Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a chance to relax over break and are having a great start to 2016. A new year inspires us all to focus on our goals. I wanted to take a moment to remind everyone of the mission and goals of our PTA here at Canyon Creek for this school year. These were voted on by the membership and guide our decisions and choices as PTA. Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have ideas in the areas.

**Our Mission Statement:** The Canyon Creek PTA will strive to support programs that serve every student, facilitate a sense of community through open communication, and celebrate the diversity of our school.

**Goals for 2015-2016 School Year:**

- Advocate for improvements to outdoor education/recess
- Provide free or low cost family events to provide a sense of community
- Community Outreach
- Provide school enrichment opportunities
- **Engage and embrace the cultural diversity at our school**

Sincerely,

Melissa Kline
President
Canyon Creek Elementary PTA
1st Moms-N-Muffins Event

Thank you to all the moms and students who attended our first ever Moms-N-Muffins event on December 11, 2015. The event was a huge success! We served a variety of muffins, Starbuck’s coffee and apple juice to 300+ attendees. The event was festival and a lot of fun. A big shout out to Fred Meyer for discounting the muffins and Starbucks at Thrasher’s Corner for providing us with a 20% discount for the coffee.

We also unveiled our Sponsor banner featuring those businesses who support the 2015 Walk-A-Thon. See you next year!

Thank you
Julie Kerr and Mary White
Co-Chairs

National PTA's Our Children magazine is now live at PTAOurChildren.org!
The new online publication is National PTA's unique voice for parents with info and tips on education, parenting and wellness, PTA spotlights and more!
Check it out today.
Please join us for our first PTA meeting of 2016!

**When:** Tuesday January 19, 2016  
**Where:** Canyon Creek Library  
**Details:** Free childcare provided by Champions by the cafeteria  
- Hear School Board Director, Sandy Hayes talk about the latest news in our state legislation including the McCleary case and Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and learn more about the role of the school board.  
- We will also elect our nominating committee.  
- Hear school updates from Mr. Denton and Ms. Bradshaw

Like us on Facebook for the latest PTA news.

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Stay informed!  
Find out what's happening with Washington State PTA by following this link:  
http://www.wastatepta.org/index.html

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Do you have a child that will turn five years old by August 31, 2016 or know a neighbor that does?

Kindergarten registration packets can be picked up from the Canyon Creek office starting January 19th.

Completed packets need to be returned to Canyon Creek by Friday, January 29th.
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Are you someone who loves to be on the ground floor of bold new projects?

**Project: PTA** needs volunteers who are passionate about kids and helping them see all of their future options. This is a STEM focused program, that encourages teamwork among students. If you have, or know someone, with experience in the tech industry (specifically the gaming industry) this is a project for you! Even if you don’t have any technical skills, we need you as well!

**Project: PTA** hopes to be a video game design competition, "STEM"ing from the Reflections program. The competition will grade teams of students on design, code, and artwork. The current plan will give students six months to work on their project in teams of no more than six to compete for prizes. The steering committee will organize to launch this new WSPTA program for Fall 2016.

Please contact Heather Gillette if you are interested in joining the Project: PTA Steering Committee.

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**Smart with Art**

**Limited Space!**

**Winter 2016: Craft With Glass Out of this World!**

*Canyon Creek Elementary*

- **Date:** Wednesdays (January 27th - March 23rd)
- **Days off:** No class February 17th
- **Time:** 1:40 - 2:55pm
- **Location:** Cafeteria
- **Price:** $216.00 (8 week session)
- **Grades:** K-6

**Limited scholarships available**

**PTA Contact:** Tess Davis  thetessaro@yahoo.com

**Travel through space and time as we create “Out of this World” works of Art!**

Using a variety of glass fusing techniques, we will design our own cosmic skybourne creations! Students will learn about the history of glass, differences working cold and hot glass methods, as well as different fusing methods and mosaic!

The projects include: a set of cosmic coasters created with copper inclusions, a giant snowflake using dichroic (extra sparkly) glass, a wire-hanging celestial planet mobile, and a mixed media canvas piece featuring a fused glass rocket to the moon, to name just a few! Join us for this glass exploration as we travel to the next galaxy and beyond! And, as always, Dress for Mess!

**Register online at:**

www.smartwithart.net/canyoncreek
office@smartwithart.net 425.420.2677
BOX TOPS AND LABELS FOR EDUCATION

The second and last Box Tops and Labels for Education competition of the 2015-2016 school year will be held **February 1 – February 5.**

Bring your UNEXPIRED & TRIMMED labels (Box Tops, Labels for Education and Tyson Project A+) to school in a Ziploc bag with the teacher’s name on the outside. Bags can be dropped in the bin in the front office or with your child’s teacher. The top class with the most labels will be treated to special snack! Mr. Brush’s class won the October competition – who will be the winner in February?

