

May/June 2014

Dear SEA Families,

What an incredible 2013-14 school year it has been. Our students as well as our staff have learned and experienced many new things this year. Here are a few:

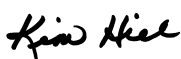
Fifth Graders took personalized learning to next level with 1:1 ChromeBooks
Students began and completed their Google 20% project
Depending on the grade, students attended field trips to the Richardson Nature Center, Planetarium, Elm Creek, Mill City Museum, University of Minnesota, The Works, The Arboretum, Orchestra Hall and much more!
Heather Brown from WCCO came and presented on "A Good Question"
Held two 1 mile SEA Fun Runs
School-wide Computer Programming
Skype with NASA Astronaut and Google
Staff training at Silverwood Park (Nature and Art Park), Math In Focus Training, Professional Learning Community Training (analyzing and assessing data), Daily 5 Reading Training, Multiple Science and Technology trainings
MN Science Principal and Teacher of the Year Awards
Pumpkin Drop; three classes were successful
ChromeBook learning for students

I also would like to share with you our new staff that will be joining us for the upcoming school year.

Maren Mayo- Kindergarten Teacher added
Dan Ishimaru – Third grade- will be replacing Mrs. Norsted for three years as she works as a peer coach for teachers at the district level
Amy Frink- new Special Education Teacher

I am excited to say that we have exceptional staff joining our already passionate team of teachers. I look forward to ending our year great, and beginning our new school year with even more STEAMY learning opportunities.

Kim Hiel



Principal

FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

WAY2GO

In January SEA was chosen to participate in the Hennepin County WAY2GO program. This initiative is to help employees make healthier food choices and become more active at work and home. The goal is to prevent weight gain and prevent chronic disease. With the grant money pedometers were purchased for the staff with the objective to walk 10,000 steps every day. We have also used the grant to provide healthy food for our meetings. While staff was modeling healthy choices for our students, we also won the district Employee Wellness Initiative for most time exercising.

The WAY2GO program has 6 strategies to maintain weight:

- Check your weight regularly
- Become a breakfast believer
- Movement matters
- Eat smarter
- Be selective with screen time.
- Find what works and stick with it.

Way2Go SEA staff

FROM THE MEDIA CENTER:

And the winner is...

Maud Hart Lovelace <http://www.maudhartlovelace.org/>

- 1st Place: Because of Mr. Terupt
- 2nd Place: Out of My Mind
- 3rd Place: The Trouble with Chickens

Star of the North <http://www.starofthenorthaward.org/>

- 1st Place: The Astonishing Secret of Awesome Man
- 2nd Place: Extra Yarn
- 3rd Place: Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons

Congratulations to the authors of these fine children's books! We will be celebrating with all K-2 students this week and with all 3rd through 5th grade participants next week.

Start planning your summer reading NOW! Check out these titles from your local public library and be GEARED UP for the Maud Hart Lovelace and Star of the North Contests for next school year!

We will be providing families with a link to more great titles for summer reading and a link to log your student's summer reading minutes! SEA summer readers who track their minutes will be part of a special celebration in the fall. So Keep Calm and Read On!

SUMMER READING 2014-15 Nominees...

Maude Hart Lovelace - Division I (grades 3-5)

- Aliens on Vacation by Clete Smith
- As Simple As It Seems by Sarah Weeks
- Belly Up by Stuart Gibbs
- Benjamin Franklinstein Lives! by Matthew McElligott
- Breadcrumbs by Ann Ursu
- Ghost Dog Secrets by Peg Kehret
- Guinea Dog by Patrick Jennings
- Kindred Souls by Patricia MacLachlan
- Liar & Spy by Rebecca Steadman
- My Life as a Book by Janet Tashjian
- Sylvia & Aki by Winifred Conkling
- Waiting for the Magic by Patricia MacLachlan

Star of the North (grade K-2)

- The Dark by Lemony Snicket
- Georgia in Hawaii: When Georgia O'Keeffe Painted What She Pleas'd by Amy Novesky
- Good News Bad News by Jeff Mack
- Hoop Genius: How a Desperate Teacher and a rowdy Gym Class Invented Basketball by John Coy
- I'm Bored by Michael Ian Black
- Jangles by David Shannon
- Moo! by David LaRochelle
- Mr. Tiger Goes Wild by Peter Brown
- My Cold Plum Lemon Pie Bluesy Mood by Tameka Fryer Brown
- Step Gently Out by Helent Frost

Adventure Club

We had a great year at SEA Adventure! We are looking forward to having more fun this summer. If you need summer care, you still have time to register. Online registration for 2014-2015 school year begins May 12, 2014 for currently enrolled families and May 19, 2014 for new families. Please check our website for updates. www.ced.rdale.org If you have questions, feel free to contact SEA Adventure Club @ 763-504-7215.

National Screen Free Week: May 5th- 11th

As stated on their website, Screen-Free Week is an annual celebration where children, families, schools and communities turn off screens and turn on life. Instead of relying on screens for entertainment, participants read, daydream, explore, enjoy nature, and enjoy spending time with family and friends. Screen-Free Week is a fun and innovative opportunity to improve children's well-being by reducing dependence on entertainment screen media, including television, video games, computers and hand-held devices. It's a chance for children – and their parents – to examine their relationship with entertainment media and rediscover the joys of life beyond the screen. Watch for information on how SEA will be participating in National Screen Free Week and opportunities for you to support this initiative at home. Looking for additional information on the national program? Look here at www.screenfree.org

Gearing Up for Gardens – We need YOU!

