

NEWS

The Calendar



April 13-17
Spring Break, EEU Closed



May 9
EEU Auction



May 25
Memorial Day, EEU Closed



June 3
EEU Carnival

EEU Merch Update

For those of you who ordered merch in March, you can expect your order to be delivered to the EEU around Wednesday, April 8. Once the items are delivered, we will be sending a TalkingPoints out to come pick up items at the front office.

If you can't make it into the front office, you can email Travis (sherert9@uw.edu) to request items be put in backpacks and sent home.



And a Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who participated in "Branching Out in Spirit" to purchase school merch and help out those who cannot afford to proudly sport EEU apparel. Every item requested was purchased!

We'll be able to see so much school spirit by everyone now. Thank you!

Classroom of the Month



Room 141 Dinosaurs with Teacher Julia!

The dinos are all about friendships!

Friends in the dinosaurs have taken it upon themselves to host friendship weddings. Just little parties on the outdoor patio they invite their classmates to and they celebrate their friends! This is clearly a tightly-knit group.

They just finished up the letter of the week: W, and the word of the week: Like.

Step Right Up for Inclusion

Shark parents and Auction Co-Chairs, Rosana and Nathan Rimmer, are thrilled by the communities support of the 2026 Step Right Up for Inclusion Auction!

In record time, the Haring Center community of current and alumni families SOLD OUT the Big Top for Saturday, May 9! This joyful annual tradition will shine brighter with your support, and fuels our ability to operate the EEU, keep classrooms strong, and retain our amazing teachers

Ways to Join the Fun:

Volunteer: Lend a hand with setup, cleanup, or event-night roles. Sign-up sheets will be posted in mid-April, but you can sign up early by contacting Noam at nsoker@uw.edu.

Spread the Word: Follow us on Instagram and Facebook and share the excitement with your community. **Donate:** Families, friends and business can pitch in by donating to the auction now to strengthen classes and help meet our goal auction night!

Together, we can keep inclusive education strong...and have a magical night while doing it!

April is Autism Acceptance Month

This April, we're thinking about Autism awareness and acceptance.

Historically, this month has been about Autism Awareness. For many communities, including disabled ones, simply being seen and understood is not a guarantee. Awareness can matter when people are erased or misunderstood.

Still, many more autistic voices have pointed out that we can't stop at awareness but need to move to acceptance. We want disabled and autistic children to be respected, supported, and fully included as they are.

Children with disabilities (including autistic children) may play, regulate, connect, or learn in ways that look different from what people expect. Those differences are a part of human variation and part of what makes our communities richer.

Acceptance asks something from all of us: to challenge harmful stereotypes, make room for all ways of being, and build communities that invite everyone to belong fully as themselves.

This month and all year long, we are committed to building a community where children with disabilities aren't just noticed but are expected, valued, and celebrated.

Learn More about Autism from Autistic People:

[Autistic Self Advocacy Network \(ASAN\):](#) Self-described as a national grassroots disability rights organization "run for and by autistic people."

[Welcome to the Autistic Community:](#) A plain language intro into identity, history, and rights written for and by autistic people

[Sincerely, Your Autistic Child:](#) A book about "What People on the Autism Spectrum Wish Their Parents Knew About Growing Up, Acceptance, and Identity." Find a copy in our lobby!

[Nothing About Us Without Us: Autistic People Shaping Policy About Our Lives:](#) Julia Bascom's Keynote at Drexel University

Haring Center Staff Spotlight

Evelyn Ayay
Graduate Student, Research Department



Like many of the staff here at the Haring Center, Evelyn has a background in education.

Evelyn worked as a Special Education Attorney for a non-profit based in Chicago before coming here. She brings experience advocating for teachers and families to the Haring Center, where she continues enhancing community partnership.

"I work with families to understand their rights in special education and I support teachers," she said.

When Evelyn isn't working at the Haring Center, she is taking her 2-year-old boy around outdoors, hunting for beaches and trains -- and it's a rare opportunity when the two are in the same place!

"We love going to Edmonds," she said. "We call it Choo-Choo Beach!"

Something most people do not know about Evelyn is that she grew up competing in fiddling tournaments on the West Coast.

Say Hi to Evelyn when you see her in the Haring Center hallways!

CARES 5K WALK/RUN
World Autism Awareness Day
April 11 2026
Gate Opens: 9:30AM
Run Starts: 10:00AM
@ 60 Acres Park, Redmond, WA
Sponsored by SPARK

From Awareness to Action: CARES Seattle 5K for Autism Empowerment

- Prizes For All Participants: Every Participant Will Receive A Prize!
- Free Fun Creative Activities.
- Free Women's Running Clothes: Thanks To Our Sponsors, We're Offering Running Clothes For Women At The Event.
- Strollers And Wheelchairs Welcome: Everyone Is Invited To Join, Regardless Of Age Or Ability.
- Free For Kids 9 And Under: Children Aged 6 And Under Can Participate For Free.
- Parking: Convenient Parking Is Available At The 60 Acres North Field Parking Lot.

Website: CARESSEATTLE.ORG
Organizer: 科思 CARES

ECHO Autism Communities

It will be streaming in Room 150 all day and you are invited to watch any part of it together here at school.

*Please note the agenda has sessions in Central Time, so everything is ONE HOUR EARLIER for Pacific Standard Time.

