

Terminal Park Elementary

1101 D St SE

Auburn, WA 98002



THE EXPRESS

Terminal Park families,

Wow, we are past the halfway point of the 2014-2015 school year. We have experienced many positive outcomes from our combined efforts so far and will work hard to make the second half of the school year even better. The following information is intended to help you be more aware of what is happening at our school and better able to partner with us.

Family Math Night

It's time to get our community together for some math fun. Our family math night is on Thursday, February 5, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. We will start in the gym with a pizza dinner and presentation, then math activities will be available in various classrooms from 6:15 to 7:00, then participants will receive a treat and an opportunity for prizes back in the gym. We hope your family can join us. All ages are welcome. This will be a great opportunity to discover new, enjoyable ways to help your child learn math. We appreciate if those who are in walking distance walk to the school to allow more parking space for those who need to drive.

Request for Volunteers

We are always eager to enlist new volunteers. There are a variety of ways that parents or any community member can help out at Terminal Park. Please contact us and let us know if you're interested in volunteering or know anybody who would like to volunteer. Even if it's only for an hour a month, we can use your help. We are specifically seeking volunteers who are willing to support our primary recess from 2:10 p.m. to 2:25 p.m. This recess includes all of our kindergarten, first grade, and second grade students, and we are working hard to structure this recess in a way that teaches them all good playground behavior and allows them to have fun. Extra adults on the playground would give us more options for activities to provide and create more opportunities for students to learn social skills. If it doesn't seem worth coming to the school for only 15 minutes, we would love to have you

stay and do tutoring from about 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and then you would already be here to get your child at dismissal time at 3:10 p.m.

Kindergarten Registration

It's already time to start getting future kindergarten students ready to start kindergarten next year. We are now open for kindergarten registration for the 2015-2016 school year. Our kindergarten round-up and screening assessments won't occur until the spring, but we want to get as many kindergarteners as possible registered before then. Even if you're not sure if you will still be in our area next year, please register for kindergarten anyway so that we can keep you involved in the process. Please pass this information on to anyone you know in the area who has a child who will be starting kindergarten next year.

State Standardized Testing

As most of you know, our third, fourth, and fifth grade students are required to take state standardized tests each spring. In recent years, these tests have been called MSP (Measurement of Student Progress). With the onset of CCSS (Common Core State Standards), our state has adopted a new standardized testing system called SBA (Smarter Balanced Assessment). You may have heard that this testing is done on computers, which is correct for some, but we, along with most Auburn schools, are still doing a paper-pencil test. If you have a student who will participate in testing this year, you likely have questions. We will send you more information about the testing schedule and other details before the testing occurs.

We are striving to provide a school environment that operates efficiently and safely while also meeting the diverse needs of each student. Your feedback and participation in this process is essential. Thank you for your support.

Tom Dudley, Principal

READING CORNER ~ Jesslyn Kuzaro

RETELLING CAN IMPROVE YOUR CHILD'S READING COMPREHENSION

You've just finished reading a story with your child. One of the best ways to check comprehension and boost his understanding of the story is by asking him to retell it.

Retelling a story requires your child to think about the details and decide what's really important.

Give your child these three rules for retelling a story:

- Tell what is important.
- Tell it in a way that makes sense.
- Don't tell too much.

Your child should be able to tell you what happens at the beginning the middle and the end of the story. He should also be able to name the main characters.

You can prompt your child by asking open-ended questions, such as, "What happened next?" it's okay if your child doesn't remember all the details. That gives you a chance to say, "Let's go back and look at that part of the story again." revisiting parts of the story will show your child that he sometimes as to read things more than once to gain a thorough understanding.

Studies show that this simple activity will help your child become a more thoughtful reader. He will start to pay attention to words whose meanings he doesn't know. He will focus on the story structure and pay more attention to important details. All of these things will improve your child's reading comprehension and make him a better reader—and a more successful student!

REFLECTION WINNERS AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL

Placed in 1st:

Intermediate Photography: Emma Kuksyuk
Intermediate Music: Jenna Moon-Earle
Intermediate Literature: Emma Kuksyuk

Placed in 3rd:

Intermediate visual arts: Emma Kuksyuk

Placed in 2nd:

Intermediate Music: Jonah Huang
Intermediate Film: Kai Baltunis

Honorable Mention:

Primary Visual Arts: Victoria Opanasevyck
Intermediate Literature: Jenna Moon-Earle

HEALTH ROOM ~ Carrie Sasser, Nurse and Lisa Cullum, Health Tech

There have been many news reports regarding measles and whooping cough in our communities. The biggest threat to your children would be if they are not immunized against these two diseases. Even with that preventative measure, some cases are occurring even though the child has had their shots.

