

CORNERSTONE Newsletter for Harbor School & Carpe Diem community

W 5

Highlights

Rise Up & Read at 4PM Book Reading Event at Harbor School

NO SCHOOL 1/15: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

1/17: **7th Grade Parent Meeting** with Head of School 6:30PM at Harbor School

1/24: Art Time at Carpe Diem After school at 4PM Public Welcome!

Re-Enrollment Contracts for Returning Students

1/30: 8th Grade Parent Meeting with Head of School 6:30PM at Harbor School

2/2: NO SCHOOL Teacher In-Service Day

2/9: Crafternoon 1-3PM at Carpe Diem

2/16: **Service Learning** at NW Harvest

for grades 4-8

February 19 - 23 **Mid-Winter Break**

No School!

2/27: Morning Coffee with Head of School 8:05AM at Harbor School

2/28: Morning Coffee with Head of School 9:05AM at Carpe Diem

3/2: **Auction Preview Party** 7PM - More details to come!

3/9: **NO SCHOOL** Teacher In-Service Day

Spring Forward! Daylight Savings Time

3/12: **Voyagers Week Begins!** for grades 4-8

Corner Art by Emi, grade 2

New Year Perspective

Happy New Year to all and welcome back to school! I hope you all enjoyed a relaxing holiday and that you were able to spend good time together with family and friends. The snow on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day added a particularly magical touch to the holiday this year and as always the New Year brought a much needed opportunity for reflection and goal setting.

That said it was good to get back to school on Monday and to be surrounded again by the energy and laughter of your children. Without even trying they were able to wring from me any lingering reluctance about the return to school - such is life as an educator. Adventures, accidents and aspirations were all shared and before the day was over we were all back in the swing of school. There is no doubt that a stressful life can be forgotten, at least for a while, in the company of children. If you don't believe me (and I am sure many of you won't) then I encourage you to stop by for a visit. It won't be long before whatever is concerning you is forgotten in the complexity and simplicity of the world our children inhabit. They are the best and most honest form of stress relief I know! Still don't believe me? Drop me a line and I'll set up a time for you to visit so you can experience some New Year Magic.

On top of the week with your children I was also privileged to be at Point Robinson on Saturday to witness a truly memorable and powerful display of Orca beauty as a pod of killer whales passed within 50 feet of the beach. I am sure that many long time Vashon residents have more experience than I do of this spectacle so bear with me for a while. Along with the wisdom and honesty of children, there is nothing quite as grounding and humbling as animals in the wild. Beyond the awe and beauty I find that I am left with a clearer sense of my place in the world. I am encouraged to rapidly gain perspective - perspective on what we do and why we do it, who we are and what we are striving to become.

It seemed to me that after a refreshing and renewing week with your children and a blinding blast of perspective, the new year will bring much that is good to our school. We have a wonderful group of teachers who go above and beyond what is asked of them and we have students who are seen and heard and who laugh and work together in ways that many schools only dream of. As we ease into the new year I encourage you to find time to join us in new ways on this journey. If there are ways I can help facilitate that, please get in touch! - Mark



ALL SCHOOL NEWS

Food Drive Results

Thanks to all our families and island friends who supported our student food drive for the Vashon Maury Community Food Bank in December. All told, we raised over \$920.00 in donations and 1320 lbs. of food! We are so proud of our students and their families for participating and making a difference in our local community. Well done!

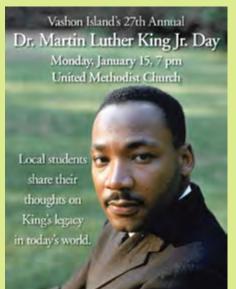




Join Us!

Rise Up & Read is Monday

On Monday, January 8, 2018, at 4PM, Harbor School will host a special *Rise Up and Read* book reading event in celebration of the Japanese New Year Shōgatsu. This event is geared toward children in grades K-5. This event is FREE and open to the public.



