

# Easton School News

Volume 8, Edition 5

January 2008

## JOEL THOMAS WILL RETIRE FROM EASTON SCHOOL BOARD

*Special points of interest:*

After years of dedicated service to the Easton School Joel Thomas has retired from service as a school board director.

School board members and the Easton will recognize Joel and his family at a reception at 6:00 PM

on January 28th, prior to the 7:00 school board meeting. Community members are invited to participate.

Contributions of time, energy, creative ability and resources by the entire Thomas family will

be honored at this reception. We encourage everyone who has been touched by the work of the Thomas family to attend this ceremony.

For more information about this event call Suelen White at 656-2317.

## TERRIFIC KID AT EASTON SCHOOL FOR DECEMBER



December has been the month for patience at Easton School. We could not think of a character attribute that was more appropriate for the month before the big holidays of Christmas and New Years.

Students learned the enduring truths about patience through the Character First Program.

Second grade student Tyler Kim was selected as the student who best typifies this trait.

His teacher, Ms. McCoy stated, "I would like to nominate Tyler Kim. He is about the most patient

child I have ever known. He never talks out of turn or interrupts others. He is always willing to wait while I am helping another student, and will patiently work with more challenging students that need help. His patience exudes maturity beyond his age. Tyler is always cheerful and sincere in any endeavor, regardless of how long he needs to wait for anything. He makes good choices during his free time, keeps trying with challenging tasks until he succeeds, and never complains if he doesn't get his own way. I can recommend Tyler for this Terrific Kid

award without reservation."

In previous months there were several nominees for the Terrific Kid award and teachers each fought hard for their nominee. This month they all concurred that Tyler was the perfect choice.



# Winter Sports

# Jaguar Pride

## January Sports Schedules

### Easton Lady Jags Basketball

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>OPPONENT</u>	<u>TIME</u>
JAN. 11	TUES	At ENTIAT	6:00
<i>JAN. 12</i>	<i>SAT</i>	<i>MLCA (HOME)</i>	<i>6:00</i>
<i>JAN. 15</i>	<i>SAT</i>	<i>CASCADE CHR. (HOME)</i>	<i>6:00</i>
<i>JAN. 19</i>	<i>SAT</i>	<i>WILSON CREEK (HOME)</i>	<i>6:00</i>
<i>JAN. 25</i>	<i>FRI</i>	<i>PATEROS (HOME)</i>	<i>6:00</i>
JAN. 26	SAT	At TRI-CITIES PREP	3:00
<i>JAN. 29</i>	<i>TUES</i>	<i>ENTIAT (HOME)</i>	<i>6:00</i>



## EASTON CHILDFIND

One of the most important responsibilities you have as a parent is to make sure that your child has what he/she needs. That goes beyond love, food and clothing. Approximately ten percent of all children have a special need that requires extra attention. If you think your child (birth thru 21) has difficulty seeing or hearing, has communication or undiagnosed health problems, or has difficulty learning or playing, help is as close as your Childfind Coordinator at your local school district. Parents with children in private schools and/or parochial schools, or anyone knowing of a child who is highly mobile, homeless or migrant should contact their resident school district for Childfind information.

Childfind is a process of locating children who will need special services in order to experience success in school. Schools and community agencies work together to provide these services. If you know a child that may need help, call your local Childfind Coordinator today. Childfind is free to parents.

Easton School District (509)656-2317

## New School Board Members Needed

With the retirement of Joel Thomas and the hiring of Patrick Dehuff as the new Superintendent, the current board of directors will need to appoint two new board members in the next few months. To serve on the school board you must be a resident voter (resident) of the Easton School District. The

school board will be looking for candidates that are committed to serving Easton School and the greater Easton Community.

Candidates are asked to fill out a brief biographical application. These can be picked up at the Easton School District office. Cur-

rent board members are: Marilyn Fudge, Chair, Gary Greenlaw, Vice Chair, Tony Fitzgerald and Patrick Dehuff. You are encouraged to contact any of them or Superintendent Suellen White for more information about this position.

## WINTER TESTING OF STUDENTS

Testing has become an important part of the school environment. We are asked to use data in determining the appropriate educational activities for individual students and to determine curriculum and/or organizational changes needed by the school.

