

news



Highlights

- 11/13: **WS Education Fair**
7PM at Alki Masonic Center
- 11/15: **OPEN HOUSE**
6:30PM at Harbor School
- 11/16: **PROMISED LAND**
Documentary Film Screening
6:30PM at Harbor School
- 11/17: **6th Grade Conferences**
No school for Grade 6
- 11/20: **7th and 8th Grade Conferences**
No school for Grades 7 & 8
- 11/21: **7th and 8th Grade Conferences**
No school for Grades 7 & 8
- 11/22 - 11/24
THANKSGIVING BREAK
No School
- 11/28: **Upper Elementary Parent Meeting with Mark**
6:30PM at Harbor School
- 11/29: **Carpe Diem Parent Meeting with Mark**
6:30PM at Carpe Diem
- 12/6: **Board Meeting**
6:30PM at Harbor School
- 12/8: **Crafternoon!**
1-3PM at Carpe Diem
- 12/14: **Winter Celebration**
7PM at Carpe Diem
- 12/15: **Blu Homegroup Breakfast**
9AM at Carpe Diem
- NOON DISMISSAL**
All grades
- 12/15: **Financial Aid Applications due for returning students**
- 12/18/2017 - 1/1/2018
WINTER BREAK
No School

On A Personal Note

On Wednesday and Thursday of last week, my 6 year old daughter spent two days at Carpe Diem. She was excited about the prospect of returning to the school for a couple of days and I was happy at the thought of her spending two days in the company of such an excellent team of teachers.

However, what she experienced and what I saw was so much more than that. She was welcomed with open arms and at the same time given time to settle back into a group of people with whom she is only slightly familiar. Teachers and students said hello, smiled and waved and allowed her the time she needed to feel comfortable. Exactly the right amount of welcome for this 6 year old. At the end of each day she regaled with me what she had been doing, eager to share the article she had written about a 'candywhale,' laughing when she recalled playful moments outside, and wondering when she gets to go back again.

There are many ways to assess the health and success of a school. Some schools will share assessment results and some will list colleges that their

alumni attend. Some schools will talk of travel experiences and some will talk about their amazing facility. These are all good ways to determine success. The strategic objectives that are part of our emerging strategic plan have started an important and exciting discussion at our school around academic excellence and Cornerstone values. How do we, the Harbor School, define our own excellence and what exactly are the values that we want to live out in our daily life at school. These are important and exciting discussions and ones that we must engage in fully.

At the same time, there is another way for me to assess the success of our school. It is in witnessing the manner and tone of the way in which a young student is welcomed into our community. By that measure, our school passed with flying colors last week. The openness and sensitive commitment that everyone displayed combined to create exactly the sort of compassionate welcome that all students deserve at our school. It was fun to watch, as an educator and as a dad, and I can't wait until Lil gets to spend more time with us. - *Mark McGough*



Race Equity Group Meeting Notes

On November 8, 2017, I attended the monthly meeting for the Harbor School and Carpe Diem Race Equity Group. Just before the meeting, Rebecca Lanphear, Leah Mann, and Mark McGough had just attended a book club event at the library which was sponsored and led by the Race Equity Group. Rebecca and Mark reported that the book reading was well-attended, and they received positive feedback from parents and students who attended.

At the meeting we discussed ways for the Race Equity Group to become even more involved in our community. We talked about possibly sponsoring an event which would explore the cultural heritage of different groups in our area. One idea was to reach out to a group in Seattle or Tacoma, and find a restaurant within that cultural group. The Race Equity Group would then sponsor a dinner and evening of cultural education/exploration at the restaurant, with speakers brought in to the restaurant to speak about their group's heritage.

We also talked a lot about the importance of keeping the Race Equity Group's work on awareness and enhancement of the curriculum and teaching at Harbor School. We talked about how the group's work was well-received by the school's Board, and that the Board is using the work of the Race Equity Group to inform and shape the strategic goals for the school.

Stay tuned for another book reading event that may take place as early as December. In response to one of the student comments after the recent book reading at the library, part of the next event will include writing letters of support for an Amnesty International project, supporting people persecuted for defending human rights.

Please contact parent **Rebecca Lanphear** at rebecca.lanphear@gmail.com if you have questions. The next Race Equity Group meeting will be announced in the Cornerstone News. - *Scott Shawver*

Thank You...

