

## Celebrating One Year and Preparing for Another

Many thanks to all Hutch Kids families for supporting the early close Friday, June 15th. The parking lot was decorated and prepared to be the hub of our celebration.

A great time was had by all as we marked the conclusion of one year and the beginning of another. Thank you for adjusting your schedules to accommodate this team building opportunity.

Games included Diapering Old School (cloth diapers), Cups and Pitchers Race, Blindfolded Rope Walk, Literary Puzzle, and Clothing Change. Congratulations to team #1, victorious in the first ever HK pentathlon — Leisha, Lindsay, Andy, Renee, Meagan, Becky, Gloria, and Allison.

Burgers, hot dogs, and staff pre-



### Did you know...

- Nationally the staff turnover rate in the field of childcare is nearly 40%.
- In the state of Washington staff turnover is closer to 50%.
- For the previous 12-month period, the turnover rate for HK staff was 27%.
- For the 2006-07 classroom year, the teacher turnover rate at HK was 13% and the overall

scrubbing. By mid-day the bike room mats had been washed down and hung to dry in the sun, the storage room closets torn apart, the fridges defrosted, and the highchairs sparkling clean after a thorough hosing down.

We gathered for a short lunch and then spent the remainder of the day setting up the new classroom spaces and reassembling the shared spaces. Welcome to the 2007-08 year!

More photos are posted on the hallway wall opposite the infant classrooms.



pared side dishes completed the celebration.

By early next morning, the banners were down and the grills had been replaced with an oversized dumpster. HK staff members arrived at 8:00 Saturday morning and began sorting and

### JULY 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

July 4th HK Closed

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### WELCOME

#### Joining the Tree Frogs:

- **Julian Dreitler**, son of Sara and Jon Dreitler
- **Hiram Helliwell**, son of Tarah and Dylan Helliwell
- **Aiden Lynch**, daughter of Chris and John Lynch

#### Joining the Turtles:

- **Colten Ladd**, son of Paula Ladd

#### Joining the Ducklings:

- **Kyle Cobden**, brother of Graham, son of Natalie Zheng and David Cobden

#### Joining the Starfish:

- **Kohl Gruender**, son of Gretchen and John Gruender

#### Joining the Sea Horses:

- **Emory Tyrell**, child of Sonia and Matt Bishop

#### Joining the Wildflowers:

- **Max Lee**, son of Stephanie Lee and Paul Nghiem

#### Joining the Moons and Stars:

- **Audrey Yu**, sister of Andrew, daughter of Ruihan Wang and Renpi Yu

#### Joining the Trailblazers and Explorers:

- **Zachary Benton**, returning child of Jen Doherty and Jim Benton

**It's  
Free!**

It's never too early to expose your children to the life of cultural appreciation. However, adding up the entry fees at some of the Seattle area's top cultural attractions can be expensive. Fortunately, many local museums offer free admission on a specific day each month, or at least for a few hours each month. You will have to plan to take advantage of these freebies. It is worth taking the time to find and explore a new and exciting place for your children.

FREE THE FIRST THURS OF EVERY MONTH

**Seattle Art Museum Downtown**

1300 First Avenue  
206-654-3100

[www.seattleartmuseum.org](http://www.seattleartmuseum.org)

*Free Thursday hours: 10 am – midnight  
(through September 6, 2007)*

Come and celebrate the new downtown Seattle Art Museum which seamlessly integrates old and new buildings, creating timeless, light-filled spaces for art and for people.

**Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture**

17th Avenue NE and NE 56th Street, Seattle  
(University of Washington campus)  
206-543-5590

[www.theburke@u.washington.edu](http://www.theburke@u.washington.edu)

*Free Thursday hours: 10 am to 8 pm*

The Burke Museum welcomes all visitors who are curious about the natural wonders of Washington State, the Pacific Northwest, and the Pacific Rim. Discovery awaits you.

