

# Specialist Spotlights

Bellevue  
**CHRISTIAN**  
School

January 2010

*Learning to think through life.*



## January Music & Band News



**Chapel:** In the month of January we will be concentrating on Jesus as the Light of the world who shines with the truth and love of God.

"I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life." John 8:12

**Kindergarten:** There is such enthusiasm in the Kindergarten classes for Music and Movement! This month the Kindergarteners will continue to learn songs that reinforce comparatives as well as the steady beat. Ask them about the game, "Beat Monster". It's a favorite!

**First Grade:** The first grade classes have been notating four beat patterns to learned songs on whiteboards incorporating 2 meter time signature, bar lines and measures.

**Second Grade:** The second graders will continue whiteboard dictation of four beat patterns using ta, ti-ti and rest. The newest rhythm, ta-oh, will be presented and practiced using songs followed by activities to reinforce the concept.

**Third Grade:** This month the third graders will be introduced to the newest solfege, re, which will be incorporated during the month in the songs used to reinforce the intervals of d, r, m, s, l.

**Fourth Grade:** This month the fourth graders will be learning the absolute note names of the treble clef in preparation for our work with Recorders later this year. **Look for more information coming about ordering Recorders!**

**Fifth and Sixth Grade:** The fifth and sixth graders did an **outstanding** job in December leading our Christmas Chapel! This month the fifth graders are working on reading solfege intervals on the staff. The sixth graders are working in small groups to complete the development of a "Stomp" rhythmic number using a variety of junkyard percussion items.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Johnson*

Hello Band Parents and Band Students!

Our bands have started out the New Year with a bang! Our 5th and 6th grade students are preparing for their next concert which will be **Thursday, February 18th, 2010 at 7pm at the Clyde Hill Campus**. They will again be joined by students from Three Points Elementary though it will just be a band concert (the general music class will not be joining us).

5th grade students should arrive promptly at 6:30 for a group practice before the concert. 6th grade students should arrive promptly at 6:00 for their rehearsal. Attire is black bottoms (pants or dresses or skirts for girls), **black** shoes and white tops (no prints please). If you have trouble getting these items, please let me know and I will try to help you find some.

Please invite family and friends as we celebrate the progress these young musicians are making!

Sincerely,

*Mr. Ekpo*

# Library News



## **Parents of Girls**

A generous parent has donated a wonderful book to the library that would be a wonderful starting tool to discuss "head-to-toe" development. The book is The Care & Keeping of You by Valorie Lee Schaefer. It is in the Parenting Book section and available to check out for a week at a time. If you haven't checked out a book before, it is easy.

## **School Displays**

Classrooms frequently display their class projects in the library. During January we had the 6<sup>th</sup> graders' Egypt projects. Come see what might be on show!

At other times we have book related displays. In February there will be a display of books on Presidents and history.

## **Library Skills**

During January and February students will be exploring both atlases and almanacs at grade appropriate levels during their library times. We have excellent class sets of each of these resources. Kids love to find information and data from these types of books, so it makes for great library sessions.

## **Picture Books**

We are fortunate to have almost 2500 picture books in our collection. Many authors find picture books both a challenging and a rewarding venue for their writing skills, so new picture books are always brightening the bookshelves. Many of the newer ones are for all ages, not just preschool and early elementary ages. These often have stories that all ages can understand but humor that truly only tickles the funny bone of older students. The newest example of this is Woolbur by Leslie Helakoski. Woolbur is a sheep who can't follow the herd. He finds joy in being different.

Another area that the Mack library is just developing is in dual language picture books. We are beginning to acquire books that are written in both Spanish and English to support our Spanish language classes.

*Candi Donovan*

Librarian and Reading Specialist

# P.E. News for January

Welcome Back! I hope everyone had a wonderful and active break. January is always of month of indoor activities and the first one we will be starting with is floor hockey. The students will be introduced to the basic concepts of floor hockey including some team play with the older students. Who knows? Maybe we have some future hockey stars here at Mack.

The Fitness component I have chosen to stress this month is flexibility and why it's important to our overall health. We will also continue our work with what good sportsmanship looks like and why it honors God.

*Mr. Adams*, PE teacher

## **K-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

### **Stations**

- Balance (stilts, balance boards)
- Hand eye coordination (flower stix, basketball)
- Fitness (jump rope, fitness dice)
- Hula Hoops
- Basketball

### **Floor Hockey**

- Sending and receiving a puck
- Moving with the puck
- Shooting on Target

### **Games/Warm-ups**

- "The Great Escape"
- Fortune Cookie Warm-up

## **4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> Graders**

### **Floor Hockey**

- Sending and receiving a puck
- Moving in space, with the puck under control
- Team Play in small sided games of hockey

### **Presidential Fitness Test**

- V-sit reach (flexibility of lower back and hamstrings)

### **Themes to be discussed**

- Sportsmanship
- Importance of Flexibility

### **Games/Warm-ups**

- "The Great Escape"
- "It's in the Cards" warm-up



# January Spotlight on Art

## Scripture of the Month:

I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5

## This is what we're up to in January:

- Kindergarten:** We will be exploring texture in painting and printmaking with found objects.
- First Grade:** Self-portrait with cut construction paper, and paper weaving will help these students gain knowledge and understanding of shape, proportion and placement of facial features while providing the opportunity to practice scissor skills and assess fine motor development.
- Second Grade:** Review of the color wheel and color mixing will help reinforce knowledge of primary and secondary colors as well as warm and cool colors. We will also review brush care and technique and learn about how white and black change the value of a color to a tint or a shade.
- Third Grade:** After studying Japanese printmaking, these students will create their own mono-prints of flowering cherry trees.
- Fourth Grade:** Contour line drawings of their shoe with the addition of textured details, will help these students to see another way to make a two dimensional drawing look like a three dimensional object.
- Fifth Grade:** Creating multi-media collage will help these students better understand the use of color, value, texture, placement and proportion in the creation of perspective.
- Sixth Grade:** While taking a break from a portraiture project, these students are prayerfully considering scriptural inspiration as a basis for determining what their gift of art to the Mack community will be. They will also be working on a scratchboard project related to their recent study of Egypt.

