



SPRINGHURST QUARTERLY

The Whole Child School

Volume III

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Spring & Summer 1999

i didn't want to do it but the calendar told me I had no choice. This is the first time we have done a combined issue. I believe that a quarterly publication really should come out four times a year but the weeks have slipped by me. Nevertheless, I hope that you will enjoy this Spring/Summer issue of **SPRINGHURST QUARTERLY**. - ed.

A Year of Quests and Adventures

*t*he 1998-1999 school year was an adventurous one. We participated in two globe-trotting quests via the Internet. We took a school trip to Oregon. We watched the finest synchronized swimmers in the nation earn their spot on the U.S. Olympic team. Through it all we learned a lot about ourselves and our world.

We are excited about the 1999-2000 school year as well. Our students are looking forward to the World Peace Project, our own 100 Final Days of the Millennium project, painting a mural for a local bus shelter, a topography study, and many other wonderful learning opportunities. ■

A Springhurst Wish List

*W*e had some success last summer when we published a wish list, so here is our second annual list of things that we need or would like to have to help us achieve our goals. If you have any of the following items or would like to purchase them for the school, we would be very grateful.

- These books in hardback:
 - Redwall*
 - Mossflower*
 - Muriel of Redwall*
- 2 Computer Monitors (for Mac or PC)
- Cookware
- Copy Machine
- More Books!!!
- Recent Encyclopedia Set
- Maps
- Musical Instruments — e.g. piano, guitar, flute, zither, ???
- CCTV Equipment
- Camcorders

Enrolling Now!

*e*nrollment for the 1999-2000 school year is taking place as this issue goes to press. Springhurst has openings at all levels from ages four to 12 — early kindergarten to sixth grade.

The enrollment process includes visiting the school, submitting an application and test scores, and a teacher recommendation. There are no application fees or charges other than tuition.

Springhurst is an appropriate choice for children who need a challenging, highly individualized school experience. Our students generally score above the 97th percentile on IQ tests, although we do not have a minimum score. Contact us at 425-827-7617. ■

Bigger Than Life: Chuck Close

*O*ur students were amazed by them. In fact, anyone who has seen the Chuck Close retrospective

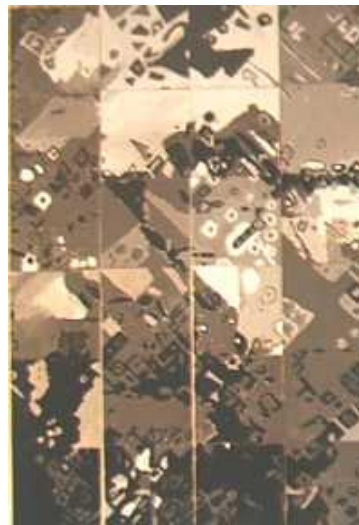


exhibit at the Seattle Art Museum would be. Not only were the portrait paintings huge (most over 6 feet tall) but there were several rooms of them. The children visiting from Springhurst had some idea of what they would see in the exhibit. Before we went, we spent a few days making a Chuck Close painting of our own. Based on a self-portrait of Close, the

children worked together to create a 48" x 72" painting which hangs in our library. ■



Our New School Year Calendar Is A Real Kick.



KARATE
1999-2000

These fine calendars were produced by Springhurst students and karate enthusiasts, Laurel and Victoria.

The calendars are available in very limited quantities for \$10 each. They may be purchased at school or from our online bookstore...

www.springhurst.org/bookstore

Synchronized Swimming by Amber, age 9

On the last Friday of the school year we went to Federal Way and saw synchronized swimming trials.

Laurel's grandpa is one of the directors of the U.S. Olympic Committee so she was happy we went.

First we got snacks while we watched the synchronized

swimming trials. They did pairs first, then there were trios, then there were quartets. There was a performance about swimming and the safety rules about it.



To The Zoo by Ian, age 5

We went to Woodland Park Zoo in June. The day was really, really sunny. I liked having the camera in my pocket. My favorite part was seeing the jaguars and the gorillas. We saw bats. It was very dark. One gorilla was making faces at us. The wolves were cool.

