



# THE WOLVERINE TRACK

A Publication of the Wellington Elementary PTA

NOVEMBER 7, 2011

VOLUME 34, ISSUE 3

*It is the mission of Wellington Elementary PTA to promote the welfare of children, provide staff support, foster teacher, parent & community cooperation, and enrich student learning.*

## PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Thanksgiving is rapidly approaching. As we watch the leaves change, burst into colors, and fall to the ground, we are struck with how grateful we are for our Wellington community: the wonderful teachers and staff, the incredible parents, and the enthusiastic children that come to school each day. We are very fortunate to live in this community.

The PTA Executive Team is thankful for the support and votes of confidence from the 110 families who returned the PTA Fall Fun-raiser form and provided over \$9,000 to support the many activities, programs and curriculum enhancements that the PTA will provide his year.

**Why fall fundraising?** Process changes voted on by the General Membership in May, changed the timing of the budget, causing money to be required earlier in the year than has been needed in the past. Because of these changes, the PTA Board of Directors voted in September to move the major school fundraiser from spring to fall.

**Why back-to-back fundraising?** There were two reasons for back to back fundraising. First, by the time the impact of the procedural change to the PTA budget was realized, the bag fundraising contract was already signed. The second reason for the bag fundraiser was that it allowed the PTA to lower the amount of money requested from families.

We hope this has helped to answer any questions you may have had. Your active participation is what makes the Wellington PTA such a highly successful organization.

For additional information, please contact Michelle Morris or Rae Shepherd.

Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!

*Michelle and Rae*

PTA Co-Presidents 2011-2012



## THANK YOU PREMIUM DIRECTORY SPONSORS!

Thank you to our Premium Sponsors for their support of the Wellington PTA Directory!

**Butler & Butler**  
**PACE at Wellington**

**Homebridge Builders**  
**Roscoe's Ranch**

**Mike Rodgers - State Farm**  
*Thank you!*

WWW.WELLINGTONPTA.ORG

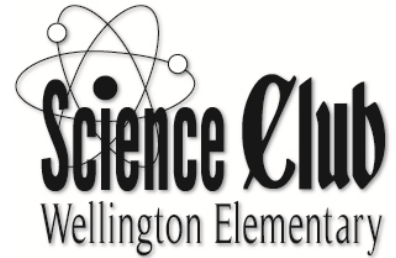


Bill Bagnall, Principal  
Rae Shepherd and Michelle Morris, Presidents  
Cyndi Kellison, Newsletter Chair, ckellison.pta@gmail.com  
16501 NE 195th St., Woodinville, WA 98072  
425-408-5900



**SCIENCE CLUB/FAIR COMMITTEE—VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

The Science Committee is hard at work planning for this year’s Science Club to be offered to all Students for 6 weeks starting in January. HELP is needed! So, if you want to see Science Club & Fair continue at Wellington join the committee. No Science Experience is needed. There is something for everyone who wants to help. This program is sponsored by PACE & PTA, and therefore, volunteer hours count as PACE hours. Planning has started, so PLEASE email Rachel Best-Campbell ([callicks@gmail.com](mailto:callicks@gmail.com)) or Stacy Meyer ([smeyer.pta@gmail.com](mailto:smeyer.pta@gmail.com)) for more information or to volunteer.



**TREASURER’S REPORT**

We began the year with a good start towards raising the funds needed to enrich and support our students and staff. Let's keep it going!



