IN THE LOOP

January 11th – 15th

**THIS WEEK:**

January 11th – 18th – MLK virtual community service week

January 15th – MLK Virtual Assembly

**NEXT WEEK:**

Monday, January 18th – **NO SCHOOL –** Martin Luther King Jr Day

Tuesday-Thursday, January 19th- 21st – Kindergarten starts in-person learning

**LOOKING AHEAD:**

Wednesday, January 27th – General PTA Meeting & Community Wellness Night, 6pm via Zoom

Wednesday, February 3rd – Disney Trivia Night, 6pm via Zoom

**NEWS FROM YOUR PTA:**

**REFELCTIONS UPDATE**

We are excited to announce that all 11 BPE Reflections Art Contest participants have qualified to move on to be judged at the State level. We are thrilled at the amount of participation we had this year despite the new format and regulations. This is something Browns Point should truly be proud of. Congratulations are in order for the following students:

Dance Choreography

Alexia O.- 4th grade

Film Production

Mina S.- 4th grade

Literature

Cannon L. 1st grade

Carly N. - 3rd grade

Music Composition

Ivy N.– 4th grade

Parker B. – 3rd grade

Photography

Elise W.– 4th grade

Chloe K. - 4th grade

Visual Arts

Bailey W. – 1st grade

Zoe H. – 5th grade

Rory W. – 1st grade

Chloe K. – 4th grade

**MLK COMMUNITY SERVICE WEEK – JANUARY 11th – 18th**

**Make it a Day ON, Not a Day Off!**

Join Browns Point PTA to participate in our third annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service! This year, we will be hosting a week long, virtual event where you can safely participate from home!

Students will also participate in a virtual Browns Point – MLK Day Celebration “One Community Out of Many” on Friday, January 15, 2021.

It’s finally here- the Browns Point PTA Virtual Week of Community Service! Choose one of the following at home community service projects to participate in to show your love for our community or complete a community service project of your own at home as family.

Community Service Project ideas:

**1. Advocate for Students with Washington State PTA** as part of Washington State PTA’s Focus on Advocacy Week beginning January 18, 2021. This is a year like no other, and that holds true for reimagining how best to adapt and apply PTA flexibility to new ways of advocating to help every child reach their potential. The Capitol campus in Olympia is closed to the public for the 2021 legislative session, which means that PTA will not be able to host their annual Focus Day on the Capitol steps. However, advocacy is not a one-day event; it is an everyday action. And so, PTA needs you to engage in the ongoing “Focus on Advocacy” program. Learn more about how to participate in advocacy with state legislators here.

**2. Make Valentines for Veterans** as part of the Tacoma Public Library’s January program. Supplies for Valentines can be picked up from the Kobetich Branch during TPS To Go Hours and completed valentines must be put into a sealed plastic bag and dropped off at a Tacoma Public Library by Saturday, January 23. Visit the [TPL Website](https://tacoma.bibliocommons.com/events/5fada11dc30eb2d4097f8f16) for more details about how to participate! If you have any questions, please direct them to our local librarians.

**3. Participate in a Virtual Food Drive for the NE Tacoma Healthy Kids Coalition.** The NE Tacoma Healthy Kids Coalition is a partnership with staff and PTAs from Crescent Heights Elementary, NE Tacoma Elementary, Browns Point Elementary, and Meeker Middle School, along with additional community partners that is focused on providing weekend meals to students and other basic needs supports to students in need in our community. The Coalition is in need of food donations to supply to local families. Shop the [Coalition’s Amazon Wish List here](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/313QWD0BSNANY/ref%3Dnav_wishlist_lists_1?_encoding=UTF8&type=wishlist) to have food items delivered directly to the Coalition. If you have any questions, please email nethealthykidscoalition@gmail.com

**4. Send cards to children at Seattle Children’s Hospital** with encouraging messages. Cards are a wonderful way to bring cheer and offer a distraction to children, young adults and their families who are staying in the hospital. Make cards at home and send them directly to Seattle Children’s Hospital for distribution. More information about how to participate is available [here.](https://www.seattlechildrens.org/pdf/making-cards.pdf) Questions, contact Amanda Bowers at amanda.rae11@gmail.com

