

# The PACESetter

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF PACE AT LOCKWOOD- FALL 2023

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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We are deep into fall and a recurring question on my mind since becoming president this year has been, why. Why is it that we choose to spend both our time and financial resources toward this program? Why do we continue to foster certain enrichments and community events outside of what Lockwood provides. We are all running around in our very busy lives, and to add more seems overwhelming. Believe me there are times when I've asked myself is it all worth it?

My daughter Norah then comes home and tells me of her amazing day with an incredibly devoted teacher and community, all of which would not be possible without the above-mentioned resources. Then, I preview the PACESetter (below) and further appreciate all of the value our children get from our efforts. What our children gain from the little bit of extra is truly a bargain in the grand picture. They will be taking a lifetime of memories, lessons, and experiences from family's involvement. They will learn how important it is to be an active participant in their community and recognize the value behind this for everyone. This time with our children is a tiny fraction of their lives, if I can give them this, it is all worth the effort.

Thank you to everyone for supporting this vision.

Natalie Streich

*President, 2023-2024*

*PACE at Lockwood*

## FIRST GRADE



The first graders are starting to make their mark in the PACE world as they started the school year seeing old faces and making new friends. Parents and caregivers also started volunteering in the classrooms to the delight of their children.

This Fall has included learning about apples, using descriptive language, comparing and contrasting, building foundational reading skills through rhyme, and writing about what makes our world wonderful. In early November, the kids will set off to explore the Woodland Park Zoo. Each student researched an animal of their choosing, and began writing sentences about its characteristics, what it eats, and where it lives.

For reading, the students are working on oral storytelling as a precursor to writing personal narratives. They have grown in speaking clearly, staying on topic, listening and giving specific feedback to others. The students are developing independent reading habits as they make improvements in blending sounds to read words and learning punctuation to guide expressions.

Spanish learning has also begun with lessons on Tuesdays with their teacher, Michaelah Jacoby. The kids come home singing in Spanish “Hola hola hola ¿Cómo estás? Yo muy bien y tu ¿Que tal?” (Hello hello hello how are you? I'm very good and you, how are you?).

Art docent lessons are kicking into gear too with the first one focusing on texture. The kids studied art by Henri Rousseau as they explored the textures of leaves, pinecones, stems and used them as art tools. They made prints by applying paint to the natural materials and placing them on paper. We look forward to the continued exploration, growth, learning and development of the first-grade class as they continue to have fun and bond with their PACE classmates.

- **Holly Q.**

## SECOND GRADE



During the first few weeks of math, students dove back into the level where they left off at the end of 1st grade. This is a great way to refresh their knowledge before jumping into new math. Now our students are getting to know each other as mathematicians; practicing our math addition and subtraction facts within 20 to develop automaticity, playing math games, investigating geometric shapes using tangrams, solving math mysteries, learning about place value and the basics of analog time-telling and working in the “Tiger” book.

During reading, our students practiced taking the time to read with intent. During writing, Mr. Wallace introduced students to narrative writing and helped students practice their writing stamina.

Kids had fun writing and drawing illustrations for their own version of the “Goodbye Summer, Hello Autumn” story.

For a science segment, our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders have been learning about the globe, maps and how they are created, the meaning of symbols and how to read them and Compass Rose. Ask your student about the “Me on the Map” project. Our students were also busy creating self-portraits, covers for their folders and personalized labels for their book bins. They created adorable clay pumpkins that are waiting to be glazed and made hand-churned vanilla ice cream together. We are planning our first Food Docent class for November.

Our classroom was fortunate to have their first Field trip back in September to Issaquah Salmon Hatchery.

Students were able to go and tour the hatchery in person with our 5<sup>th</sup> grade buddies. We learned new vocabulary like *fry*, *alevin*, *eyed egg*, *fertilized egg* and what kind of salmon we have in the PNW.

