



PAWPRINT

Endeavor Charter School - Home of the Pride!

Volume 7, Issue 2

September 2014

State of the Den

For this edition of Pawprint, I have asked our wonderful, energetic, and talented new-to-Endeavor educators to tell you a little about themselves.

- My name is **Elizabeth Larkin**, and I am the EC teacher for kindergarten, fourth grade, and fifth this year. I chose to work at Endeavor because I know that it is a supportive community of educators who are willing to go above and beyond to see their students succeed. My observations have also already proved my belief that this school is filled with knowledgeable and committed families. Originally from a small town outside of Chicago, IL, I graduated from Elon University with a dual degree in Special Education and Elementary Education. Among my leisure activities, I love to watch and play sports, run, and spend time with family and friends. I am a huge Chicago Blackhawks fan and love attending as many games as I possibly can. I am eagerly looking forward to my first year in the Endeavor family!



- Hi, I am **Siobhan Nolan**! I chose to teach at Endeavor because I could feel what a welcoming community it was here from the moment I first walked through the doors. I'm currently teaching second grade and loving it! This is my first official year with a class of my own, and I couldn't have asked for a better bunch of students to work with! I grew up in the small town of Kernersville, N.C. I graduated from UNC Wilmington (Go Seahawks!) with a degree in Elementary Education, and I recently graduated from NC State (Go Wolfpack!) with my Masters of Education in Elementary Education. I was a long-term sub last year at ECS, and I'm happy to have made the permanent move to our beautiful, new school! While I was at ECS last spring, I loved working with the faculty, students, and parents. When I was given the opportunity to become a full-time staff member, I was overjoyed. Besides being a teacher, I am also a published children's author, and I love to spend my time painting; stand-up paddleboarding; exploring Raleigh with my rescued dog, Brindy; and cheering on my favorite hockey team, the Carolina Hurricanes! I am so honored and excited to be a part of ECS, and I look forward to a wonderful year at the "best school in Wake County"!



Upcoming Events

Sept. 8:
Swappportunity
Challenge Begins

Sept. 15:
7 p.m., Board
Meeting, MPR

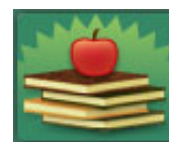
Sept 19:
Absentee/Retakes
School Pictures

Sept. 21:
Cafe Days ordering
opens for 2nd Quarter

Sept 24:
Early Release Day

Sept. 25:
No School, Rosh
Hashanah Holiday

Sept. 29:
First Quarterly Giving
Tree Donation Day



- My name is **Dina Rafferty** and I am so excited to be a part of the Endeavor family! I have been teaching elementary school for sixteen years; this is my sixth year teaching Kindergarten. I have two daughters: Bailey is fifteen years old and just started high school; Hannah is eleven years old and is in the sixth grade here at Endeavor. When I'm not teaching or spending time with my girls, I love curling up with a good book, spending time outdoors, or walking my little dog Bo.

- My name is **Jeanine Viola**, and I work with Mrs. Rafferty. I have worked with preschool for the last ten years and am excited to be working with Kindergarten this year. I have two sons: Nicholas is seventeen, and Michael is fourteen. Both boys are ECS graduates. I've been happily married to my husband Anthony for almost twenty years. In my spare time, I love to read a good book, spend time at the beach, and I am avid sports fan.

- My name is **Beth Ammons**. I grew up in Raleigh and attended Wake Forest University. I am thrilled to be teaching Kindergarten this year and have enjoyed getting to know so many wonderful families. I have enjoyed working with my team and learning from the innovative, committed educators on staff. When I am not at school, I enjoy sewing, riding my bike, and cheering for the Carolina Hurricanes.

- Hi; I'm **Erin Fulk**, and I work with Ms. Ammons. I have been pleased to have children enrolled in ECS since the first year it opened. I am now excited to be in Kindergarten this year as a TA. I taught first grade in Wake County before my children were born. My favorite pastime is hanging out with my family: husband, Jeff; oldest son, Griffin, a high school junior; Layton, my eighth grade son; Owen, my fifth grade son; and Wynne, my second grade daughter. In the few free moments I have, I enjoy reading and playing the piano.

- Hello Endeavor Families! My name is **Holly Ketchum** and I am teaching third grade this year. I have over ten years of teaching experience in elementary education, mostly third and fourth grades. I am from the mountains of Pennsylvania (Go Penn State), and I am enjoying this beautiful NC weather. I am excited to be a part of the Endeavor family where my two daughters have been welcomed to second and fourth grades. Endeavor has a wonderful reputation in the community, which is why I was interested in not only teaching here but bringing my family to be a part of the "Pride family." I hope that my experience in teaching and being a mom will create a successful and comfortable learning environment for my classroom family.

- My name is **Erin Johnson**, and I teach Kindergarten at Endeavor. I am originally from a small town of Suffern, about 25 miles north west of NYC. Many people in that area liked to call it "Suffering," but I actually enjoyed growing up in this small town. In high school I was very quiet, but somehow won class clown for our senior class! I went to college at a state school in upstate NY where I pitched fast pitch on the softball team. We were pretty good and even won a few championships. When I graduated, I taught preschool and continued my schooling to pursue a master's degree in Literacy. After a year teaching, I got married to my husband Alan. He was in the military, and we moved to Maryland where I taught kindergarten for two years. When he got out of the military, we decided to move to Wilmington, N.C., to be near my sister who moved there to go to college. We lived in Wilmington for eleven years, during which I taught first and second grade in a multi-age classroom. Alan and I have a 9 ½ year old son, Lucas, who is in the fourth grade at Endeavor. We moved to Raleigh this summer after my husband (a high school math teacher at the time) went back to school for accounting and landed a job in Raleigh. We then headed west on I40 to Raleigh. In searching for schools for my son, I discovered Endeavor. The school's philosophy of education, hands-on approach, and warm community

Jungle Book

Help PAWS deliver our online directory, [The Jungle Book](#), by September 30!

