

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **A Peek  
"Inside"**
- **Bremerton  
Lighthouse  
Project**
- **Upcoming  
School Events  
on Page 6**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Principal's  
Corner 2

Volunteers 2

The Big Pic-  
ture 2

Pre-School 3

LASER  
Alliance 3

Student  
Council  
Heroes 3

Upcoming  
Classroom  
Events 4-5

## A Peek "Inside" the Reading Classes

Have you ever wondered what goes on in the day-to-day life of elementary Reading classrooms? Here's a brief look at the normal routines and happenings in our classes.

**Vocabulary Building.** Students learn new words and their concepts each day. Depending on their reading level, students learn words such as *determine, curious, clue, impose, often, erupt, equivalent, wavering, engulf, gorged, vainer, forlorn, wailed*. Younger students receive practice pronouncing vowels correctly, like the "i" in "bit" versus "fine."

**Reading.** Students read books each day. Depending on their instructional level, students work with books by understanding about them (locations of title, contents, chapter headings, etc.) and reading stories such as "Country and City Detectives," stories about relatives moving in to the house, Mt. St. Helens, "Chuck the Frog," baseball stories, tales of heroes like Joe DiMaggio and Wilma Rudolph, books by Betsy Byers, John Erickson, Anne Frank, and Gregory Peck, so name a few.

Many classrooms with older students begin with a question of the day, like "What do you like to do



**Friends on Crazy Hat Day!**

occasionally but would not like to do every day?"

Many classrooms with younger students practice decoding words like *will, still, well, swell*. They work with new sounds and hard to read sounds. They practice reading with expression. And teachers help students understand the progress they make each day.

And students are encouraged. "Very good!" "Nice job!" "Excellent!" "This is important." "Thank you."

If you would like to observe a Reading class, contact the office.

## Bremerton Lighthouse Project

Bridgeport Elementary School is taking part in a grant that helps Kindergarten programs across the state become aligned to state standards and best teaching practices. Bridgeport Kindergarten teachers are becoming familiar with grant partners this year, and will host visits from other schools next year.

The Bremerton Lighthouse Project is based in Bremerton, Washington, and includes about eight

school districts. One of its aims is to assist in the alignment between our community's pre-school programs and our Kindergarten program. Linda Sullivan, coordinator of the project, looks forward to working with our Kindergarten staff as well as the Bridgeport EPIC pre-school staff. A series of "working lunches" with all partners will help align our P-K program and the transitions between schools to state standards and effective curriculum.

# Principal's Corner



Mrs. Schuh and her father, Gene Schuh.

*Now, Therefore, I, Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States of America, do hereby call upon all of our citizens to observe Thursday, November 11, 1954, as Veterans Day. On that day let us solemnly remember the sacrifices of all those who fought so valiantly, on the seas, in the air, and on foreign shores, to preserve our heritage of freedom, and let us reconsecrate ourselves to the task of promoting an enduring peace so that their efforts shall not have been in vain.*

With these words, “Armistice Day” became “Veterans Day.” I remember a Veterans Day assembly held at the high school a few years ago. A former graduate was telling the students that they did not owe their country service in

the military—that joining the Armed Forces was voluntary. All Americans, however, owed a moment of silence and a debt of gratitude to all those who did join the military.

Thank you.

*“We all owe many thanks to people in our community.”*

## Volunteers

Thanking veterans reminds me that we all owe many thanks to other people in our community. I want to thank our school volunteers who helped out so much with our MAP testing; namely, Reyna Skiff, Melody Dodsen, Kathy Swenson, and Tom Dundas. Thanks for all your help!

Also, we can still use volunteers at school for a number of tasks: helping out in our production room, reading with students, helping out in a classroom, helping coordinate our Muffins for Moms, Donuts for Dads events, or . . . what’s your idea?

Special thanks also to “Mrs. Jacobsen and Company”: the students in the Expanding Horizons class who researched and experimented with genuine Colonial-era recipes to make the staff dinner during Conference night. That sausage apple pie was extraordinary!!!!

Thanks too, to The Missoula Childrens Theater and all the people who made *Jack and the Beanstalk* possible. What a fantastic production!!

Special thanks also to Mrs. Reynolds for organizing the Veterans Day assembly!

## The Big Picture: A Message From the Superintendent

Be watching later this month for the district newsletter, called the *Mustang Corral*. Plans are underway to re-design the appearance of the district’s newsletter by utilizing a newspaper format. The new and improved *Mustang Corral* will continue to highlight important information and the happenings of the school. But a number of noticeable changes are planned, including a monthly calendar of upcoming events, pictures in color and a special focus on the great work that students and

staff are accomplishing in our school district.

