



LIONS' PAGE FROM NEWCASTLE BI-MONTHLY

Parent Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 5

October 29, 2009

Newcastle Elementary School
 8400 136th Avenue SE
 Newcastle, WA 98059
 Office Phone: 425-837-5800
 Attendance: 425-837-5800, press 1
 Office Hours: 8:30am to 4:00pm
 This newsletter is available on our school website:
www.newcastle.issaquah.wednet.edu
 PTSA website:
www.newcastleptsa.org
 Christy Otley, Principal
 Natalie Fowler, Program Assistant, Friday
 Teri Ratzsch, Principal's Secretary
 Donna Wood, Registrar/Secretary
 Cathy Martin, Healthroom/Office E.A.



Dedicated Newcastle Staff giving up an evening to support Issaquah School's Foundation's Calling for Kids Program. Thank you for supporting ISF.

Calendar



30th 3rd Grade field trip 12:00-2:45
 30th PTSA Halloween Costume
 Carnival 6:30 pm Commons



1st Daylight Savings ends
 2nd PTSA Food Drive begins
 2nd Site Council -8:00 am
 3rd & 4th Conferences-No school
 5th MaryArt - Stage 3:38 pm
 5th Jogging Club - 3:45 pm
 6th Picture Retake Day
 6th Reflections due
 6th Math Olympiad-room 246-8:10 am
 9th Polar Express begins
 9th MaryArt - Stage 8:00 am
 9th Veteran's Day assembly - 9:30 am

Many Thanks!

We had a very successful vision and hearing screening on Thursday October 15th thanks to our fabulous volunteers. A special thanks to Becky Noble for recruiting an amazing group of volunteers. We appreciate Stacy Tribble, Terri Catalani, Jess Harper, Laura Derwin, Natalie Bauge, Toni Adams, Vivianne Rossi, Teri Cresta, Kristi Berland, Lynne Hepp, Jenny Dybing, Edana Peacock, Holly Parsons, Jackie Williams, Holly Chin, Mika Kirkevold, Kim Elfstrom, Trina Wagenblast, Judy Unger, Christy Grabowski, Michele Harvey, Kerry Johnson, Lynn Palzer, and Lisa Vold. Thank you for volunteering your time to assist with the screening. We hope to see you next year.

Linda Smith, Newcastle School Nurse, Jenny Alden, SLP and Lisa Guderjohn, SLP

More Walk-A-Thon Prizes to WIN!

Would you like to win a 60 minute massage or a 6 month membership to the Coal Creek YMCA? (The membership applies to non-members only). If you donated to the Walk-A-Thon, and would like your name thrown in the hat for either of these prizes, send your name and e-mail address and phone number to Lisa Vold at

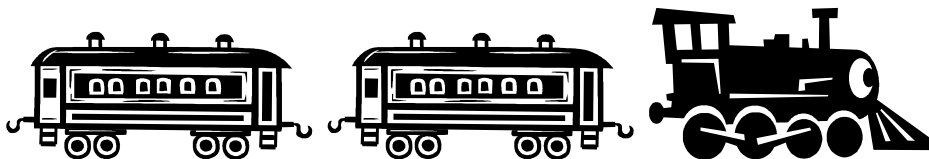
lisalvold@yahoo.com. If you did not donate to the Walk but would still like to, send us a donation and let us know you would like your name in the hat. Donations and names **MUST** be received by **October 30th, 10:00 a.m.** Drawing will be at 3:00 p.m. Winners will be announced in e-Groups the following Monday. Thanks for helping us wrap up the only fundraiser for PTSA this year.

Staff Appreciation Update!

Our Newcastle Community wouldn't be what it is without the time and dedication of so many talented teachers and staff who greet and teach our children on a daily basis. We are a fortunate community to have so many wonderful people working together to create a safe and nurturing environment for our children. It is because of this that over the school year the Staff Appreciation Committee will work with all families at Newcastle to show our teachers and staff how much we appreciate all they do! Everyone will have the opportunity to help out.

We will host three luncheons for teachers and staff: one in October, February and May. In addition, we will plan a week of special activities during National Teacher Appreciation Week in May. This past Tuesday, the 4th and 5th grade families hosted a beautiful fall harvest luncheon with an amazing array of food items to welcome back the Newcastle staff and get everyone into the fall mood. **THANK YOU** to everyone who helped by bringing in the food and assisting with set-up and clean-up. It was a great luncheon and really showed our teachers and staff how much we appreciate them.