Measles is spread through personal contact. Symptoms usually appear from 9 to 12 days following exposure. If you believe your child has the above symptoms, you are advised to contact your family doctor, and notify the school nurse. Symptoms to watch for include coughing, sneezing, runny nose, sore throat and bluish-white spots on mucous membranes in the mouth before the rash appears. Red, blotchy rash appears on the third to fifth day, usually on the face and then becoming generalized.

Pertussis (commonly called whooping cough) is spread like colds, from person to person through the air by coughing or sneezing. Surfaces and hands contaminated with nose, mouth or throat secretions may also spread pertussis.

Early symptoms of pertussis are those of a cold. The child will develop a significant cough, (especially at night) that has a high pitched "whooping" sound. Sweating, exhaustion, vomiting and excessive amounts of thick mucous secretions may accompany the cough. This coughing can last four to six weeks. The child does need to be seen by a health professional and treated.

The best preventative measure is to wash hands thoroughly and often with soap and warm water. Covering mouth and noses when coughing or sneezing and re-washing hands is important. Disinfect commonly touched surfaces frequently.

COUNSELOR CORNER ~ Heidi Erdmann & Julie Gragg

Dear Family,

As you know, teachers are using the *Second Step* program in your child's classroom. The *Second Step* program teaches children important skills for getting along with others and doing well in school. It also helps our school be a safe, respectful place where everyone can learn.

To further help our school be a safe and respectful place, the counselors also teaching the *Second Step* Bullying Prevention Unit. In this unit, your child will learn specific skills to help stop bullying. Students will learn how to:

- Recognize when bullying is happening, report bullying to a caring adult, and refuse to let bullying happen
- Be a bystander who helps stop bullying
- Support someone being bullied by standing up for that person and being kind and inclusive
- Recognize, report, and refuse cyber bullying when they see or know about it happening

For bullying prevention to work, everyone at school needs to be involved. All of our staff has

received special training in how to:

- Recognize and respond to bullying
- Support children who have been bullied
- Correct behaviors of children who are bullying
- Use strategies that support a positive school and classroom climate

And we need your help, too! Get involved in making our school a safe and respectful place by letting us know if you hear about bullying at our school. Make sure your child knows to tell you or someone at school if he or she is being bullied, or if he or she knows about someone else being bullied. Give your child the clear message that it is never okay to bully others.

If you have any questions about the Bullying Prevention Unit or the *Second Step* program, please contact one of the counselors. For more information on our school's anti-bullying policy and specific procedures, check our school website or contact the school office. Thank you for helping us make our school a safe, respectful place where everyone can learn.

MUSIC NOTES Chelsea Hills

Hello Parents!

My name is Chelsea Hills and I am the new long term substitute for music here at Terminal Park. Just a little bit about me, I graduated with a degree in Music Education from Pacific Lutheran University in December and did my student teaching in the Auburn School District. I am very excited and honored to be working with your children. In third grade we will be working on getting to know all about rhythms and notes in music and some key composers of our musical history. Fourth grade is starting


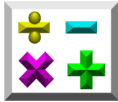





their recorder karate next week and will continue that well into April. Fifth grade has a lot to look forward to with the Classroom Based Performance Assessment (CBPA) that will be given in the next month, testing them on their knowledge of Rondo form, and learning all of the camp songs in the next three months! I am looking forward to watching these students grow in music and gain some musical knowledge that they did not have before. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at chills@auburn.wednet.edu.

Go Tigers!

Please call the school office if your student is absent or going to be absent: 253 931 4978

February 2015



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 LATE START	3 	4 SMILE! GROUP PICTURE'S TODAY	5 FAMILY MATH NIGHT 5:30-7:30 	6 	7
9 LATE START	10	11 	12 LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY	13	14 
16 PRESIDENT'S DAY OBSERVED NO SCHOOL	17	18	19	20	21
NO SCHOOL ~ MID-WINTER BREAK					
23 LATE START	24 	25	26 	27	28