



WEDGWOOD

The Weekly

By The Wedgwood Elementary PTA: *JOIN IN!*

Volume XI, Number 30, May 5, 2009

CALENDAR



MAY

Volunteer Reception
Tuesday, May 12
2:00 pm, Cafeteria

PTA Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 12
7:00 pm, Library

Please RSVP to Jennifer Bucher
at rjmlbucher@comcast.net
Childcare is available

Scrip Orders Due
Thursday, May 14

Living Voices Assembly
Fri., May 8, Cafeteria
1st-3rd Grades:
9:15 – 10:15 am
4th/5th Grades:
10:30 - 11:30am

Two Hour Early Dismissal
Wednesday, May 20
1:05 pm

Wedgwood Walkathon
Friday, May 22

Memorial Day
NO SCHOOL
Monday, May 25

Science Night
Thursday, May 28
6:30 pm

A Message From Your Principal

Dear Wedgwood Families,

The other week I shared with a first grade class my "reading life". I brought in a copy of *The Reading Teacher*, a publication from the International Reading Association. In light of May's Monday Mixer and ideas for continued learning during the summer months, I wanted to share with you an article by Dr. Timothy Rasinski and Nancy Padak out of Kent State University.

"Write Soon" is an article that is intended for teachers to support parents increasing the number of experiences for their children to engage in authentic writing experiences. It is important that our children see us as their models for reading and writing and that these are activities that occur naturally in our every day lives. It is helpful to have writing materials readily available (paper, pencils, crayons, etc.) and that during these experiences we are not critiquing for spelling or conventions, but appreciating the child's ideas.

Some authentic writing experiences that we can do with our children are:

- Writing lists (shopping, things to do, invitation lists, etc.)
- Writing notes (to family, jotting down memories, feelings or descriptions)
- Keeping a journal (this is more than just notes, but a daily summary of the day)
- Letters and emails
- Dialog journals (exchange a note book taking turns asking or answering questions, giving or getting advice)
- Write a birthday or special event book
- Write parodies (re-write the words to a favorite song)

Have fun writing!
Denise Espania

PTA Update / General Membership Meeting

Spring has sprung, and we have several great community and fundraising events in the works. Last Friday's Multicultural Night celebrated the wrap-up of our 6-week Read Around the World-athon and Science Night is ramping up. This month will see the first-ever Walkathon, which will give students ownership in helping to raise needed funds for their school, and June will bring our annual community Carnival & FUNdraiser.

Join the PTA Board at our May 12, 7 pm, meeting for an open forum on the latest on the Wedgwood budget, a General Membership discussion and vote on how funds raised above the current PTA budget should be used, and a vote on the 2009-10 Board positions. Childcare is available, but very limited. Please RSVP to rjmlbucher@comcast.net if you are interested in childcare.

Wedgwood Elementary

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JOIN IN!

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

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Have Some News to Share?
Send it to *The Weekly* Editor
Jill Biondolillo
wedgwoodnews@yahoo.com
Deadline: Fridays at noon

A Big Thanks for Boardwalk 5K Support

Wedgwood students and families had such a fun time at Husky Stadium on Sunday, April 26th, during the Boardwalk 5K event. All students did the one-mile Walk of Champions and several students completed the three-mile run! Thank you to all the families who donated to our PE program and participated in the event! A BIG thanks to Room 16 participants Milo Gerhard, Nick Tran, Max Stearns, Olivia Glick, Mateo Pena, Gargya Sekar, and Kurt Gundlach; Mai Schrock-Manabe from room 6; and Jett Yasuda and Talia Glick from room 4!
Ms. Jansen

Multi-Cultural Night Wrap-Up

Wedgwood's 4th annual Multicultural Night was another amazing event! Many thanks to our entertainers – storyteller Kibibi Monie; Irish step dancers from All That Dance, owned by Wedgwood parents Maygan and Wayne Wurzer; Ms. Becker and room 14; and Wedgwood students Trishala Jain and Josephine Athappily – for putting on a great show. And thanks to the people who brought food for the bake sale, which raised about \$200 for your PTA.

This year's event was a little different than previous years in that it was the culmination of the Read Around the World program. Students have been reading books about other countries and cultures since early April, reading more than 3,200 books in 6 weeks!

Special thanks to parent John Jansen who heard about this program and made it happen at Wedgwood, and to the teachers and staff who embraced the program and worked hard to make it a success. Thanks also to the 50+ volunteers who helped out with RAW and/or MCN. This was truly a community event, and we could not have done it without all of your help!

Support Our Young Runners

We need volunteers when school starts in again the fall to support Wedgwood students as they train for the Seattle Kids Marathon. Over the course of about two months, the kids will run 25 miles during morning recesses and we need parent volunteers to supervise them. Even if you can commit to just a few days, we need you help to make this happen. If interested, please contact Sarah Yasuda at Sarah@sarahyasuda.com.

Science Night – Poster Boards Available

The poster boards for Science Night presentations are available in the front office. Supplies are limited, so please only take a board if you are sure you will be presenting. Research posters can be on any subject. These projects are done at home with the assistance of parents. Teachers will not be working on these during class time.

The posters are typically divided into three sections that correspond to the three sections of the board: the prediction, the test, and the results/conclusion. It is nice if a child's test can be recreated at school so that other students can watch and learn, too. Work on the poster with your child.

You don't have to be a "real" scientist to create an easy, fun experiment. Encourage you child to try to make a prediction on something they are interested in. For example: What will decompose faster in my compost bin: a whole apple or apple slices? Do organic foods decompose faster than non-organic foods? Have fun!