**5. Support children in foster care in Pierce County by donating new or gently used clothing, books and/ or making no-sew fleece blankets to donate.** The Wishing Well provides new and gently-used clothing and school supplies to children 0-18 years of age who are currently placed in the foster care system in Pierce County. They are the only foster support agency of its kind working in Pierce County. Information about dropping off donations directly to The Wishing Well is available [here](http://thewishingwellwa.org/donate/). Questions or to participate in a group drop off, contact Jeannie Nist at Jeannie.nist@gmail.com

Don’t forget, you can also complete any service project that your family comes up with on your own- such as writing letters or thank you notes to family members or neighbors who work in the health care field, rolling in the trashcans or shopping for groceries for an elderly neighbor, or picking up trash at a local park or around the neighborhood, etc.

Whatever you and your family decide to do, be safe and be sure to wear a mask and practice social distancing.

Here is a link to a paper heart template. [HEART TEMPLATE](https://dab5efba-5b1f-4083-a4df-1e794d69da68.filesusr.com/ugd/4fcccd_386ea1f14938411b801c34951aeb7a4d.pdf) Each student is invited to decorate and write a brief description of an act of community service they have performed during the week of community service. Students are encouraged to return their heart via email to brownspointpta@gmail.com during the month of January to be included in our Browns Point Elementary “Show Our Community Some Love” social media campaign!

Browns Point is a wonderful community with a legacy of giving back. We hope your family will consider joining us for a Week ON in observation of MLK Jr. Day.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

**Did you know?**

Legislation was signed in 1983 creating a federal holiday marking the birthday of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This federal holiday was first observed in 1986. In 1994, Congress passed the King Holiday and Service Act, designating the Martin Luther King Jr. Federal Holiday as a national day of service and charged the [Corporation for National and Community Service](http://www.nationalservice.gov/) with leading this effort.

Taking place each year on the third Monday in January, the MLK Day of Service is the only federal holiday observed as a national day of service – a "day on, not a day off." Participation in the MLK Day of Service has grown steadily over the past decade, with hundreds of thousands of Americans each year engaging in projects such as tutoring and mentoring children, painting schools and senior centers, delivering meals, building homes, and reflecting on Dr. King's life and teachings. Many of the projects started on King Day continue to engage volunteers beyond the holiday and impact the community year-round.

**SCHOOLOGY SUPPORT**

As we dive back into school, and continue to use Schoology more and more, we want to make sure families have the resources they need in order to navigate the system successfully. Tacoma Public Schools has created a few videos that can give you an in-depth tour of the program as well as trouble shooting techniques. If you need support during the school day, please continue to reach out to your child’s teacher as well as Ms. White our Librarian / Tech Support at CWHITE@tacoma.k12.wa.us

[Family Support Webinar Intro to Schoology](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y9w_Q90-R50&list=PLrgJy7zv_q0iSP5U64VPTRU0jTmbr1Qk7&index=25)

[Schoology – Elementary Parent/Guardian Grades View](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-WJnt2CAANk&list=PLrgJy7zv_q0iSP5U64VPTRU0jTmbr1Qk7&index=7)

[TPS Schoology Trouble Shooting](https://www.tacomaschools.org/schools-and-learning-sites/digital-campus/return-to-school-guide/schoology)

**GENERAL PTA MEETING & COMMUNITY WELLNESS NIGHT**

Mark your calendars for our second PTA meeting of the school year which will be paired with our January Community Wellness night: *Mindfulness Matters*. This will all take place on Wednesday, January 27th at 6pm via Zoom.

**VIRTUAL FAMILY FUN NIGHT**

Join us on Wednesday, February 3rd for Disney Trivia Night! If you missed Bingo night, here’s your chance to join in the fun! Space is limited, so be on the lookout for a signup genius in next week’s loop.

**WEEKLY GRATITUDE**

We would like to give another round of applause to all of our amazing Belugas that submitted entries into the Reflections Art contest and helped us keep this time-honored tradition alive. And to the families that continue to encourage and support their budding artists. Good work Belugas!!