



news



Calendar

- 10/28: Halloween Dance
*Grades 4 - 8 at THS
(See page 2 for details)*
- 10/31: Poet's Afternoon, 1:30PM
Carpe Diem Primary
- 11/01: SCREENAGERS, 6:30PM
Special Viewing at Harbor School - FREE to Public
- 11/02: HS Test Prep Class (1 of 3)
3:15-5PM
8th Grade Sign-Up Course
- 11/04: Early Dismissal at Noon
THS & CD
- 11/07: HS Test Prep Class (2 of 3)
3:15-5PM
8th Grade Sign-Up Course
- 11/11: NO SCHOOL: *Veterans Day*
- 11/14: HS Test Prep Class (3 of 3)
3:15-5PM
8th Grade Sign-Up Course
- 11/15: Open House, 6:30PM
at Harbor School
- 11/16: Team Pizzazz Invention Convention, 8 - 9AM
Harbor School
- 11/18: Jumping Mouse!
Carpe Diem Primary
- 11/21 - MS Conferences
11/22 *No Classes for 6th, 7th & 8th*
- 11/23- THANKSGIVING Break
11/25 *No School*
- 12/01: Trivia Night with Mark
6:30pm
Snapdragon - Adults only!
- 12/09: Early Dismissal at Noon
THS & CD
- 12/15: Winter Celebration
Carpe Diem Primary
- 12/16: Holiday Community Potluck, 5-8PM
Burton Lodge

Hide & Seek

I am often struck by how sophisticated our students are. I watch as they analyze poetry, construct essays and arguments, design computer animations or games, negotiate the social life of school, help others be successful, develop positive relationships with many different adults, solve complex equations, memorize and recite poems and sing songs at the top of their voices without any of the shyness or worry that many adults would display in the same situation.

I try to remember what my years in school were like and while I know that my memories are a little murky, I have a sense that my peers and I were far less sophisticated than the students of today.

That said, I was also reminded again this week that while they are sophisticated and articulate and confident, they are also still children. With the weather turning gray and wet, a number of PE classes this week used the community room at the O Space to get some energy out. And so it was that during the last period on Thursday, half of the 8th grade class were down in that space running around and playing tag. With about fifteen minutes of class left, the request was made to play hide and seek. I sat and watched as our eldest, most sophisticated



Middle Schoolers at Open Space for PE this week.

students engaged in a simple game of hide and seek. This game was marked by giggles and squeals as each of their classmates were found and followed by a smiling request to play again.

And so I ended the day yesterday reflecting on our students - both their sophistication and their childhood - and I realized again that however they present themselves, they are still children and it is important for all of us to help them find the time and the space in their lives to be both. - Mark McGough

On the Air

Vashon's own radio station KVSH 101.9 invited Mark McGough to visit their Morning Scramble show this past week. Mark was interviewed by **Truman O'Brien** and **Melodie Woods**, the Tuesday morning hosts. Their morning theme was focused on "change" which was fitting for Harbor School since we've seen some changes of our own this past year.

If you'd like to hear the show, you can listen to the archived segment from October 25 with Truman & Melodie by clicking on the link below:

<http://www.voiceofvashon.org/3083/morning-scramble>





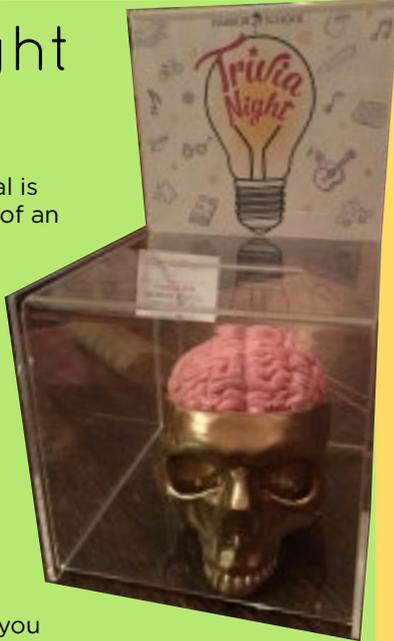
Trivia Night at Snapdragon.

