

# MADISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## LION NEWS AND VIEWS

1225 Legion Way SE, Olympia, WA (360) 596-6300

"We Succeed with Pride"

January 2009



### MADISON MISSION

*To create a nurturing environment for students, their families, staff, and the community which encourages caring, respect, academic excellence, life-long learning, and citizenship.*

### Happy 2009 From the Principal



*Photo of Mrs. Mar-Chun's yard*

Happy New Year! This has been a season of snow storms, freezing days, school closures, and weather changes! Many of the students have stories about being hunkered down at home due to the snow storms. Most of them said they played board games, read lots, and made snowmen. It was a great time to brave the elements together as a family.

New Year's resolutions go all the way back to 153 B.C. Janus, a mythical king of early Rome was placed at the head of the calendar. With two faces, Janus could look back on past events and forward to the future.



This month is a time to look at the many great things that happen each and every day at Madison. We are proud of our accomplishments. This is also the time for us to think creatively about how we can do things better for each Madison student.

Our efforts to continuously improve are a never-ending journey. Please join us as partners in school improvement.

### Inclement Weather

**Radio:** KGY 1240AM or 96.9FM, KMAS-1030AM, KXXO-96.1FM, KAOS-89.3FM

**Internet:** <http://osd.wednet.edu> or <http://psecs.wednet.edu>

#### Reminders:

- Web or media alerts will inform families if emergency or snow bus routes are being used.
- There is no student supervision on non-school late start days

#### Snow Attire:

We allow students to play in the snow during recess if they have proper snow attire:

- Mittens or gloves
- Jacket with hood or a snow hat
- Water proof boots

**No School  
January 19  
Martin Luther  
King Day**



**Martin Luther King  
Student Activity Day  
At Madison Elementary  
Monday, January 19**

1st-5th Grade Students 9:00am-3:00pm  
Lunch Included

Sponsored by Americorps Members  
RSVP: Kaela Winn (360) 943-0780

## BIKE DRIVE – Jan. 19th

AmeriCorps members will be holding a bike drive on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Donated bicycles from the community will be distributed to those in need of transportation. If any families are interested in either donating or receiving a bicycle, please contact John Catena at [johncatena@gmail.com](mailto:johncatena@gmail.com) or at school at 596-6300.

## Madison Walk and Roll Program



**Don't forget Walking and Wheeling Wednesday!** Rain or shine students are encouraged to walk, bicycle or ride the bus to school. Students benefit from exercise and we cut down on traffic around school. Students have already traveled at least 112 miles this year. Let's see how much farther we can go. Don't miss **Hot Chocolate Wednesday January 28<sup>th</sup>** for all those walking, biking or riding the bus that day.

If you took the "Go By Bus" adventure in December (free one day bus passes were given out) we'd love to hear about your adventure. Please fill out the survey form sent via email & send it back to us or to the email address at the end of the survey. Extra surveys will also be available at the front desk. We may be able to repeat the "Go By Bus" adventure over spring break.

## FREE PARENT CLASSES

### 2nd-3rd grade Parent Math Classes

Jan. 12, 27, Feb. 2, 9  
6:30-7:30 pm  
Free child care at Madison Gym



### Building Children's Brain Power – Victoria Tennant

Jan. 27 6:30-8:30pm at SPSCC. Register for Free Childcare at 956-0818x.114

## BOWER'S BUZZ

From Mrs. Bower, our Literacy Specialist  
**What is Madison's Walk to Read Program?**



Many parents ask us what is "Walk To Read"? The "Walk To Read" program is one used in many schools nationwide as well as locally. The concept of "walk" refers to the fact that children often walk to another teacher's

classroom for their reading time.

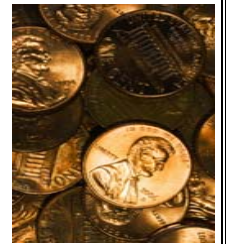
At Madison, our school-wide reading time takes place each day from 10:30 a.m. until 11:50 a.m. During this time all classroom teachers, paraprofessionals, and our librarian are involved with reading instruction.

Students are grouped with other students at a similar level "on the road to reading proficiency". We spend several weeks in the fall assessing all students in order to place them in a group that is a good fit. Students move to another group if needed. This set-up is quite fluid. We are seeing great results this year!

Any questions? Please contact us, and we will be glad to answer your questions.