Seeking Middle Schoolers for MLK Event on January 15

at the United Methodist Church

As many of you know, each year Emma Amiad sponsors a wonderful event on the island to honor the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King. We are looking for middle school and high school kids to speak and share their thoughts on the words of Dr. King and the possible lessons for us today.

If your child is interested, please contact **Betsey Archambault** immediately (Betsey is the Executive Director of the Dove Project, a co-sponsor of this event) at **betsey@vashondoveproject.org**.

The event will be held on January 15th at the Methodist church from 7pm-8pm. *All are welcome!* In addition there will be a show of art and some hands on projects from our elementary school age kids.

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ALL SCHOOL NEWS

Art in the News

Congratulations to Harbor School students who had work appearing in the *Tacoma Weekly* and the *Beachcomber!* After a great showing by Harbor School students at the Bellarmine Preparatory Art Show, some students work was selected to be published in the *Tacoma Weekly.* Over the holiday, we were also thrilled to participate in the *Beachcomber* holiday ad commission. All students participating submitted wonderful work, and whether they were published or not, should celebrate their strong entries. - *Alisara*



Student art reprinted in the Tacoma Weekly.



A few of the Beachcomber ads created by our students.

Yearbook Design Contest

It's that time of year again when we begin to start planning the yearbooks that begin in earnest in the Spring. For our 4th through 8th grade students, the annual Yearbook Cover Design Contest is held for their yearbook *The Explorer*. Students are encouraged to create a cover design of their own imagination and submit it for consideration. All entries are due by February 15, 2018 and voting will be held on Friday, February 16. Students in the Upper Elementary and Middle School will get to cast their ballots for the cover art they deem the best! We've added a little motivation by offering a prize to the winner whose art is selected. They'll receive a \$15 gift certificate to their favorite island business! If you have questions about the contest, please see Art Teacher **Alisara Martin**.



2018 VOYAGERS AUCTION



2018 Executive Committee

As many of you already know, it takes dozens and dozens of volunteers to pull off our biggest fundraiser (and party) of the year, not to mention hundreds of hours of time. There are a core group of staff and parents who make up our executive committee and manage the logistics to ensure the event is a success. This year's committee includes:

Allison Reid Niamh Prince Mark McGough Tina Shattuck Erika Ellison Shannon Johns Mariette Spence Martha Ormseth

Auction Tickets On Sale Now!

The 2018 Voyagers Auction will be held on **Saturday, March 24, 2018** and tickets are now available for purchase. The event will be held at Open Space on Vashon with Kevin Joyce returning as Auctioneer. The Hardware Store Restaurant returns as well as our event caterer. If you'd like to buy your tickets now, click on the link below and visit our dedicated auction website to make an online purchase.

BUY TICKETS

Tickets are \$50 per person with alumni tickets available at a discount of \$25. A Table of 10 may be purchased for \$500 and includes complimentary wine and seating closest to the stage. Voyagers Auction is an adult event and attendees must be over 21.

How You Can Help

The success of our auction is dependent on the generosity, time, and talents of all our families. We greatly appreciate all your help and ask that you participate in several ways:

DONATING AN AUCTION ITEM

Each year, more than 200 items are collected to be featured in the auction. When every family donates just ONE item, we are almost half-way there! Items may be hand-crafted, store bought or procured from someone you know. Unusual experiences, creative art pieces and eccentricities are encouraged!

If you'd like to donate an item, you may enter your donation directly online by clicking the DONATE button below; or you can pick up an Item Donation Form in the main office on campus.

DONATE

PLEASE NOTE: If you plan to ask an island business to donate an item, please contact Allison Reid to make sure it has not already been assigned to one of our procurement volunteers.

VOLUNTEERING YOUR TIME

If you already signed up at the start of the school year - thank you! Our committee will be in touch with you in the coming weeks. If you have not signed up, there are still plenty of areas that we need help. Whether you only have 2 hours to give or 10, it takes all of us working together to make *Voyagers Auction* a success! Volunteer Sign Up sheets are located at both Carpe Diem and Harbor School.

