Monday Mixer. Here is what we have been working on.

- We discussed the idea of doing recess first and then lunch. I have spoken to a number of staff and have looked at our schedule. Due to the lack of space (we use the cafeteria and stage as classroom space), immediate implementation is not an option, but it is an idea that we will continue to explore.
- The staff decided that we will be doing **fall colors** in celebration of the season; however we WILL NOT be doing costumes on the 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Parents wanted to get more information on volunteering. Event chairs will be contacting you soon and if you have other questions please feel free to contact Julie Stevens, the volunteer coordinator.
- Acquiring a Head Teacher as well as starting an after school homework club/additional childcare at Wedgwood were brought up. If you are interested contact me and/or the PTA presidents.
- We talked about anti-bullying and positive discipline. The staff has been discussing ideas on how to enhance our programs. Please continue to have conversations about how we are ALL responsible to **recognize, refuse, and report**.
- We brainstormed about playground renovations that are more sustainable and environmentally aware as well as looking into service learning projects.

I had fun talking with so many of our parents and students and neighbors last week. The best way to build community is to eat/drink together and to work hard and get dirty together!

Thank you for a wonderful week!

Denise Espania

### Mahalo from the Principal

**Mahalo** to Rachael Weissman, Sandra Kaestle, Julia Wooten, Patty Hagen, Carina Senter, Laura Lindhe, Luke Hillman, Lynn Nelson, Michelle Moore, Emma Grigg, Sage Alvar, Heidi Anush and Jill Biondolillo for supporting the 1st and 5th graders.

**Mahalo** to Pura Vita Coffee for the generous coffee donation for our Mixers.  
**Mahalo** to Pam Ivezic for coordinating and organizing all the work that was done at our garden party. Wedgwood looks BEAUTIFUL!

## Wedgwood Elementary

www.wedgwoodpta.org  
2720 NE 85th Street  
(206) 252-5670

### JOIN IN!

Do you have great ideas or  
skills to share?  
Contact VP Volunteers

### Wedgwood PTA Officers 2008-2009

#### Presidents

Emily Maher  
ptaemily@gmail.com  
529.0613  
Rachael Weissman  
reweissman@hotmail.com  
729-2291

#### VP Legislation

John Jansen  
john.jansen@noaa.gov

#### VP Membership

John Cahill  
johnlcahill@comcast.net

#### VP Programs

Sylvia Lago  
sylvialago@comcast.net  
Leslie Snyder  
peanut.25@comcast.net

#### Corresponding Secretary

Jennifer Bucher  
rjmlbucher@comcast.net

#### Recording Secretary

Catherine Stine  
catstine@comcast.net

#### Treasurer

Wendy Champagne  
thechampagnes@comcast.net  
527-2632

#### Special Ed. Liaison

Linda Glas  
brian.glas@comcast.net

#### VP Volunteers

Julie Stevens  
bryceandjulie@comcast.net  
963-3725

#### Have Some News to Share?

Send it to *The Weekly* Editor  
Jill Biondolillo  
wedgwoodnews@yahoo.com  
Deadline: Fridays at noon

## Pledge Drive

### Support Your School and Watch Our Giving Tree Grow!!!

October 12th kicks off the 2008 Wedgwood Elementary "Giving Tree" Pledge Drive. Each donation helps us plant a seed, resulting in the positive future growth of our children. The seeds may be new library books, our enhanced art program, school assemblies, family and community events like Multicultural Night, specialized curriculum and teacher support or exciting field trips like an afternoon at the Children's Theater.

The seeds are made possible by parent donations. This Pledge Drive alone is responsible for 80% of this year's PTA budget which was approved by the general membership last month. That is \$60,000 we need to raise to ensure that we can enhance our children's experiences at Wedgwood and nurture their growth.

We are aiming for 100% participation, regardless of amount. Donors between now and noon, Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, will be entered to win a \$25 Café Javasti SCRIP card. The drawing will be held at that night's Spooktacular Pumpkin Carving Party (need not be present to win).

Watch our Giving Tree grow, literally. Our progress will be visual on the bulletin board outside the library. We'll keep you posted there and in *The Weekly*, so stay tuned. And thank you for your support!

## Scrip News

Scrip is off to a great start. September sales were low compared with last year, but the October order had 6 new families ordering and we increased sales over last October by 22% - Wow! Look at what just 6 more families ordering can do! Adding eScrip funds, PCC recharges and scrip sales together, we have already profited \$1000 this school year.

While this sounds like a lot, we need a big November and December to meet this year's goal of an \$8000 profit. Start planning holiday gift giving now - scrip cards (also known as gift cards) are a perfect gift, especially in these hard economic times. You can buy scrip for practical items everyone needs, like groceries, drug stores and gas. There are also scrip for restaurants, clothes, coffee, movies and much more. And if you have to ship holiday gifts, scrip is small and light, saving money at the post office. Scrip cards can be used just like cash at retailers across the county.

