



# Wilkes Whale Watch

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Newsletter January, 2010

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

### January (Happy 2010)

- 8 9:00 PTO Meeting
- 12 12:00 Architect Selection Committee
- 13 Early Release - 10:50 AM
- 18 Martin Luther King Bday - No School
- 19 Architect Selection Committee
- 21 Architect Selection Committee
- 23 6:00 BSF Auction Dinner

### February

- 9 Election Day! P&O Levy
- 12 No School - Non contract day
- 14 Valentines Day' (Sunday!)
- 15 Presidents' Day - No School
- 16 No School - Non contract day
- 18 6:00 Arts Consortium Show
- 19 9:00 PTO Meeting
- 25 1:40 2<sup>nd</sup> Music Performance
- 26 End of second trimester

### March

- 2 Read Across America - Suzanne Selfors assembly
- 3-5 Conference Day - No School
- 12 9:00 PTO Meeting
- 13 PTO Auction - Kiana Lodge
- 14 Daylight Savings time begins
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 18 1:40 1<sup>st</sup> Music Performance
- 22 Report Card Review Committee
- 25 Science Fair/Open House
- 29 - Apr 2 Spring Break



Happy New Year!  
MANY important upcoming  
events!  
A note from your Principal.

- The Bainbridge Island School District will run the Programs and Operations Levy on Tuesday, February 9. Over half the school districts in the state will run their levy measures on this special Election Day. Due to the school funding formula in Washington State, all school districts survive through the support of their communities through the local levies. This is a RENEWAL levy meaning the last levy completely expires, and we must ask voters to renew their commitment to the local school district. The local levy support provides approximately 20-25% of a school district's total budget each year. Please take time to understand our local levy measure. <http://www.bainbridge.wednet.edu/node/874>
- New Kindergarten Registration - February 3, 2010 6:30 PM Ordway Elementary School Please help spread the word through your neighborhoods and preschools that it is already time to register kindergarteners for next year! Information will be available about both the half and full day programs and registration packets will be available for pick up.

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](mailto:marisalanning@hotmail.com)

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- Inclement Weather** - So far, so good - but it's always good to be prepared. If there are school closures or schedule changes, we will try to post it on the District website ([www.bainbridge.wednet.edu](http://www.bainbridge.wednet.edu)) and send an automated phone message. This can be problematic if there are power issues. You can also find information at [www.schoolreport.org](http://www.schoolreport.org) and it will be broadcast on local TV and radio stations. You can find information on bus changes due to inclement weather at <http://www.bainbridge.wednet.edu/node/858>. The City has also gone through budget cuts and will be plowing fewer roads during ice and snow conditions, so many routes have had to be revised from previous years. Buses have to be able to make it up and down the road and turn around where necessary.
- Architect Selection** - We are in the process of beginning to select the architectural firm that will design the new building. In coming months, there will be several opportunities for you to provide input in the design process. Please watch for information on how you can participate. Beginning to look at school designs that facilitate a quality education program has been exciting. This will be an excellent opportunity for the community to come together to design a building that can facilitate both school and community activities for generations to come.
- Measurement of Student Progress Testing (MSP)** - Wilkes has been selected as a Statistical Sample School for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade MSP testing this spring. (MSP is the revised form of the WASL - with a new name.) Each year the State identifies specific schools within districts to return early all completed tests. The early return of these tests is critical to the process necessary to analyze data, score and report results for every student. This means very little to us other than we need to be sure our testing is done and ready to be sent for scoring by the due date. **The MSP testing window for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders is May 5-21.** Specific testing dates for each grade level will follow soon. Please arrange to have your child at school during these important testing dates. You can read more about the new MSP at <http://www.k12.wa.us/assessment/StateTesting/MSP.aspx>.
- The federal government has released an internet safety guide for parents and other adults. It is free and available online. It is an excellent resource. <http://www.onguardonline.gov/pdf/tec04.pdf>

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## Letter from the PTO President

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school!

I hope you all had a wonderful winter break. Thanks to all that contributed to our auction survey. Believe it or not planning has already started and your input is invaluable. Watch for further communications regarding this.

A Programs and Operations Levy will be on the February Ballot. Information regarding this has already been sent out from the district and will soon arrive from the Bainbridge Island Public School Supporters. Please Vote!

Kat Gilmore

PTO President  
kat@jubbling.com

## SCIENCE FAIR

Time to put on those Thinking Caps and start getting ready for Science Fair. What fun thing will your student explore this year? Exploding volcanoes? Growing crystals? Drawing the diagram of an elephant?



Parents will be able to access all the information for the Fair on the Wilkes web site (go to the Wilkes home page/ click on More about Wilkes/ then click on For Staff/ the Science Fair documents will be a link on

the Right hand side of the page) starting next week.

