



ORCA K-8 SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 23, 2016

Principal Tonie

WE ALL BELONG!

EVENTS NEWS UPDATES

ORCA PTSA POTLUCK

Thank you all for bringing such an amazing selection of food to share with one another and the great conversations. We hope that you had the opportunity to reconnect and make some new friends. Below is a little treasure that was discovered at the potluck for only \$14.00. The cookbook, *Orca Garden Recipes*, contains all the delicious recipes that are made from food grown, prepared, and eaten in the Orca Garden!



SAFETY

The safety of your child and all children in our school is very important to us. In order to maintain a safe environment for our children to study and learn, it is necessary that we practice our emergency and crisis response plans by having regular drills.

We held our first 'fire drill' on Tuesday, September 20, 2016. The Seattle Fire Marshall noted that everyone followed procedures carefully, promptly, and in an organized manner. We want each student to understand and be aware of the importance of this drill and not be afraid when the fire alarm is sounded. By practicing, they will know what to do and how to do it.

At Orca, your children come first. Thank you for entrusting them to our care.



K-3 GRADE MUSIC TEACHER

We are honored to have our new music teacher, Erin Jordan, begin Monday, September 26th. Erin is a proficient musician with skills in voice, guitar, piano, percussion, music theory, and music composition. Her background in other areas of the arts, includes musical theatre, dance, and visual arts.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TEACHER, GRADES 4th/5th

The Visual Arts Department has hired an Instrumental Music Teacher to serve our 4th/5th grade students. The Instrumental Music teacher will be assigned to Orca one Day a week. His name is Cris Sherman and he comes from Quincy High School with wind and strings experience, as well as experience teaching elementary students. The Visual Arts Department will notify the school on the exact date Cris will begin at Orca.



ART STUDIO

Hello Orca K-8 Families from Stacy in the Art Studio room 303! I'm super excited for another year of making art with your kids! It's the year of the SHAPE so in K-3 you'll see a lot of art using the Element of Shape. In 4/5th projects will be based around the 7 Elements of Visual Art – reviewing and trying new things! In middle school we are starting out with collaborative projects to help us more deeply understand the creative process.

Each class, K-8, has been focusing on what the ORCA WAY looks like in the art studio. They have been very conscious about including, not only safety with tools and materials, but safety with each other's feelings. Being creative involves generating ideas, risk taking, perseverance and problem solving so we need to be gentle with each other's process. In every class K-8, we take the first weeks to explore **who we are** and get to know each other through art. It's been so fun to hear about summer activities, things they love to do, places they love to go and what they value.

A little word about our Creation Station... It is a free choice area of the room where kids get the opportunity to create anything they want from a variety of materials. This happens during an open-studio time where artists make choices, collaborate, problem solve, refine skills, build and try out different strategies for art making. Open studio happens about once a week per class.

This is my wish list for donations. I know the beginning of the year is busy, busy so just keep the art studio in mind throughout the year for contributions.

-Yarn -String -Ribbon -Fabric -Corks -Color sharpies -Black sharpies
-Stencils-any theme -Cardboard -Beads -Corks -Old CD's
-How-to-draw books (step by step) - any theme
-Small containers of house paint (sample jars)
-Recyclables for the Creation Station—lids, containers, cardboard tubes, egg

Every year I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to make art with your kids and the generous donations of time, money and energy many of you put towards keeping this program alive. This year is no different. THANK YOU!

Have a fantastic year at Orca – we are off to a great start!!!

Stacy

HEALTHY YOUTH SURVEY

Our Middle Schools Students will participate in a Healthy Youth Survey (information attached). The Healthy Youth Survey is an anonymous, confidential survey of youth resiliency, protective factors, and risk behaviors. It is administered to students at grades 6th – 8th. It enables schools and communities to collect and analyze data regarding youth health risks and behaviors, school connectedness, protective factors, and school violence. The Seattle School District is part of a comprehensive data-driven decision-making process on improving school climate and student learning environment for overall school improvement.

September 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 First Day of School	8	9 All School Assembly	10
11	12 K – Meet and Greet	13	14	15	16 All School Assembly Parent Packets Go	17
18	19 BLT Mtg. 8:15	20	21	22 All School Potluck –6-8	23 Middle School to State Fair	24
25	26	27	28 2 Hour Early Dismissal	29 Race Forum- Mt. Baker Comm. Club 6:30-8:30	30	

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Camp Coleman—October 5th-7th, 4th Grade
- Garden Work Party—October 7th, 9:30-Noon
- Harvest Festival—October 11th , K-5/October 13th, 6th-8th
- PTSA Meeting—October 13th, 7-8:30pm, Orca Cafeteria, Childcare Provided
- Curriculum Night—October 13th