

Ranger Awards Assembly

On Friday, December 19th at 9:00 there will be a Ranger Awards Assembly in the Multi Purpose Room (aka Cafeteria). Awards will be given by classroom teachers, lunchroom and playground staff, bus drivers, the librarian, PE and music teachers, and the principal.

The Fire Department may also show up as they did last year and award a lucky student with a ride home on a

fire truck.

Students in our class receive Super Citizen or Super Scientist (or other super something awards based on the unit we are studying) when they are "caught" showing respect, making good decisions or solving problems. After reading the information on the award they put their name on it and put it in our class urn. This will be where names are drawn from for

the fire truck ride and to pick prizes from the principal's treasure chest.

One lucky reader from each class will also win a brand new bike thanks to the Masons! Students who read for 20 minutes a day 5 days a week and turn in their weekly reading log each week will have their names entered into the drawing, so keep reading and keep logging it!

Fun, Educational Opportunities

Thanks to our PEARL parent partnership program here at Quilcene, our students have some educational opportunities they would otherwise not have access to. One of these is the ability to receive weekly music lessons. If you have not signed up for this and your child is interested, please contact Mr. Dahlman to see if there is still space.

Fun field trips and guest speakers/performers/teachers are another one of the benefits of the pro-

gram.

Our class has the opportunity to see the Peking Acrobats perform, however, it is on Saturday, January 31st at 2:00 pm. We will be leaving on a bus from the school and returning before dinner. I will need a few chaperones based on the number of students attending but parents do not have to accompany their children.

I do need to know as quickly as possible who would like to attend so that if our

class does not use all available tickets, we can offer them to the K/1 class. Please email or call me away to let me know if your child will be going and if you are interested in chaperoning.

Reptile Man will be coming on February 5th to share his reptiles with the elementary. He will also be offering \$1 tickets to the community to check out his reptiles later that evening, so be prepared for your child to be hounding you to allow

them one more look at those fascinating creatures!

We will also be scheduling a trip to the Seattle Aquarium with the K/1 class and an all elementary excursion to the Point Defiance Zoo in the spring.

Let me know if you would like to chaperone any of these so that I can get you the necessary paperwork and you can have it completed and turned in in time to chaperone.

Try and fail, but don't fail to try

Mrs. Sanders' 1st and 2nd Grade

Classroom

ISSUE 3

DECEMBER 2, 2014

What's Been Happening

We just had our first Writer's Workshop Publishing Party before Thanksgiving break. We concluded a unit of personal narrative (small moment) writing with a sharing of our favorite narrative pieces. Everyone had their moment in the Author's Chair to read their writing to the class in their best and their loudest and proudest voice. After all students read and asked for two volunteers to offer a compliment or ask a question about their writing, we partied down with a "science experiment" treat. In honor of our liquids and solids (and gases) unit we made root beer floats with organic ice cream and natural root beer and enjoyed the resulting mixture together.

In math we have continued with place value, greater than and less than, adding two 2-digit numbers (with totals over 100) and started working with money. Our next unit will be on measurement.

We are in the middle of a science unit on Liquids and Solids. We have explored solids and their properties, liquids and their properties, and discussed gases briefly (a harder concept because they are invisible). We will be comparing the three states of matter as well as experimenting to find out what happens when we put liquids and solids together, mix solids and liquids to create a gas, turning solids to liquids and back to solids again (as we

did with the chocolate), and other fun experiments.

We made Gratitude Books for Thanksgiving (with lot of empty pages for students to add more of what they are grateful for) and used these as the inspiration for our gratitude necklaces and bracelets. We made paper beads and before rolling them up we wrote one thing we were grateful for on each piece of paper. They turned out really nice and I wish we had had more time to coat them with a sealant so they will last longer. Now that we have practiced the art we may come back to it again for another project.

Everyone is progressing in their word work and doing well on their spelling tests. I will be reassessing the class in January and switching groups up based on that assessment. We are also going to start a study of Latin and Greek root words which will open up a whole new world of vocabulary to us. When you learn one Latin or Greek root (phone—sound) you can decipher the meaning of an endless number of new words (phonograph, telephone, symphony, megaphone, microphone). Students will each get their own file box and we will add root word file cards as often as we are able.

We have been enjoying the library, the Bookmobile, and the garden once a week. Some of us

have however been having a difficult time showing respect and following directions in the garden. Students are aware that it is a privilege to have the garden program and if they are unable to manage their behavior they will have to remain in the classroom. I am sure they will make good decisions!