ATTENDING THE EVENT

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, March 24, 2018, and purchase your tickets today. Tickets are sold online (see above) and we will also be sending home an auction invitation later this month.

If you prefer to volunteer rather than attend as a guest, please visit the main office and pick an event role on our Auction Volunteer Sign Up sheet.

Stay tuned for more details...

If you have any questions about the 2018 Voyagers Auction, please contact Allison Reid at allison@harborschool.org.

Carpe diem primary



ABOVE: The dragon we created! Students headed outdoors for PE on a sunny afternoon. An example of student calligraphy.

Highlights from Kate

Ni Hao! If you are a Carpe Diem parent, you know that we launched our new China theme at the year's start. We began by renaming our table groups after cities in China. Students worked with maps and cardinal directions to describe their city's location, and discuss neighboring countries and bordering bodies of water. Yesterday, we considered our own alphabet, thinking back to pre-K and kindergarten, (not too much of a stretch for our current kinders) and how we had to put lines and curves together to make 26 uppercase and 26 lowercase letters. That takes a lot of memorization, right? Well, we were all humbled to learn that a student in China would need to know about 300 commonly used Chinese characters, and that there are more than 85,000 in total. We have been practicing a few of those characters here at Carpe Diem, and several students have memorized their name already, or special characters, like DRAGON!

It's not all geography and calligraphy around here though. We have had a lot of fun outside during P.E. the last few months. Inspired by the book, *Chicken and Noodle Games: 141 Fun Activities With Innovative Equipment*, we have been active and goofy up at the playing fields on Wednesdays. Using rubber chickens, water noodles, bean bags, and hula hoops, students practice balance, coordination, gross-motor skills, and increase their fitness without feeling like they need to be a naturally gifted athlete. Ask your child about catching flying chickens, water noodle relays, and hot dog tag. That last one is a personal favorite of mine. The hot dogs jump out of the fryer and try to make it across the field. If they get tagged, they lie down and shout, "Buns, buns, I need buns!" Two friends need to make it over to the hot dog and lie on either side of him/her to create a hot dog in a bun. All three can then jump up and run away. As challenging as teaching can be, it really is a hoot to hang out with your children. Thank you for sharing them with us.

Spanish with Profe

We continue to play with naming the world around us. Our current focus is on food and expressing likes and dislikes. Here is a link to the food page on HUACHINANGO: http://huachinango.wikispaces.com/La+Comida

BELOW: Scenes from Winter Celebration on December 14.



Carpf DIFM PRIMARY



Return to Jumping Mouse

Today may have been my absolute favorite day in the woods yet! At least this school year anyway. Today started out wet and kinda dreary. Once that bus full of enthusiastic students rolled in to Jumping Mouse with all their colorful layers of rain gear, something changed. I brought them all a surprise activity for an afternoon tucked in to the protected forest. I collected buckets, jugs of water, super fine shimmery glitter, dried flower petals of every color from my cutting garden, some oranges, strainers, funnels, zesting tools, eye droppers, scissors, bottles, tiny jars, dried bundles of lavender and a ton of imagination. The idea was to create a space in the woods where the kids could create magic potions and perfumes. Oh and they did! We did! It was AMAZING! The kids loved this activity and ran around proud with their colorful concoctions. Setting up shops, trading scents, and naming their secret signature ingredients. One potion was called "Forest Day" while another was "Morning Zest." They added fresh pine needles, fern, cedar, lichen, moss and even puddle water. It was a messy, super fragrant, magical afternoon. I helped manage the water and glitter and let the kids take it from there. No instruction or expectation. Just an invite to pure fun and creativity. It was a refreshing reminder of just how much magic is in our Jumping Mouse forest and in the children's imaginations. They shared, sang, worked together, hummed, stirred, mashed, zested, shook and muddled. The air smelled amazing. We came to the conclusion that dried lavender and fresh zested orange peels were the most lovely combo. You can never use too much glitter and the fun is endless in the Jumping Mouse woods, rain or shine! - Emma



UPPER ELEMENTARY

Westward Ho!

