Nov 1, 2011 Volume III Issue 9

Palouse Prairie School
of expeditionary learning

Tuesday Times

Our Weekly Newsletter

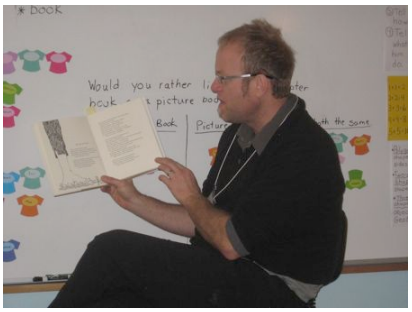
What is Book-a-Bunga Day?

The 1st/2nd grade crews celebrated reading and books yesterday—October 31st—by participating in a Book-a-Bunga Day. The entire day was devoted to a variety of reading-related activities, including sharing favorite books, reading with friends, making bookmarks for other crew members, participating in a book pass, and listening to a variety of "mystery" readers. The students also enjoyed some healthy snacks as part of their celebration. The students brought pillows, stuffed animals, and favorite books from home. Many also came dressed in their pajamas or in a costume.

Thank you to the following people who volunteered to be mystery readers: Jesica De Hart, Dennis De Hart, Lydia Stewart, Summer Clayton, Rachel Caudill, Donna Mills, Jessica Bearman, Karen Ward, Tara Roberts (Mrs. Karr's daughter) and Warren Bromley-Vogel (Mrs. Bromley-Vogel's husband). Thank you also to parents who provided healthy snacks for the students.

The day flew by! We had a great time enjoying books and reading. Mrs. Karr and Mrs. Bromley-Vogel are already planning a second Book-a-Bunga day for the spring.

A few of our special guests reading to the students. The students listened to poetry, Dr. Seuss, and favorite picture books.



Design Principles & Spotlights

The Having of Wonderful Ideas | Responsibility for Learning | Diversity & Inclusion | Success & Failure | The Primacy of Self-Discovery

Service & Compassion | Empathy & Caring | Solitude & Reflection | Collaboration & Competition | The Natural World

EL's 10 Design Principles and our C.R.E.W. character traits (courage, responsibility, empathy, welcoming) reflect both our school's philosophy of education and our core values. They focus our attention on what is important and give all of us something to go back to when we need guidance. We work hard to help our students internalize these principles and character traits. One way we do that is by noticing when students are demonstrating a principle or trait and then modeling how to recognize them for it. We call these our "EL Spotlights."

Mrs. Dahlin for buying balls for her class (Lizzie); Noah Miller for welcoming the substitute and being such a big help while Mrs. Dahlin was gone; Anna Steffens for taking recess time to organize colored pencils (Daniel)	Service and Compassion	We are crew, not passengers, and are strengthened by acts of consequential service to others. We are continually asking the question, "How can I make a difference?"
Zoe Pallen and Madysen Cochran for taking charge and helping our class and substitute when Mr. Ellsworth was gone (Carlee): Lizzie Stout for helping me when I had forgotten Picture Day (Jonna); John Wallace for picking up the pencils that fell out of the box a classmate had accidentally kicked; Daniel Reeder for volunteering to clean the class tables even though he missed part of recess; Mrs Gallo's Crew for telling each other "good game" at the end of P.E. (Anna); Lena LaPaglia for being such a good friend to me (Taylor)	Empathy & Caring	We take care of all those in our community and learn best when there is trust, sustained caring, and mutual respect
Jeremiah Wheeler for using his best handwriting and spelling to make a graphic short story even when at first he said it was too hard; Gunnar Nebelsieck for displaying leadership and sportsmanship during ultimate frisbee	Primacy of Self-Discovery	Discovering one's strengths is critically important. When students engage in tasks that require perseverance, self-discipline, craftsmanship, and imagination, they discover that there is more in them than they think.
Mia Dunn-Soto and Savannah Ries for working with everybody on their team during football in P.E. (Hannah)	Collaboration & Competition	We work to join individual and group development, so that the value of friendship, trust, and group endeavor is made manifest. Students are encouraged to compete not against each other but with their own personal best and with rigorous standards of excellence.

R. – Miss Renaldy for coming into our class on Friday since she was sick on Wednesday (Joe); Kas Schwandt for walking a crew member to the office and giving up his recess

W. – Eleanore Faunce for being in a good mood and saying "hello" to her classmates every day!

C. R. E. W

Courage, Responsibility, Empathy, Welcoming

PPSEL Fundraising

At our Board's Oct 27 meeting, they set the framework for our fund raising campaign, ***Grow the School!***

We have been growing: we had 69 students the year we opened, 100 last year and 145 this year. Next year we'll be pushing 170 and the year after we'll near the cap of 200 set in our school's Charter.

At the same time that the school has been growing, the State and Federal governments have been reducing k-12 funding. The State of Idaho has already give us 4.05% less money for operations for next year and 6.3% less the year after that. By increasing our enrollment, we can get more money from the state, but we need to create at least one new classroom for those kids to go into. We'll also need more tables and chairs and all those other things the state does not cover.

When the school opened, we had a Federal start-up grant that paid for many of those items. That grant has ended. The Board set an ambitious fundraising goal to raise $50,000. If our 100 families each gave $500 we'd meet our goal. Since not everyone can give $500, some will need to contribute more. To get the ball rolling the Board members have pledged $3600 (on average $600 each). In the weeks ahead, watch for more information on the fund raising campaign.