As always, please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. You are most welcome to sit in on an Art class at any time. You can even participate if you wish! The best way to reach me is by e-mail at: [nhazen@bcsmail.org](mailto:nhazen@bcsmail.org)

I teach Mondays and Tuesdays and will return e-mails by 3:30 on these days. If you need to reach me urgently and I'm not on campus, please contact me on my cell phone.

God bless you richly,

*Nancy Hazen*

(425)823-9134 Home; (425)417-4361 Cell

# Mack Enrichment

## What's Up

### **Congratulations Lars Tvedt! Winner of the Mack National Geography Bee**

Congratulations also to **Stephen Mouhanna** for making it to the Championship Round! Lars will take a 70 question written test, which will be submitted to qualify for the state Geography Bee.

### **3rd and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Aspiring Authors are Busy Editing**

Third and fourth graders have written rough drafts of creative and original stories. As we continue to work towards publication they now go through the editing process. Editing is the second most important key to a good book. First, of course, is the idea. Editors will look for ways to make the "pictures" clearer in the reader's mind. They do this by using rich details, setting a mood, building characters, among others. Sometimes this process can take many revisions and seem laborious, but it is all worth the effort. Look for these wonderful books on display in the library sometime in February.

### **5th and 6th Research and Test Products**

Fifth and sixth grade students are now in the testing process of determining which brand of a product performs best. Each test has been designed based on product advertising claims. For example, if you test paper towels you would test for wet strength and absorbency. Each group is testing three brands of the product. Does advertising persuade us to buy? What can we do to make wise choices and encourage good stewardship? Students will evaluate their tests, write a concluding report and present their findings.

### **The Mack Times Publishes First Issue**

The first issue of the Mack Times went out on December 11. The staff is working quickly to get out the next issue for Valentine's Day. A hint of what is to come... Geography Bee, the story and Valentine fun.

*We are always on the hunt for interesting stories. If you have a scoop please let us know.*

*Email [snaranjo@bellevuechristian.org](mailto:snaranjo@bellevuechristian.org)*

### **Mack Speech Team Performs at Retirement Home**

The Mack Speech Team performed Christmas poetry on December 18<sup>th</sup> for the residents at North Creek Retirement and Assisted Living in Bothell. This is the home of one of our Speech Team member, 3<sup>rd</sup> grader Lexi Bold. They all used their gifts of speech to delight the seniors and share the message of our beloved Savior.

*Mrs. Naranjo, Enrichment teacher*

# January Happenings in Macklab



The second graders are practicing keyboarding by typing practice drills in Word. On free choice days they are enjoying drawing in our Paint Program, reading online books at starfall.com and doing math investigations in programs that support our math curriculum.

The third graders are beginning research on their planets. They will do research in the lab. Later they will be doing a PowerPoint slide about their planet including a picture and at least three interesting facts.

The fourth graders will be having a visit from Nature Vision and will be clearing an area of noxious plants and then replacing them with native plants. They went to a website to start learning to identify native and noxious plants. They are also practicing their keyboarding and editing skills.

The fifth graders are practicing their keyboarding skills. They are also playing various geography games to learn the placement of the 50 states and the names of their capitals. They will also be creating a postcard about the specific state that they study in their classroom.

Sixth grade students are practicing touch typing (using the proper fingering, looking at the screen and not their hands and using proper postures) the goal is 25 words per minute by the end of the year. Besides practicing keyboarding, they are also creating a PowerPoint presentation about a subject of their choosing.

Blessings,

*Christa Lafayette*

Computer Teacher

# Counseling Corner

As Christmas has passed may we continue to focus on Romans 15:13 "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Here is what has been happening in the few weeks that we had school since last report. **Half Day Kindergarten** heard stories focusing on friendship and helping others. They also continued to identify feelings in others.

Kindergarten also began focusing on friendship stories. In addition they heard a couple of Christmas stories and continued to practice identifying feelings.

**First Grade** continued learning about how to handle problems with others. We heard two more stories from a companion book *Willow Pond* which demonstrates using Kelso's choices to solve problems. See *Kelso's Choice* wheel below. We then started discussing the question what is bullying? We took a week to look at some gifts that God has for us, ones that can last much longer than the ones under the tree. We started to "unwrap" God's Grace (Eph 2:8) and also the Fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22). This week we re-viewed bullying and discussed the important role that those who may see it (bystanders) have.

**Second Grade** reviewed our conflict management curriculum and started with how to tell the difference between a small and big problem. They then recalled the 9 Kelso choices that they learned last year (see choice wheel below). We will take time to re-view each choice to determine in what type of situation it is best to use.

**Third Grade** took a break from conflict management to look at a great way to prevent problems with other people. We examined some lasting gifts that God has for us, if we will only receive them. We started to "unwrap" God's Grace (Eph 2:8) and also the Fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22). If we are filled with God's Spirit that will make a huge difference in how we treat others and even in how we respond to others when a conflict begins.

Please feel free to contact me @ Ext. 434 or [gberge@bcsmail.org](mailto:gberge@bcsmail.org).

As we begin a new year may we make the most of each day seeking the Lord, for we know not what is in store for us in the year ahead, both in joys or challenges.

If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me @ ext 434.

Happy New Year!

*Erene Berge*

