

The Talon

The Eastgate Elementary School PTA Newsletter

A Monthly Newsletter

Issue 1 November 2011

DATES TO NOTE:

- Nov 10 & 11 - No School
- Nov 17 - Picture Retake Day
- Nov 24 & 25 - No School
- Dec 7 - Next PTA Meeting
- Dec 14 - Skate King Night

The Auction is Coming!

*It is an auction year!
Calling all volunteers!*
Page 1

Walkathon Wrap Up

*Eastgate students
walked into a record
breaking fundraising
event.*

Page 1

Multicultural Week Celebrated

*Eastgate's
Multicultural Week
celebrates the diversity
in our school.*

Page 2

Instructional Assistants for Eastgate

*Over the next few
weeks Eastgate will be
hiring Instructional
Assistants to aid
teachers*

Page 2

Empathy Corner

*Words of Wisdom
brought to you by
Roots of Empathy and
the Eastgate 5th grade
classrooms*

Page 3



and much more...

Walkathon Wrap Up

The Eastgate Walkathon is an annual fundraiser sponsored and organized by the Eastgate PTA. All proceeds from the Walkathon benefit the many programs Eastgate PTA sponsors and facilitates.

The Eastgate 2011 Walkathon was an enormous success! Eastgate students, teachers, faculty and parents all rallied together to raise funds for our school on Friday, October 7, 2011. This event is one of our biggest fundraisers this year – second only to the Auction held March 31 2012. Our Eastgate community raised **\$21,508**, (this is not counting employer matching donations) for our school programs such as Young Author's Day, Pacific Northwest Ballet Residency, Art Docent Program, and many more. Thanks to those of you who already submitted your matching donation forms. Our prize winners were:

Most Laps Walked by a Student:

Kindergarten- Abigail Shetzline of Ms. Henry's class; **First Grade**-Langston Ford of Mrs. Coyle's class; **Second Grade** -Natalie Kraus of Mrs. Finerty's class; **Third Grade** - Brandon Fields of Ms. Rosenthal's class; **Fourth Grade** - Spencer Ervin of Mrs. Azhar's class; **Fifth Grade** Ezra Aigbe of Mr.



Eastgate Students walked with smiles on their faces as they listened to tunes provided by Eastgate parent Joedy Smith's Party Up Entertainment, and ate popsicles donated by our local Albertsons.

Faulkner's class.

Most Individual Donations:

First Place- Anna Albertson of Miss Rotz's Class; **Second Place**- Jessalyn Isidro of Mr. Faulkner's Class; and Edward Isidro of Mrs. Lockwood's class. **Most Class Donations:** Miss Lane's Kindergarten and Miss Rotz's Third Grade.

Two classes walked the most laps:

Kindergarten through 2nd Grade - Ms. Edson and Ms. Woodard's second graders!
Third through Fifth Grade - Miss Rotz's Third Grade!

As a reward for their hard work fundraising for the school, the students have won a pajama day and free seating in the lunch room. The date for these events will be announced shortly. Stay tuned to the PTA E-News!

Thanks to all the volunteers to helped make this event a huge success.

Auction Planning Meeting Nov 16th

PLEASE JOIN US! Wednesday November 16th at 6:30pm, in the Eastgate library as we unveil this year's theme and dive into our planning. There are PLENTY of opportunities to help – come bring your talent and roll up your sleeves. This is a GREAT way to connect with people in the Eastgate community and be part of something really big. Help us achieve our goal of continuing to support all of the wonderful programs Eastgate offers. For more information contact our auction co-chairs Shauna Backus sbackus@comcast.net and Jason Cook at JasonCook@johnlscott.com

Talent Show Time

Friday Night January 20, 2012
7:00 pm – Eastgate Gym

Everyone is welcome to join in and share their talents. The Eastgate Talent Show is a fantastic FREE evening of performances by our own Eastgate Students and sometimes, teachers too. There is always a bit of everything...singing, dancing, skits, piano, violin, jokes and more. It's a great night to come see our Eastgate Stars of all ages!

