December is here! Cooler temperatures… disappearing daylight. The upcoming weeks can become quite overwhelming as families prepare for family gatherings, special travels, and perhaps some shopping outings in preparation for special traditions. As much as we’d all like to feel that we are organized and well-prepared for the upcoming weeks, each family deals with the stress of the holidays in different ways. Oftentimes, children fall victim to later bedtimes, hectic trips to the store for that last item, and sometimes experience first-hand the financial stress that plagues many families during this time of the year. Routines often fall to the wayside along with daily reading practices, consistent homework support, and even family meals. At times, families need to make a concerted effort to see that the rush and stresses of the holiday season do not seep into their child’s daily routine and need for consistency. On a positive note, time with family is always value added, laugh, play, read, create a new family custom and enjoy each adventure! Each minute is precious, our children grow up so quickly!

In a time where the hope for a peaceful and tranquil holiday season is sought and the act of giving is contagious, our amazing Seaview PTA has organized our Neighbors Helping Neighbors program giving back to our Seaview families! If you would like to donate please take a look at our PTA link https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0948A5A82DABF49-neighbors1  Our window of opportunity is Nov. 26th -Dec. 14th.

Our Seaview Student Store will be selling items under $2.00, including cards for the holidays for students to purchase and personally decorate. Thank you to our ASB and 6th grade staff and student leaders for managing and operating our local economics and opportunity to provide small item gifts for students and families.

On Dec. 12th we will be hosting our first drama of the year, Lion King! Like all the arts, Drama allows students to communicate with and understand others in new ways. Drama is an important tool for preparing students to live and work in a world that is increasingly Team-oriented. We believe it also helps students develop Leadership, Tolerance and Empathy. Students that participate in drama programs experience improved reading comprehension and typically are more engaged in learning. The confidence gained in drama carries over to all the aspects of their lives! We will have two performances 1:15pm and 7:00 pm for families.

Our Leader In Me assembly will be held on Dec. 21st at 1:35pm. First grade will be leading Habit 2: Begin with the End in Mind (have a plan) and Habit 3: Put First things First (work first, then play). We will recognize student leaders who are making good choices in each grade. Parents and extended families are always welcome to attend, however we do know that many of our families work and may not be able to attend.

Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students)
Since kicking off this program we have had many fathers, grandfathers, uncles, and other father figures take a day out of their busy schedules to volunteer here at Seaview. Thanks to all of the fathers that have done this already as they have been able to support students by being in the classroom, working with small groups or individual students, being an extra set of eyes at recess and in the lunchroom, as well as a variety of other things.

The impact of this program has been outstanding and staff and students really appreciate the active involvement of father figures in our community to further enhance the educational environment here at Seaview. The goals of this program are to:

1. Provide positive male role models for students, by being present and showing that education is important
2. To give an extra sets of eyes and ears to enhance supervision

The Watch D.O.G.S. program asks that father figures volunteer at least one full day at their child/student’s school during the school year. If you are interested and able to sign up for a day of volunteering we would be happy to have you supporting students here at Seaview. While we have had a great response thus far we have many days ahead in the school year that are in need of a Watch DOG and would like to fill as many days as we can. Simply call the Seaview office at 425-431-7383 or email Eileen Kelliher @ kellihere@edmonds.wednet.edu or Leslie Bennett @ bennettl@edmonds.wednet.edu and get your date reserved on the calendar.
As we end 2018, I want to extend appreciation to my entire staff for their dedication, hard work and enthusiasm since September to create a positive and supportive school environment. I have the best staff members who truly care about students- academically, socially and emotionally. We look forward to starting 2019 rested from winter break and ready to S.W.I.M. into Learning!

Have a wonderful month of December. I hope you are able to enjoy great family time over the winter break when it comes, but we have a couple more weeks of focused learning to do here before winter break begins on December 21st!

All my best,
Heather Pickar, Principal

Come on down to the Enchanted Forest Bookfair!

*Monday December 10th to Friday December 14th!*

**Sale Times:**

**MONDAY- THURSDAY:**
1st Recess- 9:40am-10:30am *(With $$)*
2nd recess 11:25am-12:15pm & after school 2:30pm-3:10pm

**FRIDAY:**
9:40am-12:00pm

**Gnome-tastic Event!**
Treat with Book Purchase!!
Tuesday December 11th
(Lunch and Afterschool)

**Make Gnome Mistake!**
We will have a community Book Fair Night!
Wednesday, December 12th
6:00pm – 7:30pm

**Neighbors Helping Neighbors**
Tis’ the season to huddle inside and share warmth with family and friends. As you share this season with family and friends we hope you have some time to share with the community at Seaview as well.

In general, we will be collecting gift cards, clothes, and new, unwrapped gifts. You can simply go to the following link to sign up for items to donate: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0948A5A82DABF49-neighbors1](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0948A5A82DABF49-neighbors1)
If you would rather not sign up, gift cards to Fred Meyer are also appreciated!

Donations to Neighbors Helping Neighbors can be dropped off in the wrapped box in Shark Hall, and are due by Friday, December 14th. Thank you for your support of this important program!

If you are able to help or have questions, please contact:
Andrea Spencer- aspencer724@gmail.com 425-772-5813 Or Mira Ho- mirahoho@gmail.com 408-667-5149

Donations for Neighbors Helping Neighbors are due by Friday, December 14th.
REMEMBER TO PREARRANGE THAT VACATION ABSENCE FOR YOUR STUDENT!

Parents, this is a reminder of the Edmonds School District policy stated in the Seaview Family Handbook; Families are to submit to the office a Request for Excused Absence form prior to vacation absences. The classroom teacher will note the student’s current academic progress and whether the planned absence will have a negative impact on their learning. The principal will make the final decision for vacation applications. (Policy #8125). Please make sure to use the Request for Excused Absence form found on the Seaview website only (not the ESD website) or pick up a copy in the Seaview office.

We have families that take vacation time over winter and Spring breaks. If your student will miss school, those absences need to be arranged and approved ahead of time. This helps maintain consistent student learning and accurate attendance records. We appreciate your cooperation!

Join us Monday, February 11, 2019
An Informational Night for Parents
6:30-7:30pm at Seaview Elementary (must be your neighborhood/assigned school)
If you are the parent of a kindergarten student who will start school in the Edmonds School District in September 2019, please plan on attending!
“Kick Off to Kindergarten” This is an informational night for parents (child care for children aged 3-7 provided). More information:
Online—www.edmonds.wednet.edu
Call—Shelley Roehl 425-431-7176

DECEMBER CALENDAR

11/26-12/14 Neighbors Helping Neighbors campaign
10-14 Book Fair-Library
12 Popcorn day for Book Fair
12 Drama Production-7:00pm-MPR
12 Book Fair open-6:00-7:30pm
14 Early Release-11:00am
14 Neighbors Helping Neighbors items due
15 Challenge Test-Gr.5-7 @ ESC
20 Seaview Singers Concert – 7:00pm
21 Leader in Me Assembly – 1:35pm
12/24/18-1/4/19- NO SCHOOL-WINTER BREAK
(school resumes Monday, January 7, 2019)