

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

DECEMBER 9, 2010

Wainwright Elementary School

130 Alamenda Avenue—Tacoma, WA 98466—253.571.3444

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 10—Popcorn Day

December 14—K-2 Music Performance, 2:30 P.M. & 6:00 P.M.

December 16—Terrific Kids Assembly, 2:30 P.M.

December 17—Early Release for Winter Break, 12:15 P.M.

December 20-31—NO SCHOOL, Winter Break

January 3—School Resumes

January 4—PTA Meeting, 6:00 P.M.

January 13—Terrific Kids Assembly, 2:30 P.M.

January 17—NO SCHOOL, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 18—NO SCHOOL for Students, Staff Waiver Day

TERRIFIC KIDS TRAITS

THOUGHTFUL

ENTHUSIASTIC

RESPECTFUL

RESPONSIBLE

INCLUSIVE

FRIENDLY

INQUISITIVE

CAPABLE

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Wainwright Families,

I hope each of you had a wonderful break during the snow. I am happy to see that all students returned to school safe and sound. We are now back into the swing of learning and rigorous work. We are focused on improving our math and reading skills each day. During the coming two week break, I am counting on you to remind your child to read each day and complete challenging math problems. It is essential that we make learning a priority each day, even when we are not in school. I encourage you to help your child write wonderful stories and letters also. It may be fun to keep

a journal of all the exciting activities you do each day during the last weeks in December. Students can keep track of what they eat, the books they read, the friends they visit and many other activities.

In January we will be testing all students in reading (once again) using the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS). Please help your child be prepared for the assessment by working with them on letter recognition, letter sounds, reading fluency (with expression), and retelling what they have read. First grade students will also be tested on sight words that can be found on



*"One kind word can warm three winter months."
Japanese proverb*

our school website at www.wainwrightwildcats.org. Please help them learn the first three hundred words this year. I wish you and your family a joyful and happy break.

Mrs. Wick, Acting Principal

ASB FOOD DRIVE



DECEMBER 6-15, 2010

Our ASB Council is holding its Annual Food Drive from December 6-15. Each class is collecting as much canned and boxed food as possible to help families in our community. The council decided to award the class that collects the most items with a Rootbeer Float

Party and Rainbow Room Coupons. The class that collects the second most items will receive candy canes and Rainbow Room Coupons.

Items to be donated may include canned vegetables, fruits, meats, soup, and

other items. Boxed meals, pasta and other food items would be greatly appreciated. Also needed are soap, shampoo, tooth paste and paper items. Thank you for thinking of others at this time of year.



**We need extra sweats and jeans for our “Clothes Closet”!
Please donate clothing that your child has outgrown. When children get wet, we love to dress them in dry clothes.**

WAINWRIGHT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

130 Alameda Avenue
Tacoma ,WA 98466
www.wainwrightwildcats.org

Phone: 253-571-3444
Fax: 253-571-3446
Attendance: 253-571-3447

SCHOOL AND DISTRICT NEWS:

The first graders at Wainwright are learning how to explain the strategies to use to find unknown partners in addition and subtraction equations to 10. They are wonderful scholars and working hard to achieve their learning targets.

Parents,

Please access your child’s test score results and report card at [Grades Online](#). Please go to the Tacoma Public School website (www.tacomaschools.org) and click on [Grades Online](#) under the column, [For Students](#). Enter your child’s user ID and password (which is available from your child’s teacher) and view your child’s progress. For more information about Tacoma Public Schools, please follow the district on [FACEBOOK](#) and [TWITTER](#). Links are located on the front page at www.tacomaschools.org.

HELPING CHILDREN LEARN MATHEMATICS

From *Helping Children Learn Mathematics*, Jeremy Kilpatrick and Jane Swafford, Editors, National Academy Press, Washington, D.C.

After Children Enter School

- Have high expectations. Children’s math achievement is shaped—and limited—by what is expected of them.
- Expect some confusion to be part of the learning process but emphasize that effort, not ability, is what counts. Math is understandable and can be figured out.
- Avoid conveying negative attitudes toward math. Never tell children to not worry about a certain kind of math because it will never be used.
- Ask your child what he or she did in math class today. Ask

him or her to give details and to explain.

- Expect your child’s homework to include more than simple computation worksheets.
- Give your child meaningful problems that use numbers or shapes while you are going about everyday life. Ask the child to explain what he or she did.
- Be an advocate for the theme of math proficiency in textbooks, assessment, and instruction.
- Advocate allocating and using a regular time each school day for instruction to develop math proficiency.
- Support professional development activities for teachers and administrators.



*Families are forever.....
Love doesn’t melt.*

[VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP STUDENTS LEARN TO READ AND LEARN MATH STRATEGIES.](#)

[WE NEED YOUR HELP. OUR GOAL IS TO HAVE TWO VOLUNTEERS EACH DAY PER CLASS. WE NEED YOU. PLEASE CALL 253-571-3444 AND HELP A CHILD SUCCEED.](#)