



MESSENGER

December 2010
Volume 5, Issue 4

Working Together for Our Children

Marvista Elementary School PTSA
www.marvistapta.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

<i>No School/ Rescheduled Conferences</i>	12/16- 12/17
<i>No School / Winter Break</i>	12/20-1/2
<i>Spirit Wear Day</i>	1/7
<i>No School/ Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i>	1/17
<i>Family Night at the Thunderbirds</i>	1/14
<i>PTSA Board & General Meeting</i>	1/18
<i>Final Auction Pro- curement Party</i>	1/22
<i>Variety Show</i>	1/28
<i>Auction Items & Procurement Forms Due</i>	2/10
<i>Mail-in-Ballots Due</i>	2/08
<i>Auction Invitations Distributed</i>	2/13

FROM YOUR PTSA PRESIDENT

Welcome to Winter! As we approach the 21st day of December, we are all probably feeling like we're in the thick of it already! Let's see, we've had snow, we have endured high winds and horizontal rain. We even had a creek become a raging river in the heart of Normandy Park. What more could we possibly expect from Winter!

The rescheduling of conference times for our students may have mused our schedules but I believe we parents will be glad to get the chance to sit down with our students and teachers (if you haven't already). I know that many students are overjoyed to see the addition of 2 days to our break time!

Wrapping up 2010, I'm looking back at some wonderful achievements for Marvista Elementary. The PTSA has been able to fund math support for our classrooms with Math Whizz and Accelerated

Math Online. The teachers will be working with these programs more and more as the year goes by. We are unique in our ability to provide these assets at Marvista through the PTSA and are happy that our teachers are taking advantage of them.

We've had fun with a Bingo night and a Movie turned Dance Party night with our Family Activities Committee. We're also looking forward to watching the Thunderbirds play hockey in January.

We've had a great Parent Enrichment program in early December and plan to have another in the Springtime. If you have ideas on topics for parent enrichment, please contact any PTSA member (or me!) and share it. The best ideas come from our parents.

Some of you may be receiving gifts this Holiday from the recent Holiday Bazaar held by Mr. Mat-

thews' 4th grade class with assistance from the PTSA. Having the class collect, price and set up their merchandise was a great learning experience! This sale assists in costs for Mr. Matthews' class to visit Pioneer Farms in 2011.

You may also have noticed some work going on out on our play fields since Thanksgiving break. Stegin Concrete of Des Moines gave the PTSA a great price to anchor our bleachers in concrete and raise them up off the ground. Remember this wonderful business when you are sitting on the bleachers watching a game next Spring!

Thanks for all the parent support here at Marvista. We're making the elementary school experience memorable for our children with all we do, and I think we are creating some wonderful memories for ourselves too!

Betsy Boyer

SUPPORT SCHOOLS IN FEBRUARY



Voters will have an opportunity to renew local funding for Highline

schools in February, when an educational programs levy will be on the ballot. The current levy expires at the end of 2011. The

levy provides nearly 25 percent of the district's general fund budget, which pays for everything it takes to operate schools, from staff to school buses to textbooks. About 80 percent of the levy dollars pay for teachers and staff – more than 250 jobs. State funding does not fully cover

the costs of educating students to today's standards, and with recent state cuts, schools depend on levy funding more than ever. Levy failure would mean dramatic reductions in staff and programs that would impact student learning. For more information, go to www.hsd401.org.

TEACHER FEATURE



Mrs. Webster
Library Technician



Mrs. Triplett
Librarian

Where did you work before coming to Marvista?

Mrs. Webster: I worked for Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau for 23 years.

Mrs. Triplett: I taught 5-6th grade at Valley View and 6th grade at Marvista before going back to get my library degree and moving into the library position.

What is your favorite thing about working at Marvista?

Mrs. Webster: I love interacting with all of our students; I have the best job at Marvista!

Mrs. Triplett: The things I love most about working at Marvista are the wonderful people and so many good readers. It keeps me hopping to try and keep up with all the good books to recommend to our excellent readers.

Tell us about something you're working on in the library--special projects?

Mrs. Webster: I'm working on putting AR levels on as many books as possible.

Mrs. Triplett: Sixth graders have just finished up a research project on birds and after the first of the year primary students will be meeting all of the wonderful Washington Children's Choice picture books selected for this year.