If you do not receive a copy of the *Mustang Corral*, please contact district office at 686-5656.



A Veterans Day participant.

# New Pre-School Program

Bridgeport School District’s pre-school program got underway last week. Wendy Rodriguez is the new teacher for this program, which is held at the EPIC building. The EPIC pre-school program is a partner to the school district’s pre-school program.

Mrs. Rodriguez has taught pre-school privately in the Bridgeport area for several years, and has much experience working with pre-school age children. She looks forward to her experience. She says the students in her current class are bright and eager learners, and that they have adjusted well to the new class.

The pre-school program also takes part with the Bremerton Lighthouse grant. The district will be working with EPIC teachers and Mrs. Rodriguez to

coordinate student’s transition between pre-school and Kindergarten.

If you would like your child to attend pre-school, please call EPIC (686-5555) or Bridgeport Elementary School (686-2201).



Wendy Rodriguez, pre-school teacher

“Parent

Volunteers needed.

Contact the office.”

# LASER Alliance Refurbishment Center

Bridgeport Elementary School is in a consortium of several schools that have purchased science kits. The consortium is managed by Chris Stark, an employee of the North Central Educational Service District (NCESD). Recently, Mr. Stark hired a new Refurbishment Center coordinator to oversee the reassembling of the kits.

The refurbishment center is in East Wenatchee, and it’s a pretty amazing place. Here’s what happens there: Once Bridgeport Elementary students are finished using a science kit, the NCESD picks up the kit and takes it

to the Refurbishment Center. All the non-consumable items (like microscopes, experiment stations) are cleaned and inspected. All the consumable items (like wire, seeds, dirt, paper) are replaced with new ones. All of this is repacked, ready for shipment to the new school.

There are currently 475 kits that are shared by schools! All of these will be refurbished three times a year. Lots of work for one person!

... Just a look at one of our “silent” partners in your child’s education.

## Student Council Heroes

The Bridgeport Student Council members decided to select local heroes for each month-end assembly. The idea is that the real heroes in our life are people around us, not necessarily the one we see in the media. Our heroes are recognized with a certificate of appreciation and always have a few words of encourage for us at the assembly.

For September, our hero was Janie Jenkins, secretary at the elementary school. Students appreciate Mrs. Jenkins for her helpfulness and bright smile, and care and concern for them. Mrs. Jenkins has also been the leader of

the Student Council, which started last year.

For October, our hero was Lorena Monje, who works in the district office as secretary. Ms. Monje is the first person people see when they enter the district offices. She is visible in our school, and appreciated by students for her kindness and interest in them.

For November, our hero is . . . ??? Come to the end-of-month assembly on December 3rd to find out!



A Veterans Day participant.

# Coming Up in Kindergarten

November Learning Goals for Kindergarten!

## Language Arts Goals:

- Write first and last name
- Recognition of letters in first and last name
- Beginning sounds: H, K, M, S, R
- Vowel sounds: long e, short a
- Colors: black, purple, orange, white, blue, red, gray, yellow, green, brown
- Print concept: where to begin reading
- Sight words: I, I'm, see, me, am

## Mathematics Goals:

- Counting 1-20
- Recognition of numerals 6-10
- Making sets 6-10
- Sorting and classifying (color and shape)
- Graphing
- Recognition of shapes
- Patterns (copies and extends ABAB pattern)



Veterans Day participants

Remember: Winter  
Break Concerts!  
K-3 on December  
11 (6:30 PM)  
and  
4-6 on December  
13 (7:00 PM)

## Number 1: Talk from the Top

### Math:

We will begin learning how to tell time to the half hour. We will continue to work on addition, subtraction, and money. We are beginning to create our sea star and crab story problems. We are beginning addition math facts.

### Reading:

Don't forget to do your reading and Write Well homework!

### Writing:

We are continuing to work on building writing readiness.



Bridgeport Boy Scout Color Guard

## The Ants Go Marching Two by Two

Math: 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will be working on addition and subtraction. The focus will be on different strategies and methods to solve problems. We will be learning various games in which the students will use the learned strategies.

Number Corner: Students are learning the clock, patterns, tens and ones, and hundreds grid.

Writing: Students have finished their personal

narratives, and will now be working on how to write a friendly letter. They will be using the writing process to do this.

Science: 2<sup>nd</sup> grade was able to work with a Foss kit this year. The students were able to learn about balance and motion. We conducted experiments and journaled our findings. The 2<sup>nd</sup> graders really enjoyed the Foss Kits this year and are looking forward to more kits in the future.

A 2nd grader enjoys Crazy Hat Day!