Welcome back! After a great break, it feels like we are all refreshed and ready to jump into Westward Expansion, Civil War and Washington History! On Friday, everyone found out who they will be traveling with on their wagons as we explore and venture west to the Pacific Ocean. The wagon train groups got their packets of information to review and to discuss decisions that they will need to make on Monday. Their first mission will be to choose and buy what they will need for the first leg of the simulation. They will purchase their supplies from the General Store Manager (me) before they leave Independence, Missouri. Throughout the week, we will learn about what the pioneers encountered on the Oregon Trail. They will roll dice and choose cards to determine if they get scurvy, diphtheria, a broken bone or how much milk they can get from their cow among many other things! We are all excited to begin this adventure. We will keep you all updated on our perilous journey and the decisions that prove fruitful and those that knock us off our path. After we got our groups, to get a sense of the space that they will be able to use in their wagons, we measured out wagon train footprints with rulers and string. The kids sat in the space and we were all surprised how small a space of 15'x3.5' could feel. I hope you will enjoy hearing about the trials and tribulations along the way! Westward Ho! - Joleen



Art with Alisara

The first week back after the holiday, the fourth and fifth grade started strong by beginning their Westward Expansion puppets in tandem with their Westward Expansion unit. Paloma and Eva taught us their method for drawing horses, and were awesome guest teachers! - Alisara

Spanish with Profe

We continue to play with naming the world around us, communicating likes/dislikes, talking about the weather and telling time. It is really fun as we begin to see synergy of themes. We also begin a new story:

La Rana Hambrienta (The Hungry Frog)

Practicing on HUACHINANGO for about 10 minutes, twice a week, is a real advantage. Here is the link to the story. It's fun to read with your student:

http://huachinango.wikispaces.com/La+Rana+Hambrienta



MIDDLE SCHOOL



RAW Bake Sale - January 10th

Due to the concern, as well as the inspiration of Gigi and Lorelei, the RAW homegroup is hosting a **Bake Sale on Wednesday, January 10th**, with all proceeds going to buy small toiletries to create kits which will be distributed to island churches which host dinners for islanders in need. The toiletry kits will be made available to any who wish to take one. Bake sale items will be made available for purchase during the lunch period.



"Java Like it's Hot!"

7th Grade Computer Science with Ethan

After a long and restful holiday break, 7th graders arrived back at school with a new curriculum surprise waiting for them: Computer Science! Over the next 10-12 weeks, students will learn basic vocabulary, syntax, and semantics of the programming language, Java, including the declaration of variables, writing print statements, user input, looping algorithms, and a little String manipulation. Students will, of course, get math-y with Java, as well as create their own chat bot. *Yay!!*

Art with Alisara

The 7th grade started an academic integration project with English, by drawing scenes from their recent dystopian future unit. The 8th grade continued their portraiture unit, and are working on watercolor portraits of African-American luminaries in honor of Martin Luther King Junior Day.

Spanish with Profe

GRADE 6: We are reading a novel, COMPLETELY IN SPANISH! SO FUN! Here is the link to the page on HUACHINANGO that supports the novel: http://huachinango.wikispaces.com/Brandon+Brown+quiere+un+perro

We have class copies of the novel. If you would like one at home, which is always nice, here is the link:

https://fluencymatters.com/product/brandon-brown-quiere-un-perro-reader/

GRADE 7: *BIG NEWS!* We are reading a new novel called *El viaje de su vida (The trip of their lives).* There is travel, a robbery, danger, and an insect woman! We have class copies of the book. If you would like a copy at home, which is always a good idea, here is the link:

https://www.amazon.com/Viaje-Vida-Nivel-Libro-Spanish/dp/0929724496

MORE BIG NEWS! We are beginning to play in the past tense. We are using the preterite tense. Please ask your student to share what they know and maybe even explore their notebook with them.

