

# Wolverine Track

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You Voted...Don't Stop Here!

*It is the mission of Wellington Elementary PTA to promote the welfare of children, provide staff support, foster teacher, parent & community cooperation, and enrich student learning.*

## PTA Presidents' Message

Dear parents,

A few weeks ago we sent home a Communication Survey, hoping to learn how we are reaching our families and what method of our communication our families prefer. We received a wonderful response. Over 100 families returned the survey! We want to thank all of you for giving us feedback and for taking the time to let us know how effective we are being in reaching you. We want all of you to feel informed and connected to what is going on at Wellington.

We will continue to work on how, what, where, and when we communicate with you. Surprisingly, Paper Flyers was one of the top three favorite methods of communication. In the last few years we've tried to save paper, but we've learned that sometimes the best way to reach everyone is a piece of paper in your child's backpack. They can also be recycled as paper airplanes, drawing paper, pooper scoopers, and a tasty snack for your pet bunny.

The survey also told us that a lot of our families didn't know we had a Facebook page. As of today, we have 112 Likes on the page. If you haven't visited our Facebook page yet and use Facebook, please come Like us at "Wellington Elementary PTA". We keep it updated with information about current events or topics of interest that day or week.

Thank you for being the most responsive and engaged families.

Sincerely,

**Elaine and Kim, PTA Co-Presidents**

Kim Benner - Co-President ([kimbenner0522@gmail.com](mailto:kimbenner0522@gmail.com))

Elaine Cook - Co-President ([elainecook@outlook.com](mailto:elainecook@outlook.com))

Channing Riach - VP Programs ([channingriach@gmail.com](mailto:channingriach@gmail.com))

Shawn Graves-MacLeod - VP Membership ([shawnewok1@aol.com](mailto:shawnewok1@aol.com))

Jane Flaherty - VP Fundraising ([jschenk@scg.fm](mailto:jschenk@scg.fm))

Bob Geise - Treasurer ([rgeise1208@aol.com](mailto:rgeise1208@aol.com))

Holly Pudwill - Secretary ([hdpudwill@yahoo.com](mailto:hdpudwill@yahoo.com))



## Our Community

### The Wellington Way



**D**uring the month of March, your PTA plans to introduce the students and staff to something new. A way of acknowledging and making public small acts of

kindness, courage, leadership, and good stewardship.

We are going to give staff and students the opportunity to notice and document the good that others do. There are examples of kindness, empathy, leadership and helpfulness all over Wellington and we are hoping that our community members will take the time to write down these examples on cards we make available to everyone. These cards will be collected and displayed for everyone to read at school. We'll keep you posted about this project. **It's the Wellington Way.**

### Board of Directors Spotlight

**Stacy Meyer: Advocacy Chairperson, Northshore Council PTSA Secretary, Teacher, Mentor, Super Mom, Wonder Woman**



**S**tacy has been a vital and important member of our community for the last 7 years. She has 2 children at Wellington; Nolan in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and Madeline in 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

Stacy is passionate about our children having a better education. She believes whole-heartedly that our kids deserve the same great education and opportunities as kids in other states. She has dedicated a lot of time to speaking out loud about the things we can do at a grass roots level to make a difference. Stacy makes a difference every day at Wellington, in our community, and for so many people that she has touched and gotten to know. Her contribution is invaluable and we believe that our school is better because of her. She has also been a loving and effective mentor of our PTA Executive Team.

Nicole Van Avery says: "Stacy has a heart of gold. She truly cares about kids and is always thinking about how she can make a greater impact on others. She is constantly putting the needs of others before her own. She is a hard working, courageous, and loving woman, whom I've had the pleasure of getting to know and become a good friend to."

## PTA Events

### Dads N Dirt Get Together

Help the campus get ready for the spring

**W**e will put on a Dads N Dirt event on Saturday, **March 15<sup>th</sup>**, from 2 to 4pm. We need all Dads, Mom's, and other family members with pressure washers and gas blowers to come help get the campus ready for spring.



### It's Awards Time

**W**ellington Elementary PTA will soon recognize the difference our amazing volunteers make at Wellington by presenting them with a Golden Acorn or Outstanding Advocate Award at our General Membership meeting in May.



