



news

Highlights

- 11/8: **High School Test Prep Class for 8th Graders**
3-4:30PM (optional)
-  **Race Equity Book Club Reading**
4-5PM at Vashon Library
- Race Equity Focus Group**
7PM at Harbor School
-
- 11/9: **Game Time!**
4-5PM at Harbor School
with Admission Q&A to follow for interested families
-
- 11/10: **NO SCHOOL**
Veterans Day Observed
-
- 11/13: **WS Education Fair**
7PM at Alki Masonic Center
-
- 11/15: **OPEN HOUSE**
6:30PM at Harbor School
-
- 11/16: **PROMISED LAND**
Documentary Film Screening
6:30PM at Harbor School
-
- 11/17: **6th Grade Conferences**
No school for Grade 6
-
- 11/20: **7th and 8th Grade Conferences**
No school for Grades 7 & 8
-
- 11/21: **7th and 8th Grade Conferences**
No school for Grades 7 & 8
-
- 11/22 - 11/24
THANKSGIVING BREAK
No School
-
- 11/28: **Upper Elementary Parent Meeting with Mark**
6:30PM at Harbor School
-
- 11/29: **Carpe Diem Parent Meeting with Mark**
6:30PM at Carpe Diem

A Very Active & Fulfilling Week

I feel like I could just change the events but write what I wrote last week. It was another inspiring week full of performances, success, and fun. We had two Head of School Coffee Mornings, *Poet's Afternoon*, a day of Mexican dancing and Day of the Dead celebrations, Todd and Ethan's Halloween performance, trick-or-treating and visiting elders at Vashon Community Care, a Board of Trustees meeting, some snow, and a well-deserved **Morgan Sennott**, 8th grade, winning a tuition scholarship at the Bellarmine Art Exhibit Opening at Bellarmine Preparatory School in Tacoma. When I was asked what my favorite part of the week was I answered, "All of it!"

On Tuesday, Carpe Diem students presented their poems and songs with a smile and an infectious energy that left the audience very *happy* as they joined

with Pharrell William's little ditty. On Thursday, we welcomed grades K - 3 to the Harbor School campus for our *Día de los Muertos* celebration (see page 2 for photos). During the festivities, our 7th graders led mixed-age groups on tours of the 8th grade 'ofrendas' (altars) before they all tucked in to some wonderful food provided by our parent community. Last but not least, on Thursday evening, Morgan's art work was rightly celebrated at the Art Exhibition at Bellarmine where she won a \$1,000 tuition scholarship should she choose to attend Bellarmine Preparatory School for high school.

I would like to sincerely thank the teachers, students and parents who participated in everything that made last week special. I am inspired and motivated by all the support that you provide our school! - Mark McGough

[MORE NEWS >](#)



Bellarmine Art Exhibit: Head of School Mark with Harley (center), Luka (in front) and Morgan (right).



DIA DE LOS MUERTOS



Gratitude

A very big thank you to all our families who volunteered and brought refreshments to *Dia de los Muertos* and *Poet's Afternoon* last week. We'd also like to say thanks to all of you who came and supported our student presentations and performances.



Art News from Alisara

Congratulations **Morgan Sennott** on winning the \$1,000 Tuition Scholarship to Bellarmine Preparatory School! Thirteen Harbor School Students participated in Thursday night's gallery opening at Bellarmine, and we had a wonderful time celebrating in Tacoma. Morgan's 10 panel altered book murder mystery addressed themes of intrigue, compassion, and friendship. *Congratulations To Morgan!*

In the spirit of the teaching gallery, Harbor School students approached this project as professionals. They read the call for artists, and wrote proposals based on the presented theme, the dimension specifications, and the deadline. After proposing a project and sourcing materials,

students set out to create their unique pieces. Each piece is entirely student-executed, including the mounting and framing. The pieces are as diverse as their makers, and we are honored to share our interpretations of The Puget Sound, Tacoma, and Compassion.

I'd like to thank all the other exhibitors for their thoughtful contributions: **Savannah Butcher, Calvin James, Lisee Clayton, Emerson Dunn, Harley Beck, Laura Erickson, Jessica Crouch, Sylvia Bran, Freddy Langley, Lucy Epstein, Blake Denherder, and Will Frith.**
- Alisara

Financial Aid Application is Now Open for 2018-19

Financial Aid is an important aspect of our school, and it has been since our doors first opened. In our culture of philanthropy, we wish to ensure a broad spectrum of students for our school, as the value they bring to all of us is far beyond the monetary. Thank you to all our families who support this important effort.

Our financial aid application is now open for the 2018-19 school year. For our current families, we are asking that all financial aid applications be completed no later than Friday, December 15, 2017. This allows families to use their tax information from last April, and it will allow the school to have accurate data for re-enrollment contracts in January.

Any families not currently on financial aid but who anticipate a need for the 2018-19 school year will be asked to meet this deadline as well.

Please complete your Financial Aid application through Student and School Services (SSS) at <http://sssbynais.org/parents/>

If you have questions about financial aid, please do not hesitate to contact our Business Manager, **Jackie Mollison**, at jmollison@hARBORSCHOOL.ORG for assistance.

