

## Interlake Child Care & Learning Center



### MISSION STATEMENT

Interlake Child Care & Learning Center creates an inclusive and vibrant community with families and young children. Interlake's loving environment and anti-bias, culturally relevant curriculum inspires children to grow into competent, confident and compassionate citizens of the world.



### Board Members

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## All Interlake All Alumni Event

See old friends and make new ones as we enjoy our first **ALL INTERLAKE FAMILY PAST AND PRESENT POTLUCK PARTY**.

We are celebrating the completion of our first ever Annual Giving Campaign, our continued work on the house to keep our kids and staff healthy and happy, and a fabulously successful and fun 2011 Auction. And, we continue to help prepare countless kids to be successful and joyful as they journey into their futures.... And, we have really amazing parents, kids, extended family and remarkable teachers and staff to hang out with!

### Save the Date!

**When is this Shindig?** Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 5:00 pm (Open house style, so come when you like, stay as long as you like)

**Where:** At Interlake (come and see what we've done with the place, if it's been awhile)

**Food:** It's a Potluck, so bring a dish, a beverage or your specialty food favorite (Please no tree-nut items)

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### Interlake alumni on stage!

This summer, three Interlake alumni performed in a Broadway-bound production of *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Elam Flavin-Grekin, Asa Flavin-Grekin and Emma Todd performed. We here at Interlake found out when one of their parents let us know while responding to an event RSVP. If you or anyone you know has news of Interlake alums and families out and about in the community, let us know!

## Annual Giving Campaign

We have been receiving donations to our Annual Giving Campaign (or AGC as we affectionately refer to it in the office) since the Auction/Kick-off event. We have received donations from current families, alumni families, staff, board members and employer matching donations. It is exciting to see the range of people who are helping to fund the vision of our little school! Your support helps us meet our 2011 fundraising goals. Our sincerest thanks to you! We are finalizing results and will have more information for you soon regarding how we did in our first ever Annual Giving Campaign. We'll have some fundraising numbers to share with folks at the Potluck Party this Saturday August 13th, so come on by and find out a little more about our first ever Annual Giving Campaign!



*We are always interested in adding more perspectives to our Board, and would love to have alumni participate as at-large members.*

*If you are interested in serving on the Board or on one of our committees (Facilities, Fundraising, Community Building, Technology), please contact us at [interlakecc@qwestoffice.net](mailto:interlakecc@qwestoffice.net).*

## **“Our Trip to the Aquarium” by a group of Preschoolers (originally published in Small Wonders Newsletter, August 2010)**

We saw some jelly fishes and sea anemones and on the top it was red and on the bottom it was sticky like gummi bears. And the Octopus' name was Fifi. Well, we went over to the touching part where we could touch the sea animals, and we got to learn about shark teeth. And we got cards, and we got to bring the cards home, and I don't know where mine is. There was a giant fake shark on the ceiling. And also, there was a dome we went in. We saw humongous fishes that were called sturgeons. And touching the gummi bear stuff.

T-H-E E-N-D.



## Interlake Family Campout Report: July 2011

Interlake families enjoyed a pleasant Fourth of July weekend at Camano Island State Park. Preschoolers Aidan, Leo, Kaiam, and Kyle went on a two-mile nature walk, learning about nurse logs while eating salmonberries and demonstrating fencing with sword ferns. Near the end of the hike, they found a large troll under a bridge, and chased it back to the campground. Claire and Reef joined the crew for another long walk, including a stop at the amphitheater for a spontaneous theatrical production about lost cats. Vivian joined us Friday night, and had a blast during our early morning rain shower. Infant Aidan spent most of his time enjoying the sunlight dancing in the leaves of the ancient forest. At the amphitheater on Saturday night, we learned about Salish Sea sharks from a guest lecturer and demonstrated to the gathered crowd of campers that Interlake teaches our children to be very inquisitive, and to raise their hands before asking a question. We went to the beach every day, and built driftwood forts, flew kites, found crabs, and covered a putrified jellyfish with a large memorial cairn. At the campsite, we had bicycle races, basketball, stomp

rockets, wrestle-the-Ian, and stump-castle fun. S'mores topped off evening festivities.

For the summer 2012 campout, reservations with State Parks start nine months ahead of camping dates, so we do not yet know the date. We like warm weather, ripe berries, low tides in the afternoon, and not too much mud in the campground. We also like to choose a weekend when Interlake is closed on either Friday or Monday. For 2012, this most likely means we will try to reserve the weekend from Saturday May 26 through Monday May 28 (Memorial Day). We may try for ripe berries and a better shot at drier weather in 2013.

If you are planning ahead, be on the lookout for a tent that you can stand up in. Such tents are great for middle-of-the night diaper changing and other activities – and make good refuges in short rain showers. Costco sells pretty good family tents at a good price. REI also, to some extent, but I think they avoid the really palatial or inexpensive ones because they are harder to guarantee for life. Seattle-

(continued)

based ImpWear sells great fleece 'snow suits' that the three-and-under crowd can easily use in lieu of a sleeping bag. Kidco sells tiny easy-to-use kids tents ('PeaPods') that are great for putting infants in to protect them from sun and bugs (good for picnics as well as camping). And invest in a good sun hat and some sort of family friendly insect repellent (I recommend Sawyers DEET-containing – see Consumer Reports for a discussion of the effectiveness of other chemicals like citronella). Many of the above can be borrowed. Rubber rain boots are nice for the beach, and maybe the only essential beach toy is a small plastic bucket.