**Golden Acorn Award** is a PTA award, presented annually to people who go above and beyond their specific PTA job title with exemplary service.

**Outstanding Advocate** is a PTA award, established to recognize and honor individuals for their advocacy work on behalf of children and youth. Advocacy is about making change to policy at local, district, state, or national levels.

Please help us recognize these great people and take 5 minutes to complete a nomination form and tell us who you think should receive one of these special awards. For more information and to download the nomination form, visit [www.wellingtonpta.org](http://www.wellingtonpta.org) or email your nomination to Kelly Vedaa at [kvedaa.pta@gmail.com](mailto:kvedaa.pta@gmail.com).

Nominations are due by **3:15pm on April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014**. We are looking forward to your nominations! Thank you.

# Helping Hands Service Club

## Sharing Some Love

Foundation House Bothell Fieldtrip a Sweet Success



On Friday, **February 7<sup>th</sup>**, we had 55 students and lots of parents join us to help with our special Valentine's delivery to Foundation House Bothell. Senior

residents were able to enjoy a music show, where the children sang "Viva Valentine" and "Would Ya Be My Valentine". Additionally, the following students performed special musical numbers with a variety of musical instruments: Megan Young, Reilley



David, Jiyoun Park, Alexandra Hu, Emma Mann, Haley Ahlstrom, Cara Harris, Gabby Jaffe, Olivia Miner, Lauren Doherty, Madison Monahan, Hudson Brown, and Ainsley Mann. They did a wonderful job and we are so grateful for their willingness to share their talents. Following the show, the helpers were able to visit with the senior residents and gave them the Valentine's cards, tissue paper flowers, and keychains made at our January project. Girl Scout Troop members Clara Krause, Kaylin Gaiser, Elizabeth Rohrich, Nia Whittle, Sabrina Bogdan, Samantha Nyrgren, and Hannah Jensen made candy kiss roses for a special Valentine's treat for the residents, also. Thanks girls! These were a great addition. The placemats and napkins with beaded heart rings will be used on Valentine's Day to make the dining facility festive. Our students were amazing at sharing their time and talents and creating a fun and fulfilling visit for the senior citizens. Many of the residents at Foundation House Bothell are former educators so the visit from school children was considered especially sweet! We love it when our Helping Hands club members get to see where their service goes and how it brings smiles to the faces of the recipients. It makes the giving real! Thanks to all who make this project such a sweet success!

### March Service for Moms and Babies

We are very excited for our next service project scheduled for **Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**. Students will be assembling gift boxes for expectant moms, moms, and babies with Special Delivery here in Woodinville. Many of us drive by this facility on Woodinville Duvall road as we come and go from Wellington. Special Delivery seeks to empower, educate, and encourage women. They provide services and support in housing,

counseling, pregnancy, parent education, and life skills training and mentoring for women and their families. We wanted to reach out and do something nice to serve these ladies and their babies that need a little extra love and support so close to home. Plan to join us to serve on the first Friday of each month.



### Helpers Wanted

It's not too late to join Helping Hands! Participation in the Helping Hands Service Club is open to all students and there is no cost to students to participate in this PTA sponsored program. Participation forms are located outside the Wellington office or on the PTA website. These are used for membership records and to communicate club happenings. Wellington families are able to help with needed supplies by donating items from our wish list. We collect gently used clothing for school-aged children throughout the year to give to the Threads and Treads clothing bank that benefits needy youth in the Northshore School District. Donations can be left at any time in the Helping Hands collection bin outside the school office. Parent volunteers are also needed to help our projects run smoothly. Let Caroline Ahlstrom know if you can lend a hand on our project days from 12 to 1:15pm. Service Matters!

### Upcoming Projects

- March 7<sup>th</sup>:** Service for Moms & Babies at Special Delivery
- April 4<sup>th</sup>:** Goody Bags for Foster Children with Safe Place

### Donation request

- Small & medium stuffed animals
- Small toys & trinkets—party favors, kids meal toys, cars, balls, etc.
- Fleece
- Gently used clothing for school aged children for Threads & Treads Clothing Bank

### Contacts

For general questions, contact Meggin Mann at [megginm@me.com](mailto:megginm@me.com) or 425-485-5606.

