



Lopez Island Elementary School  
**LOBOS NEWSLETTER**

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March 6, 2013  
 www.lopezislandschool.org

Lisa Shelby, Principal  
 Dave Sather, Assistant Principal

# At a Glance

March 7 - March 13, 2014

**Friday ~ March 7**

- ♦ Drug and Alcohol Coalition Sponsored MS/HS HOOPS 6:00-8:00pm with Jordan Smith
- ♦ One Act Plays @ Galley 5:45-7:45pm

**Monday ~ March 10**

- ♦ Elementary Homework Club 3:15pm
- ♦ Secondary Homework Club 3:30pm

**Tuesday ~ March 11**

- ♦ LIFRC Sponsored Elementary After School Basketball 2:00-3:15pm
- ♦ Horse Camp Intensive Meeting @ 4:30pm in the Library
- ♦ Science Fair Tonight at 6:00pm in the MPR

**Wednesday ~ March 12**

- ♦ Dream Team Meeting at 12:15pm in the Library
- ♦ Drug and Alcohol Coalition Sponsored MS/HS HOOPS 5:00pm-7:00pm with Jordan Smith
- ♦ Elementary Homework Club 3:15pm
- ♦ Secondary Homework Club 3:30pm

**Thursday ~ March 13**

- ♦ LIFRC Elementary Basketball 3:30-5:00

**Support Lopez Island  
 Baseball & Softball League**

We are having a pancake breakfast at the Lopez Community Center, Saturday, March 8th from 9-11am. Join us for breakfast *and registered your kids for the 2014 baseball and softball season.*

**WORLD  
 LANGUAGES**

Word of the Week ~

1. Science ~ English
2. Science ~ French
3. Ciencia ~ Spanish

A  
 ZONE  
 FROM  
 THE  
 COMMUNITY

Dear Parent/Guardian

We have so many exciting things going on this month in the elementary.

- ♦ The Science Fair is Tuesday, March 11th at 6:00pm in the multi-purpose room. Students have worked hard on their projects and can't wait to share them. Please join us as kids share their projects/experiments and their enthusiasm for learning that is proudly display their projects. They are looking forward to sharing and celebrating their accomplishments with you.
- ♦ Spring parent/teacher conferences are March 24th-28th. Attached is the Spring conference form for you to fill out and return **IF** you have certain dates and/or times that absolutely will **NOT** work with your schedule. It is very important that you return the attached conference form by Monday March 10th. We will finalize our scheduling for all conferences the morning of Tuesday, March 11th.
- ♦ Just a reminder that the Elementary Intensive Courses are the week of March 31-April 4th.
- ♦ MSP Testing will begin in May and the schedule will be out in our next news letter.

Take care, Lisa

## Reminders to Remember

**Join Us For The Science Fair!**

WHEN : Tuesday, March 11th  
 WHERE: MPR  
 TIME: 6:00pm



**A REMINDER FROM THE COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

- Early Release Tuesdays will continue through May. Please note there is no afterschool program on the fourth Tuesday of the month;
- First Tuesday is **Lego Club**
- Second Tuesday is **Make-a-thon**
- Third Tuesday is **Movie Matinee**



# Classroom Content

# Spotlight on Kindergarten

## Ms. Becca's Class

Spring is on the way! Today I saw a daffodil in bloom! The Kindergarten students have come so far. At this time of the year I really notice all that they have learned and watch as they apply it in different settings. This is truly the delight of teaching.



Germs, germs, germs are everywhere! This is the subject we have chosen to study for our Science Fair project. Our experiment is underway and we are studying the results daily. The class will present our Science Fair project at the Elementary Science Fair on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Please come by in the evening to check it out! We are very excited about it! Along with learning about germs, your child has also been practicing the scientific method (question, hypothesis, research, steps, materials, experiment, data analysis, and conclusion).

We are busy reading words, blending words, and writing sentences! Hearing the ending sounds of words is a skill we are focusing on and many of the students have difficulty hearing this part of a word. Stretching out the word from beginning to end helps. This is something to practice at home. We are also practicing identifying vowel sounds in the middle of words such as cat, dog, hot, fun, zip, pet. Playing silly games such as, "Guess what word I am spelling", are fun ways to practice at home. Please continue to practice reading sight words at home! All sight words should be read in under 1 minute.

Last month we focused on 2-D and 3-D shapes. This month we are working on knowing our math facts within 5 ( $5+1=5$ ,  $1+5=5$ , etc.) as well as being able to add numbers together to 10. Your child should be able to count correctly without help to 100 starting from any number and count by 10s to 100. A great place to practice counting is in the car on the way to school or any other place. Thanks for your partnership at home! I hope the luck of the Irish is with you and you have a wonderful March!