Looking Ahead: The PTA Taxes are being prepared and will be filed soon. We will continue the "Fall Fun-Raiser" and Membership Drives. We hope to have 100% participation.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**November**

- 8th** Veteran’s Day Assembly: 10:30 am
- 9th** Family Fun Skate Night: 6:00-8:00 pm
- 10th** No School: Non-Student Day
- 11th** No School: Veteran’s Day
- 14-18th** Wellington Book Fair
- 15th** Family Night at the Book Fair: 5:00-7:00 pm
- 16th** PACE General Meeting
- 17th-23rd** Early Dismissal (11:45, daily) and Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 21st** Reflections Gallery Night: 6:00-7:00 pm
- 24th** Thanksgiving - Happy Turkey Day!
- 25th** No School: Thanksgiving Break

**December**

**19th-Jan. 3rd** Winter Break



**PTA NOMINATING COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT**

The PTA Executive Committee would like to thank everyone who threw their name in the hat to help support the nominating committee and find the future leaders of the Wellington PTA. At the October 25th General Membership Meeting, Heather Church, Sandy Mollerup, and Lindsay Rathert were elected to help find future Executive Committee Candidates for the 2012-2013 school year. Sarah Hoagland and Tina Morse were elected to serve as alternate members.

**FAMILY FUN SKATE NIGHT - THIS WEDNESDAY!**

- When:** Wednesday, November 9th (there is no school on the 10th or 11th)  
6:00 - 8:00 pm
- Where:** Skate King in Bellevue
- Cost:** \$7.00 CASH ONLY (includes skates - \$4.00 more for inline blades)
- Details:** It’s okay to bring friends and family. Have Fun!



**\*\*This is NOT a drop-off event\*\***

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR!

You are invited to join the Wellington Elementary Scholastic Book Fair. A reading event packed with excitement for students and families! Our book fair is a great opportunity to beat the crowds and do your holiday shopping early.



**TO THE  
BOOK FAIR  
AND BEYOND!**

*Reading Is Out of This World!*

The book fair not only gives students access to books at affordable prices, it provides Wellington with money to spend on new books; Scholastic returns a percentage of the sales to our school for the purchase of new literature! Last year alone, the book fair sales helped us purchase close to 725 books. We were able to supplement the new Graphic Novel section and the Art and Crafts section. We updated several non-fiction categories, and significantly increased individual classroom libraries.

We have several exciting features at this year's book fair: Back by popular demand, the teachers and Mr. Bagnall will read favorite books to the kids on Family Night, there will also be a raffle with amazing prizes. Teacher Wish Lists are available for gift ideas along with gift certificates to purchase. Our special guest, Geronimo Stilton, will also visit during the week! On Thursday and Friday, kids can come enjoy Reading with Rover while you are at parent/teacher conferences.

Pressed for time? Interested grandparents live out of town? No worries! We will have online ordering available through the Wellington Website. Just log onto the school website and click on the link to order! You can even preorder the next *Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Cabin Fever!* It will be delivered to the school on November 15.

Preview our featured books online, watch videos, and make a wish list to help you shop the fair at: [www.scholastic.com/bookfairs/books/](http://www.scholastic.com/bookfairs/books/)

**Fair Dates:** November 14th - 18th

**Parent Shopping Times:** Daily 8:15 am to 3:30 pm including during Thursday & Friday Conferences

**Family Night:** Tuesday, November 15th 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Purchases may be made with credit card, cash, or check (payable to the Wellington PTA).

All students will have the opportunity to visit the library to purchase books or make wish lists during normal class times. Further information on revised library schedules due to conferences will be available soon.

## 2011-2012 REFLECTIONS: "DIVERSITY MEANS..."



**Time is short** so work on your creations to show what *Diversity Means* to you! All entries are due no later than, **Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**. In the past, many students at Wellington have entered pieces in one of six different art styles from *Literature to Visual Arts, Dance & Choreography, Film, Video, & Photography to Music Composition*. Many students have gone on to win at district and state levels!

**PTA REFLECTIONS** All entries **must** follow the National PTA Reflections Guidelines. You can learn all about these rules by going to [www.wastatepta.org/programs/reflections](http://www.wastatepta.org/programs/reflections). Additionally, all pieces **must** have an entry form attached with an artist statement. You can download an entry form from the above website, or get one from the front office.

