

# Arbor Schools

## Newsletter

Mary O'Brien, Director

Newsletter Date:  
October 23, 2006

### Arbor Snow Sports Club

#### FAQ'S (frequently asked questions)

- **If I don't ski, can my child still join the Snow Sports club?** Yes! Our snow sports program is a great way for children to start skiing or snowboarding when their parents don't ski or snowboard. You don't have to know how to ski or snowboard to be a chaperone.
- **Who can participate?** Any student 5 years of age (by Jan. 2007) or older can participate.
- **Both of us work and can't chaperone, can my child still join?** For parents of children 6 years or older and in LE, UE, or MS you DON'T have to chaperone. We'd welcome you to and hope you get the opportunity to do it at least once, but it's optional. Parents of kindergartners or children younger than 6 are required to accompany their child as a chaperone.
- **We don't own any ski or snowboard gear or clothing—is that a problem?** No problem. There are many ways to get gear and clothing. Equipment for young children is usually rented from one of our local outdoor retail stores or through Mini Mountain. You can find great buys on clothing, new or used, at ski swaps that take place at various locations in October and November.
- **Can siblings and friends join the program?** Yes, as long as they are five

plus years of age and can arrive at Arbor in time for the bus loading on Wednesdays at 2pm.

- **How much does it cost and what's included?** The program costs \$240 per student and it includes bus transportation and 2 1/2 hour lessons for six weeks at the Summit at Snoqualmie Pass. Season's Pass, equipment and clothing are extra.

#### FOC'S (frequently overhead comments)

"I loved riding the ski bus and taking lessons with my friends. Ski club is so cool!" Nico Vizquel—2nd year in snow club and Poplar student

"The snow sports club is awesome. I love my snowboard instructors." Nic Horst—5th year in snow club and Cedar student

"I think it was fun. I like the chair lifts as well. Those were fun. I think I learned how to ski quickly. It was good learning in groups." Ryan Butcher Weltman—2nd year in snow club and Madrona student.

"Arbors ski school is a great program to join with a nice lady running it. Susan also is a mini mountain instructor. Emmet Williams—3rd year in snow club and Cedar student.

For more information please contact Susan Horst at 425-868-2118 or [susan.horst@verzon.net](mailto:susan.horst@verzon.net).

either drive around the block or park at the city hall next door. Please do not park along the fence as that could cause an accident.

### Parking Lot

A new clock has been put up on the 1109 building. Please refer to this clock at arrivals and dismissals. If you do happen to arrive too early to pick up your child, please

#### Upcoming Events

- **October 25**  
Arbor Snow Sports Club Meeting 6pm in Cypress
- **October 26**  
Middle School Field Trip to Seattle Children's Theatre, "Jason and the Golden Fleece"
- **October 26**  
UE Field Trip to Jubilee Farms, Carnation
- **October 27**  
Harvest Festival 1:00pm-2:30pm at Arbor
- **October 27**  
Primary Field Trip to Jubilee Farms, Carnation
- **October 31**  
UE Historical Halloween
- **November 9**  
Progress Report Prep Day No School/ Childcare Available
- **November 10**  
Veteran's Day No School/No Childcare

## Halloween Safety Tips

The Issaquah Police Department has provided us with some trick-or-treating safety tips.

Please see the attached page for trick-or-treating tips and tips for homeowners.

Be safe and have fun!



## Fireworks Show

Fireworks will light up the night sky around 7pm on Wednesday, October 25th over the Sammamish Plateau.

The time of year may seem odd, but the city is running a test firework show. On the Fourth of July next year, the city of Sammamish plans to host a firework show.

The show will be held at the Sammamish Commons. Bring your hot chocolate, blankets, and lawn chairs and we will meet you on the Arbor grass!

Overflow parking at Mary Queen of Peace.

## Harvest Festival

The Harvest Festival is Friday, October 27th from 1:00pm–2:30 pm. Parents are welcome to come but this is a student driven activity. The students will enjoy games and activities and homemade treats.