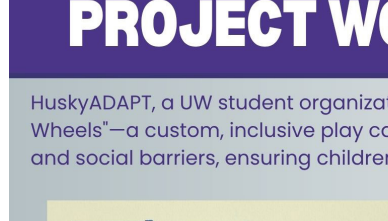
[More Information Here](#)

Date: April 2, 2026
Time: 8:00 AM - 3:15 PM (CT)

Location: Zoom
Cost: Free!

SEEKING CONSTRUCTION EXPERTS & CONTRACTORS: PROJECT WONDER WHEELS

HuskyADAPT, a UW student organization, is partnering with the EEU to build "Wonder Wheels"—a custom, inclusive play car. Our student-led design removes physical and social barriers, ensuring children of all abilities can play together.



CALL FOR PROFESSIONAL HELP

● **Contractors & Carpenters:** Provide guidance on structural design and wood-frame construction

● **Safety Experts:** Ensure our non-permanent structure meets playground safety standards.

● **Logistics & Space:** Provide or advise on a location to build and store the car before delivery.



WHY YOUR HELP MATTERS

● Your mentorship ensures that our engineering students build a safe, durable, and effective tool that promotes equality and togetherness for every child at the EEU.

Wonder Wheels Website: <https://shorturl.at/COT3I>

[VISIT PROJECT SITE HERE](#)

Coffee & Conversations

Tuesday, April 21 from 9-10 in Room 150

Topic: Talking with your child about their Disability

All are welcome to listen and participate! Equity director, Jordan Kaitingfong, will be there to facilitate and has a fount of knowledge and experience on this topic. **If you are unable to attend in person, we will offer a Zoom-in option.

Spring Grocery Gift Card Drive

As breaks from school approach, families can find the gap in meal provisions a challenge. To help with this, we will be doing one last grocery gift card drive to provide assistance during school breaks. Please send in grocery gift cards (Trader Joe's, Kroger, Safeway, etc.) in one of these ways during the month of April:

- Email kaleta@uw.edu
- Drop off at the front office
- Send in your kids' backpack with a message to the teaching team to retrieve it

Thank you for your assistance in providing security!

Staff Appreciation

EEU Community!

Our Staff Appreciation Week falls on a different schedule than the rest of the school district. This is the schedule we will be celebrating our amazing teachers and staff. If you would like to coordinate donations of any kind, contact the front office!

Monday May 11

Flowers from yard/gardens to create a class bouquet & first day of the mural for messages

Tuesday May 12

Morning Pick-Me-Up Bar (drop off items in the lobby)

Wednesday May 13

Afternoon School Luncheon (lunch is provided for staff, feel free to bring enhancements)

Thursday May 14

Treats (Sweet or Salty)

Friday May 15

Surprises (Flowers, Friday, homemade crafts, kid art)

School Meal Calendar



| DATE | MEAL | DATE | MEAL | DATE | MEAL |
|-------------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| APRIL 13-17 | SCHOOL MEAL | APRIL 20 | SCHOOL MEAL | APRIL 27 | SCHOOL MEAL |
| APRIL 18 | SCHOOL MEAL | APRIL 21 | SCHOOL MEAL | APRIL 28 | SCHOOL MEAL |
| APRIL 19 | SCHOOL MEAL | APRIL 22 | SCHOOL MEAL | APRIL 29 | SCHOOL MEAL |
| APRIL 20 | SCHOOL MEAL | APRIL 23 | SCHOOL MEAL | APRIL 30 | SCHOOL MEAL |
| APRIL 21 | SCHOOL MEAL | APRIL 24 | SCHOOL MEAL | MAY 1 | SCHOOL MEAL |
| APRIL 22 | SCHOOL MEAL | APRIL 25 | SCHOOL MEAL | MAY 2 | SCHOOL MEAL |
| APRIL 23 | SCHOOL MEAL | APRIL 26 | SCHOOL MEAL | MAY 3 | SCHOOL MEAL |
| APRIL 24 | SCHOOL MEAL | APRIL 27 | SCHOOL MEAL | MAY 4 | SCHOOL MEAL |
| APRIL 25 | SCHOOL MEAL | APRIL 28 | SCHOOL MEAL | MAY 5 | SCHOOL MEAL |
| APRIL 26 | SCHOOL MEAL | APRIL 29 | SCHOOL MEAL | MAY 6 | SCHOOL MEAL |
| APRIL 27 | SCHOOL MEAL | APRIL 30 | SCHOOL MEAL | MAY 7 | SCHOOL MEAL |
| APRIL 28 | SCHOOL MEAL | MAY 1 | SCHOOL MEAL | MAY 8 | SCHOOL MEAL |
| APRIL 29 | SCHOOL MEAL | MAY 2 | SCHOOL MEAL | MAY 9 | SCHOOL MEAL |
| APRIL 30 | SCHOOL MEAL | MAY 3 | SCHOOL MEAL | MAY 10 | SCHOOL MEAL |

Sickness and Bussing

If you need to let the bus driver know that your child is out sick, you can call the SP5 Bus Student's (206) 252-0900 to let them know. Please have your students' ID number ready when you call. Again, this is just for day-to-day communication.

For long-term changes to bussing (i.e.: if you are moving) please see Meghan in our front office or call them at (206) 543-4011.

If you need immediate assistance during the school day regarding things for your child, or if you need to communicate something pressing, please call the main office at (206) 543-4011. Teaching teams likely will not be able to answer their classroom phones. While they check the TalkingPoints app throughout the day, it is always best to communicate important and timely information through the main office, to ensure the information is relayed properly.