

ORCA PRESS

Bi-weekly newsletter of the Highland Terrace PTA

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SEASON OF GIVING

This is a time of year when many people and events revolve around giving and sharing with others. There are so many worthy places to give that it is often difficult to decide where to give. There are a couple events happening in the Highland Terrace community that are certainly worthy of your consideration.

They have their own articles in this week's Newsletter, **The Works & the Food Drive**. Please take time to get the specifics about these two local events.

The Works is a Shoreline PTA organization that helps all year round the members of our community that cannot necessarily afford the basic needs now required by each family to provide, i.e. school supplies. It also helps kids find a way to have things so that they might "fit-in" in their communities, which we all know just helps make being a kid more about learning and enjoying. The Works welcomes donations and help ANY time of the year.

We hope you can take the time to help and support both The Works & The Food Drive this year!

Carrie Campbell
Newsletter Editor

FALL FUNDRAISER WINNERS

Thank you, again to everyone that participated in the PTA Fall Fundraiser. It was a great success. Our profit exceeded \$10,000! The top-selling student, David Thompson, sold an Amazing \$547 worth of merchandise and earned a \$50 cash prize! Sarah Payton sold the most Entertainment Books (15!) and earned a large pizza from Domino's, generously donated by the Shea family. Mr. Lohman's top-selling class (\$2,613!!) has earned an ice-cream party! Enjoy!



LOST AND FOUND

The lost and found is overflowing and all unclaimed garments at the close of school in December will be donated to "The WORKS." If you have not already, please remember to put your child(ren)'s name(s) in their clothing. And come on down and check the Lost & Found!

LEGISLATURE INFO

Fifth PTA Legislative Issue

The 5th Legislative issue to be supported by the WA State PTA will be to initiate and/or support legislation and/or policies that improve the WA State Assessment System.

The plan is to support and make it more efficient and focused on student learning, while preserving high standards. This shall be accomplished by requiring the assessment system to provide nationally comparable individual student progress data. Also to provide diagnostic assessments to determine student needs. Additionally to measure individual student growth in a manner that is reliable and valid. And finally to provide results quickly so that they can be used to guide instruction during the current school year.

The assessment system must also be cost and time efficient, while continuing to meet education testing requirements from the federal government.

Want to know more about the WA State PTA and the issues? Go to their web site www.wastatepta.org/legislation.htm to find out more.

Mark Your Calendars!

Wednesday, November 26th – Early Release

Thursday & Friday, November 27th & 28th – NO SCHOOL

Monday, December 1st – NO SCHOOL

Monday, December 8th – School Board Meeting 7:00

December 16th – 19th Early Release

December 8 – 19 – SHORELINE PTA FOOD DRIVE



HUGE THANKS!

The HT PTA would like to, again, thank the **Richmond Beach Coffee Co.** for contributing the coffee at the Principal's Coffee Hour. Also a shout out to Sharon Jensen and Laura Payton for the delicious baked goods.

THANK YOU!

Highland Terrace PTA Executive Committee

Co-Presidents	VP, Public Affairs	VP, Student Affairs	VP, Enrichment Programs	VP, Ways & Means	VP, Arts Enrichment	Treasurer	Secretary
Lisa Surowiec	Annie Wymer	Angie Nouwens	Staci Schulmerich	Julie Forster	Rene Streeter-Dybdahl	Sharon Jensen	Robin Hohl
Mary Clapshaw				Megan Shea			

THE WORKS

The WORKS, supported by the Shoreline PTA Council Family Resource, provides clothing for Shoreline School District families. Volunteer help, from each of the Shoreline schools, is needed on every Wednesday night from 5:30-8:30 PM to help sort clothing donations received and to stock the store. The Wed. nights that HT Elementary has been assigned are Nov 19th, TOMORROW! If you are able to help, please contact **Jacqui Rublee at 206-533-6098 or katejack@comcast.net.**

The WORKS has been relocated to the North City portables on the west side of the school at 816 NE 190th St.

