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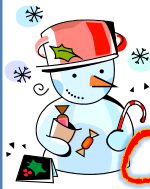
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Check out [Creekside PTSA's website](#) for the latest PTSA news and events. Like us on [Facebook!](#)

PTSA Hotline:
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OTTER TALES



Happy Holidays

Creekside PTSA Newsletter – Volume 4, Issue 4, December 2013
Creekside Elementary * 20777 SE 16th Street * Sammamish, WA 98075

Ho! Ho! Ho!



Santa Is Coming

To Creekside Elementary

December 6th

Meet Santa

Free Hot Cocoa & Cookies

Music

Arts & Crafts

Photos with Santa - \$5



Monthly Facts About Your Creekside PTSA

Why You Need To Be Involved

Fact #3

You'll Get Connected

There's no better way to know what's going on in the school than to be on the school's parent teacher group. You'll be first to hear about important decisions and changes the school is thinking about making, and you will get to know teachers and administrators on a familiar basis.

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HOLIDAY COOKIE EXCHANGE

Calling All Bakers!!

The Holidays Are Upon Us and During This Special Time of Giving Thanks and Appreciating Those Around You, The Creekside PTSA Would Like To Take This Opportunity To Thank Our Fantastic Creekside Staff For All They Do and Let Them Know We're Thinking Of Them During The Holiday Season.

We Are Calling All Bakers To Share Some of Your Scrumptious Treats. We Then Set Up A Tasty Buffet of Goodies and Boxes For The Staff To Come Down and Pick Some Treats to Take Home and Share With Their Families. We Also Use The Cookies At Our Evening Cookies & Cocoa with Santa Event. A Free Family Fun Event, With The Opportunity To Purchase A Portrait With Santa. (Visits with Santa are no charge, all are welcome)

DATE: [12/6/2013](#) ([Fri 9:15AM](#))

LOCATION: Front Lobby of School

Sign up here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050D4BA9AB23A57-holiday>

Or contact Lisa Bourdeau at lisabourdeau22@gmail.com



Holiday Giving Drive

Announcing Creekside Elementary's HOLIDAY GIVING DRIVE for the Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank's Caring through Sharing holiday event.

The Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank is opening up a free shopping center on **December 11th & 12th** at the Pickering Barn. The store is for registered Issaquah School District families in need. Registered Parents will get to pick out and wrap gifts and stocking stuffers for their children. Every child in the program will receive the same value in gifts and every family will get the same amount of gift cards.

WHY? - To Bring Joy and Happiness to families during this holiday season

HOW? - Donate brand new unwrapped gifts for newborns – 18 year olds
- Place Unwrapped Gifts in the holiday containers outside the front office Monday, December 2nd through Monday, December 9th

WHAT? - New items including toys, underwear, DVDs, lip balms, gift cards, socks, bikes, games, healthy treats, and wrapping supplies

- Gift Cards to stores like Safeway, Fred Meyer, Target
- Wrapping supplies so parents can wrap their selected gifts
- **Go to <http://issaquahfoodbank.org> to find a great list of suggestions**

WHEN? - Monday December 2nd – Monday December 9th (unwrapped gifts and wrapping supplies can be accepted through 3:30pm on Tuesday, December 10th)



Amazon.Com & ISF
Remember to access Amazon.com through the Foundation website to earn up to 8% of your purchase price for the Foundation. Add Shop Amazon for ISF to your bookmarks. Add Shop Amazon for ISF to your bookmarks.





Spelling Bee

CONGRATULATIONS

TO OUR 2013 SPELLING BEE CHAMPIONS!!!!



Mrs. Bowlby, Spelling Bee Caller

The 2013 Spelling Bee was a huge success! Congratulations to all the kids who participated and did a great job spelling some difficult words! Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make this event a success, particularly the **Co-Chairs Kruti Gosalia and Sangeeta Kulkarni** and **Mrs. Bowlby** for being the Spelling Bee caller again this year!

