

The PACESETTER

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF PACE AT LOCKWOOD – Summer 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello PACE Families!

“Take pride in how far you’ve come. Have faith in how far you can go. But don’t forget to enjoy the journey.”

- Michael Josephson

This quote really spoke to me about our last two school years, our fifth graders graduating from the elementary school ranks, and our beloved PACE program. This year has, yet again, brought many challenges and so many accomplishments. I thank you all for the volunteering, hard work, and determination for PACE and Lockwood.

It is so great to see what we have done in 2022 thus far: re-enrollment, added new families to PACE, Mini Units, incursions, virtual field trips, Día Del Nino, and Outdoor Ed. Thank you for sticking with us and embracing all that PACE has to offer, I know next year we will be even better! We appreciate every family and getting back to the core of PACE will be both fun and rewarding for many families to experience!

- **Jessica R.**

PACE at Lockwood President

FIRST GRADE



The sunshine is really bringing out the best in our first-grade class! They’ve done two field trips so far, and each has had its own exciting adventures. First, we went to the North Creek Forest for a walking guided tour to explore the amazing creatures and plants it has to offer. Each group had a completely different experience and spent the next few days in class writing about all they took in. After a few weeks learning about the ocean, our second field trip was down at Edmonds Marina Beach for a low-tide exploration walk. We saw sea anemones, sea stars, and some students even got their feet wet in the water while learning all sorts of lessons, touching creatures, and remembering extra shoes for the rest of the school day. After returning from the beach adventure, they continued to write about what they saw and experienced there. Mrs. Ekstrom is trying to limit them to writing just the facts, but that appears to be difficult since they’re all such creative and silly (in a good way) students.

Our class seems to be fond of writing their own books and creating a business to sell them. To fuel their entrepreneurial hearts, they (with parent help) met at a park in early April. During this “book fair” they sold the books they created over the previous weeks in their free writing time in class, pricing

them based on the size and subject of each book. Some even had multiple chapters, and all had a cover designed by them. Parents that were able to attend were proud to see students developing a successful sale of their work. The class even selected a “boss” who helped direct people to the right student author for a fair price. Real money was collected for each student that brought a completed book, and the sale was ultimately a success. There was even some time to play at the playground together.

All our students are now diving into the last math unit which includes telling time and some geometry. Most didn’t get much hands-on geometry education since they were on Zoom for kindergarten last year. It has been great to see them helping each other learn to split shapes in half while calling out the names of each one. Telling time has been a fun skill to watch them develop, with most being great at knowing their own schedule as well as that of the classroom. Now they’re recognizing the time as they move from each activity to the next, and it’ll be fun to see that continue in later months. Of course, we’re all looking forward to the summer months when telling time will not be needed as much!

- **Natalie V.**

SECOND GRADE



It's hard to believe that the school year is almost over for our second-grade PACE students, but here we are and with no signs of slowing down. The much-anticipated Coho salmon fry have been released into Swamp Creek. This was such a meaningful experience for our children to witness this transformation firsthand, and play a part in the conservation of our local natural resources.

Several celebrations and special events have dominated the calendar in the past few months. Students have celebrated their family culture, recent art projects at the Art Walk, Teacher Appreciation Week, and an ice cream social. Fasten your seatbelts for upcoming events which include Dia Del Nino, a zoo field trip, a sculpture park field trip, and Outdoor Ed.

The Star of the Week program enters the final stages of completion. Students have been eager to share

information about what makes them special, and to hear their fellow students provide supporting dialogue along with personal letters. This has been a very special project for students to complete.

Many plants are growing in the classroom as students continue to care for and monitor marigolds and peas. Clever planting allows students to observe the root structure below the surface as well as the plant above.

Currently, our second graders are working on their speaking parts for three separate plays that they will present as puppet shows to the kindergarten class. Students will begin creating their one-of-a-kind puppets for their characters this week.

- Dana H.

THIRD GRADE



Can someone stop the time, please!

Did it hit you yet that our third graders have only one month left of school? Are you already planning summer camping trips, hikes, camps, pool parties, and visits with family? We sure are.

The last few months brought a lot of fun. We had Science Fair, Career Day, and then Art Walk. Our students did excellent during the Science Fair. We are grateful that some of our third-grade parents participated in Career Day and shared information with all the Lockwood students about their job and why they like it. Thank you! During the most recent Art Walk our class presented clay orca magnets as their project. Thank you to our creative art docents Manni and Natalie.

Science over the last few months was all about the life cycles of plants and animals. Currently, students are incubating caterpillars that hopefully will turn into butterflies before the end of the school year. We had fun during our field trip to Juanita Bay in Kirkland. Thanks to amazing bird watching experts, our students learned about types of birds, their sounds, how they nest, and their habitat. We also spotted an otter, a bunch of turtles, and interesting plants. The great gray heron seemed to not be on the best terms with the turtles, but they figured out in the end how to enjoy the marsh and wetlands together. I can't wait for a few more field trips coming up in June to the Olympic Sculpture Park and Bothell Historical Museum.