**Museum of History and Industry**

2700 24th Ave. E., Seattle  
206-324-1126

[www.seattlehistory.org](http://www.seattlehistory.org)

*Free Thursday hours: 10 am – 8 pm*

MOHAI's core exhibit examines more than 150 years of Seattle history with compelling images, artifacts, films, and oral histories. Plan Your Summer With MOHAI In Mind with garden tours, historic walking tours, a boat trip down the Duwamish, a teacher's institute. Check the MOHAI calendar for a full list of summer activities!

**Wing Luke Asian Museum**

407 7th Ave. S., Seattle  
206-623-5124

[www.wingluke.org](http://www.wingluke.org)

*Free Thursday hours: 11 am – 4:30 pm*

Explore the culture of Seattle's Asian communities from when immigrants first arrived through the present with a collection of artifacts, written records, photographs and exhibits that chronicle and preserve Asian Pacific American experiences.

**Seattle Asian Art Museum**

1400 E. Prospect St., Seattle  
206-654-3100

[www.seattleartmuseum.org](http://www.seattleartmuseum.org)

*Free Thursday hours: 10 am – 9 pm*

*Free First Saturday hours: 10 am – 5 pm*

Even if children won't stand too long in front of the art from China and Southeast Asia, the exposure of diverse cultures makes this museum worth a visit. The museum is located in beautiful Volunteer Park.

**Museum of Flight**

9404 East Marginal Way S., Seattle  
206-764-5720

[www.museumofflight.org](http://www.museumofflight.org)

*Free Thursday hours: 5 pm – 9 pm*

The Great Gallery is a 3 million-cubic-foot, exhibit hall currently containing 39 full-size historic aircraft, 23 of which, including the nine-ton Douglas DC-3, hang from the space-frame ceiling in flight attitude. These aircraft trace the history of the first century of flight. Take a closer look at some of featured exhibits, but remember, nothing beats climbing into the cockpit for yourself!

FREE THE 3RD THURS OF EVERY MONTH

**Tacoma Art Museum**

1701 Pacific Ave., Tacoma  
253-272-4258

[www.tacomaartmuseum.org](http://www.tacomaartmuseum.org)

*Free Thursday hours: 10 am – 8 pm*

Tacoma Art Museum has earned great reviews for its design and exhibits. Combine with a visit to the Museum of Glass!

**Museum of Glass**

1801 E. Dock St., Tacoma  
253-284-4750

[www.museumofglass.org](http://www.museumofglass.org)

*Free Thursday hours: 5 pm – 8 pm*

This surprising child-friendly museum full of precious, breakable objects is worth heading south for. The Hot Shop, featuring live glass blowing, makes for an entertaining visit alone.

FREE EVERY THURSDAY

**Washington State History Museum**

1911 Pacific Ave., Tacoma  
888-238-4373/253-272-3500

[www.wshs.org](http://www.wshs.org)

*Free Thursday hours: 5 pm – 8 pm*

Learn about the people who have made Washington what it is from the beginning to the present through a variety of exhibits.

**Henry Art Gallery**

15th Ave. NE and NE 41st St., Seattle  
(University of Washington campus)  
206-543-2280

[www.henryart.org](http://www.henryart.org)

*Free Thursday hours: 11 am – 8 pm*

Children will probably enjoy much of the bright modern art in this contemporary museum. These exhibitions bring important works of art to Seattle from throughout the world and bring into public view works of art from the Northwest.

**Issaquah Depot Museum**

50 Rainier Blvd., Issaquah  
425-392-3500

[www.issaquahhistory.org](http://www.issaquahhistory.org)

*Free Thursday hours: 4 pm – 8 pm*

This small museum features a historical train depot, vintage train cars and other artifacts dating back to the 1800's from early industries.

FREE FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH

**Children Museum of Tacoma**

936 Broadway, Tacoma  
253-627-6031

[www.childrensmuseumoftacoma.org](http://www.childrensmuseumoftacoma.org)

*Free Friday hours: 10 am – 5 pm*

There are plenty of hands-on exhibits including Becka's Clubhouse where children can work on and have fun with their artistic skills and interests.