1st and 2nd place winners by grade level

1st Grade

1st Place → Ember W.

2nd Place → Alexander H.

2nd Grade

1st Place → Arthi S.

2nd Place → Jeffrey D.

3rd Grade

1st Place → Maya B.

2nd Place → Tara T.

4th Grade

1st Place → Dharshini

2nd Place → Isha G.

5th Grade

1st Place → Pranav K.

2nd Place → Abhinav G.



First Grade



Second Grade



Third Grade



Fourth Grade

Well Done Spellers



Fifth Grade



Mrs. Earl with 2nd Graders



The Audience listening to the Creekside Spellers

See You All at Spelling Bee 2014



Clubs @ Creekside



Reflections Program

Believe, Dream, Inspire



On behalf of the Reflections Committee at Creekside Elementary, we are excited to announce our 12 finalists that will be moving on to the District Level! They are as follows:

- Anusha D. - Visual Arts
- Nathan P. - Music Composition
- Noelle P. - Music Composition
 - Emma Q. - Visual Arts
- Tara T. - Literature and Visual Arts
 - Louisa D. - Visual Arts
 - Micah P. - Photography
 - Arthi S. - Visual Arts
 - Diya G. - Visual Arts
- Christopher H. - Photography
 - Kate L. - Visual Arts

We thank parents for encouraging your children to participate in this important program that brings art awareness to our school community. There will be a District Reception on Tuesday, January 14, 2014 at Issaquah High School where your child's work will be displayed. Parents will be receiving invitations to that event next month. Congratulations!

The Reflections Program wouldn't have been possible without dedicated volunteers from our amazing Creekside PTSA Board, parent volunteers, and community members who came in to help judge the entries of some of the Otters! We also thank the Co-Chairs of this program, Kelly O'Neil and Meena Thirumurthy - thank you for volunteering!



SAVE THE DATE!



Eager Math Volunteers Needed

Creekside PTSA is proud to sponsor Eager Math again this year! The goal of the program is to encourage students to improve on their math fundamentals in an enjoyable way. The program will run for 2 weeks starting **December 2nd through December 13th**.

Where: MPR

When: Monday 12/9 9:30-11:30am
Monday 12/16 9:30-11:30am



Now that Eager Math program is well under way, we need your help putting together prize bags and drawing for our students who participate and complete the 2-week program. Please come join the fun and be the first to check out the prizes!

In case you are wondering, Eager Math online tally can be accessed from Creekside PTSA website at <http://creeksideptsa.ourschoolpages.com/Home>. Click **Programs > Eager Math**.

Questions? Please email Min-Hua Burton at linminhua@hotmail.com
Adrian Bradley at AdrianCBradley@hotmail.com.

Upcoming Events

December 2 - 9	Holiday Giving Drive
December 2 -13	Eager Math
December 6	Cookies & Cocoa with Santa
December 6	Holiday Cookies Exchange
January 10	Eager Reader Begins
January 10	Movie Night @ Creekside
February 7	Creekside Cultural Fair

Eager Reader

Eager Reader, an 8 week program designed to improve reading skills and to develop a love of reading, will begin on **January 10th, 2014** and end on **March 7th, 2014**. Book prizes will be awarded on **March 10th, 2014**.



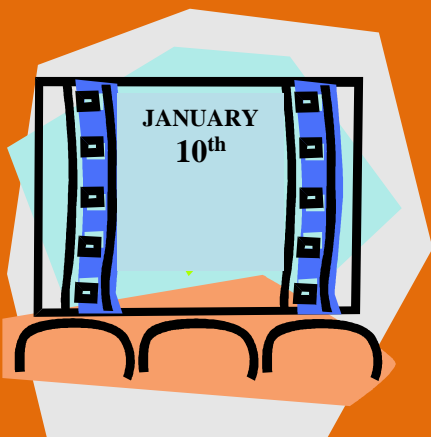
We encourage all students to participate. We have great prizes throughout the course of the program. Any questions or if you would like to volunteer, please contact:

Adrian Bradley AdrianCBradley@hotmail.com
Min-Hua Burton LinMinHua@hotmail.com

Movie Night IS BACK!