A very big thanks to our GAME TIME volunteers last Thursday who helped make it a huge success! They are: **Tom Baker, Zach Jonaasson, Ben Talisman, Haley Odegard, Liz Sheldon, Erin Schulz, Peggy Rubens-Ellis, Rebecca Lanphear, Alisara Martin, Andrea Braganza, Russ 'Profe' Ray, Steve Ellis, and Ethan Cudaback.**

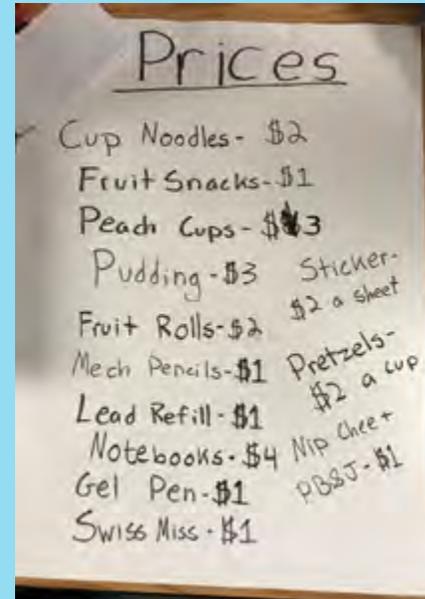
We'd also like to thank our West Seattle parents **Amy Gaver** and **Maureen MacCarthy** for helping distribute West Seattle Education Fair flyers yesterday at the Farmers Market in the Junction.

Student Store Opens 8th Graders Raise Funds at Harbor School for Class Trip!

As many of you know, fundraising for the 8th grade trip is a long tradition at Harbor School. This year, our 8th graders have come up with some great ideas for fundraising and there will be more to come on that in the coming weeks. One of their fundraisers is a student store where they are selling snacks, pencils, gel pens, and other assorted items.

The student store will be open during lunch on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** in the Social Studies room.

Thank you for your support of our industrious 8th graders! They are very excited and looking forward to their class trip to Costa Rica in May!



ALL SCHOOL NEWS



KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 8

Inspiring young scholars to contribute their wisdom, compassion, and personal best in the classroom, the community, and the world.

HARBOR SCHOOL
VASHON'S INDEPENDENT CHOICE

OPEN HOUSE

WED, NOVEMBER 15 6:30PM



NOW ENROLLING
APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE NOW FOR THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR

OPEN HOUSE on main campus
15920 Vashon Highway SW
RSVP at (206) 567-5955
admissions@harborschool.org

LEARN MORE AT www.harborschool.org

On Wednesday, Nov 15

Join us this week on **Wednesday, November 15, at 6:30PM** for our next Open House event. We hope to see you there!

Photos from the Book Reading Event held last Wednesday at the Vashon Library.



IT IS THE RIGHTEOUS FIGHT

PROMISED LAND

WINNER
2014

EXCELLENCE
2016

2014

2014

2014

2014

TALL PINS CINEMA PRESENTS PROMISED LAND
with AQUA TUNE, ARTIST TRUST, and SAN FRANCISCO FILM SOCIETY

PRODUCED BY JEFF SLONIN

NOW PLAYING @PROMISEDLANDDOC PROMISEDLANDDOC.COM

Presented by Harbor School and Carpe Diem Race Equity and Diversity Committee

Thursday, November 16 | 6:30PM

Screening will be held at:
Harbor School Campus
15920 Vashon Hwy SW
(206) 567-5955

ADMISSION IS FREE
Donations will be accepted to support the
Duwamish and Chinook Tribal Councils

Thursday Night

You're invited to a special documentary screening of PROMISED LAND at Harbor School this Thursday evening at 6:30PM. The entire island community is invited to join us for this FREE event and participate in the panel discussion immediately following the film. For more info on PROMISED LAND, please visit: www.promisedlanddoc.com

[MORE NEWS >](#)



Harbor Choir Opportunity

I am reaching out to see if there is any interest in our community for a Harbor Choir. If you are interested in your student being a part of this emerging idea, please read on.

-Mark McGough



WHEN: The choir would meet for one hour, twice per week, on Mondays and Wednesdays, directly after school.



WHO: The choir is aimed at students in 4th through 8th grade. Family members and other community members would be valuable as participant singers and/or instrumentalists. Accompanying the choir instrumentally would likely mean less of a time commitment and so be possibly more accessible to non-students.

No prior singing experience is required. An interest and commitment to singing together is.

OBJECTIVES: Objectives are to engage a variety of musical styles, develop shared musicality, vocal quality, rhythm, harmony, sight reading, and ear training through the joy of singing in an ensemble setting. The choir would work together toward a short, 30-minute public performance.

COST: Approximately \$20 per student, per month.

TEACHER: Ms. Adrienne will be the teacher. She has been teaching from her home studio on Vashon since 2006, mainly piano but also guitar, ukulele and voice. Her musical pursuits have involved diverse vocal training and performance, ranging from numerous ensemble and accompanist settings to writing, arranging and directing original vocal projects. She currently sings in the Seattle Symphony Chorale and plays piano for Vashon's historic Portage Philharmonic big band.

