

The PACESetter

A Quarterly Publication of PACE at Lockwood



5th grade trip to Pioneer Farms

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Natalie Streich, PACE President

In 1973 an innovative mom walked into Northshore School district with an idea and desire to give more to her children and our community. It was a pleasure at our 50th anniversary celebration to hear this innovative Mom, (now grandma Sue), talk of her experience starting PACE in the one empty classroom at Lockwood Elementary. She told stories of how things used to be and how it evolved into the program today. Every year since my family has participated in PACE I've seen it change to reflect its families and the uncontrollable environment we live in. It will continue to evolve to suit our family's needs along with Northshore requirements.

As we transition into our next school year, I hope we remember what is at the core of all our hearts, the student's happiness and rare opportunity in a public institution. I hope for grace shown to our next board, volunteers and parents who are in this for their children's wellbeing. I also hope for a smooth transition for our teachers and administration with budget cuts and hard decisions needing to be made. We are lucky to have access to this program and that there are teachers who share similar mindset. It has been a pleasure volunteering as your president this term and I know Nina will be an amazing leader 2024-2025. Have a safe and enjoyable summer break and I look forward to volunteering alongside you all next year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUN 14 - EGG DROP

JUN 18 - 5TH GRADE GRADUATION PARTY

JUN 19 - NO SCHOOL

JUN 21 - FIELD DAY

JUN 25 - LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

by Kevin Q

Summer is approaching and all are ready for fun in the sun. The kids are anxiously anticipating summer vacation.

A plant unit created mini gardeners as the kids read about plants and wrote explanations of dry seeds. This played well into their emotional sharing of roses and thorns of the week, taking time to share what has brought them joy and difficulty.

With trips to the Imagine Children's Museum and Yost Park the kids had fun learning and exploring. The museum stimulated all the senses as the kids had fun taking everything in. Yost Park was a rich experience that got to draw on the knowledge of Park Rangers. The class is gearing up for a final trip to the beach in Edmonds to get hands-on experience with the Sound and the wildlife that lives there.

There has been much work in reading this year and now that all the kids are accomplished readers they are learning to identify the moral of a story and compare and contrast different stories.

Reading focused on fluency with emphasis on accuracy, speed, and comprehension. They practiced writing with a personal narrative on their spring break adventures.

In Math they have been practicing story problems, which can be tricky sorting out what information to use and how. They have been introduced to different 2D and 3D shapes and geometry concepts and how to measure things units from paperclips to marshmallows.

The children had their dinosaur concert performance in May. It has been amazing watching the kids grow and develop over the past year as they wrap up their first grade experience. We are grateful to Mrs. Ekstrom and her guidance to our kids as well as to all the help that you as parents and caregivers have contributed to the class and the PACE community in shaping our kids future.

SECOND GRADE

by Izabela Michnicki

We jumped into spring by reading a series of books nominated for the 2024 OTTER (Our Time to Enjoy Reading) Award. The OTTER Award is a list of transitional books for grades 1 to 3 provided by the King County Library System. Students have a hand in deciding the winner. Our second graders worked hard each week growing and attending to their plants that they sold during the 2nd Grade Plant Sale. Alongside learning about plants and how to care for them our students practiced counting money and calculating change.

Our students have been busy creating many clay art pieces and multi-step art during their art classes. We also joined "Survive



2ND GRADE CONTINUED...

the Sound” online game in May as a Lockwood Leopards group to further learn about salmon migration and in hopes to win extra funds for our school. It is a free, online fish tracking game that is best described as “fantasy football for fish”. This educational and outreach game using real migration data to track steelhead trout as they race towards the ocean.

Our 2nd graders continue to enjoy our monthly food docent classes. We learned about different ways to preserve food, specifically focusing on fermented food and all the amazing benefits that comes with it. We taste tested a few foods and drinks: sauerkraut, fermented dill pickles, napa cabbage kimchi, strawberry kombucha, kefir and sour milk. Our scientists took notes in their journals about the texture, smell and taste. We also observed live sourdough starter bubbling in the jar. During other food docent classes students learned how to make lemonade from scratch and waffles.

We look forward to the last weeks of school and summer break. See you next year as 3rd graders.



THIRD GRADE

Our third graders have had a very full couple of months of learning, enrichment, and fun!

After spring break, the 3rd graders dove into learning fractions. They mastered equivalent fractions, comparing fractions, and identifying fractions on number lines, and bars. They also worked on story problems, a perfect mix of reviewing math from earlier in the year, problem solving, and low level challenges.

In writing, they’ve worked on sharing their opinions, supporting it with examples, and writing solid conclusions. Students had some very strong opinions about when children should get cell phones!

In reading we’ve been working a lot on figurative language, text and graphic features, and central ideas. We’ve also learned about proper comma usage, and subject verb agreement.

3RD GRADE CONTINUED...

We have had many fun adventures outside of the classroom as well! In March, we ventured to the Everett Children's Museum where we got to dissect owl pellets! We also had an excursion to Wallace Swamp Creep Park with Nature Vision where we did some aquatic dipping for insects.

We enjoyed our trip to Pasado's Safe Haven. It was beautiful and impactful to spend the day surrounded by animals rescued from abuse or neglect. We were able to write to animals that live at Pasado's through their pen pal program. Hopefully we'll hear back from our pen pals soon!



FOURTH GRADE

by Brook Buettner



PACE 4th Graders have had an exciting few months. In April, our 4th Graders learned about the branches of government and the legislative process and enjoyed a very informative and entertaining visit to Olympia. They also had guest speakers including the Grays Harbor Port Commissioner to talk about the election process.

4th Graders participated in the Lockwood Science Fair and loved wearing white "scientist" coats to display and explain their projects.

They also participated in the 4th Grade Music Performance, and two separate trips to UW to participate in Engineering Days and before that to see a performance by a deaf dance troupe and learn about the seismology lab.

FIFTH GRADE

by Jessica Read

What an incredible year our 5th graders have had! They learned so much, grown so much, experienced so many cool field trips and are ready for middle school! Academically, they have been challenged and are learning test-taking skills to prepare for middle school classes.

This spring they had many awesome field trips! In April the class went to the Museum of Flight and Olivia gave a great summary at the general meeting! They did the flight simulation, worked together and learned so much! Our class, along with other 4th and 5th grade classrooms, attended Engineering Days at the University of Washington. The students participated in hands-on activities that demonstrate the exciting work of engineers. There were rockets and robots built by UW students and ongoing engineering experiments and challenges happening.

A foundational field trip for our 5th graders in PACE is Pioneer Farms, a beloved field trip. A Special thank you to both Rebecca Fraser and Alisa Hanft for being awesome field trip reps this year!

Thank you all for celebrating the 5th graders at the general meeting, they had a great time, and we hope it showed how impactful this program is for each student.

“The class got to walk through Native Nisqually life, spending time identifying animal tracks, playing native children's games, practicing "fishing", weaving, beading, and creating their own arrowheads. They collected cedar bark and attempted braiding cedar bark headbands and went on a nature hike to learn about local plants and how Native tribes and Pioneers used them in their daily lives.

In the evening around the campfire, we made fried bread and heard native stories and songs. Students also got to tour original Pioneer Cabins and experience Pioneer chores like grinding corn and wheat, washing clothes on a washboard, and even blacksmithing.



A highlight was meeting and helping to care for the barn animals! We used "pioneer facilities" including outhouses and sleeping in a cabin without electricity. There was a lot packed into 24 hours at the farm.

-Rebecca Fraser, 5th Grade Field Trip Coordinator on Pioneer Farms