

The Friday Flyer

Every Student Future Ready

Peter Kirk Elementary is a creative learning environment where children feel they are valued and safe. Staff and community collaborate to provide the highest quality education to prepare students to be life long learners.

Volume 4, Issue 17

January 27, 2011

Upcoming Events:

January 31

6th Grade Parent Night
KJH Commons—7PM

January 31, Feb 2, 3

11:45 Dismissal
Conferences

February 1

Crazy Hair Day!

February 2

Kindergarten Registration
1:00pm - 7:00 PM

PTSA General Membership
Meeting—Library 6:30 PM

February 7

Health Screening

February 9

ADK Kindergarten Lottery

February 10

Math is Cool Competition—6th Grade

Watch DOGS: Dads with Doughnuts

February 16–20

No School - Mid-Winter Break - Presidents Day

February 23

Family Math Night

See website for complete list of school activities scheduled.

<http://schools.lwsd.org/kirk/>

At Peter Kirk, we respect diversity and follow a policy of non discrimination

See: <http://www.lwsd.org/school/kirk/About-Us/Pages/Human-Dignity-Policy.aspx>

for Human Dignity Policy

Sandy Dennehy

Peter Kirk Elementary
Principal

425.936.2590

sdennehy@lwsd.org

<http://www.lwsd.org/School/kirk/Pages/default.aspx>

[kirk/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.lwsd.org/School/kirk/Pages/default.aspx)

School and Principal Notes



Student Involved Conferences - 11:45 Dismissal

Due to **Student Involved Conferences**, students will be dismissed at **11:45am on Tuesday, January 31st, February 2nd and February 3rd**. No lunches will be served on these days.

1/2 Day Kindergarten

AM Kindergarten **attends** on Tuesday. There is NO PM Kindergarten.

PM Kindergarten **attends** on Thursday. There is NO AM Kindergarten.

AM Kindergarten **attends** on Friday There is NO PM Kindergarten.

No Kindergarten Bus Transportation during early dismissal days. West of Market bus will run as usual.

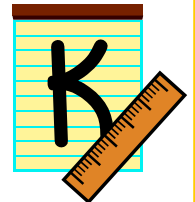
NOTE: Normal school hours for *Wednesday, February 1st.*

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration will be on **Thursday, February 2nd**, from **1pm-7pm p.m.** in the All Day Kindergarten classrooms.

Please bring the following when registering:

- Proof of child's birth date - state certified birth certificate or passport
- Current immunization records
- Proof of residence – driver's license and utility bills or escrow/rental agreement
- If applying for All Day Kindergarten lottery – bring your checkbook
- You will be required to pay first month tuition and leave blank check for monthly automatic withdrawal



All Day Kindergarten lottery will be held on **Thursday, February 9th**.

Health Screening - Volunteers Needed

Peter Kirk will be holding Health Screening on **Tuesday, February 7th**. This event requires many volunteers. There will be 3 shifts available (approximate times):

- 8:30-11:30
- 11:30-2:30
- 8:30-2:30



If you are able to volunteer, please email Brenda Nunn brnunn@lwsd.org

How to Make Parent-Teacher Conferences Work for Your Child

Remember, all children learn in different ways. They have their own individual personalities, listening skills and work habits. To help their students learn new knowledge and skills, teachers must know as much as they can about each child. No one knows more about these things than you, the parents. And no one has more influence over your children than you. That's why teachers need your help to do a first-class job. Working together, you and the teacher can help your child have a successful school year.

Here Are Some Things To Keep in Mind. Start the conference right, be there on time, and plan not to run over the amount of time that has been set aside, about 30 minutes. The best conferences are those in which both teachers and parents stay calm and try hard to work together for one purpose only—to help your child do well.

Talk To Your Child About Their Goals. Remember, this conference is also an opportunity for your child to review their goals and update you on their progress. Kids have worked hard towards achieving the goals they set in October as well as preparing for their conference. Ask them some questions ahead of time, helping them reflect on their progress.

You should get ready for each conference, too. Talk to your children before the conference. Find out what they think are their best subjects, and what subjects they like the least. Find out why. Also, ask your children if there is anything they would like you to talk about with their teachers. Make sure your children don't worry about the meeting. Help them understand that you and their teacher(s) are meeting together in order to help them.