BY DONATION THE LAST HR. OF THE DAY

**Children's Museum**

Seattle Center House, lower level, Seattle  
206-441-1768

[www.childrensmuseum.org](http://www.childrensmuseum.org)

*Last hour 4:00 – 5:00 pm weekdays;*

*5:00-6:00 pm Saturdays*

The Children's Museum, Seattle offers hands-on experience full of wonderment for children, birth to age 10, and families. Here you will find exhibits and programs that spark creativity, nourish the curious mind, and inspire children to discover and learn through play.

Submitted by Celeste Alfred



## Sharing the Happenings at Hutch Kids: Documentation Panels, Portfolios, Parent-Teacher Conferences, Daily Notes, Etc....

Best intentions and thoughtful plans aside, sometimes it just doesn't work out to have a complete conversation between parent and caregiver at morning drop-off or at the end of the day pick-up. The good news is that there are many ways for parents and teachers to connect.

### Posted Curriculum

All classroom teachers plan a classroom curriculum. This information is typically posted on a parent bulletin board either just outside the classroom or at a central place within the classroom. Teachers at Hutch Kids are free to select the recording method which best meets their needs and the needs of the classroom parent community. Expect to see lots of variety from classroom to classroom and even possibly within the same classroom over the course of time. Have questions regarding the curriculum or informational postings? Please ask your child's teacher(s).

In addition to the planned curriculum, information posted for parents will often include notice of illnesses, articles which may be of interest, and additional notes regarding the classroom, such as the daily schedule, wish lists, or a classroom calendar.

### Documenting Learning/Portfolios

Sharing about the events of the day, how learning is supported in the classroom, or how a particular project evolved is one way in which we can offer a "window" into the children's explorations and building of knowledge. Larger wall displays and documentation panels are often used in this way.

Each child's portfolio book is also designed to illustrate children's growth and development; chronicling general patterns of growth and maturation and the specific child's unique path. This record keeping begins when a child enrolls at Hutch Kids and continues throughout the child's tenure at HK. When the child leaves the program, the portfolio book is given to the child and his/her parents.

Over time, the portfolio books have undergone revisions, the last major change occurring in 2003. This year, small changes will be made to the portfolio system.

Over the course of the 2007-08 year, HK staff members will be evaluating the portfolio system and considering more extensive revisions for the coming year (2008-09). We will continue to use the portfolios to support multiple goals. These include focused observations of each individual child, support for curriculum development, a means for illustrating the HK philosophy and implementation of curriculum within a given classroom, documentation of each child's growth and development over a period of time (including an assessment tool or developmental checklist), and resource for parent-teacher communication. Updates will be provided throughout the year as we move along with this process. Just as with the curriculum, parental comments, conversations, and questions are always welcome.

### Classroom Phones

Each classroom at Hutch Kids has a phone and a unique phone extension. (Some groups do share such as the Dolphins and Sea Otters.) Parents are welcome to call at any time. If the caregivers are busy with an activity, kneedeep in a diaper change, or otherwise unable to answer, voice mail is available for the caller. As the rhythm

of the day allows, teachers will check voicemail and respond to messages left. For most classrooms, nap time is best for phone conversations.

### Parent-Teacher Conferences

Conferences are traditionally offered mid-year in each classroom. Due to the number of classrooms and logistics of coverage for teachers, conferences generally cover the period from late November until early March; each class scheduling for a one or two week period. Parents are welcome to request a conference anytime.

Conferences and scheduled meetings allow time for parents and caregivers to speak together without being distracted by the needs of the children present or trying to speak in code or hushed tones in an attempt to respect the child/ children.

### And still more...

Please check in with you child's teacher(s) regarding daily notes, nap time summary sheets, postings on cubbies, e-mail, and other tools they may be using this year. Please keep in mind that classroom teachers are primarily with the children, and do not all have daily access to e-mail or scheduled time out.

