

# STAR GAZER GAZETTE

2007  
**STAR WASL  
WINNERS**

*Continued is the list of students who passed ALL sections of the Washington Assessment of Student Learning from last month. CONGRATULATIONS!*

**5<sup>th</sup> GRADERS**

Marvin Aguirre  
Rachel Arnold  
Kayleigh Arntzen  
Vanessa Dannels  
Bridget Fink  
Thomas Hayashi  
Victoria Gradden  
Joseph McGrory  
Autumn Miller  
Elena Peyton-Jones  
Khaidja Rjvon-Preston  
Monica Rodriguez  
Sabrina Simcox  
Naseem Tirhi  
Dwayne Tran  
Luciano Valdovinas  
Briahna VanTrease  
Brandon Wagner  
Griffin Williams

**COMMUNITY  
CONTRIBUTORS**

*These students earned ten slips for providing service to our school community, helping and showing concern for others, respecting staff and students, working harmoniously, and improving the environment.*

Malia Andrade  
Logan Arntzen  
Christian Betancourth  
Samantha Cheever  
Josh Conboy  
Gavin Crosby  
Nathen English  
Jamie Grall  
Solomon Hailemariam



**Student-Led  
Conferences**

Each year we look forward to meeting with parents regarding their student's academic progress. Our conference dates are October 30-31<sup>st</sup>. There is no regular school on these days. Instead, students come to school **with** their parents to share learning goals, assessment results, and overall academic progress. Evening conferences are available on Tuesday the 30<sup>th</sup>.

The format we use for conferences lets the child take the lead. SLCs encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning; the format helps them to understand the importance of meeting grade level expectations (GLEs).

Here are some things teachers

Joel Haugland  
Adriana Huerta  
Ladon Kastanis  
Olivia Larkin  
Bryenna Marshall  
Austin Miller  
Clay Mundy  
Brooke Nelson  
Maygan Ochoa  
Irenie Pak  
Zaharenia Papadimas  
Landon Pauls

Dallas Pena  
Niko Pena  
Jesus Perez  
Kyle Pirtilla  
Grace Scuderi  
Isaiah Swenson  
Julia Walker  
Rachel Wilson  
Uriel Yanez

**WAY TO GO  
EAGLES!**

*Monthly Newsletter*  
**October 2007**  
Star Lake Elementary  
Federal Way School District

**LEMMEL'S LINK**

and children will share with you:

- Classroom work samples from math, reading, and writing portfolios.
- Results of standardized testing (see Mrs. Gjersee's article on the next page about testing).
- Progress reports showing BAME standards (beginning, approaching, meeting, exceeding) in math and reading.
- A tour of classroom displays showing student work in writing, reading, and math.

Please be prepared to carefully listen to what your children tell you about their work and progress. This is their opportunity to "show you how they spend their day at school." Let them know you are interested, by asking questions about their work. Focus on positive comments regarding their progress; note challenge

areas, so you can help at home.

Some classrooms will have arena conferences where families are viewing portfolios and touring the classroom, while others meet with the teacher to review the progress report.

We will try to schedule families with multiple students together...especially those requiring interpreters. Teachers will send home conference request forms. Please keep in mind that we will do our best to meet your schedule, but cannot guarantee exact times.

If you would like a specialist to attend you conference, please let the classroom teacher know (music or PE teacher, SpEd or ELL teacher, Dean of Students, etc.). We look forward to sharing your child's progress with you in an inviting and respectful climate.

We need Star Lake parents to become involved in their children's learning. Teamwork between school and home is essential. We can share different ways to support students who need extra help. We can also provide resources for you to help or challenge your child at home. We look forward to meeting with you. We appreciate your partnership.

# UNIFORM UPDATES



Our students look "smart" and ready to learn this year, in their spiffy new uniforms.

