

# Picnic Point Elementary March 5th, Newsletter

2020-2021 School Year

Our Website: <https://www.mukilteoschools.org/Domain/758>

5819 140th Street SW; Edmonds, WA 98026 | 425-366-3400

## Message from the Principal



Dear Families,

We hope you are doing well and staying safe. The staff is excited to start bringing students back to school, starting with second grade on Monday. The staff has been working hard to prepare our building for in person learning to occur safely, and we appreciate all your support. The school day for in person learning will be from 9:45-12:45, different than the remote teaching. First grade will be returning on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, and Kindergarten will begin on March 29<sup>th</sup>.

*Ali Williams*

**Reminder!**

Kindergarten registration ongoing— online is now open or pick up your packet in the office.

March 8— Second grade Return to In Person

March 22— First grade Return to In Person

March 29— Kindergarten—Return to In Person

April 5-9 Spring Break— No School

## PTA News



Read 4 Adventure Kickoff

Our friends at High Trek Adventures understand how important it is to be encouraging young people to develop strong reading habits. They also know the value of getting the youth outside to enjoy the beautiful PNW. With that in mind, they have partnered with us to offer a voucher for those who complete 8 hours of recreational reading minutes during the month of March. Students can earn their choice of a Ropes Course or Laser Tag Adventure (valued up to \$40) or a discounted Summer Camp Voucher (valued at \$50). Please see the attached Reading Log for more information about High Trek Adventures and the vouchers they will be offering.

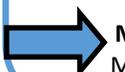
The Read 4 Adventure program will run through the month of March. Have your student record their minutes on the Reading Log as they go. The goal is 480 minutes! Then beginning April 1<sup>st</sup>, you can submit your student's minutes and voucher request online using the Student Submission Link on the Reading Log. Contact your teacher or Read 4 Adventure Program Administrator with any questions.

Happy Reading!

Tiffany Smith

[tiffany.y.smith@gmail.com](mailto:tiffany.y.smith@gmail.com)

See attached flyer with links and Reading Log



**MOD PIZZA** Fundraiser is **Wednesday, March 17**. See attached flyer for GroupRaise Code. Bring the flyer in or order online.  
MOD PIZZA- 11706 Mukilteo Speedway.

## From our ESS



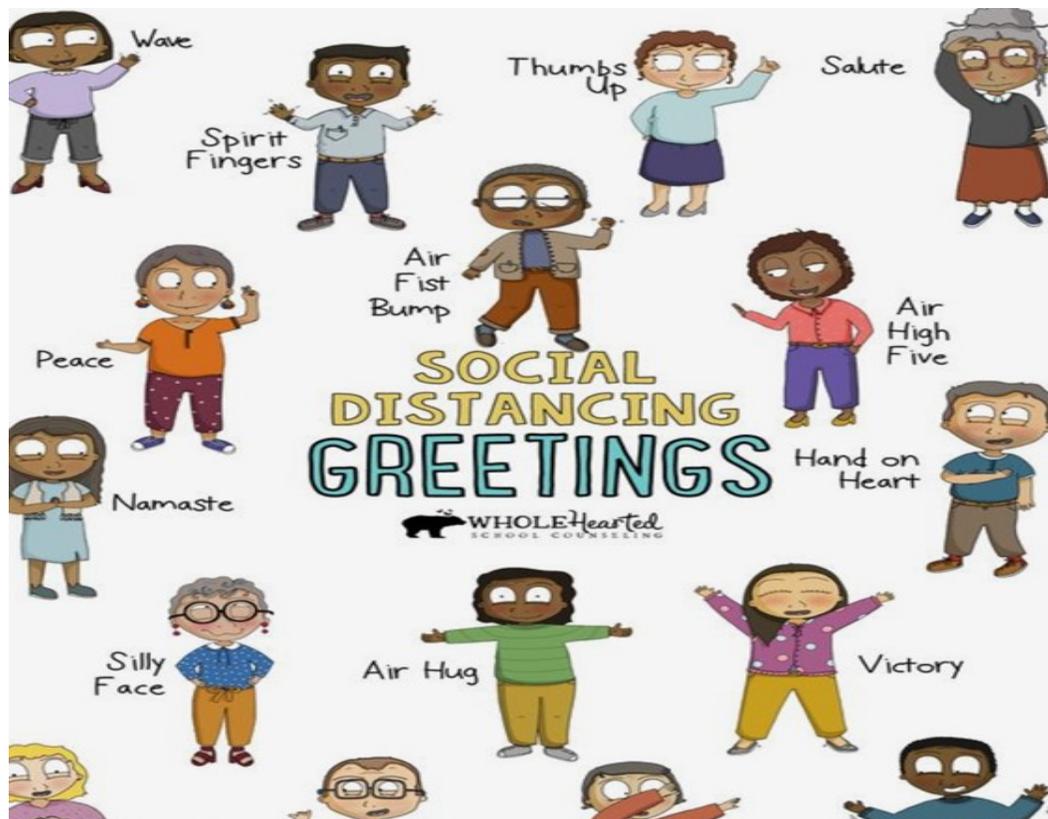
We are excited to welcome some of our second graders back to Picnic Point next week! I can truly say that all of us at Picnic Point have missed hearing the wonderful sound of CHILDREN here at school! While we must work slowly, intentionally, and carefully to ensure healthy, effective learning we look forward to seeing little masked faces around this place!