Wellington will celebrate all artists who entered at a "Gallery Night" the evening of Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>, from 6:00-7:30. Come with your family, view entries on display, enjoy some light snacks, and find out whose submissions will go on to Districts!

If you have any questions regarding Reflections, please feel free to contact Wendi Carter at [wendicarter@me.com](mailto:wendicarter@me.com).

## REUSABLE/ECO-BAG SALE

A BIG thanks to everyone for their support of the bag sale. Because of your purchases, the Wellington PTA will receive over \$4,000 to help continue the amazing programs available for our Wellington kids!

The bags are planned to arrive, and be sent home with your child, before the holiday break in December. Thanks again for your support, and enjoy your bags!



## POPCORN FRIDAY

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered to help with the committee this year! Popcorn Fridays could not operate without you, and your time is appreciated. We look forward to meeting all of our helpers over the rest of the year.

Our first Popcorn Friday (in October) went really well, thanks to Christy Hughes, Megan Mason, and Jon Mason. What a great team! Also, thank you to our November team: Sarah Sweetman, Amber St. Amand, and David Kenamer.

## CHESS CLUB



Chess Club is going strong this year! We have 28 registered players; a lot of beginner players to keep Coach Tyler busy. Last week, they learned to spot an illegal move and say: "Illegal move, take it back!" It is amazing to see how they learn so fast only in a few weeks. We also have a promising group of intermediate chess players under the guidance of Coach Tim. We surely could use more intermediate players in the club; our yearly match with Woodin is usually at the end of Winter session or early Spring and there is plenty of time to practice and prepare so that we can reclaim the title!

Chess Club is on Wednesdays, 3:10pm-4:15pm in the Wellington Library. Stop by after school on Wednesday to find out more. Players at all level are welcome to join.

For registration and more information regarding Wellington Chess Club, go to:  
<http://www.chess4life.com/chess-event/wellington-elementary-fall-chess-classes/1557>

## 2011-2012 YEARBOOKS

It's hard to believe that planning for this year's Wellington Yearbook has already begun! In order to make it a success, photos will be needed from every classroom. If you can, please take photos of your classroom events, parties, field trips, special projects, school-wide events, recess time, etc.

Parents, Teachers, and Room Representatives, some time after the new year there will be easy directions regarding how to get these photos to the Yearbook Coordinator. But for now, everyone, please snap away! The more photos, the better!



Please contact our Yearbook Coordinator, Julie Rodgers (julierodgers23@gmail.com) with any questions. Also, if you are interested in taking some candid photos of school events, clubs, etc., please let Julie know. Thank you!

## TIME TO PUT THOSE DRAMA SKILLS TO GOOD USE!



The Missoula Children's Theatre will come to Wellington March 12<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup>.

This year's play will be King Arthur's Quest. Auditions will be after school on Monday, March the 12<sup>th</sup>; the show will then be rehearsed throughout the week, and two public performances will be presented on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup>. All MCT shows are original adaptations of classic children's stories and fairytales... a twist on the classic stories that you know and love. Mark your calendars if you think your children will want to participate.

## CLASSIC BOOKS

Parent volunteers are still needed for the 3rd-6th grade Classic Books Club. Did you miss the sign-up sheet at Curriculum Night? It's not too late to volunteer. The six-week, PTA-sponsored reading enrichment program will run from February 13 - March 30. By co-leading a weekly, same-grade group, you can help kids discover and develop a lifelong love of books.



Meetings will take place during the students' lunch. No experience is required; all training is provided. Please email Leah Clark (leahpclark@frontier.com) or Sandra Pell (mommypell@comcast.net) for more information. Thank you!

## THANK YOU SPONSORS!

Thank you to all the fabulous businesses for their participation in this year's Directory Sponsorship!

