



# MESSENGER

March 2010  
Volume 4, Issue 7

Working Together for Our Children

Marvista Elementary School PTSA  
www.marvistaptsa.org  
Marvista Office 206-631-4200

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

### UPCOMING EVENTS

<i>Marimba Concert</i>	3/31
	6:30 pm
<i>Parent Science Fair</i>	4/1-4/2
<i>Spring Break</i>	4/5-4/9
<i>PTSA Board Meeting</i>	4/20
<i>Marvista Mariner Night</i>	5/7
<i>Gallery Night</i>	5/13

### Newly Elected PTSA Officers for the 2010-2011 school year

President -Ashley Fosberg  
 Co VP -Betsy Boyer  
 Co VP -Fran Doniego  
 Treasurer -Theresa Coluccio  
 Secretary -Tom Wells

Dear Marvista Families,  
 Spring is in the air at Marvista! We are beginning to prepare for our annual assessment (MSP), gearing up for the annual 5<sup>th</sup> grade Science fair and 6<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms are engaged in outdoor education before heading to Camp Waskowitz. We have much to celebrate at our school but this month brings some special celebrations. Read below to find out a few of the great things taking place at our school.

### Marvista Elementary is a recipient of the 2009 Washington Achievement Award for our achievement in Science!

The Washington Achievement Award was created by the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education to celebrate our state's top-performing schools and to recognize achievement in multiple categories. This highly selective award was based on our school's performance in the area of **Science**, according to the newly created School Accountability Index, a comprehensive measurement of how schools in Washington are performing over time.

On May 5<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate our achievement at an awards ceremony. Congratulations to our staff, students and families on this much-deserved recognition. Superintendent Randy Dorn

gave a special congratulation to our school:

***"I congratulate you on this achievement. The selection process for the Washington Achievement Award is very rigorous, and your staff, students, parents, and community can take real pride in being part of this elite group."***

### State Assessment Update

The state annual assessment, Measurements of Student Progress (MSP) is being replaced by the WASL this year. An annual assessment is required under state and federal law. The biggest changes we will experience this year are shorter tests and an online version will eventually be phased in. The state website offers information on frequently asked questions (FAQs) at this link: <http://www.k12.wa.us/assessment/StateTesting/FAQ.aspx>

Marvista's testing window is scheduled between May 12<sup>th</sup> and May 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Family Math Night

Thank you to our families, students and staff for attending Family Math Night



this month. We had a wonderful evening of fun, games and parent education on what is taking place in our math classrooms. The school was buzzing with students leading parents in math



games being used through our Investigations curriculum, measuring and graphing arm spans, estimating the candy jar and graphing birthdays. A special thank you to our PTSA for partnering with us to make this evening a success.

### What's going on in our Classrooms?

**Miss Meyers' 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class** celebrated their unit on fairy tales by having a Fairy Tale Tea on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Each child shared their story they wrote and illustrated with a special guest. They also had their guest peruse their fairy tale notebook. Everyone enjoyed goodies and punch! It was exciting to see the children incorporating the elements of a fairy tale in the stories they wrote.

# FROM THE PRINCIPALS DESK CONT.

**Miss Soule's 6<sup>th</sup> grade class** wrapped up their ancient Egypt unit with a museum exhibit. Partner groups chose to be a sphinx, mummy, warrior,

priest, dancer or scribe. The students then made costumes and artifacts for their characters. During the museum exhibit half of the class posed like mannequins

with their historical object and outfit while their partner answered questions from the visitors.



## WHY ALL THE RULES?

We have had the privilege of opening up our new building this year. With the opening, came a lot of planning and logistics with getting our systems up and running. With safety and instruction our top priority, we began implementing guidelines to help support our needs. While a few rules can be understandable, it goes without saying the reasoning behind them is important. Hopefully the information below will help families understand the rationale these rules and guidelines.

Our district has adopted a program called **Positive Behavior Intervention Support, PBIS**. Guidelines and education to help set up students for success and avoid behavioral problems is the key component. Marvista implemented these guidelines in the common areas of our school-cafeteria, hall-

ways, dismissal and arrival areas. Each area is guided by school wide expectations promoting, **safety, responsibility** and **respect** for our school and learning community.

### What is PBIS?

PBIS is defined as a broad range of systemic & individualized strategies for achieving important social and learning outcomes while preventing problem behaviors with all students. It is a systems approach for establishing the social culture and behavioral supports needed for schools to be effective learning environments for all students.