New Families:
please submit your info!

Returning Families:
please respond to your directory confirmation emails!

Forward all inquiries to [Donna-Jean Keim](#).

NOTE: PAWS does not enter or update directory information; all families must submit and/or confirm their information.



Giving Tree Donation Day

Bring your unwanted, gently used household items such as kitchenware, home decor and toys to ECS on Monday, September 29th for the first quarterly Giving Tree Donation Day!

PAWS President-Elect, Susan White will collect your donations and deliver them to The Giving

made it my number one choice for him. After entering my son in the lottery, I checked the website and found a job opening for Kindergarten. Endeavor quickly became the number one choice for me, too. I cannot explain how happy I am that it all worked out. Working here has been amazing. I came to Raleigh knowing no one, and Lucas and I immediately felt the warmth and sense of community at Endeavor. I look forward to many wonderful experiences here!

See you in the lanes,
Steve

A Message From Our PAWS President

Have you recently enjoyed the benefit of willfully having a cold bucket of ice water poured over your head? If not -- no worries -- your time is coming (seriously, any minute now...you may want to check your Facebook notifications).

Yes, I'm obviously referring to the most recent social media explosion - the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge.

It has swept our nation and has now gone global. As of August 26th, the ALS Association is reporting \$88.5 million in donations, boasting 1.9 million new donors since July 29.

Wow, 1.9 million NEW donors...all of which were likely individually roped in by a "friend" challenging them to either donate or get doused on some Facebook video prior to receiving an icy bath themselves for the same reason. Most of these individuals would not have even considered giving to this worthy cause otherwise. I applaud it, and I am so inspired.

The instant connection among millions of people uniting for one amazing cause is beyond inspiring, yes?

I would now like to direct your focus towards another worthy cause, your child's Endeavor Charter School, *"the best school in Wake County."*

With the hope to increase our number of parent volunteers, PAWS invites you to consider accepting a new challenge -- the **"Swappportunity Challenge."** During the four weeks between September 8 and October 3, we challenge you to *"swap"* no more than an hour of your valuable time for the *"opportunity"* to give it to your child's Endeavor Charter School.

The hour you give *could be* spent doing an ordinary task such as making copies, organizing a bookshelf, or laminating carpool tags. The hour you give *will be* considered priceless regardless of the seemingly mediocre task.

Henry Ford said, *"Coming together is a beginning...keeping together is progress...working together is success."*

Let's make the **Swappportunity Challenge** a huge success by working together to build our volunteer community at Endeavor Charter School.

Please accept this challenge.

Give an hour, then tag a friend (or 10!) to do the same.



Tree on behalf of Endeavor Charter School. Every donation credit becomes a monetary donation to ECS from The Giving Tree! All donations are tax deductible!

So, mark your calendars, load it up and drop it by!

Note: Details to come regarding designated drop-off timeframes and exact location.

Please visit [The Giving Tree website](#) for information regarding acceptable items for donation. The Giving Tree is located at 839 South Main Street, Wake Forest.



Have you joined PAWS?

Help us reach our 100% participation goal by [JOINING PAWS TODAY](#) if you haven't already done so!

Current members: encourage fellow ECS families to support the network of volunteers that support our students and teachers!

Indy Harris, PAWS President



News

Passive Fundraising

Nicole McGrath

Hello Parents, my name is Nicole McGrath and I will be the new Passive Fundraiser Chairperson. I have just a few reminders regarding some of our current fundraising efforts.

1. Please continue to send in Box Tops, Labels for Education and Tyson A Plus labels. A box is located in the front entrance of the school or you can give them to your teacher to turn in. Please make sure you label the bag with your child's name and teacher
2. Re-Linking grocery cards. Please remember Harris Teeter and Kroger require you to re-link your grocery card annually. Last year we only had 128 registrants so please go to the customer service desk and they will quickly re-link your account.

[LINK/RELINK HARRIS TEETER VIC NOW](#) (all ECS families)

[LINK TARGET REDCARD NOW](#) (new ECS families)

I can be reached at nicmcg_1228@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your continued support.

Enrichment News

We have created an AMP group for 6th graders needing extra help in Math and ELA on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 3:45 p.m.- 4:45 p.m. for the remainder of 1st Quarter. There is room for 3 more students on both days if your 6th grader is interested. Please go to the Enrichment tab on our website and email [Lara Rice](#) for more information.

Planning has begun for our Quarter 2 Enrichment classes. Please check the website in mid-September to begin registering for after-school courses. We will be welcoming an all girls class called Girls Chat which includes fitness, self-confidence building strategies and peer relationship skills. We will also offer our 3rd-5th graders a chance to join the Science Olympiad Team and our 6th-8th graders a chance to join the NEW Endeavor Odyssey of the Mind team. There will be many other Enrichment classes to choose from so be on the lookout for the Quarter 2 course catalog.

Editor's Note

Please send newsletter submissions to me at chelewalker@att.net no later than the 25th of the month for inclusion in the following month's PawPrint. Text may be sent in Word (.doc) format, and pictures in JPG format.

Michele Walker

Cafe Days committee members needed

The Cafe Days committee is looking for new members. Be a part of a supportive group of volunteers working together on PAWS' largest fundraiser. We have opportunities at all levels - from the planning stages to the actual serving of food to the kids. We even have opportunities for you to contribute without coming in to the school -- perfect for working families.

[Contact us today.](#)

[Forward this email](#)



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