**Butler & Butler**  
**Elena Tselnik Piano Studio**  
**Fey & Gray Orthodontics**  
**Homebridge Home Builders**  
**Karlee Hansen Babysitting**  
**Kim Hansen Mary Kay**  
**Mike Rogers State Farm**  
**PACE at Wellington**



**Personalized Health & Fitness**  
**Phoenix Farms**  
**Roscoe Ranch**  
**Sarah Sweetman Photo**  
**Savvy Reading**  
**Sunshine Preschool**  
**Westhill, Inc.**  
**Woodinville Academy of Martial Arts**  
**Woodinville Family Eye**  
**Woodinville Pediatric Dentistry**  
**Woodinville Whiz Kids**

## PARENT'S CORNER - SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

Article courtesy of : David Ruben via [www.parenting.com](http://www.parenting.com)



Our school-bus fears usually focus on images of some horrible wreck. But children are most likely to get hurt during routine pickup and drop-off, when they're in the "danger zone" – the area inside a 10 foot radius around the bus, in which small children often become invisible to both the driver and approaching motorists. It's here that kids crossing the street are hit by motorists who illegally pass a stopped bus, or youngsters darting in front of, next to, behind, or even under the bus are inadvertently struck by their own driver. The following tips will help ensure your child's safety.

### Safety Tips to Teach Your Kids:

- Wait for the bus on the sidewalk, not in the street.
- While waiting, pay close attention and don't fool around with your friends.
- Wait until the bus has stopped and the door has opened before stepping off the curb. Always stay away from the wheels. Remember: Just because you can see the bus does not mean that the driver can see you.
- While riding the bus, stay seated, face forward, keep the aisles clear, and keep your head and arms inside the bus. Always obey the driver's instructions.
- Gather your belongings before you reach your school or stop.
- Use the handrail while exiting, and be careful of backpacks and other things that dangle.
- When you get off, take five giant steps away from the bus, out of the danger zone.

### How to Help Protect Your Child:

- Assure your child that you won't be upset if he doesn't retrieve a jacket or backpack left on the bus or schoolwork dropped under a wheel.
- Remove or cut off loose drawstrings hanging from your child's clothing or coat.
- Check her backpack for key chains and other dangling objects that might get caught in a door or handrail.
- Make a point of meeting your child's bus driver. Ask about emergency evacuation procedures and whether there's a fire extinguisher on board.
- Make sure your child carries a "contact in case of emergency" card with information about allergies and medications (even if the driver knows that information, a substitute may not).
- Arrive five minutes before the bus is supposed to get there. Many children are injured as they run to catch up with a moving school bus.
- If your child has to meet the bus when it is dark or at dusk, have him wear bright or reflective clothing.

## A THREADS AND TREADS UPDATE



We were able to donate 14 large bags of clothing to the Northshore clothing bank, Threads and Treads, in October. Volunteers are needed for sorting our Helping Hands donations following our club meetings. If you are interested, please contact Sandra Pell at [mommypell@comcast.net](mailto:mommypell@comcast.net). The Threads and Treads facility is also looking for volunteers to help at the clothing bank. If you are interested in this service opportunity, Sandra can get you more information. Clothing donations for school-aged children will be collected at each of our Helping Hands monthly meetings. It is helpful if clothes are separated into bags marked BOY and GIRL. With cooler temperatures settling in, consider donating gently used coats, gloves, and hats to Threads and Treads so all Northshore kids can stay warm this winter.

As we consider the many things for which to be grateful this season of Thanksgiving, it seems natural to want to help others in our area who are struggling to secure the basic necessities of food, clothing, and shelter. Helping Hands can do big things and small ones to spread smiles and ease burdens this time of year. Thanks for your help!

## SOME "TRY THIS AT HOME" FUN!

From the Wellington Science Club:

Need something to do during Thanksgiving break? Try this little experiment - it's easy!

Ask your mom or dad to help you cut an apple in half. Rub one half of the apple with a little lemon juice and leave the other half of the apple plain. Label the halves "lemon juice" and "plain". Set both halves on the counter. After 30 minutes, take a look and see if there is a difference in the apple halves. What do you see? Why do you think this happened? Keep watching the Wolverine Track for more exciting science ideas and information!