We use data from several different tests for these purposes. We hear a lot about the WASL and it is an important assess-

ment, but we believe it is vital to have a variety of different tests upon which we can base our educational decisions and curriculum.

In January we will administer the MAP test again for any students who scored below the standard on the Fall 2007 test. The scores on this test are important in determining if the goals set on student learning plans are appropriate.

All students in 3rd-12th grade will also take the district writing assessment on Wednesday, January 30th. This assessment is scored by the same criteria used for scoring the writing WASL. By giving this assessment in January, teachers can make necessary curriculum adjustments to help students prepare for the WASL writing assessment.

We will share the results with parents when the assessments are complete.

# EDUCATING THE WHOLE CHILD

I hope that many of you were able to attend the annual school Christmas program. This year's Frosty the Snowman was another rousing success in a long running tradition. I would like to highlight the importance of this event as an example of Easton's commitment to educating the whole child. The program involves the whole school. High school students are given opportunities to help design and build sets for the programs and to work with the younger students in preparing for their parts in the play. This promotes leadership, problem solving, effective communication and patience. The elementary students are all given a part to play in the program. Being able to participate in public performance is an important part of developing skills and

confidence needed for success in life. As students get older their parts in the play become more complex. They are called on to memorize lines, to use team work in telling a story to the audience and to show off their dramatic talents. Those students who have more musical ability are also given an opportunity to showcase their talent. Students at Easton are given this opportunity to not only perform but to express their creativity.

Another example of educating the whole child occurs in our elementary specialist program. Elementary students get daily recess, PE and music. Washington legislators who were concerned about schools de-emphasizing everything except reading and math passed legislation

recommending the need for more PE in elementary schools. Easton School was able to make changes to our schedule that allowed us to offer close to the recommended 150 minutes a week, and with this schedule change were also able to make it possible for elementary teachers to have 25 minutes a day to work with students who are having difficulty in reading, writing and/or math.

We believe that our students need to be able to read, write and do math at world class standards. We also believe that they need to be fit and healthy as well as to have an opportunity to develop and express their creativity. It takes all of these factors to "Educate the Whole Child."

## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

**BY Ron Woodruff, Principal**

I hope this finds you and yours enjoying the holiday season. My best wishes to all of you. This month our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders were treated to a day of bowling and pizza for winning the Shape Up Kittitas County contest. Our food drive was very successful and our kids participated and learned a great deal about sharing and helping others. Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> we got to watch the new overpass dedication as a

school....it was way cool. Our Friday early release professional development times have been devoted to advancing reading and writing skills in the classroom. Speaking of Friday, we have help available to your student after school in our library on Friday. If your child needs extra help or time to get an assignment done this would be a good time for that purpose. You need to arrange transportation to pick your

child up and they do not need to spend the entire time at Friday school, just the amount of time they need to get caught up with work. Our Friday school runs from 1:30 - 3:30. Hoping this doesn't find you with lumps of coal in your stocking....until next time....Ron Woodruff, Principal

## ART BASED WRITING IN MS. MC LAREN'S THIRD AND FOURTH GRADE CLASS

One thing that makes Ms. McLaren's class enjoyable is her art-based writing program. At the moment, each student is working on an animal research project that will eventually be a fact-based fiction book. Ms. McLaren states: "We'll show these off at the Celebration of Learning at the end of the year. The artwork is different from our usual crayon-resist watercolor paintings. This time we're making collages using hand-painted papers and drawings that the students have made of their animal. Collages will show important habitat features as well as illustrate the storyline."

"Art work slows students down in

the beginning of the story," says McLaren. "It helps them focus on the important details of setting and character."

WASL currently tests fourth graders on their ability to write a narrative story with adequate attention given to setting and character, the problem, and solution. McLaren hopes this project will strengthen students' understanding of what a story is.

The project is also an opportunity to weave together information from more than one source. "Cathy Shoop, our librarian, has been heroic" says McLaren. "Mrs. Shoop has not only helped students find

other books and magazines, but has helped them access appropriate sites on the Internet".

"My favorite thing about this art-based writing curriculum is that it allows me to help students to describe nuances with very detailed words. Their emotional investment in their art makes finding just the right words to articulate it a powerful and memorable experience," says McLaren. "The kids in my class love words."