Thank you for making sure your student is dressed according to the *Star Lake Uniform Dress Code*. Academics and behavior are both targeted during the first month of school; we have far fewer behavior or social exclusion issues this year—even with an additional 50 students. There are a few areas on which we still need to work. Please make sure your child does NOT wear:

- o Large belt buckles or colorful belts. Black, brown, or navy only please.
- o Colorful socks or leggings. White or navy only (flesh tone tights are okay).
- o Pants and skirts with embroidery, decorations, ties, or pockets on the side.
- o Plain thin underwear white t-shirts. T-shirts must be PTA spirit wear with small symbols or long-sleeved thick t-shirts.
- o Colorful sweaters or jackets inside class. If your child is cold, a regulation navy or white vest, sweatshirt, or sweater is the choice.
- o Dangly earrings that could get caught at recess--small hoops or studs only.

Other than that...we are doing beautifully. If we send your child home in a borrowed uniform item, please wash and return it for others students to use. Answers to frequent questions:

**Gold** t-shirt, sweatshirts, vests and polos with small logos can be worn M-f. They must be purchased from PTA to meet the dress code.

**Boots:** Rubber soled boots can be worn to recess only, in inclement weather.

# THE DEAN'S CORNER

## EAGLE LEADERS CHOSEN!

A Message from Star Lake's Deans of Students:  
MINDY THOMPSON & SHANNAN PAINTER

We are thrilled to announce the 2007/08 Eagle Leaders. These student leaders were selected by their teachers and their peers to serve as role models and decision-makers in the Star Lake school community. The Eagle Leaders, with the help of the Deans, will plan, organize and conduct community service projects and all-school events. In addition, they will receive training in leadership skills. The Eagle Leaders meet twice a month on Wednesdays during their lunch and recess hour.

Nallely Valdovinos Taylee Ortiz	Mr. Friedman 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade
Brandon Sanders Sophie Spurgeon	Mrs. Coleman 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade
Betsenia Herrera Kenneth Turner	Mrs. Wakatsuki 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Paige Crosby Esmeralda Castillo	Mrs. Beausoleil 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Briahna VanTrease Marvin Aguirre	Mrs. Stephani 3-4-5 Multi-age
FJ Bacarro Josh Conboy	Ms. Runions 3-4-5 Multi-age
Rachel Arnold Vanessa Dannels	Mrs. Yauch 3-4-5 GATE
Jaurora Jacobs Griffin Williams	Mrs. Karlan 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT ARCHIVES

*Updates from Mrs. Gjersee, Student Achievement Facilitator*

Our district's fall assessments have been completed for students K-5. The teachers are now analyzing the results so they can determine the type of support their students will need. The assessment results will be shared at Student-Led Conferences at the end of the month. In Federal Way we use what is called the BAME to determine where each child is in meeting grade level expectations. **B** stands for "below or just "beginning." These students are at risk of not meeting the end of the year expectations and will need extra support to help them reach their grade level goals. This support may be done by the classroom teacher and/or through one of our support programs. **A** is for approaching and tells us that the child has some of the necessary skills, but are not consistent with them and/or able to do them independently. **M** and **E** are for meeting and exceeding. These students are right where we expect them to be or are exceeding their grade level expectations.

Your child's classroom teacher has set aside time at the conference to share all of their district and classroom assessments. If you have questions about these assessments please feel free to talk to your child's teacher or give me a call. I would be happy to explain the assessments we do here in Federal Way and at Star Lake. 253-945-4018 or hgjersee@fwps.org

## Welcome AmeriCorp's Tutors!

We want to extend a warm welcome to our new AmeriCorp's Tutors. **Melissa McClure (M-W)** and **Teo Friedrich (T-Th)** will tutor students at all grade levels in math and reading this year. They will also help with interpreting. **Melissa speaks Spanish and Teo speaks Samoan.** **Melissa will also be working with Mrs. Stephani in the Homework Center on M-W after school.**

## EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES BEGIN

### Additional Opportunities for Students

Star Lake offers additional support for students who are below or approaching standard in reading and math. This "double dip" in reading or math is offered through a variety of opportunities throughout the week. ELO begins on October 8<sup>th</sup> and continues through May.

