

TUKWILA ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

“THE BEST & THE BRIGHTEST”

JANUARY, 2016

Principal's Message

Dear families,

Welcome back!

Students, we missed you and are ready to start learning with you again. I hope you had a tremendous time with your family during vacation, having fun and practicing your math and reading.

January is a fantastic month. We start the new calendar year strong. We want to continue the great habits we started in September and renew or start new habits that will help us go through the rest of the school year doing our best - BEING THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST we can be.

January is a month of unusual and wild weather. Be prepared to come to school with warm coats and hats.

Have a great January.



Steve Salisbury,
Principal

*Tukwila Elementary
is a Title I school-wide school*

Early release Wednesdays for January

Classes will meet **9:00-12:45**, on **January 13 and January 27**. Teachers will have training during the afternoons.

No school - January 1 and 18, February 1

Our school will be closed on the following dates:

- **Friday, January 1** - last day of winter break
- **Monday, January 18th** - Martin Luther King Jr. holiday
- **Monday, February 1** - Teacher preparation day

Class picture day - February 11

Group pictures of classes will be taken on **Thursday, February 11**, by Leo's Photography. Watch for ordering information to be sent home with students prior to picture day.



Did you know.....

You can call in an absence for your student (206-901-7503 or 206-901-7502) at any time, 24 hours a day.

Please include the name of your student, the reason for the absence, and a phone number where you may be reached if there is a question.

For the safety of our students and staff, please enter our school **only** by the main entry door. Visitors must sign in/out and wear a visitor pass.

Students should arrive at school **no earlier than 8:30am** and depart **no later than 3:30pm** unless they are enrolled in a supervised school activity before/after school.

You are encouraged to leave last-minute messages for your student **no later than 2:45** so there is time for the messages to be delivered. Thank you!

If you wish to volunteer, either at the school or on field trips, you **must** complete a volunteer packet at least three weeks prior to the activity. Once cleared, the background check is good for two years.

You can hear about weekly school activities by dialing 206-901-7501 OR check out the district web site at www.tukwila.wednet.edu.

Applications for low-cost student school insurance are available in the school office.

Our lost and found is located at the rear of the main lobby. Please check often as this collection piles up quickly.

Our school collects Box Tops for Education and Campbell's Soup Labels. Please deposit them in the marked containers in the main office.



Calendar of Events

12/21 through 1/1	No school, Winter break
1/4	Classes resume following winter break
1/8	Tukwila PTA Popcorn Friday 9:00-11:00, Play & Learn early childhood program 3:10-4:10, Talent show auditions
1/11	Tukwila PTA spring membership drive begins
1/13	Early release day, 12:45 dismissal 6:30, Tukwila PTA meeting
1/15	9:00-11:00, Play & Learn early childhood program
1/18	No school, Martin Luther King Jr. holiday
1/22	Tukwila PTA spring membership drive ends 9:00-11:00, Play & Learn early childhood program 6:00-8:30, Tukwila PTA winter talent show
1/27	Early release day, 12:45 dismissal
1/29	Tukwila PTA Popcorn Friday 9:00-11:00, Play & Learn early childhood program
2/1	No school, Teacher preparation day
2/3	2nd progress report period ends
2/5	9:00-11:00, Play & Learn early childhood program
2/11	Class picture day

Classroom News

Look at all the activities in our classrooms!

January, 2016

Happy New Year! Kindergarteners are recharged and ready to continue working hard! We are reading and writing about bears this month. In math, we are working on teen numbers, telling story problems, shapes and sorting. Help your child practice their sight words and read with your kindergartener every day!

Welcome back, second graders!

We hope your family had a restful break and your child is ready for the new year. We just finished up two-digit addition before the break and will be diving into measurement and geometry before we tackle subtraction with regrouping. For reading, we continue to practice our fluency and work on comprehension strategies. We look forward to starting our penguin unit soon. Please remember to practice your math facts and read at home for at least 20 minutes every day.

LRC1 News

The year sure is flying by! It's hard to believe it is already January! Many of the LRC1 students are spending time learning to be independent workers at the independent work tables in the classroom. They work on math and reading jobs, practicing skills they are working on in their academic groups. In math, students are working hard at learning number patterns and identifying key words to help them solve story problems. In writing group, students have written books related to what they worked on in reading group. Many of these books have science themes. Please continue to work with your children at home and review papers that they bring home.

