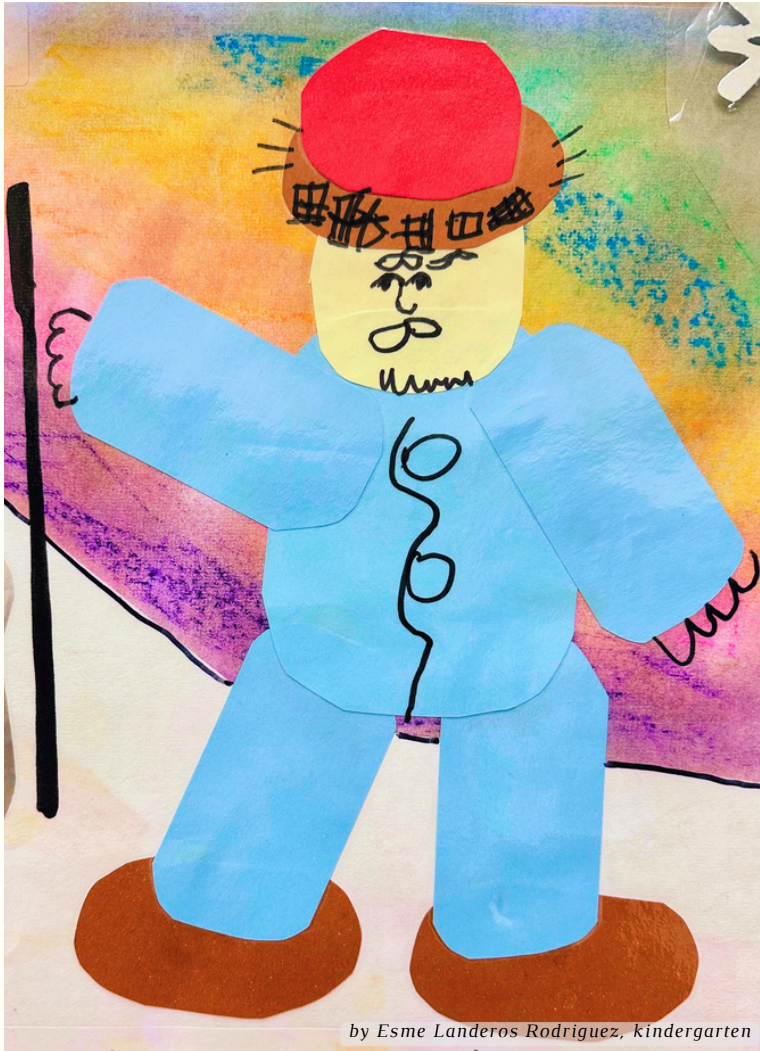


# PAW PRINTS

*A Newsletter from the Wilson PTG (Parent-Teacher Group)*



*by Esme Landeros Rodriguez, kindergarten*

The Wilson PTG DEI committee encourages you to attend the upcoming MLK Day Unity Rally and March on Monday, January 20. Coordinated by the MLK Center, the rally kicks off at 10:00 am at the Spokane Convention Center and is followed by the march at 10:45.

These annual events are great opportunities to celebrate and commemorate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr with others in the community. More information, including a map of the march route can be found [here](#).



## DATES TO REMEMBER

### **DINE OUT AT CARUSO'S**

- Jan 15; 11:00 am-8:00 pm
- 1120 N. Division Street

### **CONFERENCES (no school)**

- January 16 - 17

### **MLK DAY (no school)**

- January 20

### **BOOK BINGO**

- January 22; 6:00 pm

### **BARBIE SPIRIT DAY**

- January 24

### **SEMESTER BREAK (no school)**

- January 31

### **WILSON SKATE NIGHT**

- February 3; 6:00-8:00 pm
- 9415 E. 4th Avenue

### **CLASS PICTURE DAY**

- February 4

### **BUILDING BRIDGES TO BELOVED COMMUNITY**

- **Parent/Caregiver Session:**  
Feb 4; 6:00 pm
- **Staff & Caregiver Session:**  
Feb 6; 5:30 pm

### **PTG MEETING**

- February 11; 7:00-8:00 pm

### **TEACHER WORK DAY(no school)**

- February 14

# UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

## Wilson Skate Night

The Wilson community is invited to Roller Valley Skate & Event Center on Monday, February 3 from 6:00-8:00 pm. Admission with skate rental is \$10/person, or \$9/person for admission only. Roller Valley will donate 20% of sales to the Wilson PTG.