- **Homework Club:** Monday and Wednesday from 3:30-4:30 in the library. Mrs. Stephani and Miss McClure will help students with homework and unfinished schoolwork. This club is offered to students in grades 1-2 whose parents are unable to help them at home, due to limited English.
- **ELL Academic Club:** Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30-4:30 in the Learning Center (Prt. 126), Mrs. Thompson will provide additional language support to ELL students in grades 4-5.
- **Math Support:** Miss Hess, our Math Achievement Facilitator, will begin working with small groups of students to provide a M-Th "double dip" of math instruction. Small groups will meet throughout the afternoon and after school, from 3:30-4:30 p.m. She will target students who are below or approaching standard in math in grades 3-5. Her groups meet in Rm. 113.
- **ELL Recess Club:** Miss Pina, our ELL paraeducator and student intern, will provide additional support for ELL students in Grades 1-2 during lunch and afternoon recesses in the library.

Transportation provided for bus riders @ 4:30 p.m.

### OTHER STAR LAKE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Year Round Track:** Mr. Leonard coaches year-round track on Tues-Thurs after school (3:30-4:30 p.m.). Your child can contact him for a sign-up form.
- **Talon Drama:** Mr. Leonard coaches Talon Drama students on Mon-Wed after school (3:30-4:30 p.m.). Once our first play is performed additional sign-ups will be available. See Mr. Leonard if you are interested.
- **After School Arts Program:** Mrs. Brunner and Mrs. Zeigelman teach an after school arts program for students in grades 3-5. We are currently in the middle of a session. Look for sign-up forms for the next available session.
- **Honor Choir & Recorder Karate:** Mr. Garcia offers two lunchtime activities for students in grades 4-5. Please have your child contact him if interested regarding days and times. Our Honor Choir will perform at the Veteran's Day Assembly this year.
- **SAFETY PATROL:** Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Painter are the advisors for Safety Patrol. Students must be 10-years old before they can participate in this important club. Please have your child contact them if interested in serving.
- **SCIENCE CLUB:** Champions will be offering a one-day a week science club this year, for a nominal fee. Watch for more information or stop by Prt. 127 to ask questions.

## CONTACT NUMBERS

We are anxious to provide support for your students in all areas: academic, physical, social, and emotional. Please feel free to contact us regarding concerns, questions, or to provide input.

<b>OFFICE STAFF</b> (Kim Savage, Teresa Sain, Elisabeth Cole)	<b>253-945-4000</b>
<b>AM DEAN OF STUDENTS</b> (Shanna Painter)	<b>253-945-4008</b>
<b>PM DEAN OF STUDENTS</b> (Mindy Thompson)	<b>253-945-4005</b>
<b>STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT FACILITATOR</b> (Holly Gjersee)	<b>253-945-4044</b>
<b>NURSES</b> (Deborah Bellinghausen, Cheryl Stub erg)	<b>253-945-4009</b>
<b>PRINCIPAL</b> (Judy Lemmel)	<b>253-945-4007</b>
<b>COUNSELOR</b> (Katie Runions) <i>Maternity Leave</i>	<b>253-945-4008</b>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### STAFF SCIENCE TRAINING

No School

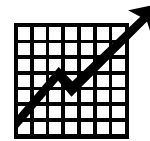
Friday, Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>



### STAFF DATA DAY

No School

Friday, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>



### SPIRIT DAY

Wacky Hair Day

Friday, Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>



### FALL STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES (SLCs)

No Regular School

Tuesday/Wednesday

Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>



TUESDAY  
EVENING  
SLCs

### VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM

Friday, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>

10:40 a.m.

ALL VETERANS  
WELCOME!



### VETERAN'S DAY

No School

Monday, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>



### THANKSGIVING

Early Dismissal

1:20 p.m.

