



Garfield Elementary School

325 Plymouth Street NW
Olympia, WA 98502
(360-596-6900)
<http://garfield.osd.wednet.edu>

Brendon Chertok
Principal

January 30, 2015

February Calendar of Events

February 3	5:00	Site Council Meeting
February 4	9:40	Late Start
February 5	12:45	LifeSkills Assembly
February 9	6:30	PTA Meeting
February 12		Science Expo
February 13		4 th & 5 th Grade to Creole for Kidz
February 16		No School – Presidents’ Day
February 17		No School – Mid-Winter Break
February 21	10:00	Kindergarten Workshop 2015-2016 Students
February 23	12:10	OJP – Grades 1 & 2
February 25	9:40	Late Start
February 27		Read-a-Thon Begins

Student Learning Behavior Targets in Garfield Classrooms –

Common Expectations and Language BEING A GOOD STUDENT IS YOUR JOB

What student looks like –

- a) actively listens
- b) arrives prepared to learn: has supplies, well-rested, has eaten breakfast, homework is complete
- c) stays engaged, focused, on-task, adds to class discussions
- d) does best on all assignments and activities
- e) shows respect for differences of opinion and experience
- f) knows and uses Kelso’s Choices and recess mantras
- g) completes all assignments in quality manner

How adults support –

- a) teach, model and practice; clear expectations
- b) use natural consequences to reinforce



January LifeSkills Winners!

Arrival/Dismissal Information for Special Days

Half Days

Dismissal 11:45

March 13

March 24, 25, 26, 27 – Conference Week

One Hour Late Start Days for Improving Teaching and Learning

9:40 Start

February 4, February 25, March 4, April 1, May 6, and June 3

No School Days

February 16 and 17 - Presidents Day/Mid-Winter Break

April 6- 10 - Spring Break

May 25 - Memorial Day

Last Day

June 12 (unless makeup days are needed)

11:45 Dismissal

Garfield Wish List

Linda Zaccagnini:	MORE Class Instructors
School:	Tennis balls - used or new
Garfield Track Stars:	Volunteers - mornings - 10:10-10:35
All Classrooms:	PTA room reps
Playground:	Large spoons (for digging in sandboxes)

A Message from the Library **HOW CAN I REQUEST A BOOK?**

The library should be a place each and every child can visit to find a book they're interested in reading, wouldn't you agree? If you or your child would like to see specific titles, authors, or series added to the library collection, you have two options*:

1. The best way to send your request is by filling out a "Book Request Form" on the Garfield Library Website (see QR Code/web address to the right). You can find the link to the form on the homepage under "Quick Links."
2. Don't have internet access? No problem! **Come on by the library** and let your librarian know you have a book to request!

LETTERS FROM THE LIBRARY



Scan to see what's happening at your lovely Garfield Library!

OR visit <http://garfieldlibrary.wordpress.com>

**While your librarian would love to honor every request, please note that the school library works with limited funds. The librarian also must follow guidelines to ensure the titles that appear in the library collection meet certain requirements.*

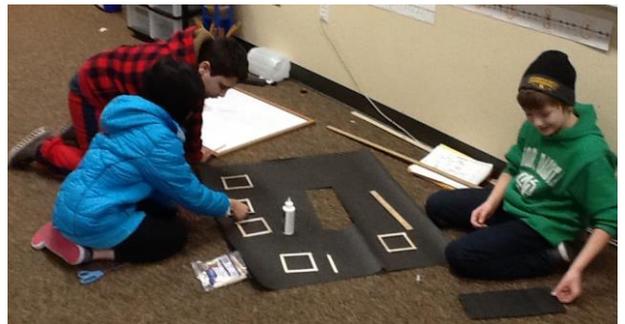


Mr. Washington works with first graders on developing strong learning skills.

Science Expo Returns for 2015!

On February 12th from 6:30-7:30pm students will be showcasing their classroom or individual science presentations. It's a great evening to view what your children are learning through science investigation. Our wonderful PTA is providing rootbeer floats to all Science Expo participants. The top three individual participants in grades K-2 and grades 3rd-5th will be awarded a ribbon for their project through judging by a panel of people.