It was wonderful to run into many familiar faces during our PACE ice cream social at Rhododendron Park. My son was excited about the ice cream, but also because he had several classmates to play with.

During math, our third graders mastered fractions and geometry. They also re-visited all third-grade material in preparation for the SBA testing during the last week of May.

Students finished their segment on poetry and re-captured literary language like hyperbole, alliteration, metaphor, onomatopoeia, similes, personification, and idioms. In the last few weeks, students took their reading and writing SBA tests. They all put a lot of hard work into it.

With warmer weather, our PE teachers are taking students outside for practice. Recently, it's been all about tennis, racquetball, and sports alike. We have a few students in our classroom that also participate in track and field.

We still have the egg drop and our PACE Outdoor Ed before the end of the year. So much happening in the month of June.

Lastly, I would love to congratulate our wonderful teacher, Mrs. Dawson, for winning the Lockwood Golden Acorn Award for Outstanding Teacher of the Year. Truly well-deserved. I hope you have a wonderful summer break and we will come back in the fall to slightly grown-up, but still the same, faces as fourth graders.

- Izabela M.

FOURTH GRADE



The fourth-grade class has stayed busy as the end of the school year approaches. In math, the students completed their fractions unit, learning to add, subtract, and multiply mixed numbers and improper fractions. They worked with decimals and will finish the year learning geometry. In reading and writing, the students chose a Newberry Honor book to read and to write a book report about, and have continued reading *A Horse's Tale*. In April, author Peggy King Anderson, who wrote chapter ten in *A Horse's Tale* made a special visit to the class. In social studies, the students worked on and completed a Lewis and Clark booklet and learned about Washington state government, including the three branches of government and how a bill becomes a law. The students were able to participate in a live virtual tour of the State Capitol.

The class was able to participate in other fun events and activities both in and out of the classroom. The Science Adventure Lab ("science bus") came to the school and the

students learned about how much sugar is in the beverages we drink. A parent volunteer and their student led the class in making carp streamers and learning about other traditions associated with celebrating Children's Day in Japan. After SBA testing in May, the students were able to take a well-earned break and participate in the Dia del Nino celebration hosted by PACE at Lockwood, with class pinatas, games, crafts and delicious treats like churros and ice cream. The class is looking forward to finishing off the year with a few off-campus field trips in June, including: Oregon Trail Adventure in Redmond, an Argosy tour through the Locks, and the well-loved PACE Outdoor Education day at Carkeek Park.

Thank you for a full and fun year Ms. Tradal, parent volunteers, and Lockwood Elementary!

- **Cathy B.**

FIFTH GRADE



And POOF! It's over. Just like that. The end of fifth grade and the kids' elementary school experience came fast and furious over the past few weeks with field trips, immersions, festivals, tests, more tests, and so much more. As always, this group of kids approached everything with a smile and – let's face it – they are ready to move on.

One thing we can all move on from is this spring's weather. Has there even been a spring? Camp Cedar Springs brought all kinds of fun in the outdoors, but Day 2 was one for the history books – literally. The coldest day in May in Seattle history brought wind, rain, and hail – along with soaked "firewood." Nonetheless, Lockwood's fifth graders partnered with their soon to be classmates from Kenmore Elementary School to make the best of it.

The weather cooperated for Dia Del Nino where pinatas, face painting, penalty kicks, yard games, and photo booths were among the festivities to celebrate the "Day of the Children." Then again, when isn't it their day? Muchos gracias to all who helped put it together.

Ok, maybe the kids might argue that every day isn't Dia del Nino when it seems like every other day is another SBA test. Perhaps we should rename May the "Mes de Prueba"

(Month of testing)? Nonetheless, Mrs. Parrott had our kids organized and ready to go – but what else is new? In between tests, they've squeezed in some science including the ever-popular frog dissection.

Spring also brought field trips back into the fold (in case all those permission slips weren't already an indication), including trips to the history museum and the Ballard Locks. Also returning this year is Outdoor Ed, where hopefully the weather will cooperate!

Finally, while this marks the end of our kids Lockwood journey, it also marks the end of Mrs. Parrott's incredible career as she retires and starts her own new adventure. What an honor for our kids to be her last class and, on behalf of all the kids and parents she has taught over the years, thank you and good luck!

Every end marks a new beginning, so good luck Lockwood PACE fifth graders and Mrs. Parrott! Your new chapter will not only bring a smile to your face, but it will also bring smiles to all your friends and families.

Happy Summer! (Hopefully the sun comes out.)

- **Sean M.**