The heated restroom building near the campsite has outlets. I brought an extension cord and an automated coffeemaker this year, because after all, it is car-camping and (almost) anything goes.

We have never completely filled this beautiful campsite. There is comfortably room for at least ten families. We are extending the 2012 campout invitation to alumni. So do please come join old friends and/or make new ones if you either are now or will become an alumnus by next summer.

— Jared Roach, father of Kyle (preschool) and Aidan (infant room)

## A final poem from Phil

So that's all she wrote,  
Or that's what they say.  
This is my last note  
On my last day.

Cleaning bathrooms is not much fun  
But someone's got to do it  
When all's said and done,  
And do it, and do it, ad nauseam,  
And so I will end as I begun.

Thanks for all the fish  
As the dolphins like to say  
Old custodians never die  
They're just swept away  
With the taste of pie.

# Meet Interlake's Man of the Night, Phil

You may not know it, but for the last 16 years, Interlake has had an evening custodian/philosopher, Phil Adams, to help us keep this old Interlake House neat and tidy. Phil just retired this month; his last day was July 12th. In honor of Phil's long service to Interlake, we are reprinting his Staff of the Month article, originally written about 6 years ago:

For the past 10 years, during the hours when most of us are thinking about sleep, Phil has been keeping Interlake clean for the kids. He says that he likes Interlake because of the people and his great boss, and while sometimes he'll come to work and say, "oh, dear", when rice is spread all over the floor, he knows that the mess was made by children at play and he'd rather have it there than not. (He's also cleaned a dental building and various restaurants, which he claims were much worse.)

Phil grew up in the East End of London in a loving home. He is a potter by training, having studied ceramics at the Heresford College of Arts. He has been intermittently creating pieces over the past 35 years, and is now in the process of developing new ideas after a lengthy hiatus. Planning his work is a long process, he says, particularly because he doesn't throw . . . his pottery is all hand built and he designs his own glazes.

Listening to music is an important part of Phil's life, and his eclectic tastes include classical (anything before and including Beethoven), African music, Blues, and Rock. He is busy this summer with guests from all over the globe, and he will be heading back to England in a month. When asked what he would want people at Interlake to know about him, he says, "You shouldn't even know I exist. The only way you would know I exist is if I don't do my job properly."

## **“Ode to an Infant Summer”**

Summer is finally here! Hurray, Yippee, Huzzah, Haroo!  
And with it, came a new set of spring chicks, too.  
Sweet Aidan, Hudson, Hadley and Zach,  
Have just begun and are on the right on track.  
And while the little ones are sweetly, and cheerfully settling in,  
As for the rest, where to begin?!

Sam is like lightning as he dashes on all fours,  
Standing on his own, and giving applause.  
Charley can't get enough of cruising along,  
and is attempting quite often to take steps with her paws!  
Sarah, now one year, has joined our dear Maxine,  
The Waddler Program is their new party scene!  
Miss Caroline is soon to join them, too,  
And coming next month, we'll have one more little roo!  
The lovely Tatum will be starting in the fall,  
Surely, we expect, to be welcomed by all!

Our class is quite busy this month now,  
As you might assume,  
But busy with laughter and joy,  
And sunshine lighting our room.  
We look forward greatly to the adventures to come,  
And wish you an excellent summer, everyone!

**(originally published in Small Wonders Newsletter, June 2011)**

## Small Wonders! June! Preschool Room!

We have had a jam-packed June full of big events and cool activities! This month saw the debut of "Save the Diamonds," an original Interlake production. The kids did a wonderful job writing the story, coming up with lines, and painting the sets. Most importantly, they had a ton of fun! I think it was a positive introduction to the high stakes world of theatre. Thanks to all the parents for their support – especially Aaron Lieberman (Lauren and Sophie's Dad), who took time out of his busy schedule to help with the sets.

That very week, preschoolers who were graduating (or moving on from preschool) stayed the night for the Interlake Sleepover.

Activities included Ben reading their fortunes, a walk to the park, a super challenge that ended in bouncy ball prizes, and a new Clarice and Jimbo story. And let's not forget, the most important part of all ... ice cream for breakfast! Ice cream for breakfast! **ICE CREAM FOR BREAKFAST!**

As if all that wasn't enough, the preschoolers also had a field trip to the Woodland Park Zoo! Again, thanks to all the parents and grandparents for their support. The children observed elephants, hippos, gila monsters, tapirs, lions, and meerkats! Also, much fun was had at the Zoomazium, AKA the happiest place on earth.

Of course, with the summer months come many preschoolers' happy last days. In June, those preschoolers included Maggie, Noelani, Sanjay, Zeiva, Owen, Aidan, Emmett, and Leo. We'll be saying goodbye to more graduates in July and August. They're moving on, and while that always involves sadness, the preschool teachers have pride and confidence knowing we helped prepare them for the future that lies ahead. All of these children have shown themselves to be kind, intelligent, hilarious, and much more. Congratulations, preschoolers, we wish you way more than luck.