## Wednesday Spanish Schedule

Our first 6 week aftercare Spanish schedule is going to change slightly for the second six week session starting November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Primary will continue to have two Spanish classes, the first will stay the same from 1:30 pm-2:00 pm the second will be from 3:00 pm-3:30 pm. At this point we are taking sign-ups on a first come first serve basis—but want to keep the first session for non-aftercare students. Please call or email Kristina to sign up.

The aftercare elementary Spanish will move up to start at 2:10 pm and go through 2:55 pm. This moves the class forward 30 minutes. I hope that makes it easier for elementary students to participate. Once again, please sign up with Kristina at the front desk.

Primary students, on Wednesday early dismissal day, can also sign up for Art or PE for the 1:30 pm-2:00 pm time slot. For the 2:00 pm-2:30 pm time slot, students can choose Music or Outdoor Education as

well as free play. Then those options repeat again for the 2:30 pm -3:00 pm time slot. Spanish is then the only class option from 3:00 pm-3:30 pm other than normal aftercare activities apply.

Elementary students, on Wednesday, early dismissal day, can sign up for PE, Art or Spanish from 2:10 pm-2:55 pm. Then from 3:05 pm-3:50 pm they can choose from Outdoor Education or Spanish. Once again, please contact Kristina to sign up for any or all of these classes. Spanish is the only class we ask you to sign up for six continual weeks. You can also sign up for the other classes for the six weeks and if you like, the students can make the decision themselves. This second week session starts on November 1<sup>st</sup> and goes through December 13<sup>th</sup>. Please don't hesitate to call the office if you have any questions.

## Young Ladies and Gentlemen ages 6-11 years

Children rarely beg for the opportunity to attend a class on manners and yet it is likely the key to building positive friendships and strong self-esteem. This fun hands-on workshop teaches telephone etiquette, basic table manners, introductions, personal care, posture and thank you notes. Each student receives a "goodie bag" to take home. Don't be surprised when they come asking for more! There would need to be a minimum of 10

students signed up and the cost of the class is \$45.

If you are interested in the possibility of your child attending this class, please let Kristina know. This class would be held after school.



## Primary Jubilee Farms Field Trip

On Friday, October 27th, the Primary students will be going on a field trip to Jubilee Farms in Carnation. Here are a few facts that you need to know.

- Please dress your child in "farm clothes" (boots, jeans, and rain gear).
- All parents are responsible for their own child. Your Primary children DO NOT come to Arbor in the morning. Instead, YOU are to drive them to Jubilee Farms and meet at 9:45 am. The tour begins at 10:00 am. Once the tour is over, YOU are responsible for returning your child to Arbor for lunch and the afternoon session if your child is a full day or afternoon only student. Parents need to remain with their child for the entire tour.
- Arbor will pay for your child's ticket. There will be no charge for the adult chaperones and infants. However, you would need to purchase a ticket for any additional siblings.
- If you want your child to have pizza on Friday, please email your teacher by Thursday, 10/26 to confirm how many slices.

## Fundraising and Volunteer Opportunities

### 2007 Auction Kick-Off Meeting

Eastside Montessori Education Foundation Proudly Presents  
Arbor Schools' 12th Annual Auction

An Evening Under the Stars  
Saturday, March 31st 2007  
The Golf Club at Newcastle

Our 12th annual auction kick-off meeting will be held Monday, October 30th from 9am-10:00am in the Cypress Room. For new parents this is a great opportunity to find out more about our annual fundraiser and to learn how you can get involved! The format is an open Q&A but the agenda will provide information about volunteer opportunities, procurement information and an overview of the event. The meeting is open to everyone and the more the merrier!

For more information, please email [Carol@arborschools.com](mailto:Carol@arborschools.com).

### Parent Connections

Next week will be our last week for the primary series "How to Bring Montessori Into the Home". The series involved discussions of Maria Montessori, targeting meaningful activities within the home that allow the child to be a responsible member of the household, extending the independence nurtured within the classroom, and answering questions contributed by the attending parents. All parents are welcome to participate in this discussion even if you have not been to any others.