**Please keep reading at home to and with your student at least 20 minutes each day!**

## JANUARY PENNY DRIVE Bring in Your Pennies!



## KATHY'S CORNER – LIBRARY NEWS

from Mrs. Moore, our Librarian



### Reading Between the Lions Month

During the month of February, we will be having Reading Lions Month. A series of events and incentive programs will be happening. The most important thing is to encourage your child to read at least 20 minutes each night.

## KIM'S COMMENTS

From our SSC, Mrs. Swanson

### To Another Year.... and New Years Resolutions

NEVER EVER  
EVER  
GIVE UP!



Here we are at the beginning of the New Year. It is common to make various resolutions. We resolve to do such things as eat less, exercise more, or save money. Even with our best intentions, we don't always make enough progress toward our goal....then we give up and feel disappointed.

I advocate for "small" resolutions. A small resolution is chosen that makes us feel good just by "doing it". I am

thinking about such things as **giving at least one compliment per day**. You feel good having given someone the “gift” of a compliment and the other person (including children) feel great at having received a compliment. Another small resolution could be spending time **once a week playing a game with your child**. A new tradition of “game night” could be established. **Once a week your child can choose what the family eats for dinner** (with limited choices given by mom or dad....otherwise you might be eating ice cream for dinner!). Children love getting to make “grown-up” decisions.

So don't worry about the “big” stuff and have fun with resolutions that are “small” but very valuable to you and those around you. Here's to a great 2009!

## PACIFIC SCIENCE CENTER January 27 Volunteers Needed!

We need volunteers for assembly set-up / take down as well as volunteers for the daylong exhibit centers in the library. Contact Michele Giordano at 360-705-1898.

### The year's theme will be : **Engineering**

Students will build bridges and test their strength. They will program robots to solve problems.

#### School Assembly

Join the Pacific Science Center crew as they build inventions! Through demonstrations and audience participation, students learn the steps engineers follow to design bridges, rockets and more!

#### School Exhibits

Here are just a few exhibits students will explore in the library:

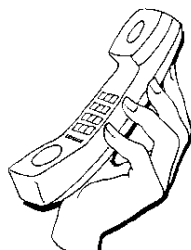
- Delve into the properties of physics as you construct an arch bridge and knock it down!
- Design your own cars and bridges out of K'Nex.
- Make lights glow and fans spin as you wire up an electrical circuit.



## Phone Messenger System

### We Need Your *Correct* Phone Number!

Our communication with you is important. School fliers and newsletters often end up “living” in the backpack without getting important messages home. As part of being more “green”, our new automated phone messenger system is one more way to inform you



about important events. Please call 596-6300 and let us know of any changes in your day phone number.

## THANK YOU!

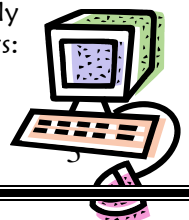


Madison students thank... **Michaela Miller**, Principal intern this semester, who has gotten to know and help our students and staff. We wish her good luck as a future principal!

- **Rae Ann Jonson, Sharon Cummings**, the PTO, **First United Methodist Church members**, and **community volunteers** for helping with the Holiday Store.
- **Ryan Sowers**, Madison parent, for tuning our two school pianos which really needed it!
- **Kathy McCormick** and **Thurston Regional Planning Council** for providing free bus passes to Madison families during the month of December.
- **First United Methodist Church**, the **Chris Woods' family**, various **community members**, **Knox Administration**, and **several state agencies** for providing over 40 Madison families with our Holiday Adopt-a-Family program.
- **Pioneer School** staff and families for the grocery gift card drive which will benefit our homeless families.
- **Donna Lowery**, a regular volunteer at Madison, for purchasing and wrapping over 600 toys, games and other gifts for 350 students and their families in our Homeless program in Olympia School District. Thanks also to the OSD **principals** who braved the snowstorms to deliver the gifts to these families.
- **Samantha Wesselman** for coordinating our schoolwide efforts to collect for the Food Bank, the Other Bank and other community organizations.

## TECH TIPS

- Check out Madison's learning links on our website at <http://suznbobod.googlepages.com/classroomlearninglinks>
- This is a great reading games website: <http://www.scholastic.com/parents/play/games/>
- The teachers have asked that you work on spelling lists with your child at home. Here is a great website to practice your weekly spelling lists: <http://www.spellingcity.com/>



## SOCK HOP – 1980's Winter Wonder Land

Don't forget to attend the upcoming **Sock Hop** on **February 12** from 6:30-8:00pm. Volunteers needed to set up (5:30-6:30), to sell items (6:30-8), and for clean up (8-8:30). Call Michelle Giordano 360-705-1898.