NEED: We would need a minimum of about 8 singers to get this idea going so if you are interested please let me know. Once we have enough interest we will formalize a start date.

If you are interested in having your child participate or have questions about the choir, please email Mark at mark@hARBORSCHOOL.ORG.



Kindergartener William at the Book Reading Event last week.

The Harbor Fund



**\$50,000
IS OUR GOAL**

**\$11,700
PLEGGED
SO FAR**

24% Raised!

A high level of parent and alumni family participation in giving to an annual fund campaign is a strong indicator of a healthy independent school and further improves the school's ability to secure valuable grants from private and public foundations.

CLICK HERE & DONATE NOW

Harbor Fund Pledge Forms are available in the main office at Harbor School. If you have questions about making a gift to The Harbor Fund? Please email Allison Reid at allison@hARBORSCHOOL.ORG.



GAME TIME!



YAY!





New Unit Starts

Whales, dolphins, and porpoises—*Oh my!* We've launched a new unit and our K-3 students are turning into quite the cetology experts. One of our kindergartners told a guest about whales evolving from a creature with a nose to their current form with a blowhole. He aided understanding by pointing to his own nose and drawing a line with his finger up over his forehead, stopping at the back of his head. *Way to go!*

Pop in to see our whale measurements in the main hall where we compared the size of seven cetaceans using rolls of receipt paper and a lot of teamwork. You should also consider a visit to check out our guest speakers on November 16th starting at 12:30 and November 30th at 1:00. First, we'll be hearing from **Jeff with Killer Whale Tales**, followed by **Orca Annie** and **Odin Lonning** with a presentation weaving together science, art, and Native American culture.

Some students have asked us to write down web addresses for them so they can continue their learning at home. In addition to the many library books we have displayed, we have come across some great online resources during our own research for this unit including, but not limited to, the following:

Gentle Giants of the Salish Sea – *interactive lessons from the Friday Harbor Whale Museum*

► <https://whalemuseum.org/pages/gentle-giants-of-the-salish-sea>

Seattle Aquarium – *Cetacean Fact Sheet*

► <http://www.seattleaquarium.org/document.doc?id=2417>

Monterey Bay Aquarium – *Animal Fact Sheets*

► <https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animal-guide/marine-mammals>

PBS Amazing Facts About Whales – *YouTube video*

► <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0zi7lcyatt0>

National Geographic – *videos via their website*

► <https://video.nationalgeographic.com/>

Stay tuned as we dive a little deeper into whale anatomy, migration, communication, human interaction and impact!

Spanish with Profe

Auggie loves salad. Will he find a salad? Over the next few weeks, your student will be able to answer that question!