If you would like to volunteer to help out during the Fair, please contact Marisa Lanning ([marisalanning@hotmail.com](mailto:marisalanning@hotmail.com) or 206-780-0645). We need interviewers. *More information will go out on ListServ, so sign up today!*



BRRR! It's cold! We have Wilkes Whales hoodies, sweatshirts, long sleeve t's and more in stock.

Order forms are available at [wilkespto.org](http://wilkespto.org) or in the school office. Q? Contact Cindy Ruggiero, [theruggieros@msn.com](mailto:theruggieros@msn.com) or 855-9780.

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## **Farm Hands: A Locally Grown After-School Program for Children in Grades 1-4**

### **Winter 2010 Sessions**

#### Where:

Historic Suyematsu-Bentryn Farms,  
8989 Day Rd. East, Bainbridge Island,  
WA

#### When:

Session 1: January 11-February 11  
Session 2: February 22-March 25

Weekly Option 1: Mondays &  
Wednesdays, 2:30-5:00\*

Weekly Option 2: Tuesdays &  
Thursdays, 2:30-5:00\*

(\*We can accommodate children with  
later school release times. Contact us  
for details.)

*Join us for a Winter full of learning,  
playing games and having fun while  
investigating and experiencing life on  
Bainbridge Island's most historic  
agricultural landscape. Activities  
include:*

- Exploring farm ecology, sustainable practices, organic gardening, local heritage and wildlife habitat
- Assisting with day-to-day farm chores
- Hiking through 40-acres of farmland, composting, tilling soil, pruning grape vines, and feeding chickens
- Learning about our local food network and ways to practice farm stewardship and food citizenship

**For more information and registration, please visit our website:**

**<http://www.globalsourcenetwork.org/FFCE-farmhands.htm>**  
**or call (206) 780-5797**

**We Need You!**

**To Sign up for the Auction**

The Wilkes Auction is right around the corner (March 13<sup>th</sup> Kiana Lodge) and we are shaking things up! AS you may know, the Auction helps raise much of the funds that make Wilkes school run smoothly and we need your help to make the Auction a fun event. No job is too small! Contact Kat Gilmore ([kat@jubbling.com](mailto:kat@jubbling.com) or 206-780-6950) to let her know how you can help out.



## **LINK UP For FUN**

Check out the following links for community events and information.

Community News & Events webpage:  
[www.bainbridge.wednet.edu/pr/communityevents](http://www.bainbridge.wednet.edu/pr/communityevents)

Community Flyers webpage:  
[www.bainbridge.wednet.edu/pr/communityflyers](http://www.bainbridge.wednet.edu/pr/communityflyers)

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*For a Calendar of  
Community Events please  
visit the Bainbridge Island  
Chamber of Commerce:*

1/12/2010 7pm [West Sound Academy  
Open House](#) 16571 Creative Drive NE  
Poulsbo, WA 98270

1/13/2010 11am [Animal Safari Club Kids  
Discovery Museum \(KiDiMu\)](#)

1/13/2010 1pm [Low Vision Support  
Group](#) Bainbridge Public Library  
842-4162

1/15/2010 10am [Bainbridge Island  
Genealogical Society \(BIGS\)](#) Bainbridge  
Public Library

1/15/2010 12:30pm [Odyssey Puppets Kids  
Discovery Museum \(KiDiMu\)](#)

1/16/2010 11am [Silly Science Kids  
Discovery Museum \(KiDiMu\)](#)

1/16/2010 2pm [Naika tikegh wawa  
ekahnum \(I want to talk story:  
Chinook\)](#) Bainbridge Public Library

1/17/2010 3pm [Chamber Music—Vienna,  
Barcelona, New York—From the 1820s  
to the 1940s](#) Bainbridge Performing Arts

1/18/2010 10am [Blood Drive](#) Grace  
Episcopal Church

1/19/2010 12:30pm [Storytime for  
Babies](#) Bainbridge Public Library

1/20/2010 7:30pm [Travelogue:  
"Botswana's Desert and  
Delta"](#) Bainbridge Public Library

1/22/2010 7pm [Dinah Manoff presents  
One Act Fest at BPA](#) Bainbridge  
Performing Arts

1/25/2010 10:30am [Storytime for  
Toddlers](#) 1270 Madison Ave N

1/27/2010 5pm [Women In Business -  
Cookies & Wine Gathering](#) My Kids'  
Cookies Shop

1/29/2010 10am [Job Search  
Workshop](#) Bainbridge Public Library

1/31/2010 4:30pm [Lecture: Greenscapes-  
Olmsted's Pacific Northwest, Speaker:  
BI author Joan Hockaday Bloedel  
Reserve](#)