



Paw Prints

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WILSON'S PARENT TEACHER GROUP (PTG)

WE NEED YOU - VOLUNTEERS POSITIONS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

CONFERENCES: NO SCHOOL

- Jan. 26-27

NO SCHOOL: SEMESTER

BREAK

- FEB. 3

FEBRUARY PTG MEETING

- FEB. 7, 7-8 PM
- ZOOM LINK

BOOK BINGO

- Feb. 9, 6-7:30 pm
- Wilson Gym

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

- Feb. 23, 6-8 pm
- Brick West Brewing

SPIRIT DAY: 80'S ATTIRE

- Feb. 24, all-day

Amazingly, this year is quickly approaching the mid-way point. The school hallways are buzzing and you can almost hear the sounds of students' minds and hearts growing and learning hour by hour.

PTG too has been busy. We are currently putting final plans together for the rest of this year and we are starting to think about the next. With that, we need YOUR energy and dedication to keep things running smoothly.

Positions Available:

***Immediate Need* Wilson Volunteer Coordinator** - help organize class photos in Feb., and be part of the 5th and 6th Grade class promotion celebration organizing team. This is a school volunteer position and not a PTG position. Contact: Alexis Padgham, AlexisP@spokaneschools.org.

2024 Monster Mash Committee Chair - love Halloween and dancing?! Step up to be the next Chair (or Co-Chairs) of the Monster Mash Event. There are many experienced community members who will be part of your committee! Contact WilsonWildcatsPTG@gmail.com to learn more.

2024 Book Bingo Chair - We need someone who can put together a great night of bingo with book prizes. Contact WilsonWildcatsPTG@gmail.com to learn more.



Help Guide the Direction of Extracurricular Activities:

The newly formed **PTG extracurricular committee** has its **first meeting on February 7 at 6 pm on zoom** and will be led by Mr. Hermanson.

We need your ideas! Come and be part of the discussion on how to grow successful programs and pilot new ones. Look for the meeting agenda and login information to come out in a school text the first week of February.

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT: FEBRUARY 23

BRICK WEST BREWING CO

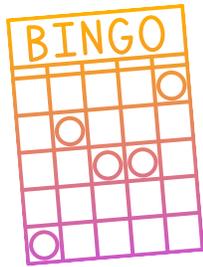
Thursday, Feb. 23, 6-8 pm

Brick West Brewing, 1318 W 1st Ave, WA 99201

Find a sitter for the kids and enjoy a night out to yourself. Great conversation with other Wilson parents is guaranteed. The event is free to attend. Delicious drinks and food are available for purchase.

Thank you to parents, Jillian Farland, Kate Smith, and Erik Makinson for arranging this adult-only gathering!

BOOK BINGO IS FEB. 9 - WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE



Thursday, Feb. 9, 6-7:30 pm

Wilson Gym

A free and fun event for the whole family! Come play bingo in this open-house-style event! Winners select books as take-home prizes.

Please consider donating gently used books for the prize table. Thank you to Stephanie Gronholz for chairing this event for the past few years!

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE WILSON CARNIVAL: MAY 12, 5-8 PM

Friday, May 12, 5-8 pm

Wilson

We know it is early, but the Carnival is such a loved Wilson tradition that we want to make sure you have it on your calendar now.

In the next few months we will send out more information, including a volunteer signup, but for the time being, mark your calendar and plan to participate if you are able. It takes over 100 people to make this event a success. We can't wait to enjoy the evening with YOU!



Thank you to parent Josie Dix for Chairing this event!

YOU ARE INVITED: FEBRUARY PTG MEETING

We love seeing so many of you each month. Come join us in **February** with your most loved beverage.

All are welcome and encouraged to participate in the monthly virtual PTG meetings. We meet on the 2nd Tuesday (Feb. is an exception due to Valentine's Day).

Agenda and supporting documents will be sent the week prior. The most recent meeting minutes follow at the end of the newsletter.



February 7

7:00-8:00 pm

Online via Zoom:

Meeting ID: 863 2266 5646

Password: 20222023

[us02web.zoom.us/j/86322665646?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86322665646?pwd=Ymw3MnNYdEYzMGMxcWFCUVN3RW5KZz09)

[pwd=Ymw3MnNYdEYzMGMxcWFCUVN3RW5KZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86322665646?pwd=Ymw3MnNYdEYzMGMxcWFCUVN3RW5KZz09)

WANT TO ADD AN AGENDA ITEM TO AN UPCOMING MEETING?



Please fill out a simple form to have your agenda item considered. Complete the form by the 1st Tuesday of the month in order to be added to the agenda at the next PTG meeting.

Agenda request form available at: **forms.gle/MQPMtALBeQ9MbS5s6**

REQUEST PTG FUNDS FOR A PROJECT OR ACTIVITY



If there is a project or enrichment activity that you would like to bring to Wilson students, please submit a mini-grant request. The idea will be reviewed and voted upon at an upcoming PTG meeting.

Complete the form by the 1st Tuesday of the month in order to be added to the next PTG meeting agenda.

Funding request form available at: **forms.gle/Z5VEvRvtNCwHYVMQ7**

3 WAYS TO STAY UP TO DATE: WILSON EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

1. Visit our website - **spokaneschools.org/domain/1253**
2. Subscribe to Wilson's online calendar: school district dates, school-planned events, and PTG happenings.
 - a. Copy and paste the URL into any calendar that supports the iCal format:
<https://www.spokaneschools.org/site/handlers/icalfeed.ashx?miid=2365>
 - b. For help, **[follow these instructions](#)**
3. Connect with us on Facebook - **facebook.com/groups/293107240685/**



SUCCESSFUL DECEMBER DINE OUT EVENT!