In this program, evidence-based features include: prevention, education of positive social expectations, acknowledgement of positive behavior (I Got Caught's) and ongoing collection of

data for decision-making.

Our school staff is led by a PBIS leadership team which has been following the implementation and effectiveness of our program. Staff trainings have taken place throughout the year, taking input from teachers on how the work is going and working with our PBIS district coordinator. It has been helpful to have a common language that all staff and students can communicate with.

Our hope for this work is to continue to celebrate the positive behaviors and have a structured system set up for our students and families to avoid problem behaviors.

Thank you for your support and helping us to reinforce these guidelines with our students.

Rebekah Kim & The Marvista PBIS Team

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### Our Latest I Got Caught Grand Prize Winners

*Matt Ditchik*

*Colby Nelson*

*Tino Colello*

*David Sokoloski*

*Jenna McPhee*

*Aiyana Allen*

*Talon Daniels*

The Winners Enjoyed an Ice Cream Party with Principal Kim.

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## HEALTH ROOM UPDATE

In an effort to communicate with parents/guardians better, the health room staff has instigated a new procedure. Any child visiting the health room for all but minor visits

will receive a note on a green 1/4 sheet of paper. This note will be their pass back to class and in turn will go into their backpack to be taken home.

We will continue to call you directly for issues such as head injuries, serious injuries, fevers, vomiting, diarrhea and when we feel it is needed.

## TEACHER FEATURE



**Mr. Watt**  
6th Grade



**Mrs. Bento**  
Kindergarten

***Where did you work before coming to Marvista?***

Mrs. Bento: I taught kindergarten in Longview WA from 1984 – 1988. That’s where I met my husband. He was the music teacher.

Mr. Watt: I was a Teacher at the Northwest School in Seattle. Prior to that I was a clinical social worker and worked in the Psych unit of the county jail.

***What is your favorite thing about working at Marvista?***

Mrs. Bento: I love the community and small town feel of Marvista.

Mr. Watt: The eagerness of the kids to learn.

***Tell us about something you’re working on in your classroom--special projects or fieldtrips?***

Mrs. Bento: My classes are getting a big kick out of reading through the Mercy Watson books by Kate DiCamilla.

Mr. Watt: We are getting ready for Camp Waskowitz. We are studying water and the impact of our (human) behavior on ecological systems.

***What do you like to do on the weekends?***

Mrs. Bento: I like a nice mixture of watching my kids’ sports (not too early though), relaxing with a DVD, fun with family and friends, catching up on errands, and not cooking much until it’s time for our nice Sunday evening dinner. Fitting a pedicure in there would be perfect but not realistic unless it’s a 3-day weekend.

Mr. Watt: Projects around

the house.

***What book are you reading right now?***

Mrs. Bento: One Thousand White Women by Jim Fergus

Mr. Watt: I have been reading a lot of Jim Harrison lately. But I recently read Shop Class a SoulCraft by Matt Crawford.

***Name 2 songs currently on your iPod.***

Mrs. Bento: *To the Country* by Laura Veirs and *The Heart of Life* by John Mayer

Mr. Watt: I don’t have an iPod.

***What is your favorite dessert?***

Mrs. Bento: Berry pie.

Mr. Watt: Just about anything with Chocolate.

## CLUB CONNECTION: JUMP ROPE



The Marvista Jump Rope Club is a new Friday club that combines fun and physical fitness.

Led by three Marvista moms, the club’s thirty members have been learning jump rope basics as

well as some trickier steps and combinations. Club sessions begin with a brief warm-up and group jumping. New skills, rhymes and challenges are introduced and then the members spend time practicing. A favorite highlight of each session is “show off” time when each child can show

off a new ability he or she has perfected.

Club member, Annie Rencher placed 1st in Double Unders (jumping once, spinning twice) and Kate McGrath, placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in speed jumping in a district wide fitness contest. Congratulations!

**School, School**  
*School, school,  
The golden rule,  
Spell your name,  
To show you’re cool:  
(jumper spells out his/her name,  
one letter per jump)*

## COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER



Packets were sent home to start our Cookie Dough Fundraiser with Masterpiece on Monday March 22nd. Please use this opportunity to help our school raise money for classroom supplies, field trips, a new

website, playground equipment, and much more! All forms must be completed and turned in by April 12th. Products arrive on May 12th, and will be delivered to the classrooms. Small orders are allowed home on the bus, but if you place a large order, please make arrangements to come to the school and pick it up.