Call:  
Wildflowers/  
Sunshine Kids  
x5447

Sunhat  
and



Parent-Teacher  
Conference  
2:00pm Tuesday  
J3-104

Submitted by Misti McKenna

# News, Notes, and Other Tidbits of Information

## BREAKFAST CLUBS

The toddler breakfast club is for children enrolled in the Starfish and Sea



Horse classrooms and is being held in the Starfish classroom.

Early pre-school children have their breakfast club in the Rainforest Kids classroom. Rainforest Kids is a peanut and tree nut free space. Please do not bring items which contain peanuts or tree nuts (hazel nuts, pecans, almond extract, etc.) into Rainforest Kids. Items labeled "manufactured in a facility that processes nuts" are ok. Items labeled "may contain trace amounts of nuts" should be excluded from the classroom. Summer Campers can join the pre-school breakfast club.

## FIRST AID AND CPR TRAINING

Some HK staff members will be staying late July 11 and 18th to renew their first aid and CPR training. Fifteen HK staff members renewed their certifications on-site in February.



Many thanks for your support of the sale of FHCRC and SCCA logo items. Proceeds from these sales fund staff education including first aid trainings.

## DONATION APPRECIATION

Thanks to Jennifer Cooper, Sidney Leeper's mom, for donating 2 boppy cushions. They're so soft and fluffy!!

Thanks also to Ming-Ming Edelman, mother of Anna and Gabriel, for the donation of several soft infant toys, a ball and track game, wooden toys, a ride on toy and oodles of extra shoes.

Contributions from both families were assimilated into the classrooms almost immediately. Thanks for thinking of Hutch Kids when cleaning your closets.

## SIX NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS NEEDED

*Submitted by Emily Li  
on behalf of the HK Board of Directors*

If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the board, please nominate them. Being on the board is a great opportunity to become more involved with Hutch Kids.

We meet monthly with the full board for 2 hours and there are currently 4 committees: staff appreciation, social, fundraising, and food.

Here's the timeline:

- Nomination Forms due-  
Friday, June 29
- Election Ballots distributed-  
Tuesday, July 3
- Election Ballots due-  
Monday, July 9

Completed nomination forms can be placed in the ballot box located in the HKCC lobby or can be submitted to me electronically if that is more convenient. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Emily can best be reached at [emily@lilimade.com](mailto:emily@lilimade.com). Thank you.

## RECALL: RED THOMAS THE TANK TRAIN PIECES

Thanks to Helen Horton and Don Carter, Jake Carter's parents, for recently sharing news of the recall affecting the wooden toy trains from the popular Thomas and Friends series. The trains are being recalled due to lead in the surface paint. More information and photos of the recalled trains are available at [http://rjk.lcb.http.akamai-trials.com/recalls\\_Wood\\_0607.html](http://rjk.lcb.http.akamai-trials.com/recalls_Wood_0607.html).



Additional information regarding recalled children's toys is available from the US Consumer Products Safety Commission at <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/category/toy.html>.

## THANK YOU

Many thanks to all those who assisted with the June logo sales events.

Want to know when the next "open cart" events are scheduled? Check out the HK website or the posting in our lobby.

- Holly Gundacker
- Brandi Hurd
- Huagui Jiang
- Steve Johnson
- Jenni Kane
- Jennifer Mahlum
- Keaton McKeague
- Sarah Myles
- Carmen Visan



## CLASSROOM HELPERS

Much appreciation to the parents who covered the classrooms from 9:00 to 10:00, June 27th while HK staff members met to review the transition process. We appreciate this opportunity to reflect on the experience and plan for next year.

Thanks to

- Jennifer Specht
- Suzanne Kolb
- Jennifer Mahlum
- Tanya Buivydas
- Dirk Petersen
- Andrew Rezvani
- Jenn Koop
- Jenny Cooper
- Lisa Johnson
- Suzanne Furuyama
- Chris Li
- Natalie Zheng
- Julie Zirkle
- Delia Pinto-Santini
- Molly Rothwell
- Shari Kaiser
- Holly Gundacker
- Bridget McDonald
- Yan Liu
- Katherine Guthrie
- Rich Friedman
- Kirsti Thomas
- Bonnie McGregor