Dear Helen Baller Families,

I hope you had a wonderful February. We had a good month here at Helen Baller. We celebrated Valentine’s Day and the primary students celebrated the hundredth day of school. I know the kids enjoyed both days. Thanks to all of the kids for their Valentine cards and gifts. They were fun to look at and read.

Thanks to everyone who attended our dance and auction. The PTA put on a Disney Dance. It was a blast! I enjoyed dancing with all of the kids. There were some great Disney costumes. I have to admit that I was sore the next morning after dancing so much. Thanks to Mrs. Brown and the PTA for organizing such a fun event. I also want to thank all of the community members who donated items for our auction. The money will be used by our PTA to enhance our students’ educational experience. We are lucky to have such a supportive community.

Coming Up: “Music in Our Schools!” The Balladeers, Helen Baller’s choir team, will sing for a shared concert with our neighboring elementary school (Woodburn) and special guests on Wednesday, March 30, from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Helen Baller cafeteria. It will be an evening of fun, up-beat music. We hope to see you there!

Reminder:
If you are a parent who drops off your child/children in the morning, please remember the following:
• Enter the parking lot through the south entrance (it’s one-way) and proceed to the curb in front of the main school entrance. Please pull up as far as possible.
• When dropping your kids off, please be sure to say your goodbyes beforehand and immediately pull away.
• Please be alert when pulling from the curb.
• Exit the parking lot toward the north.

Following these guidelines will help make the morning drop-off area safer and run smoothly. If you have questions or concerns regarding student drop-off, please contact me.

The Helen Baller staff appreciates all of the support we get from our families and community. We wouldn’t be the school we are without your support. If you ever have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me by phone, 335-3000 ext. 78006, or email, aaron.parmen@camas.wednet.edu.

Have a great March!

Aaron Parman, Principal
Success Book Roll Call

Below is a list of students who have signed the Success Book during the month of FEBRUARY. Any Helen Baller staff member can have a student sign the Success Book for being successful with academics, behavior or work ethic. Several of the students signed the Success Book multiple times, but I have only listed their name once.

Way to go Helen Baller Bears! We are proud of you!

Anna Cram
Clara Overton
Hayden Erickson
Bentley Clark
Cassie Burk
Nathan Miller
Naraah Hill
Larken Grimes
Joe Wright
Mark Linchevskiy
Taylor Hill
Julia Parkinson
Hunter Voogt
Jonty Houlding
Vanessa Martinez
Jack Roberts
Duncan McCarthy
Liam Wakaimoto
Zachary Higdon
Piper Youngblood
Grace Champa
Sam Hooser
Kyra Fassilis
Elliot Bristol
Ainsley Asbury
Isabella Folino
Tristeh Feso
Erika Voiculescu
Leana Lapin
Ethan Costa
Corbin Silva
Megan Wright
Xavier Lazzara
Landon Eddy
Alaska Beardon
Steven Leavitt
Rory Jensen
Katherine Califf
Stella Schiewe
Elena Arelllano
Piper Youngblood
Cassie Frisch
Zoe Weidner
Zealia Hayes
Charlotte Fresh
Blake Nelsen
Maia Sampey
Logan Moses
Beckham Serhan
Lauren Hood
Muu-Muu Lee
Tovit Leytner
Sydney Shauer
Ryan Melton
Cooper Johnson
Molly Kerr
Eden Schuchart
Vance Gooch
Aly Collins
Sara Gerstler
Peyton Darling
Lydia Miller
Brooklyn Jardine
Arjun Sharma
Shaye Parnell
Maia Sampey
Kai Echeverio
Sawyer Kieft
Davin Kost
Jaxsen Rodgers
Felicity Ellston
Brennen Rubano
Andrew Neil
Ellie Neill
Kinder Kesmodel
Cade Lukens
Charlie Barr
Elia Ziesemer
Layla Dierking
C J Moore
Olivia Wyena
Evan Buck
Haylee Cole
Naomi Costa
Alexandra Lyon
Tanner Ritt
Caleb Tedford
Brody Paulson
Claire Dewey
Flint Jensen
Gage Jensen
Rown Delbosque
Corban Fischbach
Lila McCarthy
Lorelai Hall
Soren Flyckt
Eliana Gibson
Cohen Butler
Ryan Melton
Landon Eddy
Mason VanCleave
Beckham Young
Rowan Delbosque
Sam Hunt
Bryce Vanvoorhis
Dyanna Vu
Isabella Warner
Charlie Barr
Sean Massey
Max McMahon
Naomi Costa
Harrison Wight
Sophie Robertson
Fiona Robertson
Paolo Folino
Travis O’Hara
Brooke Cornwall
Claire Gibson
Nate Christopherson
Kate Bacher
# Helen Baller PTA Calendar