Applications will be available in December and are due before or on January 4th. No late entries will be accepted. You must submit an application to be in the talent show. No acts will be turned away as long as the act fits within the descriptions outlined talent show rules. More information including program specifics and the official application will be available in December.

Parent Volunteers Needed for Talent Show

Here is a great volunteer training opportunity! A Co-Producer is needed for 2013 Talent Show. If you love the Eastgate Talent Show and want to see it continue on, volunteer to be on our committee this year to train for co-producer next year. Contact Linda O'Byrne skilindaski@yahoo.com or 425-644-7118 for more information.

EZ Money Program Takes It Up A Notch

An easy way to make money for the school PTA programs.

Starting in October, every student who donates at least 1 Box Top, Label for Education or ink cartridge will be entered into a weekly drawing at Eastgate! Every Friday, the winner's name will be drawn and announced. The winning child will be invited to pick a prize. Please include your child's name, grade and teacher's name in a plastic baggie along with the item(s). We will also award a quarterly prize to the student who turns in the most items.

For more information, contact the Eastgate Easy Money coordinator Susan Han at Hanwong@comcast.net.

Eastgate PTA to Fund Instructional Assistants in Classrooms

The Supplemental Education Program (formerly VIP2) is alive and thriving! Thanks to the generosity of our school community, this year Eastgate PTA is giving the school \$59,000 to hire classroom Instructional Assistants. We would like to gratefully acknowledge the contributions of two anonymous donors who gave \$14,000 towards this program. Please keep your eye out for more information on how VIP will be implemented this year, and the impact that this program has on our children. Thank you to all who make this program possible!

Walkabout Program for Eastgate Recess

The Walkabout Program allows parents to volunteer their time during the school recess hours to assist the playground staff. Hundreds of kids share limited adult supervision during recess and the school needs volunteers to bridge the gap.

Several parents have volunteered to walk the playground and facilitate fun recess games during the school day recesses. These volunteers help facilitate games including jumping rope, ball games, hopscotch and many other group activities. This is a great way to give back to the school, have a little fun, and help keep the students engaged in fun play. If you are available, and would like to volunteer, please contact - Tracey Cook-Lee tcooklee@gmail.com.

Bellevue Schools Foundation Phone-A-Thon

BSF is looking for volunteers from Eastgate

Callers are needed for the annual Phone-a-thon on **Nov. 7, 8 and 9 from 6-9 pm.** Volunteering as a caller is a great way to learn about the Foundation and meet other parents passionate about education. High school students and bilingual volunteers are encouraged and welcome. Volunteers are also needed for a mailing party at the Foundation office on **Friday, Nov. 18 from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm.** Please view this [flyer](#) for all the wonderful things partnering with the BSF affords Eastgate. If you have any questions

or would like to volunteer, please contact our BSF Representative Micki Larimer at mickilarimer@gmail.com.

MultiCultural Week: A Success

A celebration of the diversity found within our school community.



Eastgate's 2nd Annual Multicultural Week took place October 17-21st and included a variety of ways in which the Eastgate community demonstrated its rich diversity. The week started off with a Japanese Taiko drum performance by members of the Seattle School of Taiko. It's a Small World Day took place on Tuesday, October 18th where students and staff traveled around the world by visiting parent-hosted booths from China, Korea, Japan, India, Germany and Puerto Rico. Also displayed at the event were the works by Eastgate Reflections participants. Students wore traditional cultural dress throughout the week and some made greetings in their native tongue during morning announcements. Finally, the week ended with a special "Amazing Asian" lunch provided by the District. Thank you to all who helped make this a very special week for our community!

Skate King Night

When: Wednesday, December 14th
6:00-8:00 PM

Where: 2301 140th Ave NE Bellevue, WA
(425) 458-4704

Cost: \$6.00 for those who are skating. Family and friends are welcome. Skate rentals included.

In-line skates available for an additional \$4.00 or you can bring your own. Food and drinks are available for purchase.

Cash only!!!