Music News

During January, we will be learning songs about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and doing various drumming activities. In addition, K-2nd grade students will be working on songs, in-tune singing and reading rhythms. In 3rd-5th grade, students will be learning African drumming. 5th graders will also be working on a *Classroom Based Performance Assessment* in music, assessing their ability to listen to two pieces of music and compare and contrast tempo, timbre/tone color and dynamics. In February, all students will learn about jazz. Older students will focus on the combining of African rhythms and European melodies and harmonies that brought about this unique American art form.

Library News

3-5th graders are busy doing their book studies on various award nominated books. The primary students are practicing checking out books about various themes they're learning about in their classrooms.





A new calendar year is a time to review, make adjustments

It's the beginning of a new calendar year—and nearly the halfway point in the school year. So it's a good time to take stock of your child's habits and make needed adjustments.

Spend some time talking with your child about how the school year is going. If the two of you set learning goals at the start of the year, review those goals now. Is he making progress? How can he make the rest of the school year even better?

Then make some learning resolutions. Here are three to consider:

1. Restore beginning-of-school routines. Has your child's bedtime begun to slip? Are mornings more rushed? Is his regular study time now not quite so regular? Sleep and study routines make life easier—and help kids do better in school.
2. Spend time reading. There is no skill that will help your child more in school. And reading ability, like other skills, gets better with practice. Encourage your child to read. Let him read about anything, from sports to his favorite movie character.
3. Reduce screen time. Talk about the amount of time your child spends in front of a screen. How much time does he spend watching TV? Playing video games? Browsing the Internet? A new study found that 45% of eight-year-olds exceed the recommended two hours or less of screen time per day—and 80% of 16-year-olds exceed that limit. It's time to set and enforce limits.

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Show your child how to give meaningful gifts that are free

Many people exchange gifts over the holiday season. While kids enjoy receiving gifts, they also enjoy being able to give gifts. Giving gifts can give your child a sense of pride.

Does your child know that the most meaningful gifts don't have to cost money? They take time and come straight from the heart.

Share a few of the many ways your child can give gifts this holiday season. He can:

- Offer to do chores for an elderly neighbor.
- Record himself reading a book for a younger sibling to read along with.
- Make a list, such as "My 10 Best Memories With Grandpa."
- Do a chore for an entire month without whining.
- Play a favorite game with a family member or a neighbor who is home-bound.
- Record an audio or video message for a loved one who is far away.
- Bake cookies and deliver them to someone who may not receive many homemade gifts.
- Create a calendar for 2016 and decorate it with personalized artwork, one drawing for each month.

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Respect is an important ingredient for school success

When students have respect for teachers and classmates, they help create the positive academic environment all children need in order to be successful. To encourage respectful behavior in your child:

- Be a role model. Do what you want your child to do. If you want her to say please when asking for something, remember to say please yourself.
- Discuss respect. What is it? Why is it important? How does it feel to be treated with respect or disrespect?
- Criticize constructively. When you need to correct your child, do it helpfully and respectfully. "Next time, please hold the door for Grandpa. That will make life easier for him."
- Praise success. Notice times when your child is respectful. "You listened to the coach even when other kids were joking around. I was impressed."

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Use positive discipline for positive results

The discipline strategies you use at home can increase your child's likelihood of succeeding in school. And experts agree that the best discipline methods are positive, not harsh. According to the research, harsh physical punishments may actually increase your child's risk for mental health problems.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that parents:

- Develop loving, supportive relationships with their kids. This gives children a strong foundation and motivates them to behave well. A child who is respected by his parents is more likely to cooperate at home and at school.
- Focus on the positive. Compliment what your child does right. Be specific. "You started your homework without my reminding you. Great job!"
- Use time-outs and other non-physical consequences when needed. A child who speaks disrespectfully may need some time alone in his room. A child who puts off homework may miss other fun activities.
- Let natural consequences do the work. If your child forgets to bring his homework to school again, don't bring it to school for him. Instead, allow him to get a zero. He will be more likely to remember his homework tomorrow!