Lunch-recess Science Club starts in January! Watch your Monday envelope for registration information. Also, be sure to mark your calendar for Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:30pm because you won't want to miss the Wellington Science Fair!

## HALLOWEEN FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE WITH HELPING



We had a successful Helping Hands service project on Friday, October 7th. Nearly 170 kids came out to make 50 Halloween cards, 75 decorations, 80 masks, 10 "Boo Buckets", 100 goody bags, and a huge pumpkin garland for seriously ill children and their families at the Ronald McDonald House of Western Washington and Alaska.

Last year, the Ronald McDonald House served as a "home-away-from-home" for nearly 700 families. Their staff was surprised at the quantity of donated items from Helping Hands and excited to be able to decorate their facility for Halloween. Their website does a nice job explaining their organization. Take a minute to do the tour of their facility and watch the moving family stories about those that have stayed at the Ronald McDonald House at [www.rmhcseattle.org](http://www.rmhcseattle.org). This is guaranteed to be a worthwhile and impactful activity for you and your families! Then, imagine that facility decorated with crafts from our service club. It really helped make Halloween more fun for the residents there. What a pleasure to help such a wonderful organization!



### NOVEMBER PROJECT FOR MILITARY SERVICE PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES

Another great club meeting was held this past Friday, Nov. 4th. We teamed up with Operation Iraq-Afghanistan to send thank you cards, holiday artwork (which we've heard is particularly appreciated), and candy to military service people and their families. Operation Iraq-Afghanistan is a local organization that has earned the Raytheon Program Achievement Award for best use of volunteers. They've sent more than 62,000 holiday care packages to men and women in Iraq & Afghanistan. More information about this organization can be found at [www.operationiraq.org](http://www.operationiraq.org).

Thanks to all of our club members for generously sharing so much of their Halloween candy with the soldiers for this project. We'll find out soon if we were able to beat our 2010 record by contributing more than 167 lbs. of candy!

### DECEMBER HOLIDAY PROJECT FOR NEEDY CHILDREN AND YOUTH

#### What We Can Use:

- Holiday Wrapping Paper and Bows
- Birthday and Children's Wrapping Paper
- New Gloves and Mittens
- Individually Packaged Cocoa
- Full Sized Candy Canes
- Winter Coats, Gloves, Mittens, and Hats for Threads and Treads

Mark your calendars; you won't want to miss our holiday project on December 2nd. We are conducting a toy drive and hope each club member will donate a toy to another child in need. We'll wrap these gifts, as well as make a variety of holiday decorations for facilities that service homeless individuals. Join us in spreading holiday cheer to those in need!

A great big THANK YOU to all who have contributed items so far. We now have enough crayons, markers, and colored pencils for our club use. We have received lots of shoe boxes for our Spring Birthday Box project for foster children. Please continue to save these, but keep them home for a couple more months because our storage area has reached its full capacity! We'll let you know when we are ready for more.

Next time you are at the Red Robin in Woodinville, be sure to say Thanks from Helping Hands. They donated 100 packages of crayons for our Halloween goody bags. We love our community partners in giving! Helping Hands will also accept Halloween costumes and filler items for goody bags in preparation for our project next year. For those who like shopping after season for deep discounts, this is another way to help.

We have over 225 children registered for Helping Hands this year. Consequently, we are in need of lots of adult volunteers to assist, too! We need help with stations at our club meetings, preparing activities, and crowd control. We also have a sign up sheet at our club meetings if you are able to donate snacks. Jen Pulsipher will contact those who sign up. Thanks to those Wellington families who have already contributed snacks at our first two club meetings.

Caroline Ahlstrom is our volunteer coordinator this year and will communicate our needs via email prior to each service project. To be included on this email, contact [ahlstromca@comcast.net](mailto:ahlstromca@comcast.net).

Thanks for all your support of our Wellington Service Club. We truly couldn't do it without our fabulous parent helpers.