Trivia Night Winners

Do you know what animal is represented on the logo of an Alfa Romeo? What Shakespeare play featured Lysander and Demetrius? How many fingers Anne Boleyn had?

Our first Trivia Night with Mark was held on Thursday, October 13, at Snapdragon. Twenty hearty souls braved the wind storm to put their "trivia" hats on and risk being "know-it-alls." As you might suspect, Mark's trivia expertise left everyone scratching their heads at too many outlandish and absurd questions. Three teams battled fiercely - the Lemurs, the Consumers and the faculty team Toil & Trouble. Sadly, we all succumbed to the wit and wisdom of the Lemurs who were declared the night's winner and took home the prized trophy.

Never fear, you can take the trophy from them at our next **Trivia Night with Mark on Thursday, December 1, 6:30PM at Snapdragon.** *Game on!*



Art by Melina, grade 8

Upcoming Highlights

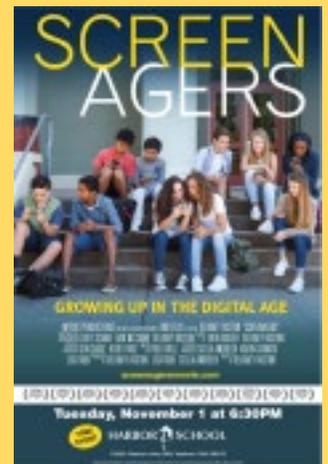
Carpe Diem's Poet's Afternoon is October 31

Carpe Diem's annual performance *Poet's Afternoon* is happening on **Monday, October 31**, beginning at 1:30pm. Students have been working hard, rehearsing and preparing selected poems and songs to sing. Head on over to Carpe Diem at the Presbyterian Church and join us in the Chapel for *Poet's Afternoon!*



Don't Miss SCREENAGERS on November 1

Harbor School will host a special showing of **SCREENAGERS** on **Tuesday, November 1, at 6:30PM** for those of you who missed seeing it at Vashon Theater. This event will be held at Harbor School and is **FREE** and open to the public!



HS Preview Recap



We held our 5th High School Preview Event on Monday, October 24, and welcomed representatives from Annie Wright Schools, Bellarmine Preparatory School, Charles Wright Academy, The Northwest School, SAMI/SOTA/IDEA, and Vashon High School. Parents and students spent time learning about the various high school options in our area and our wonderful alum students and parents were on hand to talk about their own high school experiences at the featured schools. Many thanks to our alum - **Nick Spranger '14, Stuart Kraabel '14, Rhiannon Simmonds '15, Oakley Reid '13, and Tor Ormseth '15.**

If you missed the event, you can find information packets about the schools in the Language room at school should you be interested in learning more! Thanks to **Mariette Spence, Kristin Thompson** and **Jennifer Williams** for providing snacks and treats for the event.



Sophia resides in Seattle and works for Puget Soundkeeper Alliance, a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting and preserving the waters of Puget Sound. She is a graduate of Colgate University and Pace Law School.



A Message from Sophia Ressler '01

It is not hard to trace the origins of my path to becoming an environmental attorney directly back to Carpe Diem and Harbor School. Some of my fondest childhood memories include afternoons at Jumping Mouse, exploring the beaches of Vashon with my class or sleeping under the stars in the San Juan Islands on our beginning-of-the-year trips. Not only did Harbor School give me the academic foundation I needed to succeed in high school, college and beyond, but it also nurtured in me a sense of community and a desire to help the world around me.

A Harbor School education is the gift that keeps on giving. My journey started as a member of the first class at Carpe Diem, but it didn't end when I walked off the stage after my 8th grade graduation. My first job out of law school was obtained through a Harbor School connection, and hopefully one day I will be the one hiring Harbor School graduates!