Our next series will target the lower elementary students. We will begin with a study of age-appropriate developmental expectations for children. We will delve into what is expected of the six year old, the seven year old, and the eight year old with regard to homework, chores, nutrition and lunch making.

As a reminder, the class is one hour, Tuesdays at 9:00 AM in the Cypress room. Remember, the time counts toward your volunteer hours. Younger siblings are also welcome to attend. Hope to see you there!

### Running Club for Seattle Kid's Marathon

The Seattle kids' Marathon is an official part of the Seattle Marathon. The unique "staged" format allows children to participate in the Marathon by running/walking/reading their marathon 1 mile at a time, completing 25 "miles" before Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup>. Running Club will help children log their "miles" every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday after school. The 2<sup>nd</sup> session of Running Club will have its first meeting on Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> and will continue through Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>.

On race day (you can find race information and register on-line at [www.Seattlemarathon.org/kids.asp](http://www.Seattlemarathon.org/kids.asp)), children will complete the last 1.2 miles of their marathon at the Seattle Center and receive an award certificate, goody bag, and a finisher's t-shirt.

This will be the 8<sup>th</sup> year that Arbor Schools has participated with a group of student runners! Geoff Ballenger (parent volunteer) will supervise Running Club and will teach the kids proper warm-up and cool-down, good running form and pacing techniques while they earn their "miles". All children Kindergarten and up can participate. Here is how to get involved:

1. Sign up with Carol Bevil for Running Club ([carol@arborschools.com](mailto:carol@arborschools.com)) For the marathon:
2. Go to [www.Seattlemarathon.org/kids.asp](http://www.Seattlemarathon.org/kids.asp) to get detailed information about the event
3. Complete the attached registration form with a \$15 entry fee and return to Kristina at the front desk no later than Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. The forms will be turned in as a group entry. If you need additional forms they can be downloaded at [www.Seattlemarathon.org/kids.asp](http://www.Seattlemarathon.org/kids.asp).

If your child needs a chaperone on the route (it winds through downtown Seattle), only one parent can participate this year for each child.

If you want to sign up for running club or have any questions, please contact [carol@arborschools.com](mailto:carol@arborschools.com).





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We're on the Web!  
[Arborschools.com](http://Arborschools.com)



## Academic Committee Meeting

The academic committee met on October 9, 2006 and had a lengthy discussion on a variety of alternatives. The purpose of the academic committee is to provide a forum for parents to generally discuss curriculum questions and concerns and to ensure that administration is clearly communicating to parents what is going on in the classrooms. The possibility of a newsgroup type communication vehicle is being explored to allow parents a venue for in depth conversations regarding educational philosophies.

The following dates are currently scheduled for this committee:

November 13, 2006  
December 11, 2006  
January 8, 2007  
February 12, 2007  
March 12, 2007  
May 14, 2007

## Staying Safe Online: The Internet and Your Child

Your children need to be safe online. Please see the attached materials to help you and your child create safe and healthy computer rules. This includes who you can chat/I M with, what activities you can participate in, what you are allowed to post online, and hours of computer use. This is a great time to help your family learn about cyberspace.



*Please submit newsletter items to [Kristina@arborschools.com](mailto:Kristina@arborschools.com). The deadline for Monday's newsletter is noon the preceding Thursday. It will be placed in the next available newsletter and may be edited for length and content.*

## Education for a New World, Maria Montessori

Scientific observation has established that education is not what the teacher gives; education is a natural process spontaneously carried out by the human individual, and is acquired not by listening to words but by experiences upon the environment. The task of the teacher becomes that of preparing a series of motives of cultural activity, spread over a specially prepared environment, and then refraining from obtrusive interference. Human teachers can only help the great work that is being done, as servants help the master. Doing so, they will be witnesses to the unfolding of the human soul and to the rising of a New Man who will not be a victim of events, but will have the clarity of vision to direct and shape the future of human society.



*Maria Montessori*