Harvest season is known as a time of celebration for a variety of cultures, including Rice Harvest in Indonesia; the autumn festival in China, Taiwan, and Vietnam; the Yam Festival in Papua New Guinea and the “Posviceni” festival in the Czech Republic. The festivals are a way of giving thanks for the bounty received, but more than anything it is a way for people to come together and celebrate their hard work, and show gratitude to family, friends, and neighbors.

As we gathered for our Harvest Celebration at Loyal Heights, the feeling of family was all around. Teachers dressed students in their “chicken outfits”, parents cooked and served food, ran activities, and registered families. And all of our children were dancing, playing, and sharing memories with friends. It was a beautiful sight to see—all of us celebrating the diversity and resiliency of our community.

As I walked around, I saw the happiness and pride that everyone felt in being part of the Beaver Nation. Thank you for allowing me to be part of such a wonderful community gathering.

Please do take the time at home to reflect on all the things and people we are thankful for, as well as life experiences that have given power and strength to be where we are today. This is a great time to celebrate YOU, Loyal Heights!

Respectfully,
Elizabeth Sánchez,
Assistant Principal

Mark Your Calendar!

November
Traveling Suitcase Theme: Perspectives
Celebrate Native American Heritage
20 Multicultural Family Group’s
Spice Night, 6pm, LHE Commons
25-27 No School (Teacher Conferences)
28 No School (Thanksgiving)
29 No School (Native American Heritage Day)

December
Traveling Suitcase Theme: Identity
Celebrate Interfaith Learning/Celebration
5 Giving Hands Lunch
6 Community Circle:
Interfaith Presentation
10 Equity Group Mtg, LHE, 7:30 pm
18 Multicultural Group Mtg, LHE,
6:30pm
20 1-Hour Early Release
23–Jan 3 Winter Break

January
Traveling Suitcase Theme: Diversity
Celebrate Lunar New Year
1-3 Winter Break
14 Equity Group Mtg, LHE, 7:30 pm
15 Multicultural Group Mtg, LHE,
6:30pm
17 Community Circle:
Martin Luther King, Jr.
20 No School: MLK, Jr. Day
29 No School: Day Between Semesters

To our readers: the next Beaver Tales will be in January.
See you in 2020!
'Tis the season of giving and thanks! We have so much to be grateful for; and while this is a simple concept, it gets overlooked, especially by our little ones. It’s easy to remind our kids to say thank you at each opportunity but there are additional ways to learn how to show gratitude without “saying” it, such as doing random acts of kindness, sharing a compliment, or being a thoughtful role model to siblings and peers. Let’s remind our kids how to find opportunities to show thanks to family, friends, teachers, and community.

On a community level, we are so appreciative for the fresh start we’ve been given at our school. So thankful for Liz Sanchez who took great care of ALL OF US during the past few weeks of transition. Thankful for our staff for educating our students with such grace and composure. And thankful for the families for sharing their difficult stories and being patient and supportive.

While our journey has not been without missteps, we learn and grow from these moments. We are strong, we are compassionate, we are united, and we have a great deal for which to be thankful!

—Katrina & Stephanie

MOVE-A-THON WRAP-UP

What a year for Move-A-Thon! Thank you to everyone who played a role in making it great! To relive the day, check out our video at: tinyurl.com/s6g8mt9 with password: RunBeavers.

Individual laps (by grade). At our Awards Assembly, we celebrated the top boy and girl in each grade with the most laps: (K) Lincoln H & Hana S; (1st) Zachary M & Eddy F; (2nd) Simone S & Aiden B; (3rd) Emmaline G & Milo H; (4th) Lily W & Jack M; (5th) Cooper S & Emma C.

Individual laps (overall). Our top overall girls and boys won prizes from KAVU. For K-2, Aiden B had 130 laps and Eddy F totaled 125 laps. For grades 3-5, Emma C completed 155 laps and Milo H did 182 laps. We also had some teachers run a lot of laps. Shoutouts to Ms. Edmonds for running 68 laps and Mr. Gaffney for doing 85 laps!

Class and community laps. The classes that finished the most laps (including family laps) won extra recess. In K-2, Ms. Schroder’s class amassed 1,377 laps! For grades 3-5, Ms. Ware’s class tallied 1,752 laps! Overall, our whole community finished 21,316 laps or 2,131.6 miles!!

In addition to running their hearts out, we also asked students to help fundraise with a goal of $45,000. Move-A-Thon is the PTA’s second biggest fundraiser of the year (the auction is the first).