SHORELINE PTA COUNCIL FOOD DRIVE

December 8-19, 2006

HT is again participating in the Shoreline PTA Council & Shoreline Fire Dept. Holiday Baskets Food, Toys & Teen Gifts Drive. The purpose of this is to provide a holiday meal and food support for Shoreline families in need during this holiday season. Collection boxes will be placed in your student's classroom for donations of non-perishable foods and other essential items, by Dec. 8th. Please think about helping in the following ways:

- 1) Each school is responsible for collecting 300+ items. **HT** has been assigned, by the Shoreline PTA, to donate **Packaged or boxed potatoes.**
- 2) Additionally "Most Wanted" items such as: Peanut Butter, Pasta, Beans, Canned soup, Condiments, Cereal, Canned Fruit, Canned tomato products and Granola Bars.
- 3) Any other donation will be gladly accepted, including basics (soap, toilet paper, facial tissues, paper towel, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, laundry detergent, dish washing soap, baby foods/cereals/formula)
- 4) Please consider contributing to the Teen Gift portion of the drive by donating teen gifts or monetary donations made out to: Shoreline PTA Council 6.12, "Holiday Baskets" and mailed to 18560 1st Ave. NE, Shoreline, WA 98155

**Thank-you for your support,
Jacqui Rublee-
HT Family Services Chair**

SCIENCE NIGHT TASTE PERCEPTION EXPERIMENT RESULTS

How does what we see affect what we think about things we eat? Highland Terrace parent Jacqui Rublee and Terry Stevens-Ayers from the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center looked at this question on Science Night using jellybeans. They asked participants to eat three jellybeans after looking at the color, then write down the flavor of the jellybean. Next, participants were asked to record the flavor of three jellybeans **WITHOUT** seeing them first. Once all the jellybeans had been eaten, participants scored themselves on how accurately they identified each jellybean flavor.

Our hypothesis: Participants will more often correctly identify the flavor of a jellybean when they can first see the color.

What we observed:

99 people participated, representing a range of ages from 3 to 58 (73 kids, 26 adults).

62 (63%) were more accurate when they could see the color

31 (31%) did equally well when they could see or not see the color

6 (6%) did better when they couldn't see the color

What do the results mean?

Our hypothesis was supported. More participants identified jellybean flavors correctly when they could first see the color of the jellybean.

Why didn't it matter for some people?

Each person's experience with jellybean flavors and their taste sensitivity may have affected their performance in this test. Someone who eats a lot of jellybeans can probably identify flavors more accurately than someone who doesn't eat them very often.

Why did some people actually do better when they didn't see the color? One possible explanation is that the blinded

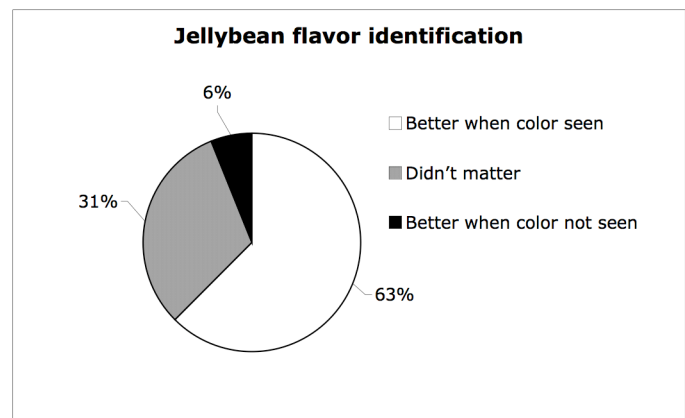
round of tasting always took place after the open round of tasting. By the time they tasted the second round of jellybeans without seeing them, they had already tasted the same flavors once before, making it easier to identify them.

Did age make a difference?

Overall, 62% of adults and 63% of kids did better when they could see the color of the jellybean, which was not that different. Adults were slightly better at identifying all three flavors when they could see the color of the jellybean (73% of adults versus 62% of kids). Adults were much better, however, at identifying all three flavors correctly when they could not see the color (31% of adults versus 16% of kids). It may be that adults can identify flavors more easily because they have tasted more flavors than kids. Or maybe adults eat more jellybeans!

Why should we care?

Food companies are very aware of how our taste perception is affected by the way food looks. They do a lot of research to figure out how to make their food



attractive, and color is one important part, especially for foods with artificial flavors. Colors give us clues about what to expect when we taste something, and this expectation influences what we think when we actually eat it.

One more interesting thing!

The results at Highland Terrace were almost identical to the results of the same experiment conducted earlier this year at Echo Lake Elementary. When scientists get the same results in two different populations, it gives them confidence that the patterns revealed by the experiments are true.