# Help us reach our goal of making every child's potential a reality

## Join PTA Today

### Wellington PTA—*Your* PTA!



It is the mission of Wellington Elementary PTA to promote the welfare of children, provide staff support, foster teacher, parent & community cooperation, and enrich student learning. Help us achieve 100% participation, and join today! **PTA is...**

- A powerful voice for all children.
- A relevant resource for families and communities.
- A strong advocate for the education & well-being of every child.

**When you join PTA, you support these great Wellington programs & activities:**

Art Docents	Emergency Prepared-	Missoula Children's	PTA Website
Assemblies	ness	Theatre	Reflections
Awards	Family Fun Nights	Newsletter	Science Club/Fair
Box Tops	Grants	Parent Support/	Spirit Wear
Bulletin Boards	Helping Hands	Enrichment	Social Concerns
Classic Books	2011-2012 Kick-off	Pavers	Staff Appreciation
Directory		Popcorn Fridays	

.....

Member Name (s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

My membership fees are enclosed with this form:

- \$15 Individual Membership**                      *or*
- \$20 Two Person Membership** (two adults, spouse, step-parent, grandparents, relative, neighbor, friend)

**Step 2 -** Return completed form with payment to the Wellington Elementary School Office in an envelope labeled: "PTA Membership" Make checks payable to Wellington PTA.

**Or mail to:** Wellington PTA, Attn: Membership, 16501 NE 195<sup>th</sup>, Woodinville, WA 98072

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF WELLINGTON ELEMENTARY PTA & OUR KIDS!**  
*Please Note: Membership is not a fundraising activity*  
 To learn more about PTA Visit [www.wellingtonpta.org](http://www.wellingtonpta.org) or [www.wastatepta.org](http://www.wastatepta.org)  
 Questions? Email Meghan Whittle at: [meghanwhittle@hotmail.com](mailto:meghanwhittle@hotmail.com)

# Wellington PTA Fall Fun-Raiser



*When you give to the Wellington PTA, you invest in an artist. You invest in a musician. You invest in a scholar and an innovator. You invest in a problem-solver, a global citizen and a keeper of the earth. You invest in your child.*



Our goal is 100% response.

## HOW MUCH?

To be able to maintain the programs and offerings that the PTA currently funds, we are **asking for \$45 per child**. The PTA also understands that \$45 per child may be out of the question for some. However, others may be able to do more. Larger gifts are greatly appreciated and help cover families who are unable to give the full amount. You can make your gift go farther if your employer matches charitable contributions.

*When considered as an investment for the entire year - and compared to private school or even a week of summer camp - it really is a bargain. Of course your volunteer hours are tremendously appreciated, no matter what your situation; we want to hear from you!*

## WHY SHOULD YOU DO THIS?

- ◆ Education funding is expected to be cut even more in the coming year.
- ◆ Money raised is put to use immediately - your child benefits from it this year.
- ◆ 100% of your gift goes directly to Wellington - no middle man.
- ◆ Your gift is tax-deductible.

Did you know that Washington State continues to rank at the bottom of per-student funding in the nation? Money for 'the extras' has all but dried up, leaving parents and PTAs to supplement even the basics including equipment, counselors, materials and much more.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Count me in as a participant for this year's PTA Fall FUN-raiser. (check all that apply).**

- ◇ Our check for \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.
- ◇ Corporate Match with completed matching gift form.

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

- ◇ We cannot contribute at this time.

Thank you for supporting Wellington PTA. Please feel free to contact us with any questions, if you need additional information or if you would like to volunteer. You can also check our website: [www.wellingtonpta.org](http://www.wellingtonpta.org).

Michelle Morris- Co-President - [mmorris.pta@gmail.com](mailto:mmorris.pta@gmail.com)

Rae Shepherd - Co-President - [rshepherd.pta@gmail.com](mailto:rshepherd.pta@gmail.com)