



Wilkes Whale Watch

Newsletter October 1st, 2009

Principal's Letter

Thank you for your attendance at our Back to School Nights. We know it can be challenging to get away these evenings, and we appreciate your interest and support. We are looking forward to parent-teacher conferences September 30-October 2. These meetings provide time to share important information concerning your child and develop the important and necessary partnership between home and school. Research consistently shows the importance of a strong partnership between parents and teachers to promote student growth. We appreciate your time.

September has already passed and October will be full of learning and fun activities! In this newsletter you will find information on many upcoming events.

- **We will be hosting three "Fact Forum Open House" events to provide in depth information on the capital bond measure on November 3.** We are resubmitting to voters the bond that ran last spring that includes the rebuilding of Wilkes as well as important repairs to the other schools. A tremendous amount of work has been done to reexamine both the necessity and cost of the items presented in the bond. We want to share this information in depth and answer any questions you may have. You can gather information, ask questions, and tour the building. You would only need to attend one event, but we want to provide several opportunities. We welcome the public. Please plan to attend and bring a carload of your neighbors!

October 6 7PM

October 14 4PM

October 22 7PM

- **Thanks to the 4th Grade Outdoor Education committee - the Halloween carnival lives on and will be held Saturday, October 24.** This event will now be sponsored by the parent committee working to raise funds for 4th grade students to attend outdoor school at Islandwood in early June. All proceeds will benefit this outdoor education fund. Although this event is sponsored by the Outdoor Ed. parent committee, we are hopeful parents of children at all grade levels will lend a willing hand to support this effort and continue the tradition of the Wilkes Halloween Carnival. If you've attended in the past, you know it's a huge group effort to pull it off! Please consider volunteering for an hour or two - it's fun!
- **Thank you for not parking in the drop off/pick up lanes during arrival and dismissal periods**

Sincerely, Sheryl Belt, Principal

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Triathlon – Thursday, October 8th!

We are on our way! Teachers have a plan for reading and math activities in the morning. A team of parents has a plan for the jogathon in the afternoon!

Remember to return your child's pledge envelope to Wilkes.

Come support and cheer on the kids during the jogathon!



Whale Wear for Fall!

Hoodies, sweatshirts, t-shirts, long sleeved t's, hats and more! Coffee

tumblers, reusable grocery bags, water bottles.

Fall order deadline is October 6th.

Order forms in the school office or at Wilkespto.org

Q? Contact Cindy Ruggiero, 855-9780

theruggieros@msn.com

Library volunteers still needed

Looking for a fun and meaningful volunteer opportunity? Consider the **Wilkes library**. Volunteering in the library is a varied job, consisting mainly of helping kids find books and library clerical tasks. If you enjoy children's books, and like to help organize, this spot would be an excellent fit for you! The time commitment consists of an hour two or three times per month - training included.

Please contact Lynne Ukich in the Wilkes library (780-3056), or email lukich@bainbridge.wednet.edu.

Art



Docent

Thanks to the School District

Bainbridge Island and your PTO, our

school is fortunate to have an Art Docent program for the students. This program was developed to enhance your children's love of and appreciation for art. Art Docents visit the class every month to facilitate art appreciation, art history and visual arts literacy. Art Docents have access to the Art Resource Center at the Sakai Library, which includes prints, books and lessons available for teaching in the classroom. This program is a truly rewarding experience for both the children and the Art Docent.

Once a month from November to May, the Art Docents present a visual arts lesson to the class. The lesson might include art history, principals of composition, elements of design and/or communication through art.

Volunteers should be comfortable talking about art and working with children. One Docent, or a team of two, are encouraged.

Once you sign up, your Art docent Building Coordinator, **Sheila Meidell** (sheila.meidell@gmail.com), will

connect with you. **The Art Docent Orientation will occur October 14th the Sakai Library:**

you may choose to attend either from **9:30-11:00am** or **7:00-8:30pm**. You will receive

specific grade appropriate objectives, planning and teaching information and an overview of the Art Docent Resource Room (located at Sakai Library).