# Grade 3 Intelligencer: News

We had a great response for conferences in third grade! Thank you to all who came. Third graders have started cursive and are doing great! We finished up our Earth Materials Science Kit and are now working on writing Thankful books which requires students to write in paragraphs. In math, we are working on adding and subtracting large numbers, learning about base 10, place value, measuring in centimeters, and beginning multiplication. The November Number Corner will be teaching students about reading a thermometer and taking the outside temperature. Students will also be learning about polygons. We are changing the day third grade homework is due. It will be due on Thursdays

not Fridays. This is to accommodate a schedule change. Students will be sent out the door at 2:15 on Thursdays to a Super Study Time in the lunchroom while teachers collaborate on lesson plans. Third graders will have 30-45 minutes to work on their homework packets here at school before taking them home. The homework packet will actually be due a week later on the following Thursday.



Fun on Crazy Hat Day!

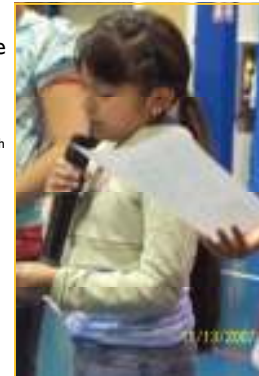
**Remember:**  
**Muffins for Moms on December 18.**  
**Donuts for Dads on December 19. See you there!**

## Messenger: The 4th Grade Voice

**Math:** We are exploring fractions and division using various models such as rulers, geoboards and egg cartons. We are modeling and naming all of the fractions that can be represented with the egg carton model. Come check them out in our hallway! We are also continuing to memorize our multiplication facts by practicing every day.

**Writing:** We are continuing our narrative writing. Have you read our time machine stories yet? We

are sending some of our writings over to some high school juniors for WASL scoring. They will read our stories and score them just like the WASL will this spring. This will give the high school students practice in preparation for the WASL. It will also be valuable for 4<sup>th</sup> graders to see how our writing stacks up to where it needs to be for the April WASL.



4th Grader reading a tribute to veterans

## Fifth Grade Happenings

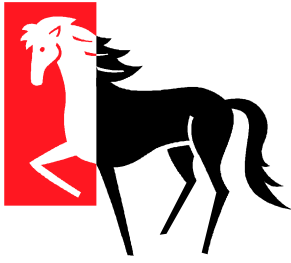
In **Science** we have just finished our Land & Water unit. Students learned the ways water changes land and how land can change the way water flows. They studied erosion, river systems, canyons, floods and dam building. Students have also been studying the design process because coming up in Science we will be designing, building and testing vehicles to study Motion, Energy and Force.

In **Math** we are studying Geometry. One of the things we will be doing is finding the area of different shapes

by dividing them into parts and then reassembling them to create a figure whose area is easier to calculate. We will also use geoboards to study the congruence of shapes. Also we will solve and then pose our own shape riddles. What a fun month in Math!



5th graders reading at the Veterans Day assembly.



## Bridgeport Elementary School

Box 1060  
Bridgeport, WA 98813  
Phone: (509) 686-2201  
Fax: (509) 686-0773  
Email: [spointer@bridgeport.wednet.edu](mailto:spointer@bridgeport.wednet.edu)

"We develop life-long learners."

### Vision

#### Bridgeport Elementary School:

- Respects each individual's uniqueness and self worth.
- Recognizes and appreciates cultural diversity.
- Provides challenging and rewarding experiences in which learners reach their potential.
- Encourages honesty, integrity, and taking responsibility for one's own actions.
- Develops critical thinking and problem solving skills.
- Promotes self-motivated citizens who make responsible choices.
- Fosters an active partnership among students, parents, staff, and community members working toward common goals.



## Upcoming Events!

Thanks to Mr. Morris and Dustin Sikstrom for playing "Taps" at our Veterans Day assembly.



Dates to put on your calendar:

November 16	Family Movie Night	6:00 PM
November 21	Early Release	1:00 PM
November 22-23	Thanksgiving Break	
November 26	School Board Mtg	7:00 PM
December 3	End of Month Assembly	2:20
December 6	Home & School mtg	6:30

December 7	Here Comes Santa	5:00
December 11	Concert	<b>6:30 PM</b>
December 13	Concert	7:00
December 18	Muffins for Moms	7:30 AM
December 19	Donuts for Dads	7:30 AM
December 20	Early Release	1:00
December 21-January 2	Winter Break	

As you can see, Bridgeport Elementary School is a terrific place! Come join us.

*The Connection* is developed in both English and Spanish. If you would like to receive a Spanish copy, please give us a call (686-2201). We will be happy to fulfill your request. We hope you enjoy the newsletter and our efforts to keep the community informed of the many programs here at Bridgeport Elementary School.

For the electronic edition of *The Connection*, go to <http://www.bridgeport.wednet.edu/Elementary>.