

Polar Paw Press

Tahoma School District No. 409

Glacier Park Elementary School

February 2012

Dear Families,

We hope you've marked your calendars for our annual *Celebration of Learning* on Thursday, March 8th from 5:00 to 7:00. Students will be displaying projects and work samples, and our PTSA is sponsoring a spaghetti feast and basket raffle. Details about the schedule for this evening are included in this newsletter. Please call our school office if you have questions.

MSP Testing Dates

For your long term planning, please see the MSP assessment dates for students grades 3-5. We are excited to show Washington State what kids at Glacier Park know and can do!

May 1 Grade 4 Reading
May 3 Grade 4 Writing, Grade 5 Reading
May 8 Grade 3 Reading, Grade 4 Writing, Grade 5 Science
May 10 Grade 3, 4 & 5 Math

Valentine's Day is coming up... and our students have big hearts for others. Thank you for all you do to promote empathy!

Warmly,
Chris Thomas



Community Notices:

Please remember to check the TSD website for notices of all extracurricular activities. Go to www.tahomasd.us and click on "community notices" on the left side of the page. A copy of the Tahoma Learning Community Catalog can be viewed there as well.

For Glacier Park PTSA News:
Please visit www.gpesptsa.org

Upcoming Events

February 3rd

Missoula Children's Theater presents
"The Secret Garden" 7:00 pm GP Gym

February 8th

PTSA Board Meeting 6:00 pm
GP Library

February 10th

Early Release @ 1:10
AM Kindergarten Attends

"Wacky Hair" Spirit Day

Popcorn for sale at recess for 25 cents

February 14th

Yearbook group pictures for the 5th
grade class, band, choir, green team,
GP Broadcasting, etc. @ 9:15

February 16th

4th Grade Music Concerts
6:30 - Bennison and A. Hanson
7:30 - Hesby, Markert, Strom & Unruh

February 20th – 24th

Mid-Winter Break – No School

February 29th

District Choir Festival 7:00 at THS

March 1st

Class Pictures

Happy
Valentine's Day!

🎵 A Note from Our Music Department:

4th grade concert is on Thursday, **February 16th** with the following format:

6:30 - Bennison and A. Hanson

7:30 - Hesby, Markert, Strom and Unruh

District Choir Festival is on Wednesday, February 29th @ Tahoma High School at 7:00. Please have students there by 6:45. We will take a fieldtrip to THS for rehearsal during the day (10am-1pm). Choir kids need to come to school in the morning in their choir T-shirts, bring a completely disposable brown bag lunch, (or order a sack lunch from school), and a bottle of water. Absolutely no pop or juice please.

Be sure to mark your calendars as you won't want to miss these great musical events!

Camp Casey Information

Dear Parents/Guardians of 5th Grade Students,

As part of the 5th grade outdoor education program, students will have the opportunity to go to Camp Casey on Whidbey Island for three days at the end of March. Camp Casey offers a unique environment in which to learn and grow. Students are exposed to a historical part of the state of Washington and given the opportunity to learn about the natural environment. Classes are scheduled as follows:



| Session One March 26-28 | Session Two March 28-30 |
|---|---|
| SL – Lindstrom SL – Williams | SL – Mitchell SL – Heighton SL - White |
| LW – Cuddie LW – Newbrey, R. | LW – Finch LW – Newbrey, T. LW - Cragar |
| RC – Cassidy RC – Rodriguez RC – Aaby | RC – Lange RC – Johnson RC – Schuster |
| GP – Blechschmidt GP – Reynoldson GP – Pierce GP - Betlach | GP – Hagen GP – Conklin |



CAMP CASEY PARENT MEETING

An *optional* parent meeting for those who would like more information about the 5th grade outdoor education program at Camp Casey will be on February 15th at 6:00 in the Rock Creek Elementary School gym. Topics will include daily schedule, transportation, counselor training, staff supervision, sleeping arrangements, home-sickness, and student behavioral and nursing support.

If you have any questions, please contact Radie Haytack, Outdoor Education Coordinator at rhaytack@tahomasd.us or call 425-413-3313.