Wed., Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>

No School

Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>

### PTA MEETING

7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>

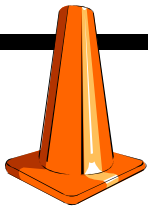
Join PTA  
\$10.00



### MATH MANIA Family Night

6:00 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>



**SAFETY CORNER**  
**THANK YOU FOR MAKING SURE  
 OUR STUDENTS ARE SAFE**

Change is always difficult, especially when there is frequent turnover in school leadership. Parents get very frustrated when the things, to which they are accustomed, keep changing. The safety guidelines you have experienced this year are based on the changes in our community. This year 40% of our student population turned over. That means many new adult faces are on campus.

We are held accountable by the state for developing detailed crisis response plans. This process has helped us realize that we need to tighten up security. Star Lake administrators have met with Kent Fire and Police Depts, state officials, and FWPS Security to develop these plans. They include detailed information about our building and campus, in the event of a terrorist attack, abduction, earthquake or fire crisis, or dangerous intruder.

For those who have been part of Star Lake for several years, the changes may seem unnecessary...even disinviting or mistrustful. For those of us who experience angry and abusive parents, custody battles, pictures of sexual offenders in our neighborhood, and ongoing drug, gang, and criminal activity, the precautions become essential. The challenges of being responsible for the daily safety of 470 students keep us focused on strict adherence to the rules. Thank you for observing the new safety guidelines:

- Honor the parent pick-up and drop off areas and stay in designated zones (portables, "star triangle," lower sidewalks, back sidewalks).
- Do not drive through the bus lanes or park in the handicap spaces w/o a pass.
- Use the crosswalk in the parent parking lot.
- Honor the safety patrol and parking lot attendants by driving slowly and only turning right as indicated in the lots.
- Stay behind the gate in the back.
- Stay clear of outdoor classroom exits.
- Always get a pass from the office before entering the building.
- Do not send older siblings to pick up students prior to 3:20.
- Stay away from the bus area.
- Do not cross the playfield at any time before or after school.
- Pull all the way forward in the drive-through lane; only allow your child to exit on the right side of the car. Stay in your cars at all times.
- Model safety and courtesy for your children at all times.

*Mrs. Painter, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Lemmel*

**STAR LAKE SAFETY  
 PATROL FLOURISHES**

**Advisors: Mrs. Thompson & Mrs. Painter**

Star Lake's Safety Patrol Team is on the job everyday, rain or shine, keeping students safe thanks to five amazing 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. These five boys and girls inspired over **20 new members** to join the Safety Patrol Team through their daily example of dedication and commitment. The Safety Patrol Advisors wish to acknowledge the special efforts of **TYREE BROWN, AZHANE DEAN, GABBY MEYERS, KYLE PIRTILLA and DANIELLE VIEN**. These students will be the leaders of our future. We are honored to work with them.

**REMEMBER...SAFETY 1<sup>st</sup>!**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FW PTA CLOTHING BANK:**

Halloween costumes available for kids on Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>.  
Donations Needed: (1) High school sized coats for boys and girls, (2) games for boys of all ages, (3) hangers, and (4) volunteers to show up and help the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month from 4:30-6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 1:00-3:00 p.m.  
*Donations can be dropped off at Star Lake.*

**DALLAS BRASS PERFORMS WITH FW  
 MUSIC STUDENTS:**

Evening Performance: Thomas Jefferson High Gym @ 7:00 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>. \$5.00 for non-FW students. FW students are "free." The performance will include *America's Greatest Hits* from the last 230 years. Experience the sounds of Benny Goodman, Henry Mancini, Leonard Bernstein, John Philip Sousa, and Aaron Copland. *American Musical Journey* is a showcase of the gifts of American composers.

**STAR LAKE LIBRARY**

253-945-4010



**HOURS: M-F 8:30 a.m. -3:30 p.m.**

Librarian: Mrs. Quackenbush

Library Clerks: Mrs. Cole & Mrs. Mahoney.

**CHECK-OUT POLICIES**

Check-Out: Once a week for each class  
Kindergarteners: One book for one week.  
K-5 Students: Up to three books for two weeks (date stamped inside)  
Fines: No fines for overdue books, but replacement costs charges for lost books. Borrowing is restricted for students who have overdue books.