We will not be able to store them overnight. If you have any questions, please contact Carla Weller at 206-824-1467 or Kellie Engelstad at 206-870-9157. Please remember that all checks must be made out to Marvista and we do not collect tax. Let’s sell some dough!

## BOOK QUEST TROPHY AT MARVISTA



Every year, dedicated readers across the district form teams to compete in the annual Book Quest competition. The teams, composed of fifth and sixth grade students, read ten

novels selected by the Book Quest committee. Teams meet with the school librarians to practice answering Jeopardy-like questions about the books. When asked a question, the team must identify the title of the book the question refers to, name the author, and provide the correct answer.

Annie Rencher's, Maddie Terry's, Allison Williams' and Anika Anderson-Monson's hard work paid off as they won the right to bring the

trophy to our school. Eleven schools from our district were at the final meet. The girls accumulated points during two rounds of questions and acquired enough to be in the final round where they came out victorious! We're proud of all the students who participated. Book Quest is sponsored by the Highline elementary librarians. They select each year's book list, write the competition questions and coach the teams.



### Marvista Wins Cove to Clover School contests!!!

The banners for the school registration drive contest winner and the Limerick contest winner both hang in the Marvista lobby!



registration drive contest winner and the Limerick contest winner



Thank you to all 139 race registrants and all 100 limerick contestants.

### The Winning Limerick

*The snake is back and we all cheer.  
Cove to Clover is finally here.  
Tiny leprechauns dance in their jiggly pants.  
The race ends with lots of rootbeer!*  
By Molly Marquis

### Cove2Clover 5k Medalists

**1st Grader Kennedy Knox,**  
36:08, 1st in age division  
**3rd Grader Paolo Colello,**  
30:40, 1st in age division  
**3rd Grader Teddy Covich,**  
31:36, 2nd in age division  
**4th Grader Amy Yoshina,**  
35:21, 3rd in age division

Congratulations to All!!!

## PROJECT PROMISE



For many high school girls, going to the prom is an event anticipated for years and not going because the family can't afford a formal dress can be devastating. Through the efforts of Project Promise, these girls will be able to attend the prom in beautiful dresses donated by local organizations and community members. On Saturday, May 8, 2010, high school girls from the Highline School District will be

greeted by a volunteer "Personal Shopper" at the Doubletree Guest Suites in Tukwila, who will help them select the perfect dress for their prom. We are excited to see this program grow in the coming years, making it possible for many more students to enjoy this special high school tradition.

**We need your help!**  
**We are currently accepting donations of new/like new formal dresses of all sizes and colors for Project Promise. These dresses may**

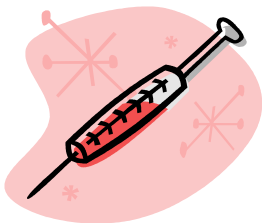
**be brought to the Highline Schools Foundation for Excellence office or delivered to any of these additional "drop off" points:** Highline High School, Mt. Rainier High School, Tyee High School (500 Building), Evergreen High School.

You can make a dream come true in the life of a student.

For more information or to have a dress picked up contact

[jenthornton@comcast.net](mailto:jenthornton@comcast.net)

## IMMUNIZATIONS BEFORE 6TH GRADE



6<sup>th</sup> grade is a check point for verifying whether your child has had some age related immunizations. Not until the immunization information is received by the school will your child's name be added to the class lists for 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

The following immunizations are *required* before the start of school for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students:

**Varicella** - Please give us the date your child had chicken pox or the date they had the varicella immunizations.

**Tdap** - This immunization is given after the 11<sup>th</sup> birthday.

You will be offered more immunizations when you go to

the doctor, as there are more that are recommended.

Please send us the documentation when you get the shots. You will be receiving a letter with the next report card indicating what is needed for the next school year. Don't wait until your child's name is not on the class list in August. You don't want him/her missing the first day of their 6<sup>th</sup> grade year.

# BULLETIN BOARD

**Marvista**  
**Art Gallery Night**  
**Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup>**  
 6:30-8:00 p.m.  
 Multi-purpose room  
 details to follow soon.