Before you go to the school, write notes to yourself about:

- Things about your child's life at home, personality, problems, habits, and hobbies you feel it's important for the teacher to know
- Your concerns about the school's programs or policies
- Questions about your child's progress
- How you and the school can work together to help your child

At the Conference: Some good questions to ask are these:

- How well does my child get along with others?
- Is my child working up to his or her ability?
- Does my child participate in class discussions and activities?
- Have you noticed any sudden changes in the way my child acts?
- What do the tests tell about my child's progress?
- How does my child handle taking tests?

It's a good idea to ask your most important questions first, just in case time runs out before you and the teacher have a chance to discuss them all. Be sure to ask the teacher for specific suggestions on ways to help your child do better. This is the most important part of the meeting. It will become your action plan. If the teacher says something you don't quite understand, don't be shy about asking for an explanation. It's a good idea to end the conference by summing up decisions you've made together. Afterward, work the plan for improvement together. There is nothing more powerful than parents and teachers working together for the good of a child. (Adapted from the National Education Association website)

Crazy Hair Day

Wednesday, February 1st

Be the class with the MOST participants!



Life Skills Corner

Praise Note Prizes go to...

Alexander S (Reubish) Common sense; Responsibility

Isis S (Romano) Effort

Ava C (Raines) Effort; Problem solving; Responsibility

Brooks F (Dorey) Flexibility

Ryan T (Webster/Hubbard) Common sense; Initiative; Organization; Problem solving

Jacob S (MacDonald) Effort

Chloe D (Underdahl) Effort



WatchD.O.G.S this week!

Thank you:

- **Ryan Hagman** (1/24)
- **Ron Augustyn** (1/25)
- **Colin Jackson** (1/27)



Is your New Year's Resolution to spend more time with your kids? What better way to do it than by volunteering to be a WatchDOGS (Dads of Great Students) at Peter Kirk?! The WatchDOG Team is looking for dads, uncles and granddads to spend a day at the school hanging with the kids at recess, monitoring drop-off times and mentoring students in the classroom.

Here is the February Calendar for volunteers and still has many open days.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/06february>

Home and School Connection—Help for Bullying

As a parent, you want your child to be happy and safe, and that is one reason it's so disturbing to hear about bullying. Here are answers to commonly asked questions that can help you deal with this problem.

Q: What's the difference between bullying and teasing?

A: Sometimes it's not easy to tell. Usually bullying is ongoing. One person threatens, hurts, or embarrasses another repeatedly over a period of time. Also, a bully is more powerful than the child he's bothering—he may be bigger or older or have more friends. Teasing, although it can be hurtful, often takes place between friends or equals.

Q: How can I reduce my child's chances of being bullied?

A: A child with a healthy dose of self esteem is less likely to be picked on. Encourage your youngster to spend time with people who make her feel good, such as a friend she enjoys laughing with. Also, notice if your child puts herself down ("I'm not pretty like Sara"). Ask why she feels that way, and help her put her feelings in perspective. ("She does have pretty hair—what do you like about you?")

Q: What should I do if my youngster tells me she's being bullied?

A: First, listen carefully and take her seriously. Then, talk about strategies to handle bullying. Since most bullying takes place when a youngster is alone encourage her to play with other children at recess, sit near the bus driver, or stay with a group at lunch.

Note: Let her know that you will meet with her teacher so he is aware of what's going on.

February Life Skills

Integrity: *To act according to a sense of what's right and wrong*



The LIFESKILL of Integrity is the twin of Initiative. Both are inner-driven. Initiative without Integrity becomes bossiness or bullying; Integrity without Initiative becomes guilt or cowardice. Integrity is our inner voice of wisdom, a voice that speaks the truth about whether there is resonance or discord between our words and actions and our sense of what's right and wrong. This LIFESKILL lies at the core of who we are, what we believe and what we stand for. We develop integrity by seeing it in action – modeled by those we admire and respect. Model the high road and children will learn to make decisions based on principles. Model sticking to standards rather than giving in to short cuts and children will commit to doing their personal best. If our behaviors consistently match the words we speak, children see integrity.

What does it look like at home?

Adults

- Understand that some of the best lessons come from making mistakes; own up, learn from them
- Keep promises
- Insist gossip and put-downs be eliminated

Children

- Do what they say they will do
- Distinguish between right and wrong
- Resist peer pressure and speak and act from their own values and beliefs

Courage: *To act according to one's beliefs despite fear of consequences*



Courage is having the mental or moral strength to do what needs to be done despite problems, fear, danger, or consequences. A courageous person is one who repeatedly faces the difficulties and challenges that life delivers and perseveres no matter what the barriers or consequences may be.