What do you like to do on the weekends?

Mrs. Webster: Weekends are great for family time. We like to watch movies and play games; you'll often find me at a swimming pool watching my children (Dillon, 18 and Rachel, 15) compete in swim meets.

Mrs. Triplett: On the weekend I love to cook, quilt and read. My husband and I also love to travel. In fact, we'll be spending Christmas this year in Istanbul, Turkey.

What book are you reading right now?

Mrs. Webster: I've just started reading Room by Emma Donoghue.

Mrs. Triplett: I just finished an adult book titled Little Bee by Chris Cleave about a girl from Africa who ran away to England to escape the violence in her own country.

Name 2 songs currently on your iPod.

Mrs. Webster: Its hard to name just two.

"I've Got a Feeling" by The Black Eyed Peas and "Don't Rain on My Parade" by the Cast of Glee.

Mrs. Triplett: On my iPod I have the "Best of Johnny Cash" and "Mamma Mia".

What is your favorite dessert?

Mrs. Webster: I love anything chocolate, but my favorite is probably mud pie.

Mrs. Triplett: My favorite dessert is a homemade berry pie.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Donations for our local food banks will continue to be collected at Marvista until the final pick up on Friday morning 12/17/2010.

Please join in with a big toast of Holiday cheer to our wonderful school Counselor Louise Chandler-Hones for her amazing work in collecting holiday donations for local families. She exemplifies the spirit of Marvista each day throughout the year.

Many local businesses and Fire Departments are sponsoring collections of donated food, clothing and gift items, may we suggest putting a generic bag of items in your car in the event you run across a collection spot?

Keep in mind that this season is an opportunity for parents to model volunteerism and support for our community. Take a moment to consider the impact on your child's memories and path in life that making a family based contribution of time, money, goods or services to better the lives of others. There are many organi-

zations that serve the needs of local families who will welcome any assistance you can give. Some suggestions specific to the season are:

Sleep Country Foster Kids Secret Santa Toy Drive

To help make a foster kids holiday wish come true bring your gift of new, unwrapped toys and games to any Sleep Country store and it will be matched with a foster child in need! Remember foster kids come in all sizes, age-appropriate gifts for infants, toddlers, youths and teens are needed.

Hospitality House

To further our year long support of Hospitality House in Burien, Marvista families are encouraged to look on the web site hospitalityhousesouthking.org for the monthly needs lists (donated goods, services and volunteer opportunities in addition to our scheduled serving of meals) or to "Adopt a Shelter Resident" for the Holidays.

(Our meal delivery schedule for 2011 is still pending.)

Contact marditi-lyouddrop@hotmail.com or 206.669.2197 with questions.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



Marvista Elementary Kindergarten registration for 2011/12 will begin January 3, 2011. To register, children must be 5 years old by August 31, 2011. **Registration is open to in-boundary students only. Families living outside**

the boundary must register at their neighborhood school.

Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate and a copy of your child's immunization record. Verification of residing statement is required (and current electricity bill, bill of sale or rental agreement). Applications and lottery numbers for full day Kindergarten will also be available. It is likely that tuition will increase. If you

live outside the Marvista boundary and would like to apply, please fill out an in-district transfer and send it directly to **Student Placement, Administration Center, 15675 Ambaum Blvd. SW, Burien, WA 98166.** Transfer requests will be accepted from January 3 through April 15. For more information please call the school office at (206) 631-4200.

YEARBOOK PICTURES NEEDED!



Help make the 2010-2011 yearbook the best one ever by emailing us your awesome pictures of Marvista students! Set your digital camera to "high resolution" and snap away! You can then email your pictures to yearbook@marvistapta.org (please be sure to put your teacher's name or the event name in the Subject line). You can also burn them onto a CD and drop it off in the

school office.

We've already had so many fun happenings in these first few months of school! If you have pictures of any of the following events, please forward them to us for consideration:

Bingo Night, Arts Elective Concert, Costume Parade, Field Trips, Holiday Parties, Seattle Kids' Marathon, Friday Clubs or Kids at work & play around the school.