Thank you to everyone who enjoyed a meal or takeout from Caruso's Sandwich & Pizza in December. In total, the event raised just over \$200 for the PTG. These monies are used to fund activities for the students like field trips, classroom supplies, and extracurriculars. We will announce the date for the next Wilson Dine Out event shortly!

THANK
YOU

Thank you to parent Ken Ebner for arranging this year's dine-out events!

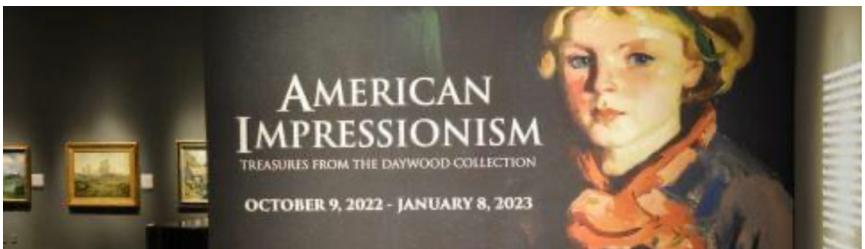
3RD GRADE FIELD TRIP TO MAC MUSEUM

Wilson 3rd grade students welcomed the holiday season with a visit to the Northwest Museum of Art and Culture and the historic Campbell House.

Our students explored and enjoyed three different art exhibits while at the MAC. 1. American Impressionism: Treasures from the Daywood Collection. 2. Gift of a Moment: Lila Shaw Girvin, a local Spokane artist for nearly six decades. 3. Dancing with Life: Mexican Masks, dance masks from the MAC collection, and contemporary Mexican artists.

In addition to the museum, the 3rd graders toured the festive Campbell House which was designed by renowned Spokane architect Kirtland K. Cutter. They had the opportunity to explore what life was like for Mr. and Mrs. Campbell and their daughter Helen in the early 1900s.

Thank you to our Wilson community and the Wilson PTG for sponsoring our trip to MAC, where history, art, and culture come alive!



A WILSON PLAYGROUND BRICK FOR MR. JACOBSON

Earlier this year Mr. Art Jacobson passed away from terminal NAFLD liver failure. Mr. Jacobson taught at Wilson for 4 years and was a dedicated teacher in Spokane Public Schools for 25-plus years. As a way to honor his memory, the Wilson PTG is sponsoring the cost of engraving a playground brick in his name. The brick will be engraved this spring and will read, In Loving Memory of Mr. Jacobson.

To read more about Mr. Jacobson's life as an educator, please visit his obituary at tinyurl.com/4ub2v9y5.

4TH & 5TH GRADE LEGO ROBOTICS TEAMS HEAD TO FINALS!

Lego Robotics returned to Wilson and has had great success! This year Wilson put together two teams to compete in the First Lego League Robotics Challenge Competition. Teams are tasked with creating an Innovation Project and competing in the Robot Games while practicing the First Lego League Core Values (Discover, Innovation, Impact, Inclusion, Teamwork, Fun).

For the Innovation Project, teams are asked to find a solution to a real-world problem. The problem to be solved has a different theme each year, and this year's theme was around energy usage, storage, and distribution. Both Wilson teams came up with creative solutions, and **Team Dragons on Pizza won first place** for their solution and presentation.

For the Robot Games, teams are asked to design a robot using Lego Technic pieces and motors, then program a code for the robot to complete specific tasks on a game board. Both teams worked hard to design efficient robots and code, and **Team LEGOats won 2nd place** this year for their performance in the Robot Games at the regional qualifier in December. Because of their amazing performance at the qualifiers, **both teams will be competing on February 4 at the Eastern Washington State Finals.**



TEAM DRAGONS ON PIZZA



TEAM LEGOats

WILSON SERVICE LEARNING UPDATE

We appreciate all that Wilson School Counselor Melissa Alfstad, with the help of Wilson teachers and families, does to provide Wilson students opportunities to participate in service projects and learn from the community.

This past December, parent Sarah Rodgers and Ms. Alfstad partnered together to help students create beautiful handmade holiday cards for children staying at Sacred Heart Children's Hospital during the holiday season. Over half the students at Wilson participated in this activity, which Ms. Alfstad introduced during her regularly scheduled December classroom meetings.

Also in December, Ms. Alfstad helped bring Sather Gowdy to Wilson to speak with 4th–6th graders. Sather founded Heal Spokane and is now working as a public defender. He spoke about the importance of helping others and made a call to action, helping students brainstorm ways they too can make a difference in their communities.

Ms. Alfstad is currently working with local organizations including the Teen and Kid Closet and Generation Alive to see what might be possible for future service projects. Thanks for all you do Ms. Alfstad!

RECAP: TEACHER AND STAFF APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

On the last Friday before winter break, Wilson PTG parents and volunteers sponsor a holiday-themed potluck breakfast as a way to say 'thank you' to the 60+ individuals who make Wilson so special. This year the food spread dazzled and the decorations were on point. Thank you to PTG Hospitality Chairs Emily Allen and Sarah Rogers for coordinating the many parent volunteers and for transforming the Library into a festive brunch atmosphere. Thank you also to Kendra Chapman for making 60+ staff appreciation gifts which included a Hidden Bagel gift certificate and chocolate.

