

Woodside Toucan News

WOODSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2017

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4



From the Principal

Not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them, is the true measure of our thanksgiving. ~W.T. Purkiser

Dear Woodside Families,

During this season, we take time to express gratitude for our blessings, but this author gently persuades us to look beyond ourselves and to put our blessings into actions. Another writer, explorer and adventurer, W.J. Cameron, expressed that sentiment another way, "Thanksgiving, after all, is a word of action."

There is so much to be grateful for here at Woodside! I am grateful for the incredible array of students who brighten my every day. I say "thanks" every day for the talented and dedicated staff who spark joy and curiosity and a thirst for learning with their work. I feel blessed to welcome the families who entrust us with their children's care and learning for these oh-too-short elementary school years.

I'm grateful also for our district community's recognition that Woodside, grand old school that she is, is ready for modernization and expansion. In 2016, a super majority of our district's voters said "yes" to a Capital Bond that included remodeling our own school and North Middle School at the other end of the district. The bond also included building a new elementary school at 180th St SE & 46th Ave SE – a Bothell address.

Because I know you are curious, and because I am so excited to share, here's a review of the timeline for Woodside's modernization and an update on the work planned and in progress to transform and enlarge this school we all love.

Woodside will be fully modernized and more secure. The project will modernize existing classroom wings and the gym and cafeteria. The school's more secure entry way will lead into offices and the library. *And* we'll have better, more secure fencing around the school.

Woodside's construction is scheduled for 2019-20, following the opening of Elementary #18. That new school will alleviate crowding here at Woodside, so work on our school can proceed without so many students on campus.

Woodside's architect is [Studio Meng Strazzara](#). The company has designed many schools over the years and also designs businesses and homes. We are excited about the work they've done and the enthusiasm they have for working with us.

Woodside's Ed Specs process is underway. If you ever built a new home or bought one – or if you chose a rental to live in, you did a bit "specifications" work. You knew how many would be living in the place you considered; you knew if you had need of a garage, wanted to cook a lot or just needed a tiny kitchen. You "specified" how many bedrooms you wanted, whether you preferred a yard or lots of windows. And then, of course, you combined those "specifications" with budget, timeline and location to make a final decision.

Educational Specifications for schools is similar, but more complex. We are looking at educational programs we provide at Woodside and what we might provide in the future. We are thinking about the needs for special programs like music, special education – even how best to build a school enriched with lots of educational technology. (As you all know, such a possibility wasn't on the horizon when Woodside was built originally in 1981 – nearly 40 years ago.)



Betty Cobbs
Principal

Woodside Elementary School
17000 23rd Ave. SE,
Bothell, WA 98012
www.everettsd.org/woodside

Dec. 1

Learning Improvement Friday

Dec. 8

Learning Improvement Friday

Dec. 15

Learning Improvement Friday

Dec. 18-Jan. 1

Winter Break – School closed



The architect uses the *Ed Specs* we develop to design the school. We should begin seeing some of those potential designs when the *Ed Specs* work is done in early 2018. I am really looking forward to those design concepts. When we have something on paper, it will help all of us visualize the future possibilities here, and it will help make this dream project a reality.

Fall of 2020 may seem far away. But in reality, it is less than three years. Some of today's Woodside students will be enjoying and learning within a modernized Woodside that voters made possible when they said "yes," in early 2016.

Thinking about that past bond and the possibilities it makes possible here at Woodside and across the district makes me smile. It is just one among many other reasons I have to celebrate the season and the joys of my work with you and your children.

Happy holidays and best wishes for the upcoming years!

Betty J. Cobbs

Dr. Betty J. Cobbs, Principal
Woodside Elementary

Calendar of Events

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
December	4	5	6	7	8 Learning Improvement Friday; 1:35 dismissal
	11	12	13	14	15 Learning Improvement Friday; 1:35 dismissal
	18 Winter Break – No School	19 Winter Break – No School	20 Winter Break – No School	21 Winter Break – No School	22 Winter Break – No School
	25 Winter Break – No School	26 Winter Break – No School	27 Winter Break – No School	28 Winter Break – No School	29 Winter Break – No School
January	1 Winter Break – No School	2	3	4	5 Learning Improvement Friday; 1:35 dismissal
	8 PTA Meeting 7:00	9	10	11 Hearing Screening Day. Family Math Night 6:30 – 8:00	12 Learning Improvement Friday; 1:35 dismissal
	15 MLK Day – No School	16	17	18	19 Learning Improvement Friday; 1:35 dismissal
	22	23	24	25 1 st grade Concert 7:00	26 Popcorn Friday School Spirit Day - Pajama Day
	29	30	31	1	2



