



The Village Voice



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This is our school, Let peace dwell here
Fill all the rooms with happiness.
As many hands do make a house,
So many hearts do make our school.

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eugenevillageschool.org

January 20, 2012, Volume 12, Issue 14

Calendar of Events

January 2012

23 Mon

3:00-4:00 PM, Talent Show Try-outs
Garden Meeting?

24 Tues

1:30-2:00 PM, Special Volunteer Recognition Event

26 Thurs

5:30-6:30 PM, Spaghetti Dinner, *Fundraiser for Gr. 8 Class Trip*
6:30-8:00 PM **ANNUAL TALENT SHOW PROGRAM**
8:00-8:30 PM Clean Up

26 Thurs

8:45-11:45 AM, Gr. 3 Field Trip to Spencer Butte

27 Fri

No School, Office Open -- Grading Day

28 Sat

1:00-4:00 PM, Alternative Education Fair @ Downtown Library

31 Tues

Gr. 2 Parent Meeting (Time TBA)

February 2012

1 Wed

10:15-11:00 AM, Gr. 4 Play Performance
6:00-8:00 PM, Prospective Parent Information Meeting

2 Thurs

6:30-7:30 PM, Gr. 4 Play Performance

4 Sat

10:00 AM-12:00 PM, Prospective Parent Info. Meeting

8 Wed

6:30 PM, Parent Council Meeting

11 Sat

11:00 AM-2:00 PM, *Heart of the Village*

15 Wed

5:30-7:00 PM, Board Meeting

20 Mon

No School, Presidents Day

22 Wed

6:00-7:30 PM, Upper Grades Parent Info. Meeting

23 Thurs

6:30-7:15 PM, Gr. 5 Play Performance

24 Fri

10:15 AM, Gr. 5 Play Performance

27 Mon

No School, Conferences

28 Tues

No School, Conferences

March 2012

7 Wed

5:30-7:00 PM, Annual Title I Author's Night

7 Wed

6:30 PM, Parent Council Meeting

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The first term at the Village School is winding down and ends on January 30th. The students are doing their best with the challenging and thoughtful lessons presented by the teachers. In addition, classroom play production is beginning to really take off. The student excitement bounces from the classrooms through the halls out to the playground and onto the stage. It's lovely here.

No child should miss one minute of instruction at the Village School. I recently mailed 57 letters about excessive tardies and 45 letters about excessive absences to our families. If you received such a letter please do your best to help your child to arrive on time for school each day. And as always feel free to contact me if you have extenuating circumstances or want to check in.

Thank you to all the families who have completed their re-enrollment for the 2012-2013 school year. Next week you will receive confirmation of their place in the class. Please check your family mailboxes for these notices. The lottery is on March 15, 2012. If you have any questions about re-enrollment or sibling enrollment, please stop by the office.

Sincerely,
Bob Kaminski

The rain has arrived!

With the rain comes wet recess. Please be sure that your student has a change of clothes on their hook at school.

Also if you can donate any children's pants, the office would greatly appreciate the donation. Thank you!

Village Kitchen News

We want to give a heartfelt thank you to Sheree Walters, Village School mother, Village Kitchen volunteer and owner of Cornbread Cafe. Sheree has been instrumental in our ability to offer vegan dishes in our lunch program. Thanks!

*Please email newsletter submissions to
village@4j.lane.edu by Thursday afternoon.*

Farewell from Tea Fairy Krishnangini

Dear Village School friends, students and families,

I was looking back fondly on the time I have spent at the Village School and was remembering how the Tea Fairy came into being.

One winter's day eight years ago the heat in our school building went out and, gosh, it was cold! The students sat shivering at their desks bundled in their coats and scarves and I watched the seventh grade, teeth chattering going out on a morning walk, presumably with the hope of warming up.

At that time, I had signed up to make tea for my daughter's 3rd grade class, but as I stood waiting for the water to boil I noticed there were a quite a number of extra teapots - enough in fact to take tea to every grade in the school. So that is what I did. You can imagine on that cold day how welcome it was. In fact the students were so enthusiastic about it that it occurred to me how it wouldn't be much extra work to make tea for everyone on a regular basis. So that is how "The Tea Fairy" began. We had a large box of assorted tea which had been donated to the school, so at first I used that. When that was depleted the Parent Council kindly stepped in and for the last eight years our children have had the choice of two fruit teas each day with their morning snack.

My long lost love of drawing was re-kindled by visiting the classrooms and seeing all the wonderful art of students and teachers alike, and the little slips of paper with the flavor of tea written on them stuck on the front of the teapots started to contain an animal or two, or some gnomes. I started taking inspiration from what the children were learning at different times and then created tea labels to coincide with that- this never fails to amaze the young ones!

Now, many cups of tea later, with my two teenage children in high school, my time and energy is being called in other directions. It is with gratitude and love in my heart that I look back on these years at the school, filled with so many joyful moments and I am grateful too for the many friends I have met along the way. I am honored to be included in such a caring and thoughtful community.

The tea will continue to flow - some parent volunteers have stepped forward these last few months and will take over this service from now on.

I'm sure I will get to see many of you around the school as I continue to volunteer from time to time in other areas.

