

Late Breaking News, Friday, February 26, 2010



- Next week is **Oregon Classified Employees Week**, March 1st - 5th. Let's celebrate our classified staff: instructional assistants, administrative assistants, secretaries, food service, technicians, and our custodian. Thank you for all that you do to help our school and keep it running smoothly!
- All 5th and 6th grade students and their parents are cordially invited to come to our **Middle School Orientation**. Come and learn about our exciting and unique program, meet the teachers, and hear from alumni and their parents. **Tues., March 2, 2010, from 6-7:30 pm in the Village School Cafeteria.** Teachers will address issues such as an overview of the curriculum, observations on adolescence, middle school math and science curricula, and unique elements of Village School life. A panel of alumni and their parents will field questions on topics such as how does the Village School define the Middle School, academic preparedness for high school, social issues of middle school students, and what makes the Village School's program special.
- **Territorial Seed Company** orders are now in! Come pick up your seeds! Thank you for supporting our school!
- **Come join us for Authors' Night, Wed., March 3 6-8 PM:** You are cordially invited to the Village School's 4th annual Author's Night to be held Wed., March 3, 2010. The event will start in the cafeteria at 6 pm with a FREE Mexican dinner of veggie burritos.

At 6:30 we will adjourn to the upper wing to listen to the 1st-4th graders read the pieces of writing they have prepared. We ask that everyone join one of these classes and support our young author's with respectful listening. At 7:15, all students and parents will make their way to the lower wing to listen to the 5th-8th graders.

We think you will be impressed at the thought and heart our students bring to their writing. It is such a joy to watch our younger and older students support each other in their authorship. Please join us and enjoy!

This event is sponsored by the Title I Program and is intended for all Village School families.

- **Bridging the Gap:** Maybe you noticed that you have not yet been asked to participate in a direct donation campaign this year. Never fear! Your chance is coming. On **March 3**, during the opening dinner at Authors' Night, the Village School will kick-off its "**2010 Bridging the Gap Annual Giving Campaign.**" The economic downturn created a significant gap in our school's available revenue. In order to balance the budget, we cut out funding for field trips. On March 3, we will be looking for your support in closing this gap. As always, our primary goal is to achieve 100% participation from you. Our next priority is to raise \$10,000 to support the curriculum related field trips your students have taken or will be taking before the school year ends.

- **Helping Struggling Readers Become Successful Readers**: This is the title of the talk that well-known reading specialist, **Jill Schwimmer** will be presenting to parents and teachers of Village School, Ridgeline Montessori School, and the Eugene Waldorf School on **Tuesday, March 9th**. Jill's talk is an overview of "...the why (theory), the what (method), and how (application) to nurture successful readers." Learn how to help children in grades three and up become great readers by using an appropriate mix of vocabulary, visual cues, their knowledge of the world, and language structure. Jill's talk will begin at 7 PM and will take place in the school cafeteria. Donations for this event will be appreciated.
- **The Parent Council** is seeking advice in underwriting for upcoming events. Do you have experience contacting businesses for sponsorships? Have you organized a community event that local businesses helped support? The Parent Council is excited about our upcoming events, but to make these successful, we need your help! We would like to learn from you and would greatly appreciate any advice you can offer! Please contact Ashleigh in the office or Parent council chair, Heather Cyrus: cyrus@uoregon.edu
Thank you!
- **Oregon Department of Education** requires all charter schools to participate in this annual survey. This survey is used to collect information that we report to the United States Department of Education (USDE). The information reported to the USDE is aggregate data (which means it is combined to reflect all charter schools in the state, not individual schools).

Each charter school can access the school level results – and many charter schools use this information as part of their annual report to the sponsoring school district and board and for renewal data.

There are three parts to the survey – a staff survey, a parent survey and a student survey. Please select the Parent Survey. No login is needed and the survey is online. It is located at:

<http://www.ode.state.or.us/surveys/default.aspx>

The survey is open today and will remain open until June 15, 2010 in order to facilitate your schedules. Please notify the office after your family has completed the survey -Tel: (541) 345-7285, Fax: (541) 242-6874, Email: village@4j.lane.edu. It will remain anonymous, but we would like to track that each family is completing it. We would like to demonstrate a high percentage of participation and, as always, we value your feedback. If you are unable to access the Internet, pencil and paper copies are available in the School office. Please stop by and complete the survey and a volunteer will input the data unto the website.

- **Online Resource**: Please check our website for ongoing **community opportunities**, <http://eugenevillageschool.org>
- **Homework Club**: Join us every Wednesday after school in Room 10 until 4 PM.
- **Seventh and Eighth Grade Homework Help** is available Mon., Tues., Wed., and Fri. from 3-3:45 with Justin and Mr. T.
- **The Village School's Student Work will be on Display at the Library**: For the months of February and March, the Eugene Public Library will display samples of Village School students' work! They will be

returned to the students at the beginning of April.

- **The Children's Program Initiative to Bring Dental Services to Uninsured Students:** ODS and the Oregon Educators Benefit Board (OEBB) are launching an effort, The Children's Program, to provide access to basic dental services for uninsured 6-12 year olds at no charge once they have been enrolled in the program. Please contact Ilana for more information: (541)345-7285.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Ashleigh is working hard to help all families find meaningful ways to get involved: Class play rehearsals, field trips, teacher assistance, office assistance, Festivals, and more. Please call Ashleigh at 541-345-7285 to get involved today.

Gentle Reminders

- **Parents of grades K-3:** Please walk your children into the wing and pick them up outside the classroom at the end of the day. The school day begins at 8:30 AM.
- **Supervision:** The school day ends at 2:45 PM. There will be no supervision provided after 3 PM.