We are grateful to have PE and music this year and are enjoying the physical activity and stamina/skill building as well as the opportunity to SING! Once a week during PE students also have access to martial arts and dance, another benefit of the PEARL program.

In lieu of a winter program there is going to be an all school Talent Show on December 4th. All elementary students will be performing in a class choir, so please attend! Individual students are also planning on singing solos, playing instruments, sharing an original food recipe, displaying artwork, etc. There will be prizes and lots of talent and it will be a fun and festive way to support our students. Please plan to come and cheer them on!

May the joy and comfort of family and friends keep you warm this season! Happy Holidays to you and yours!

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Dec 3, 10, 17 Early Release 1:50 (Teacher In-service)
- Dec 4 6:00 Talent Show (Multipurpose Room)
- Dec 17 6:00 Board Meeting
- Dec 19 Early Release 12:00 (Winter Break)
- Dec 22-Jan 2 No School (Winter Break)



If you see a friend without a smile, give him one of yours.
- Unknown



Featured Student: Breanna



Breanna Bancroft

Breanna was born on October 2, 2006. She lives with her mom and dad in a house they just finished building.

Favorite food: Chicken

Favorite ice cream flavor: Strawberry

Favorite colors: Pink and purple

Favorite school subject: Reading

Favorite song: Let it Go

Favorite recess activity: Be with friends

Name one thing you did over the summer: Had a playdate

What do you like to do for fun? Play outside

What is something that you do well? Ride my bike

What is one skill you want to improve this year? Math and Reading

What would you like to

learn about this year? Math
What do you want to do when you grow up? Be a teacher

What is something that you are afraid of? Snakes

If you could play any instrument, which would you pick? Piano

Are you excited for school this year? Yes

December Birthdays



Mrs. Sanders 12/6



Katie Brown 12/12



Holly Hoffman 12/14



Lincoln Spadi 12/25

Featured Student: Fen



Fen Trollsplinter

Fen was born on March 9, 2007. She lives with her mom, dad, little brother, cat and dog.

Favorite food: Noodles

Favorite ice cream flavor: Vanilla

Favorite color: Green

Favorite school subject: Writing

Favorite song: The ones my dad plays on his mandolin

Favorite recess activity:

Slide
Name one thing you did over the summer: Went to the beach

What do you like to do for fun? Play

What is something that you do well? School

What is one skill you want to improve this year? Reading

What would you like to learn about this year? Art

What do you want to do when you grow up? Be a bus driver

What is something that you are afraid of? Lines

If you could play any instrument, which would you pick? Piano

Are you excited for school this year? Yes

November Assemblies



Our Veteran's Day assembly was a success. Veterans were welcomed and escorted by middle and high school students to the cafeteria for a Fat Smitty's luncheon, after which they went to Room 9 to share stories and watch a video with the elementary students.

We learned about the various ways these veterans served us and our country and had a chance to ask some questions. Then we presented them with cards and chocolates (part of our liquids and solids study) we made as a small tribute of our gratitude for their sacrifices.

Following this we went into the gym for an all school assembly where students and staff alike

sang songs and played instruments in honor of our veterans. The songs were moving and the students really put their hearts into their performance. I think the Veterans were touched and hopefully felt truly honored.

Mr. Dahlman (our music teacher) also arranged to have the Port Angeles Symphony's Adventure in Music come and present their version of Peter and the Wolf. The elementary once again gathered in Room 9 to see and hear this amazing musical performance. Mr. Dahlman had prepared students for this by showing them the animated version of Peter and the Wolf and discussing it.

It is an honor to be chosen to perform in the Port Angeles Symphony and it was an honor to experience such talented musicians up close and personal. The kids learned about woodwind instruments and what it takes to become a professional musician. It was a fabulous experience for all!



Featured Student: Gavin

Gavin was born on May 2, 2007. He lives with his mom, dad, little brother, cat, dog, and a multitude of chickens, ducks, turkeys and prize-winning rabbits.

Favorite food: Pizza

Favorite ice cream flavor: Chocolate

Favorite color: Red

Favorite school subject: Recess (Funny guy!)

Favorite song: Iron Man

Favorite recess activity: Wall ball

Name one thing you did over the summer: Played in the water

What do you like to do for fun? Play outside

What is something that you do well? Math

What is one skill you want to improve this year? Skateboarding

What would you like to

learn about this year? Space

What do you want to do when you grow up? Be a monster truck driver

What is something that you are afraid of? Spiders

If you could play any instrument, which would you pick? Saxophone

Are you excited for school this year? Yes



Gavin Duncan