<http://huachinango.wikispaces.com/La+Cabra+se+llama+Auggie>

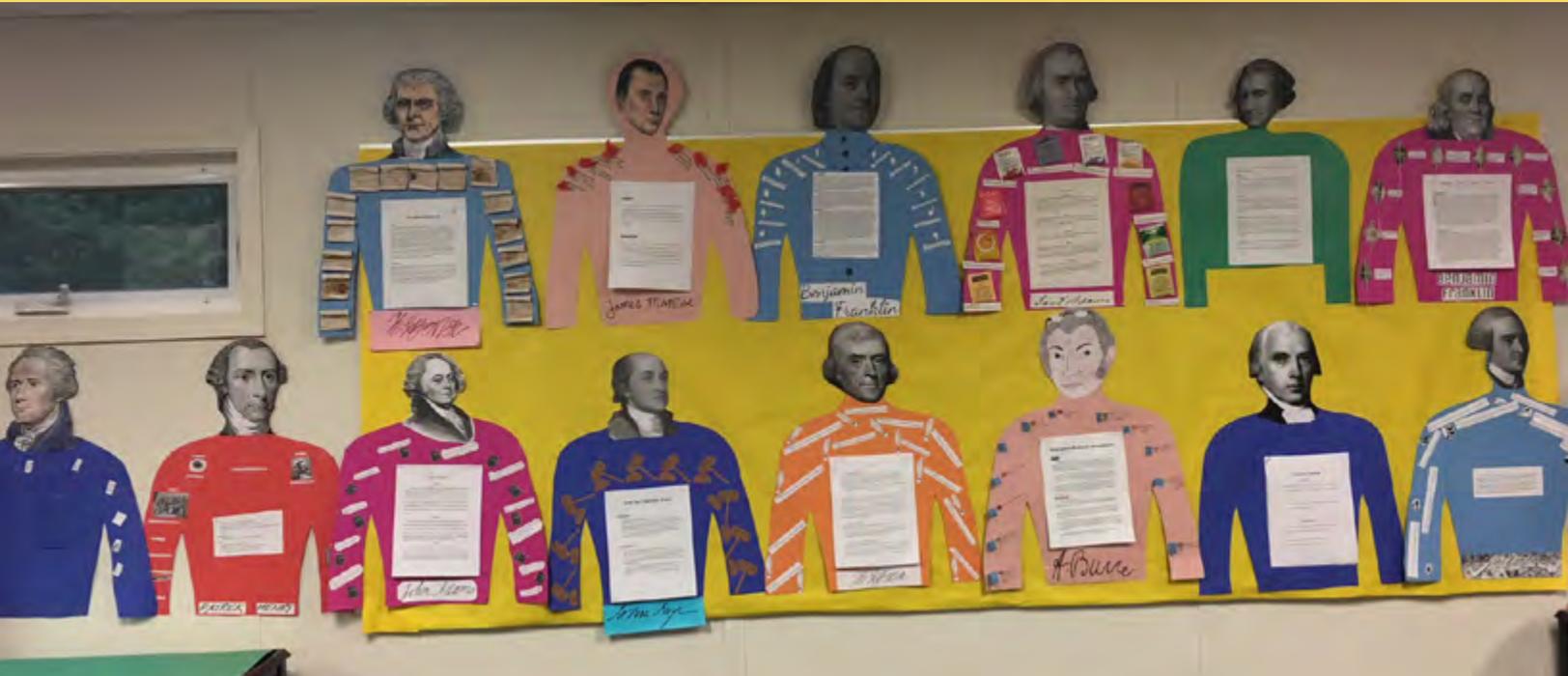
WORD ON THE STREET: *una ensalada*

PRONUNCIATION: *(oo-nah ehn-sah-lah-dah)*

MEANING: a salad

[MORE NEWS >](#)





In the Social Studies classroom you can see the 8th grade class' Founding Fathers work on display.

Spanish with Profe

GRADE 6: Auggie loves salad. Will he find a salad? Over the next few weeks, your student will be able to answer that question!

<http://huachinango.wikispaces.com/La+Cabra+se+llama+Auggie>

WORD ON THE STREET: *una ensalada*

PRONUNCIATION: (oo-nah ehn-sah-lah-dah)

MEANING: a salad

GRADE 7 & 8: Chapter 5 of *Tumba* is EXPLOSIVE! Guard your sister, Alex! Sergio is in the cemetery! Grammar focus is on the preterite tense. We are getting to a point in our journey where details matter.

WORD ON THE STREET: *se alegran*

PRONUNCIATION: (say ah-lay-grahn)

MEANING: they are happy/it makes them happy

Science with Zoë

GRADE 6: We are busy watching, explaining and making models of chemical reactions. Ask your kiddo to describe the combustion of methane!

GRADE 7: Students are dissecting parts of plants (*flowers, stems, leaves, and roots*) to learn more about the amazing structures and functions of our photosynthesizing friends. They have been tracking the growth and development of their plants; we are hoping for flower production soon!

GRADE 8: We are nearing the end of the 8th grade Human Body unit. This week, students will begin work on the project of teaching their Upper Elementary Buddies about a particular system of the body. This project is always a ton of fun learning for both 8th graders and their buddies.

Social Studies with Laurretta

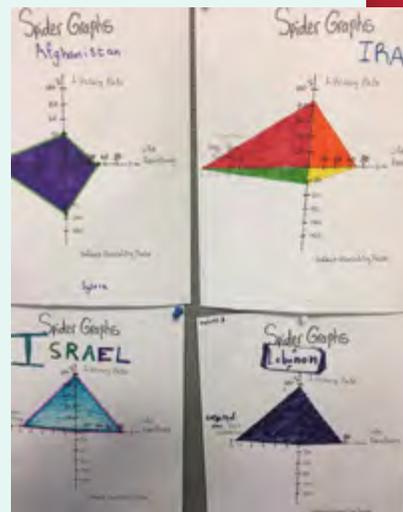
GRADE 6: 6th graders are learning about Ancient Greek art and myths. Here, students replicated pots from the archaic period.

GRADE 7: Students looked at economic indicators of Middle Eastern countries in Social Studies.

GRADE 8: 8th graders took a closer look at our founding fathers realizing these were very human people with flaws and foibles as well as tenacity and brilliance. On Monday, the 8th grade is doing a "tour and explore" of the federal court in Seattle as part of their Civics unit.



ABOVE: Ancient Greek art drawings by the 6th grade.



LEFT: Economic indicator graphs by 7th graders.