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Parent & Child Activity Calendar

Elementary School

Steve Salisbury
Tukwila Elementary School



THE PARENT INSTITUTE December 2015 • January • February 2016

Parent & Child Activity Calendar

Elementary School
Parents
make the difference!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December		1 Plan to get some exercise with your child every day this month.	2 Make a bookmark. On a piece of thin cardboard, have your child draw a scene or write a quotation from a book.	3 List animals your child loves. If he could have any animal as a pet, which would it be? Why?	4 Ask your child to give you a "6 o'clock report" about what went on today. What's the lead story?	5 Have your child draw a picture of something that describes and defines December.
6 Teach your child to make paper snowflakes. Use some to decorate your windows.	7 Make a crossword puzzle with your child to review spelling words.	8 During the holidays, have your child talk to older relatives about their childhood days.	9 Set an example for your child. Let her see you reading. Then say, "Reading is so much fun!"	10 Holidays have you feeling hassled? Share the responsibility. As kids help, they appreciate holidays even more.	11 Challenge your child to do a secret good deed for a friend or neighbor.	12 At the grocery store, have your child compare two sizes of the same product. Which is the best buy?
13 Brainstorm with your child about ways your family can do something for others this holiday season.	14 When you read aloud, choose an exciting place to stop. Ask your child, "What do you think will happen next?"	15 Ask your child to name something he has done in his life that he is proud of.	16 Tonight, look at the moon. Have your child draw the shape. Is it a crescent, full circle, half circle?	17 Have your child listen to different types of music. Ask her to describe how it makes her feel.	18 Have your child write directions for making a sandwich. Then follow them exactly. Did they work?	19 Bake cookies with your child. If you're doubling a recipe, have your child do the math.
20 Have your child write a poem or story from the point of view of a family pet.	21 Talk to your child about the importance of writing thank-you notes for gifts.	22 Do body arithmetic. Ask your child how much his fingers, knees, toes and nose add up to.	23 Learn a tongue twister with your child today. At dinner, challenge everyone to repeat it three times fast.	24 Tell your child family stories you can remember from when you were a child.	25 At dinner, have each family member say something nice about every person at the table.	26 Read a book aloud that you and your child can both enjoy.
27 Play a game that uses math skills, such as Monopoly®.	28 Talk to your child about people she admires. Ask her why she admires them.	29 Read an article from the newspaper with your child today.	30 Ask your child to tell you what he would like to make an annual tradition. Then start it!	31 Help your child create a time line of 2015.	2015	
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Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h2>January 2016</h2>					1 Encourage your child to start a diary or journal this calendar year.	2 Tonight, take a walk with your child. See how many stars you can see.
3 Make a habit of using Sunday nights as a time to talk with your child about the week ahead.	4 Write a nice note to your child and tuck it in his lunch box or in a school book.	5 Talk with your child about mistakes. How can people learn from their mistakes?	6 Choose a number, then have your child list all the things she can think of that come in that number.	7 Look at a calendar and discuss how many days are in each month.	8 Plan a TV-free evening. Read, play games or listen to music instead.	9 Take your child to the library. Check out a book about animals.
10 Have your child interview people in various careers that interest her. What is a typical day like for them?	11 Pick a new word from the dictionary. Everyone try to use that word at least three times today!	12 When your child asks a question you can't answer, write it down. Keep a list of questions to look up later.	13 Have your child predict the results of flipping a coin 10 times. Try it and see if he's right.	14 Choose a news story. Cut off the headline. Challenge your child to write her own.	15 Listen to a piece of music that has no lyrics. Have your child write his own words to the song.	16 Ask your child to help you organize something, such as a closet.
17 Teach your child how to sew on a button today.	18 How would your child handle an emergency? Teach her how to call 911. What should she say?	19 Look through some "help wanted" ads with your child. What job would he want?	20 Read a poem aloud. Stop to let your child guess what the next rhyming word will be.	21 Have your child close her eyes and tell you everything she hears.	22 Give family members marshmallows and toothpicks. See who can build the tallest tower.	23 Give your child a measuring tape. Ask him to measure and record the dimensions of objects in your house.
24 Play a game of tic-tac-toe with your child.	25 Ask your child to complete this sentence: "If I had one wish, it would be ..."	26 Write fractions on cards. Mix them up. Have your child put them in order from smallest to greatest.	27 Encourage your child to be a gracious winner and a good loser.	28 Invent a word with your child. Help her write a definition as it would appear in the dictionary.	29 Make your child a pet detective. Have your child observe an animal. What does it eat? Where does it live?	30 Have a jump rope contest today. See how many jumps you and your child can do in a row.
31 Play board or card games as a family tonight.						