Our students had lots of fun during our 2<sup>nd</sup> field trip to Kelsey Creek Farm. Two historic barns sit prominently on the crest of a hill, overlooking shallow valleys on each side. These barns, listed in the State Heritage Barn Register, were once home to the Twin Valley Dairy. This farm also offers a visit with their animals like horses, ponies, cows, pigs, chickens, ducks, rabbits, goats and sheep.

Some of our 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classroom traditions so far are: Daily Paws Ticket drawing, candy reward and desk fairy. In the last few months, our students practiced soccer and pacer during PE and worked hard memorizing songs for the Veteran's Day assembly.

- **Izabela Michnicki**

## THIRD GRADE



The 3rd graders have had a great start to the year, really hitting the ground running with learning and fun!

In literacy, we have been learning about characters. We have been talking about different traits and how they define our characters. The 3rd graders have been challenged with asking "What makes a character interesting?" when reading a story. We've also started to learn about different ways people use words to communicate, such as text messages, poems, letters, and books. Currently, each 3rd grader is working on a narrative story of their own.

We have been very busy in math and science as well. In math, we have been learning many strategies for both multiplication and division. Third graders have been practicing math facts in many ways - flashcards, games, quizzes, however we can - all the way up to 10s! In science, we learned about the solar eclipse and had a Nature Vision Incursion where we learned about what things cause pollution to our water and how we can help.

We have had some visits from our art docents, and we are talking a lot about different types of materials you can use to make art. These are called media, such as coal, charcoal, special pencils, oil pastels, and more.

We have done pop-out art, which is art that looks like it's "popping out" (three-dimensional).

We have also been learning about what to do when we need help during an emergency. We've been practicing learning important emergency contact phone numbers and when and why to call 911.

One highlight to the start of the year was definitely our field trip to see "Dogman: The Musical" at the Seattle Children's Theater with a very exciting bus ride on the freeway! The 3rd graders said they enjoyed seeing a favorite book brought to life and described it as something that Dave Pilkey (Dogman author) would have enjoyed! We of course enjoyed participating in Outdoor Ed (what a beautiful day on the water) and our Fall Festival. Looking forward to what the rest of the year has in store for our third graders!

- **Johannah C**

## FOURTH GRADE



Our fourth graders have been settling into their teachers and routines and having a lot of fun already this year!

Our fourth graders created beautiful and creative maps of Washington state that identify bodies of water, geographic features, and many Washington cities. This activity was capped off by a field trip to the Washington State Corn Maze.

Students have participated in many fun in-class activities, including cooking cinnamon apples and flashlight Fridays. Fourth graders also had a great time at the Fall Harvest Festival, thank you to all the parent volunteers who made it happen.

- **Brook Buettner**

## FIFTH GRADE



Our class is so happy to have Ms. Dawson again as their teacher, they had her in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade! They love her colorful classroom and their lockers! All of us are all really excited for the year to come.

There is so much learning happening so far in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, they have completed an informational essay, learned about early American civilizations and Native Americans, lots of spelling, grammar work, reading different genres of books, they have had 2 math tests and learning about ecosystems plus have done fun science projects.

Our 5th grade class has gone on 3 field trips in the last 3 months. They went to the Salmon Hatchery with their 2nd grade buddies in September. In October, they went to the Hibulb Cultural center and in November they went to Brightwater! Our field trip reps are busy planning the rest of the year and there are some cool field trips coming up! These 5th graders are going to have so much fun!

This year our class is rotating every other month with a Food/Cultural docent lesson and Art docent lesson. In our first food docent lesson, the 5th graders made homemade salsa and hot chocolate. As a guest speaker, Verence Bendana joined the class to share more about the Spanish culture, traditions and foods. In November, they had a Diwali lesson where they learned about

traditions, crafts and food.

On November 1, our class had a fun birthday celebration for Ms. Dawson. The students decorated 2 puzzle pieces to give to Ms. Dawson for her and her family to put together. Each student wrote some words on the back of the puzzle piece about Ms. Dawson.

They also enjoyed cookies, lemonade and wore party hats! Seeing the joy on the kids' faces celebrating Ms. Dawson was the best!

- **Jessica Read**