## Volunteers Needed



## Thinking Green

by Bre Orcasitas

Interested in joining the Green Committee? Contact Bre at [bre434@gmail.com](mailto:bre434@gmail.com)

Have you ever stood at the end of a grocery store aisle and looked at the sheer volume of plastic containers lining the shelves? Single-use plastic is essentially unavoidable, but single-use doesn't mean it goes away quickly; it's actually the polar opposite. Plastic bags last 10-100 years, detergent bottles last 450-1000 years, plastic straws last 100-500 years, plastic silverware lasts 100-500 years, toothbrushes last 500+ years, yogurt cups last 100-500 years, and diapers last 250-500 years.

These estimates don't account for the fact that plastic never actually goes away, it only breaks down into microplastics which negatively impact the environment and the life that depends on it. This impact will only intensify as we continue generating more plastic.

*Solution:* Marry your plastic. Single-use plastic will outlive us, so it's vital we take that into account as we make purchases. By "marrying our plastic" we are recognizing our long-term impact and choosing more wisely. Here are some alternative options to consider. When possible, choose: reusable grocery bags, metal or cardboard powdered detergent containers, metal or paper straws (or skip the straw), bamboo or compostable silverware, wooden or recycled handle toothbrushes, glass or family size yogurt containers, and compostable or cloth diapers. As you make purchases, consider buying brands that have more sustainable packaging. Whatever unavoidable plastic we do end up with, it's important to recycle, reuse, or repurpose it as best we can.

# About Building Bridges to Beloved Community

from Erin Lipsker, Restorative Practices & Beloved Community Manager at SPS

Building Bridges to Beloved Community is a series of three interactive and engaging 75-minute trainings. These trainings provide an opportunity to bring school staff and their student families together to have conversations about how to talk about race and deepen cultural fluency.

We ask our participants to move in brave spaces and to work outside of their regular boundaries in order to explore and celebrate the diversity that makes up Spokane Public Schools. Gathering for shared learning and a meal is an act of solidarity and shows a commitment to self-growth and community building.

This intentional time together empowers participants with tools, language, and resources to honor the eclectic make up of our schools and our world. This training is an opportunity for schools to show their willingness to stretch boundaries and grow together with all stakeholders through knowledge, connection, and a shared meal.

## *Staff Training (February 3):*

- Intrapersonal bridges- connecting to our feelings and thoughts around conversations of race and how it impacts the way we engage with others.
- Interpersonal bridges- communicating with others around sensitive topics.
- How to live the work in a meaningful and sustainable way.

## *Community Training (February 4):*

- Intrapersonal bridges- connecting to our feelings and thoughts around conversations of race and how it impacts the way we engage with others.
- Interpersonal bridges- communicating with others around sensitive topics.
- How to live the work in a meaningful and sustainable way.

## *Together Training & Communal Meal (February 6):*

- Communal bridges- going outside of your trusted circles to engage with other people/groups/organizations.
- Common language around race, ethnicity, and diversity.
- How we address microaggressions as both the aggressor and the victim.
- Meal and casual conversation!

Post Trainings: As a department we will follow up with all staff and family participants to ask for their feedback. Surveys will be sent out via email after the final gathering. This information helps us improve the trainings and gives data to administrators to help guide the conversations and continuum of learning in the best way for their building and school community.

## YOU'RE INVITED: FEBRUARY PTG MEETING

Meet other parents, bring new ideas to the school community, and learn about opportunities for volunteering and supporting our school! We meet the second Tuesday of each month in the Wilson library, and on Zoom. Watch for the agenda in your inbox during the week prior to each meeting.

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 11 from 7:00-8:00 pm**

[Meeting Link](#)

Meeting ID: 863 2266 5646

Passcode: 20242025

## WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

*Want to include an item on the next agenda?* Fill out the request form here: <https://tinyurl.com/2ctbjfyt>. (due the first Tuesday of the month)

*Need financial support for a project or activity for Wilson students?* Find the mini-grant request form here: <https://tinyurl.com/fhn238x9>. The idea will be reviewed and voted upon at an upcoming PTG meeting. (due the first Tuesday of the month)

*Know of a Wilson event or activity that should be highlighted in the newsletter?* Send photos and/or event details to [Stephane Newman](#). (due the first Friday of the month)

## STAY CONNECTED

- Visit the PTG website:  
<https://wilsonwildcatsptg.com>
- Find us on Facebook:  
[facebook.com/groups/293107240685/](https://facebook.com/groups/293107240685/)
- Follow us on Instagram:  
[@Wilson\\_Wildcats\\_PTG](#)

## PTG LEADERSHIP 2024-2025

**President** Kendra Kimball Chapman

**Vice President** Kelli Wright

**Treasurer** Gretchen Cleveland

**Treasurer-Elect** Ana Ehrler

**Secretary** Krista Kautzman

email us at [wilsonwildcatsptg@gmail.com](mailto:wilsonwildcatsptg@gmail.com)