Students, if you're doing an individual project, work on those presentation boards for Science Expo Night! Bring your projects to school no later than February 11th.



Students from Mr. Finney's fourth grade class work on their science project.

Patrol Changes

During the completion of construction, to accommodate the changing traffic patterns, we added a patrol position on Thomas and Jackson Ave. (right next to the playground). Now that construction is complete we will be directing students who cross Thomas to proceed along the sidewalk next to the field and cross at Thomas and Madison. Please help us in reminding and practicing this route with students who arrive and depart in this direction. We will continue to have patrol before and after school at the Thomas and Madison intersection. We will begin this on Monday, February 2, and have adults present for the first few days to remind kids.

Movie Night Reminders

In an effort to promote a fun and entertaining movie experience for our students, we would like to remind our students and families of expectations when attending Garfield Movie Nights.

During Movie Nights
Garfield Cheetahs demonstrate.....

Respect by sitting quietly during the movie, keeping voice levels at 0 and laughing at appropriate times.

Responsibility by keeping hands and body to themselves and raising their hand if they need to get up or use the bathroom. It is expected that all students remain in the gym during the movie. The hallway, cafeteria and other parts of the building are off-limits.

Parents in attendance – we ask that you are attentive to your children and monitor their behavior.

Students with bracelets – we will ask to sit in a designated area where our volunteers and staff can provide better supervision.

Movie Nights are a great part of the Garfield experience. In order to keep them safe and entertaining I have asked our volunteers to inform me of any problems. Please understand that repeated or significant behavior problems may result in losing the privilege of attending the next movie night.

Thank you for supporting this positive and fun experience.

Brendon Chertok, Principal



Track Star Award Winners



Echo gets crowned by Kindergarten teacher Mrs. Mock for completing 100 Pouch Books. Congratulations Echo!

SMARTER BALANCED PRACTICE TESTS Parent and Guardian Notification

I am pleased to announce the availability of the Smarter Balanced Practice Tests. Smarter Balanced is the system of academic tests that will replace the Measurement of Student Progress (MSP) tests in English–language arts and math beginning in the 2014–15 school year. The Smarter Balanced tests are based on the Common Core State Standards adopted by Washington in July 20, 2011.

The Smarter Balanced tests will generally be taken on computers, and the Practice Tests provide a good idea of what the new tests will look like. The Practice Tests are available for everyone to use at <http://wa.portal.airast.org/training-tests/>. There is a Practice Test for each of grades 3 through 8 and grade 11 in both English–language arts and math. Each Practice Test has about 30 questions, as well as an answer key.

I encourage you to explore the Practice Tests with your child and discuss them with each other. Your child will also be able to use the Practice Tests on our school computers. The Smarter Balanced Practice Tests will be available through the 2014–15 school year.

If you have questions about the Smarter Balanced Practice Tests, please contact the main office at 360-596-6900.

Brendon Chertok
Principal



Mrs. Olsen's second graders use laptops to work on spelling, "word docs", and creating tables.

Westside Band Festival

Band students from all Westside elementary and middle schools are coming together for an evening concert on Tuesday, February 24th, at 7:30 p.m. at Capital High School.

Students will be formed into grade level groups and have the chance to perform with these large bands in our evening concert. Not only is this concert a fantastic opportunity for musicians to play in an exciting ensemble, but also students and parents have the chance to hear how the level of proficiency and ability change as the bands progress from 5th to 8th grade.

Students should arrive at 7:00 and wear concert attire. The concert is free and will be over at 8:30.

Learn All About Kindergarten

The Olympia School District invites you to attend a workshop where you will learn everything you need to know about transitioning to Kindergarten. An informational event for parents and guardians who will have children in Kindergarten in the 2015-2016 school year will take place in the Capital High School Commons on Saturday, February 21st at 10:00 a.m.

This event is primarily for adults, but children are welcome. Child care is not provided. Come join us for this exciting day!



Fifth graders working on math skills with Mrs. Koster.