Hey SEA Families! We NEED YOU to help us with our gardens over the summer! We use these areas as critical learning spaces for our STEAM-focused curriculum throughout the school year and we need your help in giving some TLC (tender loving care) to these spaces in the summer.

Please consider adopting the SEA gardens for a week or longer in the summer. We need your help with weeding and harvesting vegetables and herbs (that will be your delicious 'payment' for helping out!). Your time and attention will help us and let us start learning in our gardens right away come September!

Please sign up here: <http://www.tinyurl.com/volunteeratsea> or contact Cara at SEA, 763-504-7204 or cara_rieckenberg@rdale.org to choose your week to adopt gardens!

New Student Directed Project!

SEA 5th Grader, Alyse, is working on a project to collect any and all drink pouches, such as Capri Suns, Kool Aid Jammers and other such pouches. Please send empty pouches to school for collection. Alyse will be submitting the pouches to TerraCycle to raise money for equipment in the Kin Lab. Thank you!

SEA receives two Seven Dreams Grants

SEA is the proud recipient of two Seven Dreams Grants! With one grant, our 3rd grade team will receive five chromebooks for student use within the classroom. With our other grant, we will receive 20 Makey Makeys for student use throughout SEA. In addition to the Makey Makeys, we received funding for a core group of staff members to write lessons to integrate the use of these unique arduino-type boards into our K-5 STEAM focused curriculum as well as funds to train all staff with these as well. Wondering what a Makey Makey is exactly? Check it out here: <http://www.makeymakey.com/>

Upcoming Events in PE:

Thursday, May 8th - 5th Grade SEA Track Meet @ 1:40-3:15 PM (Track meet will be postpone to Tuesday, May 13th same time if we have to cancel). Parent/guardians are welcome to attend and watch. Bring a lawn chair and cheer on our students.

Friday, May 9th - 4th Grade SEA Track Meet @ 1:40-3:15 - Parents/guardians are welcome to attend and watch. Bring a lawn chair and cheer on our students.

Tuesday, May 20th - 5th Grade DISTRICT Track Meet @ Cooper High School Track 10:00-12:00 (all 5th grade students will be transported Cooper).

Monday, June 2 - Super Kids Day at SEA — Morning sessions are for grades 3rd-5th (and AM-kindergarten). I am looking for about 30-45 parent volunteers to help with this event. If you are interested please sign up on volunteer spot or email me. Thanks.

Afternoon session are for grades K-2nd (5th graders will be running the show).

Kin Lab News: We will not have a May calendar. However, our physical fitness goal continues to make sure that each child gets at least 60 minutes of physical activity each day. Students only see me twice a week therefore it is important that you provide physical activity for you child when they are at home. Thank you for your help in making physical health an important part of your families daily routine.

We will wrap up our school year with our floor hockey unit in mid May. Students will learn the anatomy of the hockey stick. They will learn how to handle a stick in a safe way. As we head into June, we will be engaging in some Super Kids day activities.

SEA PTA Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 4th – Saturday, May 10th – Malmborg's Garden Center Shopping days to support SEA PTA

Wednesday, May 7th – PTA Meeting (6:30pm – 8:30pm)

Friday, May 9th – Spring Fling Raffle Ticket Sales Ends

Friday, May 16th – Spring Fling (5:30pm – 8:30pm)

Saturday, May 17th – Playground Build (8:00am – 5:00pm)

Reminder: Childcare is provided for PTA Meetings – we look forward to seeing you there!

Volunteers Needed

The SEA Staff and PTA need volunteer support for the following upcoming activities.

May 8th – 5th Grade Track Meet

May 16th – Spring Fling

May 17th – Playground Build

June 1st – August 31st – Garden Care Taker

Please visit www.tinyurl.com/volunteeratsea to learn about and sign up for current volunteer needs.

If you have any questions regarding volunteering at SEA, please contact Summer Anthony at volunteeratsea@gmail.com.

Spring Fling – Raffle Ticket Sales

Raffle ticket sales end on Thursday, May 8th. The top two students who sell the most raffle tickets will win a \$100 Target Gift Card. The WINNERS will be announced the week of May 19th. All prizes for the raffle are donations received from the surrounding community, SEA PTA, and SEA parents. If you have any questions regarding the raffle, please contact Stephanie Smith by phone (612) 834-8340 or email at SEAPTAFundraising@gmail.com.

Read-A-Thon Fundraiser – Wildwood Park Playground

THANK YOU for helping raise \$11,316 to help support the redesign of Wildwood Park playground. As you know our total goal for the playground is \$15,000, with your support and the support of the community, WE CAN raise the remaining money needed to reach our total goal.

The Razoo website will remain available for online donations until we reach our total goal of \$15,000. The site has been updated to reflect our total goal. Click on the link below to visit the Razoo site, here you will be able to donate online, watch the SEA Dream Playground video, and track how close we are to reaching our goal of \$15,000. Razoo website: http://www.razoo.com/story/Sea-Read-A-Thon-Playground-Fundraiser?referral_code=share