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Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Take a walk with your child. Practice using all five senses to describe the world around you.	2 It's Groundhog Day. How many words can your child make from the letters in GROUNDHOG?	3 Have your child name five foods that are healthy. Now have her name two foods that taste good but are not healthy.	4 Have each family member write a funny sentence. Put them together to make a story.	5 Look for a free concert or play you can attend with your family.	6 Start a list of places your family would like to visit. Have your child do research to obtain information about these places.
7 Tuck a Valentine in your child's lunch every day this week. Write a special "I love you" message on each.	8 Watch the news with your child. Choose a person of the week. Together, read more about that person.	9 Does your child need new books? Help him organize a neighborhood book swap.	10 With your child, estimate how many bowls of cereal you can pour from one box. Keep track until the box is empty.	11 Tell your child a riddle. "I love to bark and wag my tail. What am I?" Ask her to make up a riddle for you.	12 Figure out the average of something with your child, such as family members' ages.	13 Visit the library. Check out a book about a famous woman.
14 Remind your child that you enjoy his company and let him know you love him.	15 Have your child fill a container with water. Pour it into a shorter, wider container. Does the quantity of water look different?	16 Teach your child how to take her pulse. Then have her jump up and down 50 times and take it again.	17 Keep paper and pen handy when watching TV. Have your child jot down five new words. Look them up later.	18 Have your child design a new cover for a much-loved book.	19 In 1473, astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus was born. Ask your child to draw a picture of the solar system.	20 Keep the TV turned off today. Let your child choose alternate activities.
21 Turn chores into a game. Assign each chore a number and have your child roll a die to see which one she gets.	22 It's the birthday of George Washington. How many facts can your child list about this famous president?	23 Have your child draw a window picture. He can look out the window and draw what he sees!	24 Look for a TV program on science or history. Watch it with your child.	25 Stand your child against a wall. Use a spoon as a ruler and see how many "spoons" tall she is.	26 Make up trivia questions about your family. Quiz one another at the dinner table.	27 Have a 20-minute D.E.A.R. time (Drop Everything And Read).
28 Have everyone in the family spend 30 minutes picking up the house. Many hands make light work.	29 Talk to your child about the definition of a leap year—a year with one extra day inserted into February.	<h2>February 2016</h2>				

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Tukwila Elementary School Extra-Curricular Activities for December, 2015
Times listed at the bottom

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1/4 REACH program	1/5 Robotics club REACH program Mexican dancing	1/6 REACH program	1/7 Coding club Robotics club REACH program Mexican dancing	1/8 REACH program
1/11 REACH program	1/12 Robotics club REACH program Mexican dancing	1/13 Early release day 12:45 dismissal REACH program	1/14 Coding club Robotics club REACH program Mexican dancing	1/15 REACH program
1/18 No school	1/19 Robotics club REACH program Mexican dancing	1/20 REACH program	1/21 Coding club Robotics club REACH program Mexican dancing	1/22 REACH program
1/25 REACH program	1/26 Robotics club REACH program Mexican dancing	1/27 Early release day 12:45 dismissal REACH program	1/28 Coding club Robotics club REACH program Mexican dancing	1/29 REACH program
2/1 No school	2/2 Robotics club REACH program Mexican dancing	2/3 REACH program	2/4 Coding club Robotics club REACH program Mexican dancing	2/5 REACH program

Mexican dancing

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:15-5:00

REACH after-school program

Monday through Friday, 3:15-5:30 (12:45-5:30 on early release days)

Robotics club

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:10-4:10

Coding club

Thursdays, 3:10-4:10

The Tukwila School District No. 406 complies with all federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, and the use of a trained dog guide or service animal. District programs shall be free from sexual and malicious harassment, and the district provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups.

Inquiries regarding compliance or complaint procedures may be directed to the School District's Title IX/Section 504/RCW 28A.640 Compliance Officer or to the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights.

Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Compliance Officer:
Dr. Rick Maloney, Executive Director of Human Resources
Tukwila School District No. 406
4640 South 144th Street
Tukwila, WA 98168
Phone: 206.901.8005
E-mail: maloneyr@tukwila.wednet.edu

Section 504 Compliance Officer:
Joan Lawson Director of Special Education
Tukwila School District No. 406
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