**Ticket Orders Due**  
 April 2nd  
**Marvista Family Night at Safeco Field**  
 May 7th, 7:10 p.m.  
 Mariners v. Angels.  
 Please contact  
 Teresa Eberhardt at  
[tteberhardt@msn.com](mailto:tteberhardt@msn.com) with  
 any questions.

**Camp Waskowitz**  
 Sixth Grade Marvista Students are scheduled for Outdoor Learning on the following dates:  
 Mrs. Soule April 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>  
 Mr. Watt April 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>  
 Mrs. Sutherland May 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>  
 The fee schedule is:  
 \$115.99, \$103.85 for students on the reduced lunch program and \$101.75 for students on the free lunch program. Parents and students can learn more about Camp Waskowitz at <http://www.hsd401.org/ourschools/campwaskowitz/program.htm> including a what to take checklist.

**Book Fair...Many Thanks**  
 Thanks to all those who volunteered at our annual book fair. The final numbers aren't in yet but we are so pleased with the support we get every year. The money we earned will support our literacy program. A special thank you to our husbands, Emmett Triplett and Scott Webster, our dear friend, Kay Cominsky as well as the following: Sue Ellen Chilton, Julie Phelps, Michele Klais, Jessica Gendreau, Tracy Tallar, Kim Easton, Laura Vomenici, Kristina Saelee, Ann Eng, Kerry Johnsen, Betsy Boyer, Ann Ricci, Heidi Peacock, Bridgeen Kanyer, Michele Grantham, Michelle Shelley and Sandy Heinrich.  
 We couldn't have done it without the help of these great folks!  
 Mrs. Triplet & Mrs. Webster

*Have You Seen  
 the Lost & Found???*  
 Come check for items lost  
 they will be donated soon!

**Special Thanks to All Dads & Donuts Volunteers**  
 Michelle Grantham, Talena Bleitz, Jeanne Dunn, Patty Seaver, Leigh Fenster, Kelly Wells, Joe, Eva & Dominic Eberhardt, Jim & Ryan Hornus!  
 A big THANK YOU to Teresa Eberhardt and Therese Campion, our fabulous Activities Chairs!!!  
 Stay tuned for information about a Mom's event in May!!

**Pay for school meals online!**  
 Use MealTime at [mymealtime.com](http://mymealtime.com). You will need your student's student ID (call the school office to get your student's ID). Create a profile (login, password). Next Add New Student, Select State, Select Highline Public Schools, Select Marvista Elementary, enter student's first name and Student ID number. Next add a deposit, continue to billing, enter credit/debit card.

# COMMUNITY CORNER

**WhiteWater Aquatics is now enrolling swimmers in our Summer Prep Training Program**  
 Get your child ready for summer league with six weeks of intensive swim training for \$175.  
 Sessions starts April 19th. Visit our website at [www.whitewateraquatics.com](http://www.whitewateraquatics.com)

**The Cove**  
**Egg Hunt**  
**Saturday, April 3**  
 Bring the kids and cameras for our annual Egg hunt!  
 Preschool thru 3rd grade will be searching the lawn for Easter goodies - starts at 11 sharp!

**Burien Bearcats** Youth Football and Cheer Registration  
 More information @ <http://eteamz.active.com/burienbearcats/>  
**Tiger Kid Family Martial Arts** Spring and Summer courses  
 More information @ [http://www.desmoineswa.gov/dept/parks\\_rec/](http://www.desmoineswa.gov/dept/parks_rec/)

**Bunny Breakfast and Spring Egg Hunt**  
 Burien Community Center and Dottie Harper Park, Saturday April 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Breakfast 9-10:45 am, Egg Hunts start at 11:00 am  
 Walkers— 11 year olds, check the website for age group start times  
 Check out the Burien Parks + Rec Spring Recreation Guide at [www.burienparks.net](http://www.burienparks.net) or call 206-988-3700 for more information on this and other spring programs.

**Normandy Park Preschool Rummage & Bake Sale**  
 Friday April 23 & Saturday April 24th  
 9am - 4pm at the Normandy Park City Hall Gym  
**Drop off donations at the gym on Thursday, April 22nd 5-9 pm**

Toys      Clothes      Furniture  
 Books      Housewares      etc.

**Marvista Messenger**  
**Submitting an Article**  
 Email Articles to  
[Communications@marvistapta.org](mailto:Communications@marvistapta.org)  
 The April submission deadline is April 16.