Individual fundraising. An extra special shoutout to our top fundraiser, Jack V, who raised $952.38 and won a Garmin Vivofit Jr.

Class fundraising (total amount). Top fundraising classes earned ice cream parties. High fives to Ms. Schroder’s class for raising $3,488. And more high fives to Ms. Ware’s class for raising $3,877.

Class fundraising (participation). Two classes had 100% fundraising participation and earned ice cream parties. Congratulations to Ms. Fewel’s class and Ms. William’s class.


Some special kudos. Thank you to Sadie Agurkis for providing the teacher prizes. And thank you to Jenny Wohlhueter, Cathee Till, and Todd & Michelle Vician for writing student names on hundreds of raffle tickets!

And now, drumroll please…. we raised $47,239!!! We were able to top our goal of $45,000 through donations, local business sponsorship, and bakesale proceeds.
I am brand spankin' new to all things PTA, so naturally I did the sensible thing and jumped right into a pretty heavy position on the board! My role as the VP has evolved since September. I wasn't really sure what I was supposed to be doing and the co-presidents do a very good job of handling business, so I just kept putting myself out there, volunteering to pick up slack or help out wherever it was needed. Slowly (but also, rather quickly!) I have acquired different jobs—from managing the calendar to supporting communication between the community and the board. I have one kiddo at LHE, Sam. He is in 2nd grade with Mrs. Edmonds! LHE is not our neighborhood school; it was a choice school that I picked when we were starting kindergarten. Sam had an IEP (individualized education program) at the time and only a handful of schools offered the program and support he needed. And lucky us, we asked to attend LHE and our wish was granted! I was very impressed with the hard work and dedication these parents were putting in for their kids and was determined to be part of it... and here I am!
**Spotlight on Fifth Grade**

**Fifth Grade Academics: Native American Cultures**

This month the 5th grade classrooms worked in teams to research and present a comprehensive picture of several Native American cultures. They covered Native American regions of the US States including Southwest, Great Basin, Plains, Northeast, Southwest, Great Lakes, and California. Students presented their work on Native American food, shelter and transportation, clothing, geography, technology, and customs and traditions using posters and slideshows, with recreated artifacts, food items, geography, and dioramas depicting daily life. Families and fellow students in 3rd and 4th grades were invited to walk through their museum and were able to ask questions and taste Native American treats.

![Image of students presenting their Native American projects](image)

**Fifth Grade Fundraising**

Congratulations, 5th Graders, on a super successful and delicious PASTA DINNER at Harvest Night! Thanks to all families and 5th graders for donating supplies, baking goodies, and doing shifts! 5th Grade Fundraising cooked up another great event!

![Image of students with pasta](image)

**After School Holiday Pop-Up Shop + Hot Cocoa Stand + Bake Sale**

*Friday, Dec 6 and Friday, Dec 13*

5th graders are crafting away in anticipation of selling a variety of gift items and baked goods for this Pop-Up Shop. Help them reach their fundraising goal for their spring Camp Orkila trip! We will soon be sharing a link for students to sign up for a time slot with a 5th grade personal shopper (if they want to bring money and shop for parents or family members at the Pop-Up Shop).

Questions? Email fifthgradefundraising@loyalheightspta.org

**5th Grade Fundraising Raves**

**RAVE** to 5th grade rockstar parents for your help boiling pasta, prepping veggies/salad, setting up, cleaning up, and everything in between at Harvest Night:

Becky Gansert, Matt Marshall, Katherine Temer, Ketra Konnick, Stephanie Toche, Kajsa Puckett, Sara Adelman, Betsy Swart, Carrie Rees, Kris Thomas, Stephanie Gardner, and many, many others!

**RAVE** to all 5th graders for working hard on Harvest Night!
Thank you to everyone who joined us at Harvest Night! It was jam-packed with activities, good food, and community. The 5th graders did an outstanding job serving 475 pasta dinners and hosting a yummy bake sale. The kindergarteners danced their feathers off, providing plenty of entertainment. Families played Spin the Wheel and Putted for Prizes, made turkeys and hedgehogs, and hunted for furry friends.

With the help of many students, 96 HIP kits were packed (and a few more half-packed, because we just couldn’t stop the kids from packing items)!

The night would not have come together without the help of many volunteers and especially the chairs of the key elements of Harvest Night: Whitney Haas (dinner), Marissa Kaiser (HIP packing party), Laura Payton (*5* chicken dances), and Jan Johnson (Book Fair).