To volunteer, contact Caroline Ahlstrom at [ahlstromca@comcast.net](mailto:ahlstromca@comcast.net) or 425-424-0780.

Threads & Treads coordinator is Grace Johnson, reachable at [gracejo1@msn.com](mailto:gracejo1@msn.com) or 425-445-0337.



# PTA Programs

## Do you love to read?



If so, **Classic Books** is for you!

Meetings will start **April 7<sup>th</sup>**.

**P**ermission slips went home with all third through sixth grade students in their

February 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday Envelope. **The permission slips must be returned by February 28<sup>th</sup>** to participate in the program.

Classic Books is a free, PTA-sponsored program, designed to encourage children to read and to enrich that reading experience through a discussion with peers and adults.

Beginning April 7<sup>th</sup>, small groups of students will meet once every 2 weeks to talk about the books they have been assigned to read. Meetings will take place during lunchtime (and up to 15 minutes of lunch recess).

This year, students will be assigned 4 different books to read over an 8 week period. You can turn this great program into a family event as parents are welcome and even encouraged to read the books with their child! Books are chosen for their literary value and are grade level appropriate.

During the bi-weekly meetings, students will have a chance to develop their ideas, exchange opinions, and further explore each story. Two adult co-leaders will help them dive below the surface-level of the text, engaging with the book and each other.

We hope your child will join this fun program! If you have any questions about Classic Books, please feel free to contact Helen Segale at [helensegale@yahoo.com](mailto:helensegale@yahoo.com) or Jen Brown at [jenmatty@frontier.com](mailto:jenmatty@frontier.com).



## Calling All Parents!

The Wellington Elementary PTA Classic Books program needs you.

**W**e are in serious need of adults to co-lead our Classic Books Program discussions. It's a very short commitment and hugely fun! Students in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade will meet once every two weeks during lunch time for 8 weeks in April and May. No experience is necessary!

For more information or to sign up, please contact Helen Segale at [helensegale@yahoo.com](mailto:helensegale@yahoo.com) or Jen Brown at [jenmatty@frontier.com](mailto:jenmatty@frontier.com).

## Box Tops Update



Keep clipping, collecting, and submitting Box Tops!

**T**his year we have already earned **\$1,008** just from clipping those little Box Tops. Another submission will be made the last week in February so if you have any Box Tops hiding around your house send them in with your student! If you have any questions about Box Tops, please contact Helen Segale at [helensegale@yahoo.com](mailto:helensegale@yahoo.com).

## Knitting Club is Back



**Mondays in the library from March 3<sup>rd</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> during both lunch recesses.**

**N**o experience necessary. Bring size 7 knitting needles and some yarn.

Questions? Contact Rachel Best-Campbell at [callicks@gmail.com](mailto:callicks@gmail.com).

## Mark Your Calendars

March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Spring session of Knitting begins	Lunch Recess
March 7 <sup>th</sup>	Science Fair	6pm
March 10 <sup>th</sup> –14 <sup>th</sup>	Food Drive	
March 11 <sup>th</sup>	PTA General Membership Meeting	6pm
March 15 <sup>th</sup>	Dads N Dirt	2–4pm
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	St. Patrick's Day	
March 18 <sup>th</sup>	Spring session of Pottery begins	After school

## You Voted... Don't Stop Here!

**T**hank you to everyone who voted in February. It is because of our community support that Northshore School Districts Renewal Education Operations Support Levy, Capital Projects Bond, & Renewal Technology Levy passed.

Are you frustrated that we even have to have a levy to pay for the daily operation of our school? Then contact your Legislator and tell him to uphold the WA State constitution which states: "It is the paramount duty of the state to make ample provision for the education of all children residing within its borders..." (article IX, section I). Our children deserve a 21<sup>st</sup> education and by you speaking up it can happen. Visit [www.wellingtonpta.org](http://www.wellingtonpta.org) for more information on education funding, how to contact your legislator, and how you can get involved to make a difference in education.