It is my hope that many future generations of kids have the same amazing experience that I had at Harbor School. This hope can only be realized with the help of financial contributions from supporters like you. I give back to Carpe Diem and Harbor School because I am so grateful for the amazing education I received, the lifelong friends I made, and the school's commitment to small class sizes, close student-teacher relationships and Travel Study. I encourage you to join me in making a donation today. We can all provide for this wonderful educational opportunity for students now and in the years to come.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and commitment to continuing the legacy of this supportive and incredible learning community.

Best,

Sophia Ressler, *Harbor School Class of 2001*

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[DOWNLOAD PLEDGE FORM](#)



Gratitude

Open House thanks go out to **Jennifer Brenner, Erika Ellison, Martha Ormseth, and Melissa Winnard** for providing treats on October 15.

Art Supplies for Uweza

A big thank you to everyone who has already contributed art supplies to the Uweza Art project in Kibera, Nairobi. We have received a number of art supplies that will go with island artist Olivia Pendergast when she flies to Kenya in late November. However, in order to make contributions to the project even easier, Olivia has set up an online link for Harbor School.

She is asking that you do not contribute money (*even though this is an option online*). What we really need is for you to purchase specific supplies from the list that Olivia has created and she will take these with her.

If you are interested in supporting the project, you can visit the link at <http://www.dickblick.com/ara/lists/7117/home>

GETTING TO KNOW...



With Carpe Diem students at Jumping Mouse (left) and at the Arboretum.



Jaffrey during his Harbor School days!

Q&A with Jaffrey Clark, Carpe Diem Teacher

How long have you been teaching at Carpe Diem?

JAFFREY: This is my fourth year at Carpe Diem or my seventh if you include my years as a student here. [You got that right! Jaffrey is an alumni of both Carpe Diem and Harbor School].

If you had to list just 3 things that you love most about teaching at Carpe Diem, what would they be?

JAFFREY: The first - getting to know students and watching them grow over the course of four years. Second - having wonderful and inspiring co-teachers to team with. And third - the sense of community between teachers, students, and families.

When you were 10 years old, do you remember what you wanted to be when you grew up?

JAFFREY: My mom was a preschool teacher at Creative Preschool and between her and the awesome teachers I had at Carpe Diem and Harbor School, I was always

inspired to grow up to teach!

Do you play a musical instrument?

JAFFREY: Yes, the guitar.

Do you speak any foreign languages?

JAFFREY: Spanish.

Do you like to travel? What is a favorite destination?

JAFFREY: I love all travel but with the winter coming I am most excited to plan a trip to the Methow Valley for endless cross country skiing!

What was the last book you read?

JAFFREY: *All The Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr.

Do you have a hobby that might surprise us?

JAFFREY: I am an avid vegetable gardener.

Last, but most important - what's your favorite flavor of ice cream?

JAFFREY: Chocolate, or vanilla with chocolate chips!



Posted: Team Pizzazz Visits VCC

Harbor School is a member of Puget Sound Independent Schools (PSIS) - an organization that promotes the value of local independent school education. This past week, PSIS highlighted our Upper Elementary students' recent trip to Vashon Community Care. It was the first service learning project of the year for Team Pizzazz.

"We are doing a unit of study currently on simple machines, inventors, and inventions, and looking to forge relationships with our community in a service effort. So, after brainstorming in our class meeting, we went to the VCC to 'crowd source' ideas. This meant being prepared to ask our elder friends what dreams they have for inventions they'd like to see. We took the ideas back to our workshop, aka classroom, and are beginning to think and sketch. The kids are coming up with some inventions based upon their conversations with our island neighbors, putting those ideas into simple drawings, and turning them into a community kindness project." - Teacher Erin

< Be sure to "like" the Puget Sound Independent School page on Facebook.