Children are usually quite resilient and can adapt to changes in expectations well—sometimes a bit better than grown-ups do! Wearing a mask, washing hands frequently and keeping six feet distant from each other--our children will adapt to these guidelines--but will do so much more easily when parents are positive and on board! If you have not practiced mask safety and discussed the expectations at school and why they are important-- I encourage you take a few minutes to start doing so daily. You are a tremendous role model for your child, and they will take their cues about these changes from you.

One of the most exciting parts of coming back is seeing friends!! Many children will no doubt be incredibly excited---we all are! But it's important to teach your student how to say 'Hello!' and "I'm so happy!" without hugging or touching their friends. Here are some ways you might practice greetings so that your child can express all their happy feelings:

Whether your child is coming back to school in-person or continues to learn from home---If your child is struggling or has difficulties with changes during this school year, please reach out. I am always available to help your child learn to feel more confident, secure and happy at school!

Bethene Grant



## Message from our Dean of Students



Character trait focus for March: OPTIMISM!

We have been learning about and practicing so many character traits this year--from generosity, to flexibility, to perseverance. We are so proud of all the great effort we are seeing our Picnic Point panthers put in to make this year the best year it can be! Thank you, students, families, and staff! Next up is optimism! Talk with your student about ways she/he can be optimistic in school and at home, and think about characters in books or movies who show a positive outlook on life and the future. Optimistic children are often more willing to take on challenges, create strong relationships with others, and turn frustrations into learning opportunities.

Rhya Milici

Dean of Students

## Message from the Library

### *Library News:*

Although some grade levels will be returning to campus, the library will remain remote. Due to safety concerns, students will not be coming to the library to check out books or attend classes. The elementary librarians are still working on procedures for checking out and returning books for students returning to campus. Curbside Checkout on Thursday afternoons from 2-4pm will continue and can be used by all students, remote or on campus. If this changes, you will be notified via a Blackboard message.

Each year, our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders participate in the Sno-Isle 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Challenge. On Feb. 24, our team, the Phoenixes, won their first challenge against South Whidbey! They are moving on to the semi-finals on March 10. Keep it up Atlua, Keegan, Kealani, Noah, and Preston! You rock!!

We'll be having our first bookfair with Third Place Books during the week April 26-30! It will be totally online. Third Place Books is an independent bookstore located in Lake Forest Park <https://www.thirdplacebooks.com/lake-forest-park>. I will have details as the date gets closer.

As we navigate this month, I wish you all the best. Let me know if you have questions about the library [millertl@mukilteo.wednet.edu](mailto:millertl@mukilteo.wednet.edu). Keep reading!

Troy Miller  
Librarian

## Message from the Nurse



Just a reminder, please call the front office (425-366-3400) if your student is going to be absent, for any reason, from in-person learning. This is critical in assisting us in tracking illness and keeping our campus healthy. ~  
Nurse Theresa

## Karen Watson– Paraeducator

Hi Panthers!



My name is Karen Watson. I have worked at Picnic Point as a Library and General Ed Paraeducator since 2016. Before that I worked at the Mukilteo Public Library for 4 years. I decided an elementary school library would be the best job for me because I loved working in the children’s section of the public library and wanted to work with children full time. I have been married for 30 years and have 1 stepson and 2 sons. My youngest son will be 20 this month and is in college at Central Washington University.

I grew up in Wichita, Kansas and graduated from Kansas State University back in the mid 1980’s. I worked as an interior designer for 8 years before having children and staying home to be a full time mom. After many years of volunteering in schools, I decided I wanted to work at one full time. Picnic Point is a fantastic place to

work! Outside of school, I enjoy going on adventures with my husband, cooking, creating jewelry and watching Seahawks and Sounders games.

## Colleen Fredericksen– Paraeducator



Hello Panther Families,

My name is Colleen Fredericksen (“Ms. Colleen”) and I have had the honor and pleasure of working with Fourth and Fifth Graders as a Paraeducator for the past two years. Picnic Point holds a special place in my heart as a parent as well, as this is the same school that my two adult children proudly attended and hold dear.

I grew up in Edmonds and I am a graduate of Washington State University with a degree in Communications Advertising. I started my career in Advertising in New York City and I have lived on the East Coast at various times of my life. However, I am back home now and enjoying my most rewarding job role ever -- working with students and the amazing teachers and staff at P.P.! I feel so grateful every day!

Given that these days I am considered an “empty nester” I spend the majority of my free time with my “four-legged children” – a dog, cat and two horses. My most favorite activities and passions being horseback riding, yoga, hiking, kayaking and I also love the arts/entertainment and cooking.

I look forward to seeing all the students, especially the Fourth and Fifth graders, when it is safe to return in person. In the meantime, stay well, happy and “pawsitive”!

## Harleen Kaur– Paraeducator



Hi Panthers!

My name is Harleen Kaur. I have been working at Picnic Point as a paraeducator since October. I am glad to be a part of the Picnic Point team. Currently, I work with Mrs. Patterson in the resource room. I am originally from Michigan and moved to Washington 11 years ago with my family. I enjoy music, art, nature, dancing, and spending time with family and friends!