RAVE to all those who pitched in to help with Harvest Night activities including:

Amy Conant, Arden Rathkopf, Ben Meyer, Beth Gardner, Brent Meyer, Coen Stewart, Emilie Knutson, Gigi Goldyn, Ian Hochstein, Jessica Nagtalon, Karen Fossum, Kathryn Sciba, Katie Huss, Kelli Soccorsey, Kendahl Cruver, Liz Fortunato, Melissa Murray, Michelle Rodelo, Mike Saville, Sammy Yamamoto, Sarah Mann, Tristan Symons, Tyler Yamamoto, Zane Miller, Zanna Satter-white

WHERE TO FIND SCHOOL NEWS

- **EMAILS**: LHPTA Weekly Update (Katherine Diers, kdiers@comcast.net); School Messenger from LHE and SPS (Kathy Katzen, kkatzen@seattleschools.org)
- **MONTHLY LHPTA NEWSLETTER, Beaver Tales**: via Kidmail and at www.loyalheightspta.org/connect. Email Katie Kaku (ktkaku@gmail.com) with news, announcements, photos, raves, story ideas.
- **LHPTA WEBSITE**: www.loyalheightspta.org
- **LHPTA FACEBOOK PAGE**: Like us and link via www.loyalheightspta.org homepage.
- **LHE WEBSITE**: loyalheightses.seattleschools.org

SHOUTOUT FROM LHE STAFF

A shoutout from the LHE staff to the parents masquerading as donut fairies every Wednesday and providing the LHE staff with donuts and coffee for the past two months. Your generosity is appreciated!

Ms. Rad’s 3rd-5th grade class created *Cats with Patterns*
Harvest Night kicked off LHE’s service learning project: food collection and packing parties for the Hunger Intervention Program (HIP)!

The LHE community, with help from Grocery Outlet-Crown Hill, collected foodstuffs and made 96 weekend meal support packs. Wow!

In early October, bins from Ballard Food Bank were set up at LHE, and parents were asked to contribute, with specific requests for each grade. Student Council reps made their rounds, visiting classrooms and encouraging students to help. Items were tallied and sorted, and anything outside HIP guidelines were sent to Ballard Food Bank.

On Harvest Night, the LHE community came together to pack as many weekend meal bags as supplies would allow!

Didn’t remember to bring your food items? We’re still collecting for the next HIP packing party, tentatively planned during the Giving Hands Luncheon on Dec 5.

This event was organized by the PTA Equity Committee.

Thank you all for purchasing books at the LHE Fall Book Fair! We enjoyed helping students discover new books during the school day, and visiting with all of you on Harvest Night.

Phinney Books was our vendor this fall and they were wonderful. They even showed up to work the Harvest Night event which reduced our need for extra volunteers and made check-out a little less stressful. They also offered Teacher Bucks to help purchase classroom books, and you purchased over $1,000 worth—WOW! That, plus the shared profits from over $11,000 in book sales (well over our $10,000 goal), means lots of new books in our classrooms. Thank you, Beavers and families!

We also raised over $800 for Books for All Beavers (BFAB)! Ms. Wheeler’s class raised the most money and will enjoy a donut party. We are still accepting donations for BFAB: just put your labeled donations into the PTA lock box in the office. Any extra donations will go to BFAB at the LHE Spring Book Fair.

HIP PACKING PARTY RAVES

RAVE to the many hands that helped organize, set up, and execute the HIP packing party, resulting in 96 packs filled with food for students in need. Special thanks to:


RAVE to Marissa Kaiser for leading the way from the start to the end of the big event!

RAVE to Andrew Kreiter and the LHE Student Council for helping collect and organize food for the HIP packs!

HIP PACK NEEDS (assigned by grade)

K/5th: Entrée item (e.g. Madras Lentils, Thai Vegetable Peanut, Healthy Choice Soups)
1st/3rd: Whole-grain crackers
1st/2nd: Dried fruit snacks
2nd: Wet fruit snacks (e.g. applesauce pouch, peach cup, can of Mandarin oranges)
3rd: Serving-size protein
4th: Serving-size milks (e.g. Horizon 8 oz)

Just For Kids!

Why do pilgrims’ pants always fall down?

Because they wear their belt buckles on their hats!
Hello Everybody!