GRADE 8: We continue to play in the past tense with the preterite tense. Practice beyond the classroom is essential for success. We will add another past tense, the imperfect tense soon. Currently, we are reading a story called: *Sandra y el vestido perfecto*. Most of this story is in the present tense. We are playing with changing the verbs into the preterite tense. Please ask your student to share what they know and maybe even explore their notebook with them. Here is a link to the story: http://huachinango.wikispaces.com/Sandra+y+el+vestido+perfecto

BIG NEWS! The Spanish interns from Chautauqua Elementary visited us just before Christmas to give a presentation, all in Spanish, about Spain and Colombia. We are hoping they can return for speaking/listening practice as we continue to prepare for Costa Rica.

Science with Zoë

GRADE 6: Energy explorations galore this week! Students are making Shrinky Dinks to learn about thermal energy, burning peanuts to find out about chemical energy and building circuits to dive into electrical energy. Ask your kiddo about the difference between kinetic and potential energy!

GRADE 7 & 8: This week, we are looking at DNA: What is its structure? What does it do? Students are building multiple models of DNA to learn about replication, transcription and translation. Ask your kiddo how long the DNA is in each cell of the human body!

Algebra with Zoë

We wrapped up the **Relations and Functions Unit** this week with a test on Thursday. Look for the test to come home for a parent signature. Next unit: **Linear Equations.**

More Beachcomber ads designed by our students!



















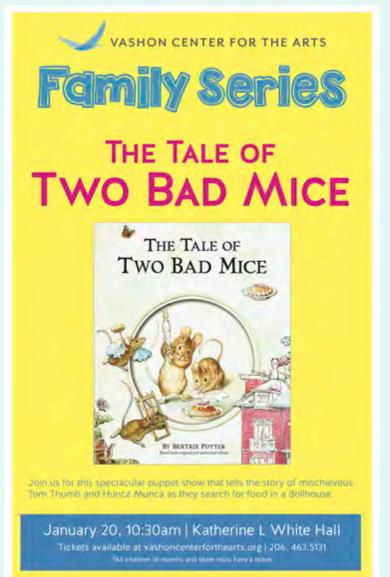
Social Studies with Lauretta

6th Graders continued learning about the Golden Age. Above, Katie learns some hairraising facts about what a "dump" Athens was before the Golden Age.

8th graders continue to work on *The Big, Wide, Wonderful Project.* This year's topic: Fake News.



In the Community



Based on the book written and illustrated by Beatrix Potter, this spectacular puppet show illustrates the day two mice discover a dollhouse. On a search for food, Tom Thumb and Hunca Munca are driven to outrageous behavior when they learn that the delicious looking food is made of inedible plaster! They smash dishes, throw doll clothing out the window, tear up pillows and carry off articles to their mousehole. After finding such destruction, the child puts a policeman doll outside the front door. What will the mice do next?

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit the event webpage on VCA's website at:

http://www.vashoncenterforthearts.org/event-cal/family-series-thistle-theatre-presents-the-tales-of-two-bad-mice/



VASHON WILDERNESS PROGRAM will host its 11th Annual Storytelling Festival on Saturday, January 27 at the Vashon Theater on Vashon Island. Door open at 2:00pm and the tales begin at 2:30pm. Local professional and amatueur storytellers will delight an all-ages audience with an imaginative afternoon of storytelling. Audience members will have a chance to spin their own tales in the One-Minute Story-thon, and interactive group storytelling improv games.

This year's Storytelling Festival will feature Paul Che oke' ten Wagner, Coast Salish Storyteller & Native American Flutist, and Allison Cox, internationally known storyteller and founder of the Healing Story Alliance.