Crafternoon

Last Friday at Carpe Diem we held our first crafternoon event of the year! Crafternoons happen three times a year, and are afternoons of fun seasonal and thematic craft projects. **Emma Hathaway**, in addition to being a wonderful assistant in Andrea's art classes, is the creative mastermind behind all of our crafternoon activities (*she's also parent to Blake, grade 6, and Ava, grade 3*). This year's fall crafternoon was a great success, and even included the making and eating of stone soup! Alexis was pleased and surprised to find the stone in his serving of soup at the end of the day! Many thanks to Emma for creating such a sweet and cosy experience, and thanks to our many volunteers who made it possible: grandparents Zoe and Roxy, parents Terra, Haley, Joy, and Rebecca!

Jumping Mouse

We went to Jumping Mouse on Friday! A huge thank you to Laura and Wes who helped students press fresh apples to make cider.

Poet's Afternoon

Poet's Afternoon is next Monday, October 31 at 1:30pm. Remember that your child is welcome to dress up in a way that relates to their poem. We have been busy practicing and look forward to performing for you all!

Field Trip Drivers

We are still looking for drivers for our field trip to the Seattle Children's Theatre on November 8 to see *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. Please email jaffrey@harporschool.org if you can drive a group of students to and from the theater on 11/8!

Spanish with Profe

We are singing *Sun Sun Ba Ba E (Soon Soon Bah Bah Eh)*, a classic children's song. Our version is done by Jose Luis Orozco. Listening to his songs at home or in the car are great ways to increase exposure. We are continuing to work our story *La Cabra se llama Auggie*. Here is a link if you would like to practice with your student.
<http://huachinango.wikispaces.com/stories>



Practicing for Poet's Afternoon next week.

Poet's
Afternoon

Monday
OCT 31
1:30PM
at Carpe Diem

Upper Elementary Dates:

10/31: VCC Trick-or-Treat

Costumes may be worn to school - please bring change of clothes. We'll be headed to Carpe Diem for Poet's Afternoon at 1:30 as well.

11/4: Meet-n-Greet

8:00-8:20am
This is a half-day with p/u at noon.

11/16: Invention Convention

8:00-9:00am. Everyone welcome!

11/22: Final Lit Group Project



Creating vibrant leaf prints in art class.



OMAX Field Trip on Friday.

From Erin's Weekly Email

Early is On-time

Getting up and waking up can be challenging to do, especially with our days growing shorter and our mornings growing darker. However, getting to school early is incredibly helpful and settling to your students. It allows them time to organize themselves, turn in any necessary assignments, and then catch up with their friends, read a book, or play outside and then peacefully transition into beginning their day. Please help your child arrive to school early to give them a chance to begin their day stress-free. How early, you ask? Between 7:40-7:50 is dreamy. Thanks for your support!

Service Learning

Our current unit of study on *Simple Machines, Inventors, and Inventions*, is the lens that we used to tie into our first service learning opportunity of the year. Last week, in order to forge relationships with our community via "crowd sourcing," which to us meant asking our intergenerational friends what dreams they have for inventions they'd like to see with their current needs, observations, experiences, dreams, or other, we went to the Vashon Community Care to gather information. And wow, the kids were great! They were prepared with thoughtful yet very open-ended questions that sparked conversation, gave opportunity to live outside of their comfort zone in chatting with people of a different generation, and implement respectful conversing technique. Then, we took these ideas back to our workshop, aka our classroom, to do some thinking and sketching. The kids then came up with some inventions to solve problems based upon their conversations with the VCC residents, are putting their ideas into some simple drawings, and are turning them into greeting cards in art class with Alisara. (As a side note, they chose greeting cards because the goal for us of this project on our end is to connect with community through kindness.)

Next, students will decide what they want to do with these cards. Will we deliver the cards back to the people who inspired us, sell them to our community and donate the money to VCC, or something else? The kids are undecided as to which they'd rather do as of now; stay tuned for more information as to the next steps once students decide which they think will have the most impact and significance to their greater island community.