Shelf Talk from the Woodside Library – Amy Ruotsala, Teacher Librarian

Thank you to the families who stopped by during Family Literacy Night and said hi. The Sno-Isle Children's Librarian, Heather Orsen was present. She was meeting families, signing people up for library cards, and talking to staff about ways that she could support students at the Mill Creek Library. The Sno-Isle system is a fabulous resource for children and adults. They offer e-books (free!), book a librarian (free!), homework help (free!), and many more services. Signing up for a library card is free!

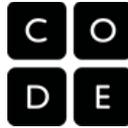
Overdue...fine...lost...what do these mean? There are a lot of concerned students and families about overdue/lost books. Here is how the library system works. A book is checked out. It has a check out time of 14 days. The computer counts calendar days, Saturdays, Sundays, and days we are not in school. If the book is not returned by midnight on the 14th day, the system automatically moves that book to the "overdue" category. Books sit in the overdue category for 120 days. At midnight on the 120th day, the system moves the book to "lost" status. At this time a fine is calculated. It is at this time when a student's account is blocked from checking out.

When overdue slips are generated, they will show the materials that the student has that are overdue and lost. The fine or the overdue status is removed once the material is returned. Please do not panic when receiving an overdue or fine slip. This is a reminder to keep looking for the library materials. They almost ALWAYS turn up.

Destiny (the software system that runs the library catalog, check-in, and returns) is accessible from home. Once on the Woodside webpage, choose the Destiny/Card Catalog option from the left hand menu. From that page you can use the catalog to see if Woodside Library has a certain book. In the upper right hand side you will see -> Log In. By clicking that, students are able to log in (using their same log in for any computer) and check their account. By clicking on the tab "My Info", you will see what your child has checked out.

Woodside Library will be sponsoring a Winter Break Reading Challenge. Students will hear about this challenge beginning next Thursday. The challenge begins on December 15 and will be due on January 3. Students will receive a bingo board with 25 reading challenges. Students will be asked to complete enough challenges to earn one bingo....some students may even go above and beyond and complete a blackout! An award will be given to the students who complete this challenge.

The Woodside Library continues to be open from 8:10-8:25 Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings for families to do AR testing. Occasionally, the library is closed for a meeting. I try to let families know a head of time but sometimes it is an emergency meeting. Thanks for your understanding.



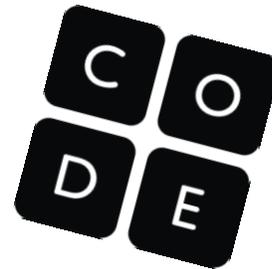
Hour of Code 2017

in the Computer Lab

During the month of November, your 1st-5th grade child was introduced to the basics of computer science. Our coding unit culminates with participation in the **Hour of Code** during Computer Science Education Week from December 4-8th.

Hour of Code and creative computing introduces students to basic programming concepts such as repeat-loops, conditions, and simple algorithms in a fun and engaging way. Creative computing can certainly generate an interest in computer science and programming, but the learning goes beyond this; students develop skills that are essential and transferable, such as the ability to:

- reason systematically
- sequence
- problem solve and persevere
- think critically
- work collaboratively
- express ideas using media
- become fluent using technology



Students can continue their learning at home and participate in all the tutorials available at:

<https://code.org/learn>

Happy Computing!

Mrs. Sarah Lim, M.S.Ed.

Instructional Technology Teacher

slim@everettsd.org





What's happening in music this December

The 5th Graders are performing the Japanese folk song, *Yuki*, on the xylophones as we practice our instrument performing skills.

The 4th Graders have been practicing sixteenth note rhythms in a variety of ways through listening, performing on xylophones, singing, reading, and writing. Ask your child what a sixteenth is, how to write it, and how to perform one!

The 3rd Graders are reading and writing music on the staff including do-re-mi-sol-la as we prepare to read absolute pitches for our recorder unit.