But for now, my warmest wishes to you all,
Krishnangini

Annual All-School Talent Show, Thursday, Jan. 26

The All-School Talent Show is right around the corner! Please join us next Thursday, January 26th, 5:30-8:00 PM.

Try-out for the Talent Show!

The Talent Show try-outs will be held in room 14 on Monday, January 23rd from 3:00-4:00 PM. Sign-up sheets are now posted in each the upper and lower wings.

Please make sure that all acts are appropriate for all ages- there will be some funny acts and some serious. Please be kind and respectful of all of the acts by giving them your full and equal attention.

Join us for Dinner at the Talent Show!

The evening will begin with a delicious spaghetti dinner with organic salad and garlic bread from 5:30-6:30 PM.

The 8th grade class will be preparing this dinner as a fundraiser for their end-of-Village School class trip. As a twist, the 8th grade dads have committed to producing this event. Daniel Heila and Mike Neubeck are heading up the kitchen crew and promise to provide us with a delicious and healthy meal. Coconut Bliss will be providing dessert along with the usual baked goodies donated by Village School families.

Please sign up at each classroom to provide baked goods to be sold at the Talent Show. Please note that small individually baked items are preferred: cookies, brownies, breads, etc. The dessert table will be set up by 5:00 PM. Please bring your items any time after that. Thank you!

Talent Show is a fundraiser for the 8th grade trip:

The cost will be \$6 per person, \$20 per family of 4, and \$3 additional for each family member over 4. As in past years all proceeds will go to this year's 8th grade class for their trip to Seattle, and the San Juan Islands.

About the Annual 8th grade trip:

Each year the 8th grade class takes a week long trip to celebrate their last year as members of the Village School. The trip is a right of passage and is different than any other grades end of year trip. The class drives to Seattle, where they spend a night at the International Youth Hostel at Pike Place Market and take a tour of the Jimi Hendrix Experience Music Project followed by five days in the beautiful San Juan Islands at a remote wilderness camp where the class is immersed in nature. All funds donated to this trip go directly towards the cost which includes professionally trained outdoor educators (no parent chaperones on the 8th grade trip). Remember someday your student will be a Village School 8th grader and you may be asking for a contribution to your trip too!

The Annual Talent Show is our primary fundraiser. Anyone can donate to the 8th grade class trip and no donation is too small. Thanks for your support!

Enjoy the talent of our students!

The Talent Show will begin at 6:30 PM and end sometime around 8:00 PM. The night will be filled with a variety of exciting acts, talent and comedy. We encourage all grades to participate in the Talent Show. After the program ends, we will begin cleaning up the cafeteria. We would greatly appreciate help from 8th gr.t families after the show.

Check out some photos from last year's Talent Show.



Phoebe, Shiona & Sylvani performing a skit in last year's show.



Alum Caleb rocking out at last year's show.

Heart of the Village Preparations

The Heart of the Village celebration is a hands-on showcase of rich music, arts & crafts, and food from our students and school community!

There are **many, many volunteer opportunities** for this event, both in planning and on the actual day of the event, Saturday, February 11, from 11:00am-2:00pm.

Donations for Pocket Lady:

The Pocket Lady will be at the Heart of the Village again this year. We need donations of little cute trinkets for her pockets (please let's avoid cheap plastic stuff). Examples include: pretty non-broken shells, crystals, polished stones, bells, wooden things, friendship bracelets, etc. Some parents have volunteered to craft little lavender filled felt hearts or hunt for treasures like agates that express a more thoughtful and loving approach to the joy of sharing treasures with little ones.

If you can donate anything please bring your treasures to the office and put them in the basket designated for the Pocket Lady. This is a great way to clean out your drawers and help the school!

Themed Baskets:

Each grade is responsible for putting together a themed raffle basket for the day of the event. Please see your Class Coordinator for your grade's theme and for items that need to be donated for your grade's basket.

Cake Walks & Bake Sale:

Keep an eye out for notification in the next few weeks on Cake Walk and Bake Sale needs.

Please be looking for communication from your classroom coordinator and our volunteer coordinator, Sherri Marineau regarding volunteer jobs and shifts for the event. We're looking forward to seeing everyone at Heart of the Village!

Announcements

We are looking to rent 1/2 of our Duplex to a Village School family for the next six months. Rent is \$650 for a great 2 bedroom apartment with a large kitchen, covered parking, and yard space. The place is at 1438 W. 4th, a couple miles from the school. If interested call Kate or Matt at 541-579-1875 or Email mattdillender@hotmail.com or communicateg@gmail.com.

After-School Exploring Arts for Kids:

Beginning 3:30 - 5:00pm, Weds., Jan. 18th, this six week class will feature clay, fused glass, mosaic, silk batik, painting, and felting. The cost is \$125.

At the Winter Concert a Parent Volunteer borrowed a red Swiss Army knife from 8th grade parent, Victoria Hedenstrom, and forgot to return it to her. If you are that parent and have the knife, can you please call Victoria on her cell phone at 720-427-4451. Thanks!

LOST from upper grade wing: Silver (metal) tiffin. It is a round, locking tin used for our daughter's lunch/snacks, and it will be costly--ouch!-- to replace. If you've seen it, please call us at 683-7141. Many thanks. Bev/Teresa/EI



"Life is not about waiting for the storms to pass... it's about learning how to dance in the rain!"

-Vivian Greene