Thank you for your time and dedication to the Art Docent program. Volunteers like you make this possible!

(Sign Up for Listserv)

Get the latest information from the school district. Sign up online or through your school's office administrator.



Wilkes Whale Watch is a joint online newsletter of the Wilkes PTO and Wilkes Elementary School. Subscribe to the Wilkes email list at: <http://www.bainbridge.wednet.edu/?q=emallists/subscribe>

For submissions contact marisalanning@hotmail.com

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Letter From the PTO President:

Dear Parents,
Raise your hand if you are tired. I sure am. These early mornings are something to get used to. One thing for sure, I am getting a lot more done and I love that.

This month we will have our first **triathlon**. This event is a fundraiser that highlights the activities that the kids are doing at school right now. This is a terrific opportunity to take some of the fundraising pressure off our Spring Auction. Our Spring Auction is a fun, adult only, event. It is a lot of fun, but also a lot of volunteer hours. It is our goal to have the triathlon and the auction balanced to become the two main fundraising arms of the Wilkes PTO. Check out <http://www.wilkespto.org/fundraising/> for more information.

VOTE, VOTE, VOTE. The **capital bond** is up again for a vote this November. You can find information about this bond on the School District Web site, <http://www.bainbridge.wednet.edu/>. You can also find out information on Face Book. Go to face book and look up Bainbridge Island Public

School Supporters. Please take the time to find out what this bond is about. If you still have questions, feel free to email me personally, kat@jubbling.com. I will do my best to find the answers to your questions, or at least lead you in the right direction.

It is also time for our annual **Halloween Carnival!** This is such a fun community building event that everyone enjoys. Unfortunately, we almost went without the Carnival this year. That would have been sad. As it turns out our fourth grade parents needed a fundraiser for outdoor education and a perfect match was made. Please look for ways that you can help to keep this tradition going. If you don't currently have a 4th grader, you will before you know it and we will all be here to help. Please participate.

Thank you for all of your help and support. We are doing much more than just sending our children to school.

Thanks,
Kat Gilmore
PTO President
kat@jubbling.com

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Back by Popular Request and Coming Soon --- **The Sally Foster Catalog!**



In the past, Wilkes students have sold Sally Foster products - high quality gift wrap, gift items, chocolates, nuts and more. For those of you who love Sally Foster and are running low on gift wrap, the sale is back! Look for the catalog to come home with your student on Monday Oct. 5th.



R U Registered to Vote?



You can register online if you have a valid Washington State driver's license or ID card. For more information on voter registration: [click here](#).

The Capital Bond for schools will be on the November 3rd ballot. Educate yourself and remember every vote counts!



LINK UP For FUN

Check out the following links for community events and information.

Community News & Events webpage:

www.bainbridge.wednet.edu/pr/communityevents

Community Flyers webpage:

www.bainbridge.wednet.edu/pr/communityflyers

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Wilkes Calendar of Events

September

30 No School - Conference Day

October

1 No School - Conference Day

2 No School - Conference Day

5 Fire Prev Assembly

6 School Picture Day

7:00 Bond Open House/Tour

8 PTO Triathlon

9 No School - Non contract day

14 Ballots mailed for bond election

4:00 Bond Open House/Tour

16 9:00 PTO Meeting

19 Health Screening - Library

20 Health Screening - Library

21 Early Release - 10:50AM

22 7:00 Bond Open House/Tour

24 **Halloween Carnival**

27 BSF Phone-a-thon

28 BSF Phone-a-thon

29 BSF Phone-a-thon

30 **Halloween Parade**

November

3 ELECTION DAY

4 *Picture Retake Day*

6 9:00 PTO Meeting

11 *Veterans' Day - No School*

12 Health Rescreening - Library

16 **BOOK FAIR** 16th-19th

18 Early Release - 10:50 AM

20 Barbara Kingsolver at BHS at
7:30

26 Thanksgiving

27 *No School*