Literature Groups

As you all know, **Literature Groups** has a variety of goals: 1) To push kids to read books that they might not otherwise choose or be able to read independently; 2) to create a culture of reading that spans beyond the idea that it has to be independent and can in fact be a really engaging and social experience sharing a book with other people; and 3) to present big ideas, challenging concepts, and controversial topics to kids in a safe and supportive environment at both home and school. During the literature circles where we meet weekly to discuss the section just-read, students have been doing a fantastic job utilizing the Story Quads to help them understand the major plot points, character growth and experience, make predictions, and generally read between the lines making inferences about the text. We have had great discussions, notably when students have different interpretations about the decisions characters have made and how it might impact their growth or impact other characters.

After this week's reading, we'll officially be more than halfway through the literary adventure *Sky Jumpers*. This is a great time to remind your student about the opportunity to begin synthesizing, summarizing, and utilizing their discoveries so far, and looking ahead to settling on a final project to begin work on. You can find the information about final project options on the Literature Groups Overview sheet sent home at the beginning of this reading endeavor.

Math

This week in mathematics, we had a very cool opportunity. **Jason Staczek**, Ivy's dad, visited on Wednesday to guide us through the wonderful world of coding. He gave us some basics about what coding is, how to use it, and gave students time to try out coding of their own using Apps on our iPads. We learned a new math logic puzzle, *Hidato*, and will play Math Dice, which is a speed-game to practice utilizing the basic operations (*add, subtract, multiply, divide, exponents, parenthesis*) to get as close as possible to a target number. We will return to utilizing our Singapore Math books next week.

Spanish with Profe

We are continuing to work our story *La cabra se llama Auggie*. Here is a link if you would like to practice with your student.

<http://huachinango.wikispaces.com/stories>

Science with Zoë

6TH Grade

Students are making fantastic products that show off their knowledge of atomic structure, chemical reactions and conservation of mass. Students should be able to complete the projects during class time and are not expected to take projects home unless arranged with Zoë. All products are due next Friday.

7TH Grade

Students are making fantastic products that show off their knowledge of atomic structure, chemical reactions and conservation of mass. Students should be able to complete the projects during class time and are not expected to take projects home unless arranged with Zoë. All products are due next Friday.

8TH Grade

We are exploring the urinary and nervous systems this week. Next week, students will begin work on their "Teach a Body System" project where they will be assigned a system and teach that system to their Team Pizzazz buddies.

Social Studies with Laurretta

6TH Grade

We have been working on test-taking skills and strategies as we review and study for the unit test on Mesopotamia. I have been talking with the kids about synthesizing information - pulling it all together - and they are doing a fantastic job with this difficult skill.

7TH Grade

We are wrapping up the Food Unit with a final test on Friday. We have had great discussions this week on genetically modified food and have also had Emily Hyde (*an amazing person!*) come in and discuss the issue of food waste in America and the world. Your students have been remarkably engaged in this unit - I have had great fun teaching this enthusiastic, thoughtful group. Thank you for choosing our little school.

8TH Grade

Students have completed section 2 of Civics, how we went from being British citizens to American citizens. We are now engaged in the founding father project. Your student has one founding father to investigate. He or she will focus on the CHARACTER of that "father" and will be doing a character analysis using supporting evidence to convince us they are correct -or at least on the right track - in their analysis of their founding father. What they learn is often great fodder for dinner time conversation.



Science: Atom model
by Morgan, grade 7

English with Todd

6TH Grade

This week was dedicated to our VFW papers. With the revising mantra of "change is good" ringing in their heads, students closely re-examined their rough drafts and made some hard choices about what to keep, add, move, remove, or change. After engaging in peer revisions, they then moved on to the more delicate work of editing and proofreading. Students seemed to especially enjoy searching their essays for words from the long list of 'Awful Words.' And finally, on Friday, they handed in their final drafts. I'm proud of their two weeks of hard work!