JANUARY 10TH

Pizza - Candy - Popcorn - Soda



Coming In February

Cultural Fair 2014

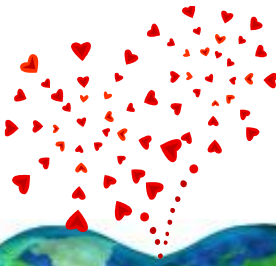
I LOVE MY COUNTRY

Friday February 7th 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Kærlighed

Laska

LOVE



Liebe

AMOUR

Karlek

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Rakkaus

Amore

Szeretet

L'amour

Ljubav

Pag-ibig

Dragoste

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Liefde

Creekside's 4th Annual Festival of
Countries From Around The World
&
States In The USA

Your Opportunity to Share Everything You Love About Your
Country OR State

Food – Dance – Arts – Music – Culture – Traditions – History – Crafts –
Student Performances

New This Year

Have you visited or lived in a Country OR State that you really loved. You are still
welcome to represent a destination you are really passionate about !

Represent your Country or State in the Cultural Fair

Please contact Ghada Madkour at ghadahamdi7@yahoo.com or sign up at
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4AABAB22ABFD0-cultural>

Creekside Art Docent Program October Projects



Kindergarten – Jack-O- Lantern



1st Grade – Sun and Moon
Chalk Pastel



2nd Grade – Tape Resist
Study in Lines



3rd Grade – Leaf Stained Glass



4th Grade – Dale Chihuly
Glass Art



5th Grade – Watercolor, One Point
Perspective



All in for Kids Campaign Wrap-Up

A hearty THANK YOU to the families who donated to this year's **All in for Kids** Annual Fund Campaign. You clicked, mailed and answered our calls to the tune of **\$412,000!** This means your child can continue to benefit from programs and initiatives that transform the basic education funded by the state to the comprehensive, 21st century education he or she needs to succeed. Please join us in applauding our Campaign Co-Chairs, Rachel Auffant (Cougar Ridge) and Dana Rundle (Sunny Hills) and their amazing committee. We also tip our hats to our hard working PTSA/ISF Reps who distributed signs, manned booths at curriculum nights and staffed Honk & Waves in stormy autumn weather.

IMPORTANT REMINDER—Pledges and matching gifts are included in the **All in for Kids** campaign total. If you pledged and/or indicated an employer match, please follow through. Respond to your pledge letter and complete matching gift forms to ensure every one of the \$412,000 anticipated dollars can benefit our students.



The Sound of Music

Thanks to the donor supported **\$100,000 Dedicated Fine Arts Fund**, middle and high school band teachers were able to receive every instrument on their wish lists. Among the purchases ... 8 Tubas, 6 Euphoniums, 25 Trombones, 1 Bassoon, 6 Tenor Saxophones, 2 Upright Bases, Acoustic and Electric Guitars and a plethora of percussion instruments. That's music to our ears.

Free Money!

Parents, remember that you can submit an **Academic Enrichment Grant application**. If you have an innovative idea share it with your teacher or principal. Then go to www.isfdn.org/grants to learn more about the grant process. Hurry, the deadline for grant submission is January 8.

Need a Gift Idea for Your Favorite Teacher?

A gift to the Foundation in his or her honor is a quick, easy and meaningful way to show your appreciation. The Foundation will send a holiday themed card to your honoree and a tax deduction letter to you. [Click Here](#)

Upgrade

If new technology is in your holiday future, please consider donating your old technology to the Foundation. We'll recycle your used iPads and/or Kindle for use as an assistive learning device for special needs students. [See the impact your donation can have](#) then call us at 425-391-8557 to get started. Thank you.

You Did It!