What does it look like at home?

Adults

- Tell the truth regardless of the consequences or damage to our image.
- Dare to commit ourselves to “walk our talk” with our children and own up to any failure to do so
- Support children when they believe their actions are correct, even if such actions are unpopular.

Children

- Respect and follow behavior guidelines set by parents, despite what “our friends are allowed to do”
- Take that first step without being cajoled
- Open their minds to learn new ideas, approaches, and skills; willingly accept new challenges

PTSA

NEXT GM MEETING: THURS. FEBRUARY 2ND AT 6:30 P.M.

Please join us at the next General Membership Meeting, next **Thursday, February 2nd**. At that meeting we will explain how the PTSA Enrichment Evaluation and Budgeting Process works. It's a great time to show up and be heard on your thoughts as to how to make our school and community better.

At the General Membership Meeting a proposal for an additional grant of \$4500 in Instructional Materials will be made. This money will go to support school programs including Handwriting Without Tears and a Bullying Presentation by Trudy Ludwig.

Pre-Engineering

Let your imagination run wild with over 100,000 pieces of LEGO®! Build engineer-designed projects such as boats, bridges, mazes and motorized cars, and use special pieces to create your own unique design! Explore the endless creative possibilities of the LEGO® building system with the guidance of an experienced Play-Well instructor. This is an ideal way to prepare young builders for the challenge of Engineering FUNdamentals.

Who: Grades K – 1st

When: Thursdays from 3:20-4:50 (6 Week Session) Starting Thursday 2/2 through 3/15 (No class 2/16)

Cost: \$90 per child

Class minimum is 11, so we will hold off on completing registration forms and submitting payment until enough interest is shown.

If you are interested in signing your child up, please contact Jennifer Rex at jennifer.rex@frontier.com

Enrichment Programs

The PTSA currently has almost 100 enrichment programs at Peter Kirk. These programs cover any activity the PTSA is involved in (with volunteers, money, or just by name) that help enrich the students' educational experience at Peter Kirk.

Right now the Peter Kirk PTSA is looking for your help in identifying and championing new enrichment program ideas for next year (2012-2013). If you have an idea that you would like the PTSA to sponsor in some way (money, promoting, insurance, etc.), please go to the forms section of the Peter Kirk PTSA website (<http://www.peterkirkptsa.org/Forms>) and click on [Program Request Form \(pdf\)](#) or [\(eForm/fill-in Word document\)](#), fill it out with your idea, and send it back to the email address at the bottom of the form. Program ideas that already have someone who is willing to implement the program and help run it when it is implemented, a champion, are much more likely to help enrich the students than ideas that are looking for a champion.

If you're not sure your idea needs to involve the PTSA, but think it would help enrich the students of Peter Kirk, send it anyways. We might be able to help you get it implemented even if it doesn't involve the PTSA.

Do you shop at Safeway or Bartell Drugs?



Register your Club Card to earn cash for the Peter Kirk PTSA!



Sign up online at eScrip.com
Group: Peter Kirk Elementary PTSA

OR return today's Kid Mail form to school.

Safeway paid \$1,400.00 to our PTSA last year.
Thank you for shopping!

Community Notes

Please join us for~
A Taste of Africa



A cultural Benefit Event
for the whole family

Featuring traditional Food,
Music, Dance & Art from the
Country of Tanzania

Flora



Saturday, January 28th at 5:00
St. John's Episcopal Church
127 State Street S, Kirkland

\$25 Per person/Children under 10/\$5
Wine & Beer \$5/Non-Alcoholic beverages \$1

All proceeds will benefit Flora Gilmsdale who is fighting Stage 3 ovarian cancer & her family during this difficult time. Thank you for your care and support

Please RSVP to Sheryl at
tasteofafrica2012@gmail.com

Kids Getting in Shape!

Girls Class (9-16yo)

Tuesdays in Feb

(7,14,21,28)

4:30-5:30pm

Boys Class (13-16yo)

Thursdays in Feb

(2,9,16,23)

4:30-5:30pm



Focus on improving conditioning, strength and agility for sports and play! Guaranteed good times!!

Sign up at the front desk today!

For more info contact Kwesi @ (425)299-6840

Cost: members \$60 for 4 weeks/ Drop-in \$20/ea class
non-members \$80 for 4 weeks/ Drop-in \$25/class