2nd Grade is working on a Nutcracker Unit. We have been performing movements and instruments to *March of the Toy Soldiers* and *Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy*. Ask your child who composed the music to the Nutcracker and what movements we have learned to help us listen and understand the different songs.

1st Grade is learning a variety of songs about winter through singing, instrument playing, and movement as we prepare for their ***Let it Snow Concert***. The concert is based on the book, *Snowmen at Night*, and will be on **Thursday, January 25th at 7:00PM!**

The Kindergarteners just finished performing and creating on the xylophones. Now they have started listening to different styles of music as we learn how to describe and move to the music we hear.

To help reinforce music at home, please always encourage your child to show you new or favorite songs from music class! The more each student practices at home, the more progress they will make in music class!

Upcoming Music Events

Violin Concert (5th grade violin club)

Wednesday, December 13th 7:00PM

Choir Caroling with cookies and cocoa

Thursday, December 14th 2:00-4:30PM (Please note this is an after school choir event)

1st Grade Concert: Let it Snow!

Thursday, January 25th 1:45PM and 7:00PM

Choir Concert

Thursday, February 22nd 1:45PM and 7:00PM

Choir final rehearsal/breakfast party

Tuesday, February 28th 7:10AM-8:10AM

4th Grade Concert: Washington; The Evergreen State

Thursday, March 8th 1:45PM and 7:00PM

Snohomish Honor Choir (Select 4th and 5th grade choir students)

Monday, April 23rd 7:00PM at the Everett Civic Auditorium

3rd Grade Recorder Concert

Thursday, May 24th 1:45PM and 7:00PM

To keep up to date on music events and concerts, make sure to regularly check the music website!

<http://www.everettsd.org/woe-thill>




Natural Leaders

We are Natural Leaders because:

- We want all children to succeed in school
- We like to meet other families
- We are hard workers
- We want our children to have a good future
- We know we can make a difference in the lives of our children
- We know that some children and families need support to be involved in school
- We know we can help schools and families work together in a partnership

Natural leaders are warm, supportive, and sociable people who serve as multicultural bridges between students, families, communities and schools. They reach out to the community, provide support to new families to our school, and volunteer in the school or with school activities. When parents are involved, students achieve more, regardless of their social-economic status, ethnic / racial background or educational level of parents.

At our first Natural Leaders Meeting on November 13, 2017, we discussed possible ideas that parents would like to see happen at Woodside this year. The ideas included school-wide programs such as STEM Science Night, a "Make-It, Take-It" Game Night, Poetry Writing/Open Microphone Night, Cultural Wonder Events, and several parent-only informational meetings. The group went through a process and selected the "top four" events for the 2017-18 school year.

- Cultural Wonder Events (School-wide)
- STEM Science Night (School-wide)
- Reading and Math Home Support (Parents Only Night)
- Volunteer Opportunities at Woodside (Parents Only Night)

In addition, we have a Natural Leaders Job Request Form in the office, designed for jobs that Natural Leader parents can do to help classrooms/school.

We are looking for one parent from each classroom to be a part of the planning team for the *Cultural Wonder Events. Interested parents should contact their child's teacher. The first planning meeting will take place before or just after the Winter Break.

*Cultural Wonders would involve inviting families to showcase and share aspects of their culture at set times during the school year.

Rosario Osterbur, Natural Leader Lead

Gabriela Sykes, Natural Leader School Liaison

Dr. Cobbs, Principal



WOODSIDE PE

A lot has been happening in Physical Education classes since the beginning of the school year. We have been learning the rules, procedures, and routines for PE class. We start class time with laps around the gym so that we can work on improving our fitness. It is fun to get our bodies in good shape. Working on fitness for our bodies is a main focus of PE class. In primary grades, we have been practicing our gross motor body movements like hopping, galloping, skipping, sideways sliding, and running. We often get hot, sweaty, and tired while practicing our movements. We have started working on ball skills; bouncing, catching, tossing, and dribbling a ball. The intermediate grades have been doing fitness testing like curl-ups and the pacer test which is an endurance running test. They have also been practicing soccer and basketball skills. In early November, all grades worked on cup stacking which is a fun activity that helps us with hand-eye coordination, ambidexterity, speed, and concentration. On November 9th, Woodside also participated in a worldwide attempt to set a new Guinness Book World record for the most people cupstacking on the same day. Please help your student come to school prepared for PE and send me a note or e-mail if your student must sit out or be limited in their participation. Thank you for your support.

