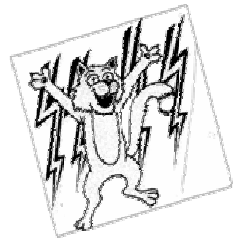


# Whittier Wildchat



News from the Whittier School PTA – March 12, 2009

Whittier PTA Mission: To support and enhance the Whittier model of academic excellence, community, and respect, so that all Whittier students can become lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

## Mark Your Calendar

March 9 to 23	Book Drive
March 12	Classroom Pictures
March 20	No School
March 26	Science Fair/Ice Cream Social
March 30	1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Spring Break

## Parents Night Out a Big Success

With nearly 60 kids, the first 'Parent's Night Out' of 2009 turned out to be a great experience for all concerned.

Special thanks go to our volunteer parents - Erica and Scott Richardson, Regan Hopper, Beth Woolford and Neena Forsher. We also want to thank all the parents for bringing their kids in and having (hopefully) a fun evening on the town.

The next event is scheduled for **April 17th**. We actively seek parent volunteers (remember that if you volunteer, the final Parent's Night Out in June is free for your kids). Please contact me at [j\\_forsher@yahoo.com](mailto:j_forsher@yahoo.com).

## Thank You PCC Scrip Shoppers!

Twice a year PCC sends us a check for 5% of what has been reloaded onto PCC gift cards by Whittier families, staff and friends and in January we received a check for just over \$1,000! Re-loadable PCC cards are available at the scrip table for \$50, after which you add any amount you wish, using your choice of payment.

## Recycle Your Gift Cards

NEW!! Used gift cards purchased through the scrip program can be returned to the collection bin on the scrip table and our scrip coordinator will mail them to Earthworks, an organization that recycles gift cards and makes them into new ones. No more scrip headed off to landfills means one more reason you can make using scrip a habit to feel good about!

Thank you to Stephanie Carmel for learning about the Earthworks program through her employer, Gap Inc., and finding a way for Whittier to participate.

## BOOK DRIVE

Have you remembered to look through your bookshelves for books to donate to the Book Drive? New and gently-used books for kindergarten through fifth grade are being collected now through March 23rd to be given to students at Gatzert and Dunlap Elementary Schools. Collection boxes can be found in the main lobby and in the halls outside the classrooms. Let's continue Whittier's wonderful tradition of generosity!

Volunteers will be needed to sort the books on Tuesday, March 24th and Wednesday, March 25th. Please check your calendar to see if you could spare some time on either of those days. The more the merrier (and the quicker the work will get done)! If you can help, please contact Judy Eggerman ([jjegg@mindspring.com](mailto:jjegg@mindspring.com)) or Kathi Sleavin ([jksleavin@juno.com](mailto:jksleavin@juno.com)).

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON THE NEW STUDENT ASSIGNMENT PLAN

Be sure to check kid mail today for a special message from the PTA Co-Presidents regarding community meetings scheduled to update the community on the Seattle Public Schools' strategic plan INCLUDING development of the new Student Assignment Plan. (One meeting is set for Thursday, March 26th from 6:30 - 8:30 at Ballard High School.) There is valuable information about meetings, a letter parents can download and personalize and email to Tracy Libros, Manager of Enrollment and Planning Services to voice their opinion on the boundary reference line issue. Also, check out the PTA bulleting board for information.

Barbara Hazzard & Susan M. Weber  
Whittier PTA Co-Presidents

## Lost and Found

Please check the lost and found rack ... you may find something you didn't even know was missing! The rack will be cleared the Friday before spring break and the items will be donated. If you have a charity that YOU would like to deliver the items to, please contact me at [caseyholden@mac.com](mailto:caseyholden@mac.com).