Donors funded a 2013 grant that allowed teachers at Issaquah, Liberty and Skyline high schools to purchase graphing calculators. Students with financial need can borrow a calculator for the year, enabling them to complete classroom assignments and projects at home. Read below to see how the investment is making a difference in a student's life.

"Thank you so much for donating money for me to have a graphing calculator. I really appreciate it and it has been so helpful and made my Algebra class much easier. I am very thankful for your donation." Sadie

Creekside

Gift – A – Book



The following students have recently had their birthdays recognized with book donations to the Creekside Library. Thank you very much for your wonderful contributions !

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

November

Alexandra	G
Ava	O
Garren	C
Jack	G
Jackson	S
Karan	H
Lexi	M
Liette	L
Maya	S
Owen	C
Paula	V
Serena	C
Suchitha	J
Taylor Ana	E

Gift-A-Book is a great way to help our librarian add new books to the Creekside Library, as well as honor your student. You can honor your student for any occasion – birthdays are great ways to do so.

To obtain a donation form or for more information, please contact Theresa Nguyen at thn12@u.washington.edu or Meagan Rhodes at rhodesm@issaquah.wednet.edu.

PTSA

Brown Bear Car Wash

After a busy summer of road trips and camping we know your car is probably in need of a little TLC! Get your Brown Bear Car Wash Tickets and help Creekside PTSA at the same time!

STOCK UP NOW!
1 for \$6
5 for \$25
10 for \$40



To purchase these tickets, please contact Lisa Bourdeau at lisabourdeau22@gmail.com or Kim Meade at meadek@comcast.net.

Creekside PTSA - New Website! Check it out!

Our Webmaster has worked tirelessly to give our PTSA a new, fresh look! Check out our new website at:

<http://creeksideptsa.ourschoolpages.com/Home>

You'll be able to find information about all our programs, PTSA meeting minutes, financial reports and other helpful information.

For the upcoming General PTSA meeting, you can see copies of financial reports by going to our Creekside PTSA website, under "Important Information" then "Finances" or by clicking [here](#).



Passive Fundraising for Creekside PTSA

Creekside PTSA is participating in the following passive fundraisers. Please read below to find out how you can support Creekside.



SAFeway eScrip & Safeway is a proven, passive fundraiser that contributes a percentage of your grocery loyalty cards from participating business partners, credit card and debit/ATM card purchases to our PTSA. Getting signed up is easy! If you would like to sign up or get more information, please click [here](#) or contact Theresa Nguyen at thn12@uw.edu for more information.



IMPORTANT SURVEY FROM YOUR PTSA

Prior to the last two rounds of teacher contract negotiations, PTSA has surveyed its community members to ask what we value most in our schools in the Issaquah School District. The input collected from those prior surveys was presented to bargaining teams prior to negotiations, to give them a community perspective on our schools. Our school district is about to engage in a new round of negotiations for contracts that expire in 2014, so the PTSA is once again asking its community to weigh in on these issues. The input collected from this survey, along with information culled from last Spring's Homework Survey, will be part of a presentation in early January 2014, to representatives from the District Administration, the School Board, and the Issaquah Education Association (our teachers' union). Please take the survey by clicking [here](#) or copy and paste the URL into your browser:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/communityvalues13>

**THE SURVEY WILL CLOSE AT MIDNIGHT ON THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 12th.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!



APPRECIATE THE VOLUNTEERS

Please help us appreciate and honor the Volunteers here at Creekside.

Put in the name(s) of any volunteers that you appreciate for their service to the school and kids. We will draw names the 2nd Wednesday of every month and honor them.

**Everyone is welcome to recommend names.
Thank you,
Creekside PTSA**

November Volunteer of the Month Narcisa Kaminski

Narcisa has been a dedicated parent and event volunteer since her two daughters have started at Creekside three years ago. She has been involved in the Art Docent Program, Reading Club, Eager Reader and Eager Math Programs, Library Volunteer and has represented both Germany and Croatia in during the last few Cultural Fairs. Please join us in thanking Narcisa for her dedication and service to our school!