

THE EAGLE EXPRESS

PARK ACADEMY

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Paula Kinney

Dear Students and families,

I can't believe that school has been in session for almost two full months! These past two weeks have been very sad for all of us. Losing Rebecca was the saddest encounter for all of us to experience.

Rebecca will always be remembered as being such an incredibly remarkable student here at Park Academy. Having Peter Yarrow come all the way from New York to participate in our Celebration of Rebecca's life showed both his compassion and love not only for Rebecca, but also for our students, parents, and staff. His words impressed upon us how important it is to be kind to one another.

Our parent conferences have gone very well. We are fortunate to have such involved and attentive parents. The high school students did a fine job in leading their own conferences by sharing with parents their strengths and areas where they will focus on growth. I find that student lead conferences are the most productive and effective way for students to advocate for their own learning. Mrs. Fiedler, our P.T.O President, will be working with me to receive parent feedback in developing our School Improvement Plan (SIP) for

next year. The purpose of the SIP is to develop measurable goals that will increase academic achievement and improve school success. Mrs. Fiedler will be contacting parents to receive input about their vision and what they see as a priority for how Park Academy can best address student's academic needs in order for them to be prepared for postsecondary education. The SIP will have specific actions, strategies, and interventions, as well as an evaluation component to measure the impact on student learning so that we are able to monitor our progress.

In addition to our already being accredited by Northwest Association of Accredited Schools (NAAS) and receiving our 2007/2008 registration by the State, we are in the process of applying for accreditation through Pacific Northwest Association of Independent Schools (PNAIS), which will align us with all the other exemplary private schools in the Northwest.

We are learning BIG lessons as we move forward with our small and personal school. It's been a great challenge that I embrace everyday.

Sincerely,

Paula Kinney
School Director



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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Nov. 1 Poinsettia fundraiser begins
- Nov. 2 Scrip orders due
- Nov. 9 Scrip pick up
- Nov. 12 Holiday - Veterans Day
- Nov. 15 Poinsettia orders due
- Nov. 21 Teacher Work Day No school for students
- Nov. 22-23 Holiday—Thanksgiving
- Nov. 26 Teacher Work Day No school for students
- Nov. 29 Poinsettia pick up

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Tigard Bowl

11670 SW Pacific Hwy

All families are invited to get together for bowling on Nov 16th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm! This will be a great time for your students to get together outside of school, and for parents/guardians to meet up in a casual fun environment!

The cost for bowling will be between \$10 - \$15 per bowler depending upon the number of reservations. Please RSVP by Nov 7th to Ms. Barton to reserve your spot.

MEDICATIONS AT SCHOOL

Reminder to all families that Park Academy will only dispense medication that has been brought to school in it's original container. All medication must be supplied by parents/guardians including over the counter medication (such as aspirin, cough medicine, hay fever remedies, etc.). All meds will be kept in the office in a locked drawer. A record is kept for each student when medication is dispensed. Attached you will find the medication release form. If you have not yet filled one out, please return the form with any medication for your student ASAP! Park Academy does **not** provide any medication to students.

REMINDERS TO STUDENTS

- Oct. 30 Sally Foster holiday paper and the Entertainment Books are due! The student from each class that sells the most Sally Foster Holiday Paper will receive a PRIZE!
- Nov. 12 Holiday Veterans Day
- Nov. 21 Teacher Work Day No school for students
- Nov. 22-23 Holiday—Thanksgiving
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REMINDERS TO PARENTS

- Oct. 30 Sally Foster holiday paper and the Entertainment Books are due!
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NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOM

Elementary students are studying the weather. We have made homemade thermometers and wind vanes. We have a container set up to measure the rain. Some of us are getting good at predicting what time it will rain or get sunny. We look at weather reports in the newspaper and online.

In math we have been focused on algebra and critical thinking skills. Elementary reading group has been reading about a giant pumpkin that weighed 604 pounds! We are looking forward to seeing a play and then celebrating Halloween. Our team of designers works every day setting up domino pathways all over our classroom.

In **Middle school**, students are working on algebraic expressions and combining like terms in math. In science students are studying the Earth, solar system and the seasons.

Middle school students are collecting pennies for the Bosque Eternal de los Niños (the Children's Eternal Rainforest) in Costa Rica. The Goal is to raise \$100.00. Please bring in your pennies! In the main office, middle school students have a can food drive drop box. Please help us help families in need.

In **High School** we have improved our public speaking skills with an informative and persuasive speech unit; studied the history of Halloween; learned greetings and how to express basic information in Spanish class; and researched Latin American countries.