I'd also like to welcome a new member to the Scrip Committee, Antonya Kranz! She will be giving the order form a well needed make-over, watch for the new form coming in November. If you have any questions about scrip, need help on the website, or just want to chat to see how it all works, give me a call at 522-6342. Thanks to all who are participating! -Julie Wilcox

## PTA Membership

Thank you, Wedgwood Community! We want to thank all the parents, teachers, staff and members of the Wedgwood community who have already joined the PTA this year. We could not offer so many fantastic programs and events without your valuable support. Joining the PTA gives you a voice in determining the programs and activities that will build a better environment for learning at Wedgwood. As of now, we have 360 members, with our goal being 474 members. If you have not sent in your membership form, please do so soon with the form included with the *Weekly*. Please note more membership forms are also available in the school hallway on the PTA bulletin board if needed.  
--John Cahill, VP - PTA Membership



## Spooktacular Pumpkin Carving Party

The Pumpkin Carving Extravaganza is Coming! Come join us for our new and improved Spooktacular Pumpkin Carving Party on October 24th at 6:45 pm. This is your chance to show off your Halloween costume and your carving skills. There will be treats galore, contests for best pumpkin carving, and games for the whole family. Please remember, clean out your pumpkins prior to bringing them to the party, the school trash cannot handle the innards of all your scary and silly jack-o-lanterns. As always, knives are not allowed at school, but small carving tools are ok. Grab your costume and join the fun! Only \$3 per family for a night of fun.

## Box Tops for Education

Please help support Wedgwood by clipping Box Tops coupons from hundreds of products like cereal, diapers, storage bags, and paper products. For a complete list of products, go to <http://www.boxtops4education.com>. A list will also be on its way home with your child via Kidmail. Wedgwood receives 10 cents for each Box Tops coupon, and this adds up quickly. This is a great "free money" fundraising opportunity. Clipped Box Tops can be deposited in the collection "school house" in the office -- or they can be sent via Kidmail in a ziploc sandwich bag or envelope. Our goal this year is \$500, which is 5000 Box Tops! Please contact Linda Glas at [brian.glas@comcast.net](mailto:brian.glas@comcast.net) or (206) 985-6645 if you have any further questions. Happy clipping!

## SMILE

### Individual School Picture Day Wednesday, October 22

Yuen Lui photographers will be here next Wednesday to take pictures of all our students. If you are ordering a picture package, please remember to return your order form to your child's teacher no later than Tuesday, October 21st. If you've misplaced your form there are extras in the office. This is a good time to start thinking about hairstyles and what to wear!

## Fall Fundraiser Adds Up!

### Fall Fundraiser Orders to be Delivered 10/16/08

Great job on the fall fundraiser! Our gross receipts were just over \$16,000, meaning we've earned about \$8,000 for our school. Items will be delivered on Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. If your child sold several items and takes the bus home, you may want to make other arrangements that day. Contact Brenda Waldrop with questions at 365-8881 or [waldrop\\_watrous@msn.com](mailto:waldrop_watrous@msn.com).

## Garden Party THANKS!

### A BIG Thank You to all our Gardeners!!

**Thank you** to everyone who came out Saturday to clean, weed, plant, mulch and sweep the garden areas surrounding our school. Your efforts certainly made a difference and we could not have done it without you! A special thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, Ms. Espania, and our fabulous Seattle Works Volunteers as their efforts made the project possible. If you have time, please visit the gardens, especially the Kindergarten Garden as it is amazing! Way to go Kindergarteners!!!!



# Wedgwood PTA

## Membership – Join In!

Wedgwood is a school which takes pride in its community. And the PTA is here to foster that community by encouraging you to take a role in being a part of your child’s school life. By joining the Wedgwood PTA you add your voice to not only the hundreds of Wedgwood parents who are PTA members, but to the millions of other national PTA parents across the country who stand up as child advocates. Your membership shows your commitment to children.

**WAYS WEDGWOOD PTA DIRECTLY CONTRIBUTES TO THE ENRICHMENT OF YOUR CHILD INCLUDE:**

- ★ Field Trips and Assemblies
- ★ Volunteer Programs
- ★ Art Docent Program
- ★ Instrumental Music Subsidy
- ★ Educational Parent Nights
- ★ Math, Science & Geography Nights
- ★ Family Events – including Annual BBQ, Carnival, Dances, Family Nights
- ★ School Communications – including *The Weekly Newsletter*, Website, Email Updates
- ★ Educational Tools – including Computers, Library Books and Classroom Supplies
- ★ Essential School and Staff Support
- ★ And so much more!

**BUT WHAT ABOUT THE TIME COMMITMENT?** Meeting attendance is voluntary, and is not a requirement for joining; come when you are able. We are always looking for insightful input, new ideas, and people to make them happen. If you can’t make meetings, perhaps you can volunteer to organize an event. Just joining shows commitment. There are so many ways to get involved!

**QUESTIONS?** Contact VP Membership John Cahill at johnlcahill@comcast.net or 206. 528.4843.

**YES, I WANT TO JOIN IN THE WEDGWOOD PTA**

YOUR NAME(S)

ADDRESS

ZIP

PHONE(S)

EMAIL(S)

STUDENT(S) NAME(S)

PTA membership and kits are good for one school year. **Choose:**

- Both **PTA Membership** (choose one below) & **Comfort Kit**: Combined costs = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Individual Membership** (only): **\$12.00** per school year
- Family Membership** (only): **\$18.75** per school year

**★ COMBINE YOUR COMFORT KIT AND PTA MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS INTO ONE! SIMPLY ADD \$4.00 PER COMFORT KIT TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHOICE. RETURN PAYMENT AND ALL FORMS TOGETHER VIA KIDMAIL — IT’S THAT EASY!**

2720 NE 85th / Seattle, WA 98115 / 206.252.5670 / info@wedgwoodpta.org