If you have questions about completing the financial aid application, please contact SSS at 800.344.8328 or via email to sss@solutionsbysss.com.

THIS WEEK!

HARBOR SCHOOL & CARPE DIEM RACE EQUITY BOOK CLUB INVITE YOU TO A
BOOK READING
Reading Aloud Stories Inspired by Refugee Experiences

**WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 8**
4PM at Vashon Public Library
in the Meeting Room
For children in grades K - 5

FEATURED BOOKS INCLUDE:
"Stepping Stones: A Refugee Family's Journey"
Written by Margot Ruess | Art by Nizar Ali Badr
"Somos como las nubes"
(We Are Like the Clouds)
Written by Jorge Argueta | Illustrated by Alfonso Flores
"Our Table of Memories"
Edited by Maria Ann Heitz | Illustrated by Morgan Wright

Once a month Harbor School & Carpe Diem's Race Equity Book Club invites the Vashon community to read aloud age-appropriate children's books that introduce topics and topics that have been typically misrepresented in children's books. We aim to engage the youngest early readers in kindergarten through 5th grade. These events also include games and creative movement.

FREE | PUBLIC WELCOME

Race Equity Focus Group Meeting

The next Race Equity Focus Group Meeting will be held this Wednesday night, **November 8**, at 7PM at Harbor School. *Please join us!*

GAME TIME!
FOR CHILDREN GRADES K - 5

FREE!
MATH IS FUN!

FUN ACTIVITIES GALORE!

**THURSDAY
NOV 9 4-5PM**

ALL SCHOOL NEWS



Order Your Student Photos by Nov. 16

Greetings parents of Harbor School,

I have had the amazing honor of photographing your sweet kids this year for their school pictures. I have the gallery all ready for you to view and order. Below is a link to the gallery and the Order Form (*please make sure to read it as it has all the important information you will need to know about how to open the gallery*). **The order deadline is no later than Thursday, November 16.** Thank you! - Marla Smith

HARBOR SCHOOL GALLERY

PHOTO ORDER FORM

The gallery pin code (password) is: **2017ths**

NOTE: Once again, Marla has generously agreed to donate a portion of her photography income from our community orders back to Harbor School. Last year, Harbor School received a gift of over \$400 from Marla based on orders you placed in the fall! Thank you, Marla, for supporting our students and programs!!!

COMING NEXT WEEK:



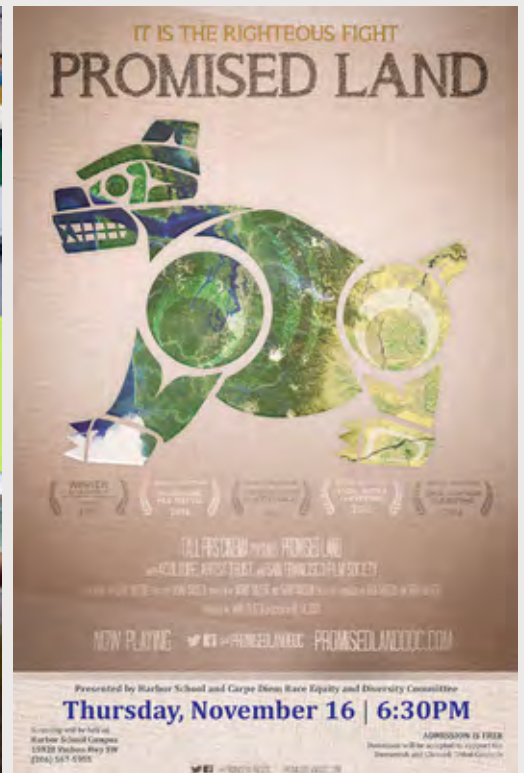
West Seattle Families

Harbor School will be participating in the West Seattle Education Fair on **Monday, November 13**, at the Alki Masonic Center. For our West Seattle families - please help us spread the word to friends who may be exploring their educational options for grades K-8!



Next Open House

We are now accepting applications for the 2018-19 school year at Harbor School and Carpe Diem. If you know an interested family, please consider inviting them to our next Open House event on **Wednesday, November 15, beginning at 6:30PM.**



Promised Land

Harbor School Presents a Special Screening of PROMISED LAND, an award-winning social justice documentary, on **Thursday, November 16 at 6:30PM** on our main campus. A panel discussion with representatives from the Duwamish and Chinook tribal councils will follow the screening. This event is free and open to the public.

[MORE NEWS >](#)



Poet's Afternoon

Our first performance of the year was a resounding success! Carpe Diem students had been practicing for weeks for this event and it really showed. Students demonstrated great poise on stage, every student demonstrating their personal best. The singing, poetry, and dancing was all done with joy and excitement and the energy was palpable. We celebrate this great achievement and look forward to our next performance in December!