## CROSS COUNTRY SKI EVENT AT LAKE EASTON STATE PARK SATURDAY JANUARY 26, 2008

### HAVE A DAY OF FUN

Get out and enjoy the beautiful winter landscape at Lake Easton State Park! Join Shape Up Upper County for a morning of exercise and fun.

### FOR ALL

Beginners are welcome. Instructors will be on hand to provide tips and to accompany skiers along the trail.

### FOR FREE

Buses will shuttle people from Easton School to Lake Easton State Park from 9:45am until Noon at 30 minute intervals.

### OR FOR A SMALL FEE

For those interested in driving themselves to the park you will need a \$10 Sno Park Pass which can be purchased at the park on the day of the event or online at [www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov)

Don't have gear? Cross country ski equipment can be rented at Mountain High Sports in Ellensburg or the Roslyn Cyclery.




**Warm yourself by a camp fire with a nice hot drink!**

**For more information and directions call the Public Health Department at 962-7515**

**This event is sponsored by Shape Up Kittitas County, Cle Elum Kiwanis, the Jump Mentoring Program and the Kittitas County Park and Recreation District #1.**



# November 2007

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			<p>1</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> Pancakes, Ham, Fruit</p> <p>Lunch BBQ Burger Mini Potato Cake Green Beans Peaches</p>	<p>2</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> Sausage, Cheese on a Bun, Fruit</p> <p>Lunch Ham Sandwich Chips Green Salad Fruit</p>
<p>5</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> Breakfast Burrito, Orange Wedge</p> <p>Lunch Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes Green Salad Veggies</p>	<p>6</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> French Toast, Sausage, Fruit</p> <p>Lunch Taco Salad Refried Beans Peaches Mixed Vegetables</p>	<p>7</p> <p>NO SCHOOL PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES</p>	<p>8</p> <p>NO SCHOOL PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES</p>	<p>9</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> Bagel, Cream Cheese, Yogurt, Fruit</p> <p>Lunch Corn dog Chips Green Salad Apple</p>
<p>12</p> <p>NO SCHOOL VETERANS DAY</p>	<p>13</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> Cereal, String Cheese, Fruit</p> <p>Lunch Cheeseburger Tater Tots Vegetables, Fruit</p>	<p>14</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> Maple Bar, Fruit, Yogurt</p> <p>Lunch Chicken noodle soup, Green salad, Dinner roll</p>	<p>15</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> Breakfast Burrito Orange Slices</p> <p>L:unch Hotdog Baked Beans Green Salad Pears</p>	<p>16</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> Muffin, String Cheese, Fruit</p> <p>Lunch Pepperoni Pizza Pineapple Tidbits Veggies</p>
<p>19</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> Breakfast on a Stick Fruit</p> <p>Lunch BBQ Chicken Corn Peaches Dinner Roll</p>	<p>20</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> Cereal, String Cheese, Fruit</p> <p>Lunch Turkey and Cheese Sub Sandwich Green Salad Fruit</p>	<p>21</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> Sausage and Cheese on a Bun, Fruit</p> <p>Lunch Bacon and Cheese Burrito Cesar Salad, Fruit, Veggies</p>	<p>22</p> <p>NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING</p>	<p>23</p> <p>NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING</p> 
<p>26</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> Sausage, Egg, Toast</p> <p>Lunch Cheeseburger Tater Tots Corn Veggies Fruit</p>	<p>27</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> Breakfast Pizza, Fruit</p> <p>Lunch Ham Sandwich Green Salad Fruit</p>	<p>28</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> Pancakes, Ham, Fruit</p> <p>Lunch Baked Potato Chili and Cheese Green Salad Veggies Roll</p>	<p>29</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> Ham &amp; Cheese on a Bun, Fruit</p> <p>Lunch Vegetable Beef Soup Cheese Stick Roll, Green Salad, Veggies</p>	<p>30</p> <p><i>Breakfast</i> Cereal, Sting Cheese, Fruit</p> <p>Lunch Pepperoni Pizza Pineapple Tidbits Green Salad</p>



**Easton School District  
P.O. Box 8  
Easton, WA 98925**

**Postal Patron Local  
General Delivery  
Snoqualmie Pass, WA 98068**

**We are on the web  
[www.easton.wednet.edu](http://www.easton.wednet.edu)**



# **EASTON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2008**