Welcome Spring!

Mrs. Becca



# Classroom Content

## Spotlight on Mr. B's Class

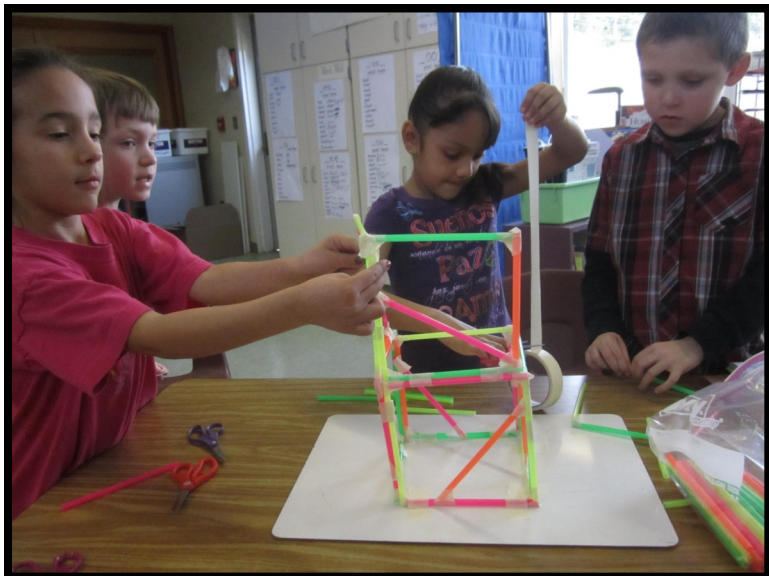
Science Fair is Tuesday night March 11. With application to the real world at the helm, we are busy putting finishing touches on our science fair work. With three heterogeneous teams of science fair projects, our democratic classroom structure has given rise to a set of data and experimentation which is nearly running itself. The complexity and depth of some of the discoveries and questions make me step back and remind myself the age of my students.

We have boat builders who understand how to have a successful floating design; buoyancy needs to go under the hull, instead of up in the air. Additionally, students have experimented their way to the concept that ballast must accompany buoyancy to keep the boat from being too tippy. Each boat design has sunk and left its passengers in Davey Jones' locker, and each builder has re-worked and refined their design. I am confident our boat builders are taking away concrete knowledge about buoyancy and hull design.

Our seed sprouting group had a set-back with their first round of experiments. Our first experiment failed because rather than sprouting, the old seeds rotted. We disposed of our first trial in order to replant newer seeds, which are now just beginning to sprout. We have experienced firsthand that mistakes are essential. Our seed growers lost no momentum as they collect temperature and weather data and are careful to keep each plant watered with the same amount of water. Everywhere we look on Lopez there are farms and some of these students will go on to become our future Lopez farmers. Students are taking away a basic understanding of the optimal growing conditions, a fascination with life cycles and the desire to keep asking questions about the growing process.

Finally, our structural engineers have built three towers to test the best way to create structures which will support a standard weight at least 75 cm from the foundation. This group has done a great deal of experimenting and become at ease with their beautiful failures. Their experimenting, design and research, and redesign process has led them to strong foundations which use many triangles for added strength. One of the coolest things they did was democratically decide to collapse their small teams into one large team. In this way, they have created a fantastic structure, all putting their ideas and effort into one tower, rather than individual towers.

**Please come and see our displays on Tuesday and ask us to explain our results and discoveries.**





# Classroom Content

## Spotlight on Mrs. C's Class

The Last newsletter we gave you a photo story of our mornings. Here is the sequel...our afternoons.



Here we are writing in our journals and putting the finishing touches on the cover of the class book we wrote. Our book, which we've entitled *YUM*, was inspired by the book *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2*. If you have a chance, come look at our bulletin board where our *Hidden Animal Picture* story is displayed.

Other activities you might find us working on during writing time include spelling work, rainbow writing, handwriting, class book writing, word games, sight word bingo, and much more. We are writers!



In Social Studies, we are working on the parts of a map, how to read maps, and the Continents Song. We are pictured exploring a map of the Earth, reading non-fiction books about Maps and Globes, and practicing our song. Here we are piecing together a giant Earth puzzle. Next, we have homeroom and enrichment. Wow!

# Introducing Art Classes



Hello Lopez Families,

In Elementary Art students have begun working with clay. The kids immediately took to working in this hands-on medium and the energy released was quite apparent. In 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grades, students made masks and cups and 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students made free standing figurines. We have just begun the glazing process and are anxious to see how those come out. I plan to continue with clay projects because of the enthusiasm shown by the students. Although the process takes longer for them to get the results back with drying and two firings, I think the anticipation for their pieces builds their interest.