Mr. Suda, Woodside PE specialist



Counselor's Corner

Bullying Prevention Lessons and Introduction of Counseling Intern

During my visits to 1st–4th grade classrooms this fall, we discussed harassment, intimidation and bullying. (We just started the lessons in 5th grade.) I used the writings of Signe Whitson as a way to help the students determine the differences between rude, mean, and bullying behavior. In summary:

- Rude: Inconsiderate, thoughtless, unplanned behavior, bad manners, only thinking about yourself, not meant to actually hurt anyone
- *Mean: Saying or doing something on purpose to hurt someone, maybe once or twice, usually in anger, usually feel bad about it later*
- *Bullying: on purpose, repeated over time and involves an imbalance of power*

We reviewed the idea that we don't have to wait until someone does mean and hurtful things three or more times so that we can call it bullying. When we use Kelso's Choices, any time we are hurt, scared or threatened, it is considered a big problem that is handled by adults. It is important to tell the adult in charge when it happens so that it hopefully won't happen again. We can also tell the adults if we know of another student being hurt (physically or emotionally) in case the person is afraid to tell.

I shared with older students the online reporting system, as well as the Washington State law and Everett Public Schools policy about harassment, intimidation and bullying (HIB). This information can be found on the Counseling pages of the Woodside website, Student Resources, Bullying Prevention Resources (<https://www.everettsd.org/Page/23641>). This page also contains a lot of other resources for students to learn about bullying and how to deal with it.

Welcome to Woodside, Ms. Minear!

I would like to officially welcome and introduce you to Ms. Savannah Minear, a counseling student at Seattle Pacific University. SPU has a very highly rated counseling program. Ms. Minear will be working at Woodside on Wednesdays, starting in January. I am excited to have her join me in assisting our students with their social-emotional needs. She will be devoting a lot of time to individual and group counseling with our students. In addition to parent permission for counseling, she is also required to gain permission to video and/or audiotape sessions so that she can improve her skills. If you are interested in having her work with your child, please contact me. Her presence at Woodside is a win for all of us!

Anne Jensen
School Counselor
ajensen@everettsd.org
425-385-7810



Prepare for bad weather

Find emergency school schedule information (usually by 5:45 a.m.) on the [Safety and Emergencies](#) page under the *Parents* tab on the district website for full details and other resources.

- [FlashAlert.net](#): You can subscribe to receive notices at the same time those notices are sent to media outlets, or you can bookmark this site to check for a listing of regional school emergency schedule information.
- Media news reports (Media gets information from FlashAlert)
- District website: www.everettsd.org
- District information line at 425-385-4636
- *Blackboard Connect** calls, emails and text messages made to families usually by 5:45 a.m.
***Please be sure your contact information is current at your school.**
- Program [impact chart](#) outlines how various school programs and activities are impacted when school is cancelled or starts late.

No announcement means schools are on a regular schedule.

Snow routes are online

School drop off and pick up locations may change in an emergency situation. If your child rides a bus to school, please become familiar with the [snow route information](#) on the district transportation department's webpage.

Volunteer application online

Want to attend a field trip this spring? Time to renew an expired volunteer application? [Apply or renew quickly and easily online](#). Applying online saves postage time and your application gets processed even faster.

Free research-based tools to help stop bullying

Stopbullying.gov has bullying prevention information and strategies. There are training modules, PowerPoints, toolkits, videos, resources, state-by-state laws and policies, suggestions about how to talk about bullying with your kids and much more.



3900 Broadway
Everett, WA 98201
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www.everettsd.org

Everett Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Designated to handle inquiries about nondiscrimination policies are:

- Affirmative Action Office – Carol Stolz, cstolz@everettsd.org, 425-385-4106
- Title IX Officer – Randi Seaberg, rseaberg@everettsd.org, 425-385-4104
- 504 Coordinator – Becky Ballbach, rballbach@everettsd.org, 425-385-4063
- ADA Coordinator – Becky Clifford, bclifford@everettsd.org, 425-385-5250