**Please remember to trim the labels - we do not need the entire packaging or wrapper included.**

**Box Tops must include the expiration date. EXPIRED Box Tops CANNOT be accepted.**

**At least HALF the bar code must be included in Labels for Education to be deemed valid.**

Karen Cohen – PTA Box Tops Chairperson – karenjeffc@yahoo.com

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Helping Your Child Thrive:
10 Tips For Raising A Well-Rounded Adult

What should parents do to help their children thrive? What are the most important things kids should be learning to find their path? What skills will they need to develop to become capable adults? Join parent educator, Myla Rugge, for a lively, interesting discussion about what parents can do to help their children develop life-skills that will serve them now and in the future.

January 20, 2016 – 7:00pm
Northshore School District Administrative Center, Boardroom
3330 Monte Villa Parkway, Bothell, WA 98021-8972

Myla Rugge is a parent educator who specializes in the transition to parenthood, as well as parent development. Her knowledge of parenting practices combined with her experience in higher education gives her a unique perspective when talking with parents about raising kids. Prior to becoming a mom, she worked with students in the Office of Admissions at the University Of Washington, School of Medicine, as well as an Academic Adviser in the University of Washington Undergraduate Advising Office.

_Sponsored by HICAP Parents Council (hcparents.org). Join our free mailing list!_
Aloha! Canyon Creek PTA’s Annual Bingo Night is coming soon!

This year we are headed to the Tropics on Friday, March 4th at 7pm in the BHS Cafeteria. We will have great raffle items, bingo baskets, concessions and a food drive for the Maltby Food Bank.

Don’t forget to wear your favorite tropical attire!

Grade Level themes for this year’s baskets are as follows:

1st grade Indoor Fun (Games, puzzles, video games, Books, Art Supplies, Movies)*
2nd grade Sports (Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, Football, Hockey, Gymnastics)*
3rd grade Food (Baking items, Pampered Chef, BBQ, S’mores, Coffee)*
4th grade Outdoor Fun (Water, Games, Camping, Beach, Gardening)
5th grade Around Washington (Road trip, Hiking, Biking, Kayaking)*
6th grade Local Sports (Seahawks, Mariners, Sounders, UW, WSU, Silvertips)*

* These are just recommendations and we really encourage you to think outside the box!

Preorder forms and grade level Bingo basket information are being sent home February 8th. SPACE IS LIMITED! All basket donations are due to classrooms Feb 22nd. Preorder forms for PTA members only are due by Feb 22nd and all others Feb 26th. (Unless we reach 500 before then).

If you have any questions please contact Brandi LaCombe at brandi_lacombe@hotmail.com or Hannah Hurey at hannah@hurey.com.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Library Volunteers needed for the following classes:

- Vancour
- Kope
- Hodgson
- Sprague
- Vaughan
- Martin
- Reid
- Clarkson
- Barton
- D’Entrement

Please email Lisa at lisa.chapman@usa.com for more details.
Seeking new PTA officers for the 2016-2017 school year!

Want to get more involved at Canyon Creek? The PTA has a great opportunity for you!

For the 2016-2017 school year, we will be looking to replace positions that will be vacated at the end of this school year. They are: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

All required training will be provided. Term begins July 1, 2016.

Nominating Committee will be elected at the January 19th PTA meeting. Feel free to contact Melissa Kline, melissareitbauer@hotmail.com with questions until then.

PTA WINTER SNOWBALL READING CHALLENGE

Kids, help your class win the Winter Snowball Reading Challenge! It’s simple: just read and for every 30 minutes of reading you can fill out a snowball. Snowballs will be posted outside of classrooms and around the school each week, and the classes with the most snowballs by the end of January win!

ONLY SNOWBALLS WITH PARENT INITIALS CAN BE COUNTED

It is not necessary to cut snowballs out before turning them in.

The Challenge started on January 4th. Turn in completed snowballs each Friday to your classroom teacher, starting January 8 and continuing on Jan 15, Jan 22, and Jan 29. JANUARY 29TH WILL BE THE LAST DAY TO TURN IN COMPLETED SNOWBALLS. Lead classroom snowball counts will be announced each Monday and the winning classrooms announced on Monday, Feb 1st.

PRIZES: The top classroom at each grade level, will earn a $25 for the purchase of new classroom books, and each student will earn a special bookmark. The overall Snowball Champion classroom among all grades will win an additional $25 book gift card for classroom books and will also win the “Golden Mittens” award and have their class photo put up in the library!