Parents of 6th Graders

A long-standing tradition at Marvista is to include a **Kindergarten picture** of each

6th Grader, to appear alongside their 6th Grade picture. We need to start gathering these pictures NOW. Color pictures are preferred, and we will accept any size photograph. Please write your child's name and teacher's name on the back of the picture; send it to their teacher in an envelope marked "Yearbook." We will scan the photo and return the original picture to you promptly.

If you have any questions, email the Yearbook Committee at yearbook@marvistapta.org

Show your Marvista Spirit!



On Friday, January 7th, yearbook photographers will be on site to take pictures of kids showing their "Marvista Spirit." Wear your favorite Marvista or Orca shirt, hat, headband, or stockings ... and you may find yourself on the cover of the yearbook! Start planning now ... and let your school spirit shine on January 7th!

THE MAGIC OF THE NUTCRACKER



This past Thursday, the first graders at Marvista continued their December tradition of taking a field trip into the heart of downtown Seattle. All four first grade classes piled into two buses and traveled to McCaw Hall to watch the Pacific Northwest Ballet's performance of the Nutcracker. After weeks of talking about the Nutcracker, reading the story, listening to the music, and even speaking with a real balleri-

na, these first graders were incredibly excited about finally seeing the live performance, with great seats to watch all the action. Macy Johnson, a first grader in Mrs. Bento's class, said she "liked the cannon fire (which made her jump in her seat), the snowflakes falling on stage, and the beautiful dancing".



BULLETIN BOARD

CHEERS TO THE BOOK FAIR

It is with a **BIG** smile on our faces that we announce the money Marvista earned at our new book fair. The amount that was deposited into our PTSA account was \$2262.27. We want to give a **BIG** thank you to all of our super volunteers who worked so hard to make it happen. It's always such a busy week we sometimes wonder if it's worth it but when we buy new books for our students with the money earned we know it was a **GOOD THING!** Thanks for your help and support.



EXCUSE YOUR CHILD'S ABSENCE WITHIN 48 HOURS OF THEIR RETURN TO SCHOOL!

It is mandated by the State of Washington that all absences must be excused by the parent, in writing, within 48 hours of the student's return to school.

Math Madness Contest Winners:



K-2 Grade Winner

Jace Brittany,

3-4 Grade Winner

Ulukilupetea Tupou,

5-6 Grade Winner

Vivian Campbell.

Thanks to all the students who submitted answers-what a great response!

Way to Go

Marvista

Mathematicians!



Marvista Variety Show is fast approaching!

Friday, January 28th! at the Performing Arts Center!

Auditions start on Thursday, January 6th.

Permission slips will go home after winter break.

Here are some guidelines to keep in mind when getting your "act" together:

1. One performance per participant (to allow everyone a turn).
2. Age appropriate lyrics – "G" rated – open to approval from the show committee including Principal Fosberg.
3. Appropriate attire – use tactful costumes following Marvista dress code – within reason (dance costumes need to cover the torso and have straps) again, open to approval from the show committee and Principal Fosberg.
4. Only Marvista students on stage for performance.
5. HAVE FUN!



School Performance Reports

Please visit the following consolidated web page for all reports:
<http://www.hsd401.org/ourdistrict/about/performance-report.htm>.

Washington's statewide report card can be found at: <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us>.



School Closure Alerts Now on Facebook and Twitter

Follow Highline Public Schools on Facebook and Twitter and you'll be the first to know about school closures in case of bad weather. You'll find links to our Facebook and Twitter pages on the district website: www.hsd401.org. You can also sign up for e-mail alerts at www.schoolreport.org.



November I Got Caught Grand Prize Winners

**Nathan Bekele
 Kali Brooks
 Nate Bezael
 Noah Dobson
 Joselyn Garcia
 Jake Sylvesterz**

Great Job!

COMMUNITY CORNER



**Hands-Around-Highline
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www.highlineschoolsfoundation.org

Need a last minute stocking stuffer idea? Hands around Highline Coupon Books make GREAT gifts! Check out the great offerings and get your book today! Only \$20.00! All of the proceeds from the sale of these books goes to support the Foundation and our partnering schools, school related clubs and teams, and local PTSA units.

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Kids Friday Night
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 Snoqualime Summit Central
 Transportation & Season Pass
 Contact Dan Malmanger for more info.
DanM@ToursNorthwest.com

**HAVE A FUN & SAFE
 WINTER BREAK!**

**SEE YOU NEXT
 YEAR!**