Any questions? email Janice Rios Janice.rios@gmail.com

Snow Sports Program

Not ready to give up your Saturdays? This is a 6 week ski program that occurs on Wednesdays after school from January 11th to February 15th and is run by [Snow Sports Consulting Service](#). Buses pick up our students (and a few parent chaperones) from Eastgate at 1:30pm and return them to school around 6:30pm. **We need 35 students** to be able to provide this program at Eastgate. If you would like to register, please follow these steps:

- Fill out the [Snow Sports Registration Form](#)
 - Write a check for \$290 made out to "SSCS"
 - Place the filled out form and check in a sealed envelope labeled "Eastgate Snow Sports"
 - Turn the envelope into the Eastgate Office
- There will be a blue folder labeled Eastgate Snow Sports behind the desk. **Registration forms are due by Monday, November 14th.** For more information, please read the [Eastgate Snow Sports Info](#) or contact Monica Privat at mprivat@comcast.net.
***Please note that the Snow Sports Program is not an official PTA sponsored program

Need to update your ski gear? **Newport Snowsports Swap** ~ New & Recycled Gear

Sale: Nov 11-12, 2011, Fri 1-9 pm & Sat 9am-6pm ~ Bring Gear: Thur 5-9
<http://skiswap.info/>

Roots of Empathy Corner

Eastgate PTA is proud to bring the Roots of Empathy program to our school. For more information on the program come see our ROE tree near the school front atrium or visit [Roots of Empathy](#).

All three 5th grade classes have begun their Roots of Empathy program and have had a wonderful introduction to "their" baby. Babies Dawid, Lola and Stefan visited the classrooms in October. Students had the opportunity to see their baby up close, hold him/her, and to ask the parents questions about the baby's life. Building connection with

the baby and with each other through the program teaches our students how they are similar to one another and how they are unique. Understanding these relationships is the first part of building empathy.

Roots of Empathy Founder Presentation at Town Hall

Our school is one of 40+ schools in the region who offer the Roots of Empathy program. We hope you will be able to join Roots of Empathy Founder Mary Gordon and Dr. Stuart Shanker for a free presentation discussing the role of social and emotional learning in today's classrooms and our common future.

Mary Gordon and Stuart Shanker: Science, Self-Regulation and Citizenry
Tuesday, November 29 at 7 p.m. Town Hall
Seattle
FREE

To Learn more and Register go to:
www.brownpapertickets.com/event/207135

ParentHelp123

Did you know that ParentHelp123 is a very helpful organization to assist in finding resources in your community including health insurance, food, WIC and cash assistance programs. There are many local and statewide programs and services that can help your family. Visit www.parenthelp123.org for more info.

Have You Joined PTA?

If not, here are a few more reasons why you should.

Eastgate PTA is a non-profit, volunteer organization committed to enhancing the educational experience for the students at Eastgate. The PTA works to involve and educate parents and to support teachers and staff to enhance classroom learning. **By joining Eastgate PTA you help provide many ongoing programs that support EVERY Eastgate student.**

Your membership gives you:

- An opportunity to meet and get to know other parents at Eastgate.
- A way to make a positive impact on your child's elementary education and school.
- A vote on critical PTA business such as budget and bylaws, election of officers and more.
- A chance to learn about all the programs available at Eastgate and how PTA is involved.
- A membership to the State and National PTA agencies that work to improve the health, welfare, education and safety of all children through lobbying and legislature work.

Members are not required to attend meetings or to participate as a volunteer.

Eastgate PTA is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.

For more Information email eastgatepta@comcast.net

Eastgate Executive Board

Here are your PTA executive board members. They are happy to help answer your questions and collect your feedback and comments.

VP Programs
[Tracey Cook-Lee](#)
VP Fundraising
[Beth Aigbe](#)
VP Communications
[Eli D'Alessandro](#)
VP Hospitality
[Deb Grover](#)
Treasurer
[Rosella Picado](#)
Secretary
[Joanne DePina](#)

Are you interested in becoming a board member or chair for the Eastgate PTA next year?

Contact eastgatepta@comcast.net for more information.