We are now introducing a brand new committee: the Student Support Committee. This committee was created by Ms. Rider and Mr. Kreiter to give support to any student who may need a helping hand or a friend to talk with. Any time a student feels lonely, sad, or has a bullying problem, all you need to do is write it down on a slip (with your name) and put it in one of the “Helping Hands Boxes” to be located near the lunchroom, the 2nd floor staff lounge, and outside the library.

Each week, a member on this committee will read the slips, and help out those students to the best of their abilities, during one of their recesses. The Beaver Buddies are here for you!

Until next time,
Cooper H. Swart, Newspaper Committee

All students who auditioned have been cast in Alice in Wonderland Jr! Each actor was thoughtfully considered, then cast in a role to which they are the most suited and best able to shine.

We specifically chose this script because it includes acting, singing, and dancing—exposing the company and audience to a full musical theatre experience. The 35 roles for which the original script calls have been expanded to 142 to accommodate all who wish to participate. Most roles have been double-cast, many roles reinterpreted, and new roles added to provide more students with opportunities. Every effort has been made to balance the roles within the confines of the script and legal constraints of our license agreement. Knowing each company member will have a unique experience, we commit to them all being prepared, to know they are an integral part of the company, to perform to live audiences, and to have fun. To view the cast posting, visit lhetag.org/cast-posting.

We are proud of every single one of our budding stars!

—The Casting Team

Note: No roles were pre-cast and all actors entered auditions with equal opportunity, abiding by SPS’s standards for Equal Educational Opportunities and regardless of roles they’ve played in past TAG or other theatrical productions. Casting Team members did not get a casting vote with regards to their own family members and close friends. All roles were eligible for double-casting.

Music Matters License Plates support music education!

Proceeds go toward assisting music education in K-12 public schools. You can even designate LHE as a recipient! For more info: http://wmea.org/Content/C93/FAQ%20Sheet%20Color.pdf
Including More This Holiday Season: from the LHE Equity Committee

The holidays are an exciting time of year. Traditions are shared, families come together, and everyone works to provide memorable holiday experiences. Of course, not all families celebrate the same thing this time of year. Even for those that do, there is tremendous variety in the ways folks celebrate. How does your family celebrate the changing seasons? Do you have a festival or a tradition that is important to you? Is it tied to your faith background or your culture, or is it something that you have created together with your family and friends?

In December, our Community Circle (Friday, Dec. 6) and Traveling Suitcase will work to engage the many stories that are woven within LHE families. Please let us know (equity@loyalheightspta.org) if you have a story or a tradition to share!

We are excited for families to share their traditions at December's Traveling Suitcase and Community Circle. It is a great time of year for all of us to talk with our families about traditions practiced at home and also other traditions celebrated throughout our city and the world. Here are a few conversation starters to consider:

♦ What is our family story about the way we celebrate a specific holiday? Grandparents or elders are great resources for sharing why families do things certain ways. Dig into the history behind specific foods you prepare. Look beyond your immediate family to see how traditions reveal something about history and heritage.

♦ What holidays besides our own are practiced this time of year? This can be an interesting way to learn about other cultures and religions while exploring the history behind specific celebrations.

How we engage with others around the holidays sends specific messages that matter. You can remind your children about how using more neutral language like “Happy Holidays” makes fewer assumptions about what people celebrate. Also, you can talk about how an emphasis almost entirely focused on a single holiday like Christmas can make other traditions seem less valued or important. Lastly, you can help coach your kids about the ways they talk about their experiences with their peers, focusing less on gifts and trips, and more on the most important aspect of the holiday season: spending valuable time with family and friends.

Book for the Holidays. Here are a few books that celebrate a diversity of traditions for this time of year:

- *Holidays Around the World: Celebrate Hanukkah* by Deborah Heiligman
- *Too Many Tamales* by Gary Soto, Ed Martinez
- *The Wish Tree* by Kyo Maclear, Chris Turnham
- *Let's Celebrate 5 Days of Diwali* by Ajanta Chakraborty, Vivek Kumar
- *Night of the Moon: A Muslim Holiday Story* by Hena Khan, Julie Paschkis
- *Diwali—Celebrate the World* by Hannah Eliot, Archana Sreenivasan
- *Holidays Around the World: Celebrate Kwanzaa* by Carolyn Otto
- *Ramadan—Celebrate the World* by Hannah Eliot, Rashin
- *My First Kwanzaa* by Karen Patz
- *Let's Celebrate Ramadan and Eid* by Ajanta Chakraborty, Vivek Kumar
- *Tell Me More About Ramadan* by Bachar Karroum
- *A Year Full of Stories—52 Folks Tales and Legends From Around the World* by Angela McAllister, Christopher Corr

Student Art Showcase

Fall Trees from Ms. Hottovy's Kindergarten Class
Earth Corner: Giving Thanks

In celebration of Thanksgiving, Earth Corner is giving thanks for Planet Earth. **Kindergartners in Mrs. Fourquet’s class** were asked to answer this question and then draw a corresponding picture: “I am grateful for the Earth because...” A few of our favorites are showcased below.