We may not receive any money through local levies, but our parents are wonderfully innovative when it comes to financially supporting all the good work that goes on here. Please think hard on how much you might be able to pledge to the school but also consider ways that you can support the school through other local fundraisers like those listed below:

Buy local Palouse Prairie!

The Parent CREW is spearheading a fundraising project where PPSEL students can sell products made by local businesses to raise money for PPSEL. It's great for local businesses and great for us! Several local businesses have agreed to offer selected products for sale through PPSEL at retail value and allow us to keep a portion of the profit.

Keep your eyes peeled for a flyer coming out soon with photos and descriptions of items for sale and a spreadsheet for recording sales to family, friends, fellow church and club members. Return your spreadsheet by the given date, along with funds collected at the time of sale. Then one day in December, at the end of the school day, pick up at the school all the items you sold and deliver them to your buyers. Let your friends and family know this is a great way of doing their Christmas shopping and supporting the school at the same time! So far our participating vendors include Cowgirl Chocolates, Mary Jane's Farm, Orchard Farm, Present by Design, East Ocean Designs, Mountain Blue Eye Jewelry, and Haystack Art. If you have a local business and would like to offer your service or product through this fundraiser, please email Trish Gardner this week at patriciagardner555@gmail.com

The Fall Book Fair Is Here!

On Wednesday students will have the opportunity to preview the book fair with their CREWs. They will bring home a list of titles that they would like to add to their home libraries. You are under no obligation to buy these books, however, if you wish to purchase them you may return the order slip with cash or check made out to PPSEL to the front office. Please include 6% sales tax. The books will be collected and sent home in a sealed bag with your child. Of course you may also bring the wish list to the fair to use as a shopping guide.

Our Grand Lunch will be Thursday from 11am to 12:30pm. Join your student for lunch and book fair shopping! If you have not ordered your lunch yet, please do so by Wednesday, Nov 2 by 9 AM. You can also pack a lunch and join your student! Please be aware that the CREWs eat lunch at the following times:

11-11:30 – Ellsworth's Crew
11:10-11:40 – Bonzo's Crew
11:30-12 – Branen's Crew
11:35-12:05 – Dahlin's Crew
11:40-12:10 – Gallo's Crew
11:45-12:15 – Bromley-Vogel's Crew
11:50-12:20 – Karr's Crew

Online shopping is currently available and will continue through Nov 7th. To shop online follow the link on our book fair's home page: http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/palouseprairieschool. Online purchases are shipped to the school free of charge.

Book Fair hours:

Thursday Nov 3rd and Fri Nov 4th: 8:00am to 10:00am, 11:00am to 1:00pm, and 2:30 pm to 4:00pm
Saturday Nov 5th 9:00am to 12:00pm

Dates to Remember

- Nov 3-5, School Book Fair
- Nov 7, Picture Make-Ups
- Nov 12, Chili Cook Off and Alum Can Drive
- Nov 21-25, Thanksgiving/Fall Break

Tidbits

Picture Make-ups. If your child was absent on picture day or would otherwise like re-takes, Leo's Photography will be here again on Nov. 7th.

The Gr8 Night For this Fall Has Been Cancelled; However, We Are Planning Another Event in December. Thank you to everyone who has contacted Amy Ball about donations for the silent auction! We are going to have some great items! However, we still need more donations. Can you provide a service to fellow PPSEL families? Some examples include: a night of baby sitting, an afternoon of yard work, a homemade meal. If your are a professional could you provide your services (massages, manicures, tax consultations, haircuts...) If you are an artist or crafts person could you donate a piece of your work? Contact Amy Ball with your donation commitment no later than Nov. 18th. All physical items need to brought to the school no later than Dec. 2nd. Proceeds from the Silent Auction will benefit fieldwork for our students.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS! (By Donna Mills) Today I spent 90 minutes as Queen Dish-doer at PPSEL. That's right, it only takes a maximum of 90 brief minutes to knock out trays, silverware and the small amount of pots and pans it takes to offer our children the wholesome, nutritious (and let us not forget DELICIOUS) lunches provided by the Gladish kitchen. As the Wellness committee considers the pro's and con's of washable trays versus compostable trays, the current system requires us to hand wash what we have.

Most recently there was a plea for volunteers to help with this very quick task. A few parents have stepped up, but unfortunately, we need more help. One solution is to have 3, YES, just three parents from each class, volunteer to help in the kitchen JUST ONCE A MONTH. We will be surveying each class for volunteers. We plan to open an interactive Google calendar that parents can sign in to schedule with their chosen dates. The time commitment would be from 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. If the dishes are started as the first tub of trays fill, it goes very quickly. Please look for an email soon with the Google link and sign up to help our children's lunch time run smoothly.

(The Wellness Committee, has included a pass through dishwasher in a recently submitted grant proposal, but that still leaves the question of water usage.)

We are also in need of more crossing guards – either mornings or afternoons.

Please let me know if you have any availability to help with either of these things! sclayton@palouseprairieschool.org

Lost & Found. Your kids have lost 'em and we've found 'em. Please come and look through the pile to recover that nice winter jacket you just bought or the water bottle your child desperately needs. We'll have items on display during the Book Fair!