High school science is studying the interactions of electrons in real life applications. In math, students are "Slaying" monster algebra problems and becoming fluent with fractions.

In the school of rock we are introducing the guitar and learning how to use it.

PARENTS RESOURCES

The **OR**egon **B**ranch of the International **D**yslexia **A**ssociation (**ORBIDA**) focuses on increasing public awareness of how dyslexia affects both children and adults.

<http://www.orbida.org/>

Metro Parent first annual Education & Enrichment Fair Thursday Nov. 15th 3:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Miller and Cheatham Halls 4033 SW Canyon Road.

PTO CORNER

CALL TO ACTION!

We need your help! The PTO is still looking to fill the roles of Vice President and Secretary. We need parents to fill both positions, please let me know—it's not too late! The time committed is minimal considering the impact you will have on making Park Academy an exceptional school.

In the days ahead you will be receiving a survey from the PTO. Please take the time to fill it out—we value your opinion and suggestions on ways to improve our school!

FUNDRAISERS

Sally Foster holiday paper and the Entertainment Books orders are due Oct. 30th!

Scrip Goal for the year is \$1,000.00

In Oct. scrip raised 103.93 great job!

Get your monthly and holiday shopping done while raising money for the school!

POINTSETTIA SALE BEGINS NOV. 1ST!

Please see your attached order form.

This is a fundraiser we do every year and it has always been very successful. It is very easy to sell something that almost everyone buys for the holidays. The orders need to be in on Nov. 15th and will be delivered on Nov. 29th around 1:00 p.m. Every year we receive our plants and are amazed at how big and beautiful they are!

Students will be starting a pop can fundraiser. Thank you to Spencer Oakley for heading this project! Keep an eye out for pop can recycling bins around school. Everyone is encouraged to bring in pop cans. Let your neighbors know you are collecting cans for a fundraiser!

Please bring in your used printer ink cartridges, soup labels and box tops for education. For all those in offices set up a recycling box for this PA fundraiser.

Collection box is in the main office.

All PTO fundraisers assist with field trips.

REFLECTIONS OF REBECCA

REBECCA RECHT

BY TYLER LEWIS

I will always remember this one little girl
Trying her hardest to thrive and excel
Despite life's challenges she rose to the test
Enjoying her progress and doing her best

So many fond memories to touch on a few
Honor and joy in all that she'd do
With a smile on her face and fine lunch box taste
She gave us her compassion, never to be erased

Always a leader and bright as a star
A good natured girl respected afar
With the warmest heart and charm as her spell
She is part of us always and lived her life well

A force of nature she turned out to be
Being herself and loving so free
Excited to be true in all life's endeavors
She is a soul that will be remembered, now and forever

REBECCA

BY JENNA LOUIE

Even as someone who didn't know Rebecca that well there's no denying she was a purely positive character in my life.

I can't recall ever seeing her without a smile, or ever hearing her say something negative. Anything that came out her mouth was encouraging, including her laughter. Rebecca had this totally infectious attitude of determination and positivity she was the kind of girl who saw the glass to be not just half full, but spilling over.

When decadence is tired
And the sun has lost its glow
We will walk through the leaves.
And I'll need you to hold my hand

Nothing really matters
Once you've stepped through dark blue
choking on our promises
One little girl smiles

IN ALL PLACES (A POEM FOR REBECCA)

BY DEVON DOWNEYSMITH BAKER

I see you in the sunrise—
In the vast expanse of pure pink radiance
That stretches across the Willamette Valley.
The light that emboldens, emblazons the sky with veritable
Colors, textures and shades of joy.

I see you in the morning silence—
That quiet space between sleep and awake,
Where the tender beginnings of a new day stir;
Where daybreak prayers and silent reflection dwell.

I see you in la lengua castellana—
Bonita, mihijita, la preciosa.
Beautiful, my child, the precious one.
I see you in *Cien Anos de Soledad*,
Don Quijote, *Los de Abajo*—
And many other countless paperbacks I know your inquiring mind
Would have one day consumed with diligence and zeal.

And thus, I see you in the face of every student
Who loves to learn, who hungers for information;
The student who arms themselves with knowledge;
Who knows they will change the world.

I see you all that is light and pure,
In everything that stirs wonder within;
In swirling leaves, in starry skies,
In every peaceful moment.

So when they ask me where you are,
And find you neither here nor there—
I will look to the sky, the mountains, my own beating heart
And know that you, indeed, are now everywhere.