CELEBRATION OF LEARNING

March 8th

5:00-7:00

SPAGHETTI FEED

Dinner is Served ~ Come and Get It! Mark your calendar and make plans to join us for a pasta dinner before the Celebration of Learning on Thursday March 8th. Dinner includes rotini pasta with meatballs, green salad, dinner rolls & bottled water. Ages 4 and younger eat free. No worries if you can't join us at 4:30 pm as dinner service will continue through the evening until we run out!

***Note the early start time of 4:30 pm is for dinner only – Celebration of Learning starts at 5:00 pm.**

BASKET RAFFLE - It's time to fill those Baskets!

Your help would be greatly appreciated in donating items or funds towards your child's class basket. These baskets will be raffled off at our annual Celebration of Learning event. Look for a letter coming home soon from your classroom Basket Coordinator. Theme information and further details on how you can help will be included. Thank you to all who have volunteered to coordinate! If you are interested in organizing a basket or have additional questions, please contact your child's teacher or the Basket Raffle Chairperson, Kristine Munson at kristinemunson@me.com.

SILENT AUCTION

The countdown to the Silent Auction has begun!

The Glacier Park PTSA Silent Auction procurement team needs your donation. All donations made to Glacier Park PTSA for the Silent Auction will be auctioned off and all proceeds go to OUR KIDS! Please contact Co-Chair Sarah Hjort at skhjort@hotmail.com to arrange for your Silent Auction donation.

Thank you to all parents, community members and businesses who have already donated to the Auction.



Waste Free Lunch Challenge

February 1st – February 29th



Dear Parent/Guardian:

In an effort to encourage students to reduce waste, and increase awareness of environmental issues surrounding recycling, our school is participating in a month long **Waste Free Lunch Challenge** beginning on February 1st. Every time a student brings a waste free lunch they can add their name into the raffle box. At the end of the month names will be drawn out for cool recycled and waste free school supplies. Prizes include recycled back pack, message bag, lunch bags, pencil cases and lunch wraps.

If your child brings a lunch from home, please help your child pack a waste free lunch for our event. The goal for the month is to:

- ✓ Celebrate and learn about Waste Reduction by reducing the amount of waste we create from school lunches
- ✓ Reduce the cost of waste disposal school wide.
- ✓ Encourage healthy and nutritious lunches (many pre-packaged lunch items contain significant amounts of sodium, preservatives and fat)
- ✓ Help you as a parent to reduce the cost of lunches (a waste free lunch can cost as little as \$2.50 per day, whereas a regular lunch containing pre-packaged items can cost \$4.50 or more per day)

Here are some waste-free lunch packing tips:

| Yes please | Please avoid |
|---|---|
|  |  |
| REUSABLE lunch carrier | AVOID paper or plastic bags |
| REUSABLE containers (Tupperware, plastic) | AVOID plastic wrap, foil, wax, or styrofoam |
| REUSABLE drink bottle or thermos or Capri Sun these can be recycled | AVOID single-use cans, bottles, or cartons |
| CLOTH NAPKIN to wash and re-use | AVOID paper napkins |
| CUTLERY/SILVERWARE to wash and re-use | AVOID plastic forks/spoons |
| HEALTHY snacks! | AVOID over-packaged snacks |



Glacier Park is Saving Energy!



Listed below are some things that we do at Glacier Park to save energy. You might want to use some of these ideas at home to help save energy and cut costs on the utility bill.

- We have automatic light sensors in most of our classrooms.
- We frequently remind students and staff to turn off electronic equipment at the end of the school day.
- We inspect the building 3-4 times a school year to determine if there are other energy saving practices that we can employ to help us save energy.
- We set our standard heating and cooling points to 68-70 degrees during the heating season and no higher than 75 degrees for air conditioning
- We have a programmable system or weekend and vacation shutdown procedure for our HVAC system.
- Window blinds or curtains are shut at the end of the day to retain heat and opened in the morning to let in light.
- Windows and doors are closed when heating/cooling systems are on.