**March 2016**

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- **March 4**: Girls Night Out 5:30-8pm
- **March 6**: 6pm Big Al's Bowl-A-Thon
- **March 9**: 9:15am PTA General Membership Meeting
  - PTA Elections!
- **March 10**: 9:15am PTA General Membership Meeting

**Spring Book Fair**

- **March 29**: Drama Team 6pm Parent Preview Night
- **March 30**: Music in Our Schools - Balladeers 6:30-8pm
- **March 31**: Music in Our Schools - Balladeers 6:30-8pm
Girl’s Night Out

I am excited to offer something new this year for all 3rd and 4th grade girls. I have noticed that since I began doing the Steps to Respect Bully Prevention curriculum in 3rd and 4th grade, I usually have at least 1-2 groups of girls that struggle with how best to get along, which sometimes tips very close to bullying. So, I am offering a Girl’s Night Out to explore relational bullying.

Any 3rd or 4th grade girl is welcome to come with their Mom, Grandma, Aunt, older sister (important women in their life) for pizza and a movie. The movie is An American Girl: Chrissa Stands Strong. After the movie, we will enjoy a time for discussion. This is a good way for all of us to bring this issue to the forefront. I will be sending home a flyer with your student and watch the newsletters for more about this event.

~Ms. Edie, School Social Worker/Counselor

DINNER AND A MOVIE!

Who: All 3rd and 4th Grade Girls and their Moms, Grandmothers, Older Sisters, Aunts (all special women in your daughters’ life are welcome!)

What: Join Ms. Edie to watch “An American Girl: Chrissa Stands Strong,” enjoy a pizza dinner, and join a discussion about relational bullying amongst girls. Please feel free to bring a snack, a blanket, or anything else that will make you feel comfortable.

When: 5:30 – 8:00 pm on Friday, March 4th at Helen Baller. Movie will start promptly at 5:30, while doors will open at 5:15 pm.

This awesome night is FREE!

Please RSVP to edie.hagstrom@camas.wednet.edu by February 26th
How much is enough? Am I spoiling my child?

As a parent, I wanted to give my children the best of everything, but it was hard to decide how much was enough. I found myself feeling guilty that I was not giving them enough or mad because I felt pressured to give more. Parent educators have started to explore this topic and are finding that there can be long term impacts on our child’s ability to function in the adult world if you overindulge him or her. My intent in this article is to pique your interest and to start conversations exploring what is overindulgence and what we can do about it.

Jean Illsley Clarke, Connie Dawson, and David Bredehoft are well known in the field and co-wrote a book called “How much is Enough?” I would encourage you to explore their website at www.overindulgence.info. They define overindulgence as “giving too much of what looks good, too soon, too long. It is giving them things or experiences that are not appropriate for their age or their interests and talents. It is the process of giving things to children to meet the adult’s need and not the child’s.” In addition, “over indulgence can be hard to identify because it does not look out of the ordinary, it can come from a place of good intentions, and can slowly creep into any family.” It is something we probably all do at some level but if it becomes chronic or an automatic pattern, it can be harmful. It is more than spoiling and occurs in three ways, giving too much (i.e. too many toys, activities or anything that costs money), over-nurturing (i.e doing things for children that they can do themselves or fixing problems for them), and providing structure that is too soft (i.e. no rules, no chores, and letting them have too many choices).