Extra snowball sheets may be picked up on the office near the PTA box or guest sign in. Additionally you may print or copy sheets at home:

http://canyoncreekpta.ourschoolpages.com/Article/View/Snowball-Reading-Challenge
Get up to date information on our PTA news and events!

Click here:
https://www.facebook.com/canyoncreekpta

Check it out and “Like Us”!

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Not able to attend a General Meeting but want to stay in the know?

A current approved copy of our meeting minutes can be found on our PTA website:
http://canyoncreekpta.ourschoolpages.com/Home

Our Board Meeting minutes are posted on our website as well. For the most recent copy, click here.
Did you know that there are lots of great ways to give back to our school through partnership programs?

Here are just some of the great programs already in place to help our school:

- **Fred Meyer Community Awards:** Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to Canyon Creek Elementary PTA at [www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards). You can search for us by our name or by our non-profit number (81720). Then each time you use your rewards card at Fred Meyer our school earns a donation!

- **Safeway:** If you visit [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) and enroll your Safeway Club Card our school will earn up to 4% back of sales. Our group ID# is 8561138 and we are listed as Canyon Creek Elementary School.

- **Target Take Charge of Education:** By enrolling your Target REDCard our school can earn 1% on all purchases made. [Click here to enroll](http://click.here). Also watch Facebook in August as Target often has their Give with Target campaign where they will donate $1 for every vote for a school (after 25 votes).

- **Labels for Education:** You can help our school earn points which we can spend on items such as school supplies, gym/recess equipment, etc by saving any marked boxes from participating products. You can bring in these labels any time during the school year and give them to your teacher or put them in the bin in the front office. You can also earn points by registering your shopping cards (QFC, Fred Meyer, Safeway) online at [http://www.elabelsforeducation.com/Sites/Campbells_eLabels/Page/HomePage](http://www.elabelsforeducation.com/Sites/Campbells_eLabels/Page/HomePage).

- **Box Tops for Education:** Twice a year Canyon Creek hosts a Box Tops competition. You can clip and save Box Tops off participating products and bringing them into your teacher or in the front office in a Ziploc bag. Please note your student’s teacher name on the bag.

- **Tyson Project A+:** For every clipped label off of marked Tyson participating products our school earns $0.24.

If you have any questions or would like to help us get involved in other partnership programs, please reach out to Stacey Arnold at staceysimon@hotmail.com.

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**We’re on the Web! Find us here:**
- [http://canyoncreekpta.ourschoolpages.com/Home](http://canyoncreekpta.ourschoolpages.com/Home)
- Like us on Facebook! [https://www.facebook.com/canyoncreekpta](https://www.facebook.com/canyoncreekpta)
- Want to add something to the Howler? Contact: Karoline Simmons – Newsletter Editor [karolinescott@yahoo.com](mailto:karolinescott@yahoo.com)
- Catch up with the Northshore School District at: [www.nsd.org](http://www.nsd.org)
Howler Hoorays!

A HUGE HOORAY to all the generous families who donated warm clothing and gift cards for local families this holiday season. Your kindness did not go unnoticed.

THANK YOU to Robyn Mortensen for organizing our PTA Winter Snowball Reading Challenge!

We appreciate all the Boxtop that are turned in. YOU helped earn over $1000 for our kids from our fall contest, THANK YOU!

Smart with Art
Winter 2016: Game Design
Out of this World!

Canyon Creek Elementary
Date: Tuesdays (January 26th - March 22nd)
Days off: No class February 16th
Time: 3:15 - 4:30pm
Location: Library
Price: $176.00 (8 week session)
Grades: 3-6

Limited scholarships available
PTA Contact: Tess Davis thetessaroo@yahoo.com

Working collaboratively in pairs, students will learn how to program and make a space themed video game using Kodu Game Lab by Microsoft.

Kodu Game Lab is a visual game program that allows anyone, even those without experience, to create 3D games. By combining elements from games such as Asteroids, Missile Command and Space Invaders, we will make a unique video game that students will create from scratch and also get to play! Students will work in pairs to design this game in which they can collaborate, strategize, and test with their friends, as developers do in real-world environments, using the 5-stage design process embraced across all artistic mediums. Students will be introduced to programming and logic skills by creating three dimensional maps, environments, unique game features, enemies and boss challenges. This class will enable students to program characters and objects, build 3D worlds, introduce key elements of game design and give plenty of hands on time so that they can be confident using Kodu Game Lab as they progress. No previous game programming experience is needed!

Register online at:
www.smartwithart.net/canyoncreek
office@smartwithart.net
425.420.2677