



Wilkes Whale Watch

Newsletter February, 2010

Calendar of Upcoming Events



February

- 9 Election Day! EP&O Levy
- 12 No School - Non contract day
- 14 Valentines Day (Sunday!)
- 15 Presidents Day - No School
- 16 No School - Non contract day
- 19 9:00 PTO Meeting
- 25 1:40 2nd 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 1st Music Performance
- 25 Science Fair/Open House
- 29 - Apr 2 Spring Break



April

- Mar 29-Apr 2 Spring Break
- 7 Early Release - 10:50AM
- 16 9:00 PTO Meeting
- 20 1:40 3rd Music Performance
- 23 EarthDay Sunflower planting



Remember to Vote!
Election Day is Tuesday,
February 9th

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?

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



We have Wilkes Whales hoodies, sweatshirts, long sleeve t's and more in stock. Order forms are available at wilkespto.org or in the school office. Contact Cindy Ruggiero, theruggieros@msn.com or 855-9780.

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LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It's February!

Bulbs are sprouting and trees budding! Kids are learning and growing!

- **Wow! Students collected over \$2000 in the Coins for Haiti drive**, and that's not even including the donation of popcorn profits from last Friday! We'll send out a grand total as soon as we have one. Thank you to everyone for your generosity!
- **We will be collecting new and/or gently worn children's shoes through February 11**. The shoe collection is in honor of Molly Hightower, the young woman from Port Orchard who lost her life while volunteering in an orphanage in the Haiti earthquake. You can read more about Molly and the shoe drive at <http://www.ssa-corp.com/>. Please bundle pairs of shoes with tape or rubber bands and drop off in office. Thank you to parent Libby Frei who has volunteered to get the shoe donations to the drop off site in Tacoma.
- **New Kindergarten Orientation - Feb. 3**
On Wednesday, February 3, at 6 PM, BISD will hold its annual Kindergarten Orientation at Ordway Elementary School. The district welcomes parents interested in enrolling their children in kindergarten for the 2010-2011 school year. Registration will begin at 6:00 with the program starting at 6:30. The orientation provides an overview of this exciting program, including: specifics about full-day and half-day options; what "A Day in the Life of Kindergarten" looks like; the registration process, school assignments and school boundaries; financial matters and visitations; time for questions and answers; and finally, meeting with elementary school secretaries about actual registration.

School visitations are scheduled on:
Monday, February 8, 8:15 am & 12:30 pm at Blakley Elementary School, 4704 Blakely Avenue NE
Wednesday, February 10, 8:15 am & 11:45 am at Ordway, 8555 Madison Avenue NE
Thursday, February 11, 8:15 am & 12:30 pm at Wilkes, 12781 Madison Avenue NE
- **Mark your calendars for Parent - Teacher conferences on March 3-5**. Look for more information in February. These are no school days for students.

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Construction Corner

The Architect Selection Committee (comprised of district personnel, School Board members, and private citizens including local architects) completed a thorough process to select the architectural firm for the Wilkes project. Nine firms submitted lengthy proposals prior to the Christmas break. Committee members evaluated each submittal over the break and then met to narrow the field to four finalists. Each of the four firms were interviewed for 90 minutes, and the final two firms were selected for site visits. Committee members made a visitation of two schools built by each of the firms in the last few years. On Thursday, January 28, the committee recommended the School Board select Mahlum as the architects for this project. There were several firms that could have done a great job, but the entire committee thinks we selected the best of the best.

The architects will lead us through the building process from design to final touches on the completed building which is scheduled to open September 2012. The basic timeline is:

February - June 2010	Design work with staff and community to Create the "Ed Specs" Fundamental prep work
Spring-Summer 2010	Design work/creating plans
Fall 2010	Finalize plans
Fall 2010-Winter 2011	Permitting and bidding
March 2011	Begin construction
September 2012	New building opens

You will be invited to participate in the design process in upcoming months. Watch for more information to come! You will begin to see various work persons on site as they study the land, etc. All persons on site are here in coordination with the Capital Projects Department and check in with us in the office.



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We Need You!

To Sign up for the Auction

The Wilkes Auction is right around the corner (March 13th 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 or 206-780-6950) to let her know how you can help out.

Letter from the PTO President and Auction Chair:

Dear Parents,

Can you believe that the 100th day of school is almost here! Time is flying by.

So much has happened and here we are faced with an opportunity to vote on our local levy.

Please remember to vote, don't let that day fly by you. It is so important to maintain the quality education we are so lucky to have here on the Island.

Let me know if you are able to help with the auction. The auction takes hundreds of volunteer hours, before during and after. Anything you can do is appreciated. I am your gal on this one, so drop me a line if you can help out.

Thank you,
Kat Gilmore
PTO President
Auction Chair
kat@jubbling.com

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Calendar Events

2/6/2010 9am [Great Decisions at the Library](#) Bainbridge Public Library

2/6/2010 2:30pm [Lecture Tribute to American Operatic Greats](#) Bainbridge Public Library

2/6/2010 7pm [Planetarium Show "Stupid Earth Tricks"](#) Ritchie Observatory, Battle Point Park

2/8/2010 12pm [Blood Drive American Legion Hall](#)

2/13/2010 12pm [Wine & Chocolate on Bainbridge Island](#) At the wineries

2/13/2010 8pm [The Atomic Bombshells present J'ADORE! ~ A Burlesque Valentine](#) Bainbridge Performing Arts

2/14/2010 6:30pm [Israeli Dance Night](#) Congregation Kol Shalom

2/14/2010 7:30pm [Girl Shy - a silent film featuring organist Dennis James](#) The Historic Lynwood Theatre

2/18/2010 6pm ["KEEP THE ARTS ALIVE! In our Schools" Gallery Reception & Benefit](#) Bainbridge Performing Arts

2/19/2010 10:30am [Urvasi Dance Company ~ Odissi Classical Dance of India](#) Bainbridge Performing Arts

2/20/2010 10am [BI Parks Weed/Restoration Event](#) February 20 – Blakely Harbor

2/21/2010 2pm [Lecture: The New Low Maintenance Garden](#), Bloedel Reserve

2/26/2010 10am [Job Search Workshop](#) Bainbridge Public Library

2/28/2010 8am [Chilly Hilly Bicycle Ride](#) Bainbridge Island, WA

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