7TH Grade

We concentrated on our VFW papers this week. I was very impressed to see how the seventh graders approached the prompt ("*the America I believe in*") with both passion and independence of mind. They were honest in their assessment of our country's strengths and areas of possible improvement; for many students, it was clear that their America is not only defined by freedom and equality, but also by the pursuit of those ideals. By the end of the week, I was truly inspired by their vision of an America that is inclusive and accepting of all people.

8TH Grade

This week, we completed our VFW papers, all while continuing to marvel at the work of Emily Dickinson. We looked closely at her use of ballad meter in '*Because I could not stop for Death,*' and we even used the poem to sing along to the theme song of '*Gilligan's Island*' (*try it - it works!*). Students then composed

their own poems in ballad meter, where they looked to create a contrast in form and content, just like Dickinson.

Math with Leslie

Leslie was out of the classroom attending the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Regional Conference & Exposition in Phoenix for professional development. In her absence, students enjoyed a micro unit on computer coding thanks to **Dylan Fitterer** and **Jason Staczek**. These two Harbor School parents have generously agreed to come in and share their knowledge of computer coding. Whether a beginner or a comfortable intermediate, these instructors can meet your student at their level, offer encouragement and great ideas for further exploration. A big thank you to both of them for making time to enrich our mathematics program.

LEVEL 6 - MATH 6

On Tuesday we took our quiz on **Chapter 2: Fractions**. On Monday we will begin **Chapter 3: Decimals**.

COURSE 2 - MATH 7

We continue with **Chapter 2: Equations**. Tuesday we spent some quality time trying to get a firm grip on the Distributive Property.

LEVEL 7 - PRE-ALGEBRA

Study guides were passed out on Wednesday for **Chapter 3: Introduction to Algebra**. Monday we will complete lesson 3.3 leading to a review on Tuesday and a test on Wednesday.

Algebra with Zoë

We have just wrapped up the Factoring Polynomials unit. Look for the unit test to come home on Monday.

[MORE NEWS >](#)



Spanish with Profe

6TH & 7TH Grade

We have taken our first test. It was over our story *La Bruja y su lobo*. As a follow up, students worked in pairs to peer edit the test. We are also beginning a story called *La Noche de Brujas* on Edpuzzle.com. All students should have signed up for an account for our class (*it is free*).

8TH Grade

Día de los Muertos projects came together nicely this week. I am pleased with our students' diligence and detail. We continue to work with two stories, *La Noche de Brujas* and *Día de los Muertos* on Edpuzzle.com. Students have also been writing an independent story based on focus vocabulary. Students will storyboard this story into a presentation due Wednesday, November 2. In hopes of opening an avenue for personal creativity, I am giving students a wide range of options how they wish to present.



HIGH SCHOOL PREP CLASS DATES SET

The High School Prep Class for current 8th graders interested in applying to private or independent high schools for Fall 2017 will be held at Harbor School on the following dates:

Wednesday, November 2, 3:15 - 5:00PM

Monday, November 7, 3:15 - 5:00PM

Monday, November 14, 3:15 - 5:00PM

The course will focus on the **Princeton Review's 2017 Edition: Cracking the SSAT & ISEE**. Instructors will be Leslie Blair and Todd Wooster. The course book is included in the cost of the class - \$150 per student.

If you have not signed up but would like to participate, please email Mark at mark@harborschool.org.

In art, 8th grade students are looking at Jacob Lawrence's method of creating series work. Their task is to design a three-panel series that is visually unified. The theme the students are working on is 'A Story Worth Telling.' After discussing the role that family stories, religious stories, cultural histories, folklore, and myths have in our lives, the students decided for themselves what story they wanted to tell. Students are at different stages of completing their work. The art featured here is a work in progress by Bright and is an environmental piece, featuring a dystopian world that is based in her manga fandom.