**Ciaran:** I am grateful for the Earth because I have water to drink.

**Arlo:** I am grateful for the Earth because we have trees.

**Daniel:** I am grateful for the Earth because we have worms that make the soil healthy for our plants.

**June:** I am grateful for the Earth because we have the sun and a home.

**Maddy:** I am grateful for the Earth because it gives me food.
**RAVE** to the LHE family members who pitched in to help with the Fall Book Fair to set up the books, write receipts, serve as cashiers, help students find books, pack up the fair, and straighten up the library: Nellie Waddell, Tristan Symons, Cathee Till, Elizabeth Gilbert, Amy Tsang (thanks for the coffees and sandwich, too!), Sarah Mann, Tami Wietfeldt, Brenna Holkins, Jayne Noland, Jessie Hammer, Erin Bremby, Kali Sakai, Linda Sakai, Missy Hill, Rachel Trussell, Gretchen O’Connell, Andrea Kearns, Danielle Pace, Jen Sullivan, Sabrina Savarin, Katie Kaku, Andrew Krueger, and Jessica Quijada.

**RAVE** to Jan Johnson, Marta Dully and Adriene Centano for taking charge of Book Fair this year!

**RAVE** to our wonderful librarian, Collette Blangy, who agreed to let us use most of the library for the Book Fair, coordinated the schedule of classroom visits to the Book Fair, helped students find their books, and pitched in to highlight the global reading challenge books.

**RAVE** to Donut Fairy families for coffee and donuts every Wednesday! Special thanks to Andrea Gomes Morrison for being the delivery person. Secret identities revealed: the Hadimanns, the Johnson/Sivakumars, the Agurkis, the Tills, the Dostals, the Wards, the Symons, the O’Connell/Getmans, the Weisz, the Andersons, Devon Shannon, the Khaubs, the Gilges, the Dold/Cooks, the Savarin/Rehlings, the Bernardings, the Sullivans, Sheila Howe, the DeGracias, Erik Youngren, the York/Lieus, the Horakas, the Andrew/Olmsteads, the Tsangs, the Solozarnos, and the Morrisons.

**RAVE** to all the families for their support for the staff.

**RAVE** to the MANY parents coming in as lunch room volunteers.

**RAVE** to the Gayan, Wheeler, and Wilkie families who hosted Staff Appreciation this month!

**RAVE** to Chris Stearns, Melissa Fuller, Nick Stuckart, Danielle Pace for being Crossing Guard supervisors!

**RAVE** to Nellie Waddell, Cathee Till, Jan Johnson, Jonathan Saurage, Erin Bremly for helping at the Flu Shot clinic.

**RAVE** to Kali Sakai, Rachel Trussel, Natalie Ward, Nick Stuckhart, Nellie Waddell who helped with picture day!

**RAVE** to art room volunteers Shawnie Erickson, Nick Stuckart, Melanie Michon, Scott Elderkin, Marta Dully. You are amazing!

**RAVE** to Jessica Peyla Nagtalon for creating the Earth Corner submission this month!

**RAVE** to the generous LHE families who donated food for HIP packs, shoes for the Whitman fundraiser, and money for Books for All Beavers and Teacher Bucks during the Book Fair!

**RAVE** to Amy Chung for being our STAR Mom, die cutting hundreds of stars to record classroom STAR bucks.

**RAVE** to Zanna Satterwhite and Amy Chung for helping with Rooms 101 and 102.

**RAVE** to the generous souls volunteering their precious Saturday night to help out with St. Al’s Auction: Alison McCabe, Holly Hocut, Sadie Agurkis, Sara Adelman, and Whitney Haas.

**Editor’s RAVE** to everyone submitting raves! We received so many raves that we couldn’t fit them all on one page. So if you submitted a RAVE and don’t see it here, then it’s probably on another page in this issue of *Beaver Tales*.

**We love to share your RAVES! Let us know (no rants accepted).**