## LOST RUBBER BALLS

Almost all the classroom assigned balls are lost. It has been reported that some students kick the school ball over the fence, and then retrieve it afterschool and take it home. If you find a rubber ball that looks like it might belong here, please return it. Thank you for your support.

## LIKABLE LIONS

Likable Lions are our “students of the week”. They are recognized for their unique talents, interests, and hobbies at our weekly Celebration Assemblies. Each classroom selects a student to be honored on Thursday afternoons.

### Dec. 4

K: Ben Roney-Gault  
K: Benny Mapu  
1st: Greysen Johnson  
2-3: Sierra Rodriguez  
2: Logan Young  
3-4: Aden Smith & Tatum Hafford  
4: Sam Vanharen  
5: Gianna Giordano

### Dec. 11

K: Cydnee Klam  
1st: Dominick Stevenson  
2-3: Dyllan Group  
2: Louisa Water  
3-4: Jesse Baker  
4: Marshall Graham  
5: Patrick Waymire



Don't Miss

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*Walkin' and Wheelin' Wednesdays-  
wear your Walk and Roll T-Shirt!*

### January Clubs – 3:30-4:30

Mondays	Lion's Den
Tuesdays	Planeteers Club
Wednesdays	Play Practice
Wednesdays	Primary Art Club
Thursdays	Intermediate Art Club
Fridays	Play Practice

### *All January*

Jan. 5	<i>Penny Drive for Madison School</i> Back to School
Jan. 9	Casting Announcements
Wk of Jan 12	Wednesdays and Fridays Play Rehearsals Begin 3:30-4:30 <i>Volunteers needed</i>
Jan 12& 26	2nd-3rd gr Parent Math Course 6:30-7:30pm
Jan 14	Primary Art Club begins
Jan. 14	Parent Café Night 6:30
Jan 15	Likable Lions
Jan 19	Martin Luther King Day – No School
Jan. 20	Presidential Inauguration Day
Jan. 21	PTO Meeting 6:30
Jan. 22	Likable Lions
Jan. 28	Hot Chocolate Walkin' & Wheelin' Wed.
Jan. 29	A-Team Recognition
Jan. 27	Ed Leadership Mtg 4-5:30
Jan 27	Pacific Science Center – <i>Volunteers Needed all day!</i>
Jan 27	Building Children's Brain Power at SPSCC 6:30-8:30
Jan. 30	Passports
Feb. 6	Jump Rope for Heart Demo Team Assembly 9:15-9:45
Feb. 6	Early Release 12:52
Feb. 11	Parent Café Night 6:30
Feb. 11	Friendship Puppet Show
Feb. 12	Sock Hop
Feb. 13- Feb. 16	Mid-Winter Break
Feb. 9 & Feb.23	2nd-3rd gr Parent Math Course
Feb. 18	PTO Mtg
Feb. 23	Madison School Board Presentation 6:30 – Please support us!
Feb. 27	Passports
Mar. 19	Madison Musical 2:45 & 6:00

### **IMPORTANT!**

Limited paper copies of the school newsletters will be made for pick up at the office. You may also read it on our school website or please give us your accurate and neatly written email address so we can send it to you directly. Please return to the office as soon as possible.

## **HISTORY IN THE MAKING**

### **January 20**

**Take time to talk about this historic occasion!**

The presidential inauguration is an event that's about as close to a royal coronation as American government gets. It's a day filled with ceremony, guards, salutes, parades, speeches, a party that's actually still called a "ball" and, of course, symbolism: of new beginnings, rites of passage, of change. It's the president's opportunity to declare his administration's intent.

The inauguration of Barack Obama will take place at noon on January 20, 2009 on the steps of the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C. Chief Justice John Roberts Jr. will administer the oath. Also present will be members of the U.S. armed forces, since the president is also commander-in-chief.

Joe Biden, the vice president-elect, will take his oath first, in the same ceremony. A band will play "Hail to the Chief," the infantry guard will give a 21-gun salute, and then Obama will make his inaugural address — his first speech to the country as president.

The United States Congress then will invite Obama and Biden to lunch, after which Obama will parade down from the Capitol to the White House.

And after all this pomp and circumstance, it's party time. Inaugural celebrations can last up to five days after the initial ceremony, but the most anticipated one is the Inaugural Ball.