Quests To Faraway Lands by A.J., age 5

This year we did the AfricaQuest and the GalapagosQuest. Do you want to know what the Galapagos and the Africa Quests are? We learned a lot about the animals in the Galapagos. We learned a lot about the animals and people in the Africa. They sent us stuff by computer to ours.

We learned because we had mystery photos and mystery sounds. We had to try and guess what they were. ■

A Visit On The Oregon Trail

This guest piece was written by Theresa Lacey and Tom Calder, parents of a Springhurst student.

Bright and early Friday, March 26, we all met at the Seattle Amtrak station. The train ride down was lots of fun — the kids sat together and played cards and other games. We rented cars and drove to Salem, the Oregon state capitol, and took the tour to the top of the Capitol building. It was 122 steps up a winding, circular staircase. We learned the details about the Golden Man.

The next adventure was the A.C. Gilbert Discovery Village. A.C. Gilbert was a Salem native who was the inventor of the Erector set, as well as many other toys, games and household items. There were lots of interactive displays and activities. Then it was back to settle in at the hotel and plan dinner. After dinner, we all played in the pool, then were off to bed.

Saturday morning we left for the End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center in Oregon City. The presentation started out in the General Store in Independence, Missouri, the “jumping off” point for the Oregon Trail. We learned of the many hardships along the trail, and the large amount of supplies that were necessary to survive the trip. The slide show after the presentation detailed the story of one family’s journey.

After a quick lunch, we headed off to the Clackamas County Historical Society Museum. Displays detailed the development of Oregon City as the first incorporated city on the Pacific Coast. One of the most interesting documents displayed was the original plat map of San Francisco, which was submitted to the Federal District Court and Land Office in Oregon City, registered in 1850. The next stop was the Stevens-Crawford Museum, the home of one of the original families in Oregon City, built in 1907. It was ahead of its time with an indoor laundry, electric lights with gas backup, and the first indoor plumbing in Oregon City. We also rode Oregon City’s Municipal Elevator, the only one in North America.

Finally, most of our adventures were over. We went to Waterfront Park and ate dinner at the Saturday Market before heading back to the train station for the long ride home. Exhausted, we arrived back in Seattle about 10 p.m. — realizing that our long day of travel was nowhere near as difficult as what the pioneers faced on the Oregon Trail. ■

Gifted By Association

As a parent or teacher of gifted children, you may be interested in some of the many associations and organizations specializing in these children and their interests. Here are just a few of them:

The **National Association for Gifted Children** (NAGC) is an organization of parents, educators, and others who unite to address the unique needs of these children. NAGC supports and engages in research and development, staff development, advocacy, communication, and collaboration with other organizations and agencies who strive to improve the quality of education for all students.

The **Northwest Gifted Child Association** (NWGCA) is a statewide organization here in Washington whose mission is to support parents in meeting the needs of their gifted children, and to support legislation on their behalf.

The **Washington Association of Educators of the Talented and Gifted** (WAETAG) works to strengthen services to and provide information for professionals serving gifted students in all settings.

You can learn about these and other organizations as well as the newly formed listserv (GiftedNet-WA) on our *Gifted Resources* web site. Just point your web browser to <http://www.springhurst.org/resources>. ■

Technology Update

The computer lab just keeps expanding. Another computer has been added to the stable with some fantastic extras. Our oldest computer, a 386 was replaced with a 486, allowing all of our PC's to join the local network.

We have purchased a Yamaha synthesizer keyboard which has a MIDI interface with the new PC. Using two separate programs, our students are able to take keyboard lessons and compose music.

We also added a new camcorder and video editing equipment and software. This will allow us to produce and edit our own videos. The students will be using this for their TV show, **Spring Kids**. We will also use it extensively during our summer program, Cinemagic.

The students really benefit from our computer lab. They are able to perform research beyond our walls, sharpen skills, and learn by means not always possible with a teacher and books. ■



Giant Erector set at A.C. Gilbert