PTA Co-Presidents: Susan Weber [smwlaw@comcast.net](mailto:smwlaw@comcast.net) and Barbara Hazzard [barbandandy@msn.com](mailto:barbandandy@msn.com). This newsletter is also available at the PTA website [www.whittierway.org](http://www.whittierway.org) and can be received electronically through the WhittierWEB yahoo group. To subscribe or to submit an item for the Wildchat, send a request to [whittierwildchat@hotmail.com](mailto:whittierwildchat@hotmail.com) by Tuesday afternoon.

## Science Fair – What's the BIG IDEA???

How does my sense of taste work?  
Why do some people prefer different flavors?  
Why are some foods sweet and some sour?  
How does my tongue work with my brain?

Do you have a BIG question that you want to find out more about? If the answer is yes, then FIND OUT! And come share your discoveries at the **Whittier Science Fair** on **Thursday, March 26th**.

There is still plenty of time to:

- Ask a scientific question
- Make a prediction
- Make a plan to find out
- Test your plan
- Write about your discoveries

All projects should include at least one picture, chart, or graph, and must be displayed on a free standing board. Space is limited, so plan ahead...

Every participant will also receive a **free ice cream sundae** coupon to enjoy the night of the fair!!!

## ICE CREAM SOCIAL, Thursday March 26th

Each student who submits a science fair project will receive a coupon for a FREE Ice Cream sundae! The scooping will begin at 6:30 and ends at 8:00. Sundaes can also be purchased for \$2.

If you would like to help make sundaes, please contact Vicky Stamolis at [Stamolis@comcast.net](mailto:Stamolis@comcast.net) to book a shift from 6:15 to 7:15 or 7:15 to 8:15.

**A Co-chair is needed for this year's Ice Cream Social.** If you're interested in helping with this fun and easy event, please contact Vicky at [Stamolis@comcast.net](mailto:Stamolis@comcast.net).

## Whittier Ultimate Frisbee

(WUF) for 4th and 5th graders

The 3rd season of the Whittier Elementary Ultimate Frisbee team, WUF Gang, is starting. 4th and 5th graders are invited to participate in this fun, co-ed team. Practices are Tuesdays, 5 pm to 6 pm at Salmon Bay fields. Games are Saturday mornings from mid-March to mid-May. There are two all-day Saturday tournaments, April 18 and May 16. Beginners are welcome. Coaches are Dave Wysen, Jill McGrath and Collin Provence (Whittier Kids!). For more information, contact Kirsten Wysen, [kwysen@msn.com](mailto:kwysen@msn.com).

## Yearbook Photos Needed

It is time to put together this year's yearbook! Any photographers out there who have great pictures of Whittier students? Have you been taking pictures for your child's class or have pictures you are planning to submit for the slideshow? They can do double duty - send them my way & I will select some to put in the yearbook! We get about 8 pages for photos--so let's fill them up with fun pictures.

If you just have one or two you could email me, but otherwise drop a CD off in Ms. Kennedy's classroom with my name on it. I need them by the end of March/beginning of April--so look through those shots and send me a few!

Thanks,  
Trina Blake  
[millerbl@pacifier.com](mailto:millerbl@pacifier.com)

## Community Activities

(These items are not endorsed by the school or PTA)

### **BALLARD HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH SOCCER CAMP**

When: June 22-25 and/or July 27-30th, 2009

Time: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Where: Ballard High School Soccer Field

Cost: \$150 \*bring a friend discount \$25 off

Ages: Boys and Girls entering 1st through 6th grade

Sponsored by the BHS Girl's Soccer Team.  
Questions/Registration: Call Ellen Wall 206-789-6416, email [ellenmwall@comcast.net](mailto:ellenmwall@comcast.net)

## From the Wildchat Editor

The Whittier Wildchat newsletter provides PTA news and other information to the Whittier school community. If you have news item to share, please send your submission to [whittierwildchat@hotmail.com](mailto:whittierwildchat@hotmail.com) no later than Tuesday evening for publication on the following Thursday. Note that we may (lightly) edit your submission to fit our limited space.