Dia de los Muertos & Mexican Dancing

Carpe Diem students made a traditional Day of the Dead altar to honor loved ones who had passed. Students learned about this special holiday during our Mexico theme and were excited to take part in our own version of this celebration. We created traditional decorations for our altar and displayed pictures of loved ones who had passed. During our morning meeting on Thursday, each student had time to share and tell stories about the people they were celebrating. We all enjoyed celebrating this rich and beautiful Mexican tradition!

Later that day, we performed traditional Mexican folk dances taught to us by Nidia Chavez, a local dancer. We invited families to come and see the dances that we had practiced over the course of the last couple weeks. Students dressed up in traditional clothing supplied by Nidia and were delighted to perform their dances. We are so grateful to have had the experience of working with Nidia, it was such a special treat!

We finished the day by joining in the Day of the Dead festivities at the Harbor School. We heard poetry written by the seventh grade students, toured altars created by the eighth graders, and ate traditional Day of the Dead foods. This jam packed day marked the end of our Mexico theme. We look forward to starting our next unit of study on Whales next week!

[MORE NEWS >](#)





Upper Elementary students interviewing their 8th grade buddies!

Halloween Week

We started the week off by interviewing our 8th grade buddies. We used the questions that we came up with last week and added a few of our own interest questions. It was a great bonding session as we learned things about each other that we did not know before. There was a ton of laughing and general ease in the room. We came back and the kids shared what we found out about their buddies. We are so lucky to have such great mentors helping to guide us through the year!

We had an action packed Halloween on Tuesday! We loved going to the VCC to trick-or-treat with the residents. Some of us got to meet and talk with a woman who is 106 years old and hear her tell us about her creative writing class! What a great role model for all of us to see someone who is living their life to the fullest! We also got to go see the other end of the age spectrum at Carpe Diem for *Poet's Afternoon*.

The UE kids were so respectful and proud of their CD friends! Always such a lovely celebration.

We wrapped the week up with our *Día de los Muertos* celebration with the whole school. We made "sugar skulls" and created a display to show off our beautiful work. We got to sample traditional Mexican foods and tour the different ofrendas set up by the 7th and 8th graders. What a great way to honor our departed loved ones! - Joleen

Spanish with Profe

We continue playing with a story with a *Día de los Muertos* theme. We are greatly improving our reading strategies via this vehicle. It's really fun to watch. Also, a special thanks to everyone for joining us in our *Día de los Muertos* celebration and to Joleen for all her work in supporting us with AMAZING SKULLS! I am excited about how our program has grown in only one year. *THANK YOU!*





Left to right: Todd in his Halloween attire, color wheel in Art, snow falling on Brian, and Morgan at Bellarmine's Art Exhibit.

Math with Ethan

MATH 6: Students are wrapping up a unit on operations with decimals. Approximation becomes a tool for checking work... and a tool for winning candy in an estimation contest! Students estimate multiplication and division of decimal numbers in a game of mental math, edging each other with guesses that are just a tenth greater than the student's guess before them, all the while I'm hearing "The Price Is Right" theme song in my head.

MATH 7: *Where Does the Time Go? Project* comes to an end as students turn in their weekly averages displayed in a pie chart, and a reflection paper based on their findings. Are they astonished at how much time they spend in their room, or with homework, or sleeping? Do they expect their time-usage to change as they get older? Some students expect the inevitable: more time with homework in high school, but the same amount of time sleeping. We'll see if their expectations hold up.

MATH 8: Pre-algebra students are in fact digging deeper into Algebra. Work with expressions makes way for work with equations. Single-step equations become multi-step equations. Lots of philosophical discussions about math, where some students long for a society where there is no such thing as exponents and radical expressions, just addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

English with Todd

Tuesday was such a fun day at school - our students clearly know how to do Halloween. I was excited to also be able to partake in the celebration in a literary way: firstly, Ethan and I performed a reading of Edgar Allan Poe's *The Raven* in our classroom, with Ethan playing some eerie synth music while dressed as a glam-rock vampire. And then, for 7th grade English class, the students read Edgar Allan Poe's classic story of murder and guilt, *A Tell-tale Heart*. The story is scary enough on its own, but as we read it out loud in class, students began to hear an actual heart-beat at the moment when the heart-beat is heard in the story! They soon saw that it was Ethan in his office, playing his bass-drum like a heart-beat. *Thanks for the help, Ethan - I hope that we gave the students a Halloween worthy of Poe himself!*

Art with Alisara

6th Grade worked on color theory last Friday, and experimented with warm and cool bias triads. Soon after, the snow was too tempting, and we ran outside to watch the snow crystals make patterns in our color wheels.

Spanish with Profe

We have been integrating *Día de los Muertos*, through various manners, into everything we have been doing over the last couple of weeks. I want to send out a special thanks to Alisara and Todd for their work in crossing curriculum in support of our program. I am fortunate to work with my colleagues. I am especially pleased with the risk to try attitude of seventh and eighth graders on a new undertaking for the holiday in writing *Calacas* or poems that are of a cultural style aligned with *Día de los Muertos*. I am excited about how our program has grown in only one year. **THANK YOU!**



IN SCIENCE: 7th grade using a web interactive to test the effects of light color on rates of photosynthesis