According to Dawson, Illsley-Clarke, and Bredehoft, here are the four common clues to ask about each situation you find yourself in with your child.

• Does the situation hinder the child from learning the tasks to support his or her development and learning at this age?
• Does the situation give a disproportionate amount of family resources to one or more of the children (resources include time, money, space, energy, attention, etc.)?
• Does the situation exist to benefit the adult more than the child?
• Does the child’s behavior potentially harm others, society, or the planet in some way?

If the answer is yes to any one of these, there is likely an overindulgence problem. The answer of what to do specifically will vary from situation to situation and there are many good basic parenting programs that can help. However, in general, we need to be comfortable using the words “stop” and “no.” We can expect our children to participate and help around the house, we can allow for opportunities for our children to fail and solve their problems for themselves, we can set limits, give them chores, and we can expect them to treat us with respect. If you want to explore more, go to the above mentioned website. Hope this is food for thought.

See you next month,
Ms. Edie,
School Social Worker/Counselor
Events March 2016

Come to our SPRING BOOK FAIR!
MARCH 21st - 25th

* Before & after school
* During lunch and recess
* School Open House Night
  March 22nd from 5 to 6:30
*FRIDAY BEFORE SCHOOL ONLY

Online shopping available from
http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/
heelenballerelementaryschool2

Online ordering opens on March 16th. Books ordered online are shipped directly to the school for the student to bring home. Anyone can use online ordering, to send books to students at our school, even out of state friends and family.

**Helen Baller Elementary School**
Open House
March 22nd 5:30 - 7 pm

Visit your child’s classroom and hear what they are doing and learning.

**Balladeers to perform at 6:45pm!**

**PTA Meeting**
General Membership
DAYTIME MEETING

March 10, 2016 at 9:15 am!
JWR ART ROOM

VOTE in PTA Elections for 2016-17.
Come BOWL with Helen Baller PTA on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 from 6-8pm!

The Helen Baller PTA is holding a BOWL-A-THON fund raiser -- ALL the proceeds from your bowling cost goes 100% to our PTA to fund programs for our kids.

Cost:
It is only $8 per person for 1 hour of bowling time (with bowling shoe fees included.) There is food available for purchase.

Want to Join Us?
Here is what you need to do:
Use the SignUp Genius link in the PTA email to reserve your spot or go to: http://tinyurl.com/ptabowl. We will take reservations on a first come, first serve basis. Please click on the link and sign up as soon as you receive the email. Please specify the time slot and how many bowlers in your group. You will have 48 hours to pay via credit card.

How many people can join the fun?
There are 10 lanes dedicated to Helen Baller for the 2 hours. 5 people can bowl on each lane during each hour. That means we have room for 100 bowlers. Once all the slots are reserved, we will start a waitlist but can not guarantee availability.

COME BOWL WITH US, HAVE FUN AND RAISE MONEY FOR OUR SCHOOL!!!
**March News**

**Drama Team Winter Session Performances**

**Tuesday, March 29th: Parent Preview Night**
6 – 8 PM  
(Call time for cast/crew 5pm)  
Both Captain Commitment Productions #A & #B  
& Social Skills Musical

**Thursday, March 31st: School Assemblies**  
(Call time for all cast/crew 7:45am)

- 9:30 AM – Captain Commitment #A  
  & Social Skills Musical  
- 1:30 PM – Captain Commitment #B  
  & Social Skills Musical

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**EVER WONDER.... WHAT’S HAPPENING ON THE AFRICAN SAVANNA?**

Check out: [www.africam.com](http://www.africam.com)  
(it’s a live web cam -- the kids have really enjoyed watching the animals from the library and now you can do this from home too!)