The 2nd and 3rd grade families will help host a friendship luncheon in February and the Kindergarten and 1st grade families will host a Cinco de Mayo celebration in May. Questions? Contact: Eileen Rubenstein, Staff Appreciation Chair @ edrubenstein@hotmail.com



The Polar Express and Food Drive

November 2 – December 4, 2009

This holiday season Newcastle Elementary will be continuing the tradition of **The Polar Express** giving program. Several families in the Issaquah School District have been chosen for the Newcastle PTSA to assist this year. Special giving trees will be located throughout the school with train gift tags describing the needs and wishes of the children. The Polar Express program gives each of us an opportunity to help these families in need.

This year we will also be sponsoring the **Apple Cup Food Drive** to collect non-perishable food for families in need. A **Husky** and a **Cougar** container will be located on each floor of the school beginning Monday, November 2nd. The items collected will be donated to the Issaquah Food Bank in time for the Thanksgiving holiday. The food bank is currently overstocked with cranberries and pumpkin and asks that you refrain from donating these items.

The **Polar Express** gift trees will be in the school lobby from November 3rd through December 4th.

The most convenient time to choose a tag will be during **Parent-Teacher conferences on November 3rd and 4th**. If you are unable to come to the school, however, you may complete the attached permission slip which gives your approval for your child to select a tag from the school office.

After you have purchased the gift, please return it to the school office, unwrapped and with the train gift tag securely attached to it. Clothing gifts should have the store's tag intact along with a gift receipt, in case it is necessary to exchange the item for a different size. **All items must be returned by Friday December 4th.**

We hope you find room in your hearts to give a gift to someone in need in our school district. Please consider visiting the Polar Express tree with your child and experiencing the true holiday spirit. Thank you!

Food Drive Questions? Contact: Robin Hopkins @ Robin@rrhopkins.net or Wendy Larkin @ Wendy@thelarkins.org

Polar Express Questions? Contact: Bridget Todderud @ Jtodderud@yahoo.com or Kerry Johnson @ Kerryrikansrud@yahoo.com

HALLOWEEN COSTUME CARNIVAL – BOO!

Inviting all princesses and ghosts to join us for a family night of Halloween fun. Dig around in that storage space for your old costume, borrow one from a friend, create one or peruse one of the millions of Halloween costume stores and find a fun new one! Dressing up is optional but it makes it all the more fun. There will be a costume parade, super fun carnival games, an amazingly decorated photo area with a photographer to take your goblins' pictures (pictures can be ordered), treats and trinkets to collect in your goody bag, pumpkin decorating and crafts table (b.y.o.p.....bring your own mini-pumpkin), bean bag toss, a coloring and word find table, etc. Please remember to eat a good dinner before you come so you have lots of energy to play the games. See you at the party!

- **When: Friday October 30th**
- **Where: Newcastle Elementary School Commons**
- **Time: 6:30pm-8:30pm**
- **Please respect the school's weapon-free policy: no real or fake guns, knives, swords, etc.**

Questions? Contact: Wendy Thomas @ WendyLynnThomas@comcast.net

Student Banking Makes Cents!

We've had an overwhelming number of kindergarteners inquiring about Student Banking. They see our table set up in the Commons during lunch and they want to know what's going on. We have lots of fun prizes for our bankers when they make deposits and the non-bankers want to know how they can get in on the action! Your child may have brought home a slip of paper with the phone number to HomeStreet Bank so that you can get more information about the program. In order for your child to participate, parents must visit the bank to open an account. Questions? Contact: HomeStreet Bank in Newcastle @ 401-8778 or Mary Pat Reeves @ hmpreeves@comcast.net.

Check Out Parent Ed

Now that the school year is in full swing, many parents experience unexpected issues with their child/children. This may leave parents feeling at a loss at how to handle these issues. Examples of topics that have been voiced in the past include: concerns over on-line safety (not just computers but iphones, DSi and other devices), bullying, developing effective study habits and creating a respectful environment. There are a number of resources available for parents through both the school and district. Newcastle Elementary's library has some great educational pieces for parents to check out and Issaquah School District has a number of resources posted on their website. You can find the district's online resources by logging onto www.issaquah.wednet.edu, going to the 'Family Resources' tab on the toolbar and clicking on 'Parent Education'. This link will connect you to many district wide educational seminars. This website can also be accessed via Newcastle Elementary website on the left tool bar under 'School District'. In addition, throughout the year look for notifications regarding seminars hosted by Newcastle Elementary as well as linked articles under Parent Education section of the Lions' Page. Questions? Contact Kris Blik @ kris.blik@comcast.net.

Spirit Delivery!

Spirit Wear and Accessories were delivered to your child on Wednesday, October 21st. Also, if you hadn't received your FREE Newcastle Elementary Water Bottle for joining the PTSA, it was delivered to your child the same day. Questions? Contact: Julie Granberg, Spirit Wear Chair @ (425) 430-8649 or juliegranberg@hotmail.com.