Children’s book author Chris Kurtz, is visiting our library this Friday. He recommended this site to view while reading his book:  
*Water Hole Waiting*

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**BALLADEER PERFORMANCES**

**HELEN BALLER OPEN HOUSE**  
Tuesday, March 22nd  
HB Cafeteria  
Call Time: 6:30pm  
Balladeers perform in the cafeteria from 6:45-7:00pm  
(Please wear DRAMA TEAM/Balladeer Shirts)

**MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS**  
Wednesday, March 30th  
Shared Concert with Woodburn Elementary  
HB Cafeteria  
Call Time: 6:00pm  
Performance: 6:30-8:00pm  
(Please wear Drama Team/Balladeer Shirts)

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**COMING MAY 13th**

**Baller BLAST 2016!**

The Helen Baller PTA is excited to announce an...  
**ALL NEW, BIGGER, BETTER, BOUNCIER BALLER BLAST!**

We will have lots of new games, many new bouncy houses and obstacle courses as well as the all time favorite DUNK TANK!

**GREAT WOLF LODGE RAFFLE!!!**

Entry & Raffle Tickets will be for sale beginning in APRIL.

If you want to help with the preparations, please contact BLAST@helenballerpta.org
It is time for Kindergarten registration for the 2016-17 school year! Listed below are the dates for registration and orientation events for each school. The purpose of orientation is to meet teachers and staff, learn about the kindergarten curriculum, and take a ride on a real school bus! If you are not sure which school your child will attend, or would like to make a registration appointment, please call 360-833-5410 to speak with Shanna Michelle and Becky Stauffer, district registrars. They will also be onsite at the orientations for your convenience. You may access registration paperwork online at www.camas.wednet.edu/registration/.

Please note that in addition to the registration forms you will need to submit the following paperwork:
- State-issued birth certificate
- Immunization information. **Students must be fully immunized including “kindergarten shots” or an exemption needs to be on file in order for your child to be registered.**
- Proof of residency (2 items), i.e., utility bill, payroll check, signed lease agreement, etc.

Please let us know if you plan to attend the kindergarten orientation. And if you know of any future Camas kindergarten students in your neighborhood, preschool, etc., please share this information with them.

**Dorothy Fox Elementary**
2623 NW Sierra Street  
(360) 833-5700  
Date: May 18  
Time: 4:00-6:00

**Grass Valley Elementary**
3000 NW Grass Valley Drive  
(360) 833-5710  
Date: May 11  
Time: 9:15-10:45

**Helen Baller Elementary**
1954 NE Garfield Street  
(360) 833-5720  
Date: May 18  
Time: 9:30-11:00 AM

**Lacamas Heights Elementary**
4600 NE Garfield Street  
(360) 833-5740  
Date: May 18  
Time: 5:00-6:30

**Prune Hill Elementary**
1601 NW Tidland Street  
(360) 833-5730  
Date: May 25  
Time: 2:00-3:30

**Woodburn Elementary**
2400 NE Woodburn Drive  
(360) 833-5860  
Date: May 25  
Time: 4:00-5:30

REGISTRATION PACKETS AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD FROM BOTH HELEN BALLER ELEMENTARY AND CAMAS SCHOOL DISTRICT WEBSITES  
www.camas.wednet.edu & www.schools.camas.wednet.edu/helenballer/
Looking Ahead to April

Spring Break 2016:
April 4 - 8
NO SCHOOL

Bring your family and have some fun at the Washington State PTA (WSPTA) Health and Safety Fair

April 30th: 11 AM to 4 PM at Clark College

HELEN BALLER PTA DINE-AROUND
FIREHOUSE SUBS
April 19, 2016 from 4 pm to 8 pm

Come eat at Firehouse Subs on 4/19/16 between 4-8pm and a portion of the proceeds will go to support the Helen Baller PTA! (Location: 192nd & Mill Plain)

To participate, you will need to bring the flyer sent home in backpacks!

This year we are holding a contest -- the class that has the most FLYERS turned in at the dine around will win a FREE LUNCH catered by Firehouse Subs in their classroom!

CLASS NAME: ___________TBD_____________________

SAVE THE DATE!!
WSPTA Region 3
Health and Safety Fair
April 30, 2016

There will be... ....a Life flight helicopter landing, K-9 officer demonstrations, emergency service vehicles to explore, search and rescue demos, Clark College nursing students providing health screenings, first aid training, and SO MUCH MORE!!