

# The Village Voice

*Celebrating our 10th year!*

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November 13 2009 Volume 10, Issue 6

## Calendar Events

### November 2009

- 17 Tues—Village School Board Meeting– 5:30 on campus (all welcomed)
- 18 Tues—4th Grade to Whitaker Creek
- 18 Tues—5th Grade Play-10am & 5:30
- 19 Thur—Kinder Lantern Walk– 5:30
- 20 Fri—4th, 5th & 8th Grade to Hope in Action Conference
- 24 Tues—Family Math Night—6-8pm
- 26 Thur—No School- Thanksgiving Day
- 27 Fri- No School
- 30 Mon—Safety Committee Meeting 3:30

### December 2009

- 2 Wed—6th Grade Parent Meeting
- 4 Fri—Spaghetti Dinner/Talent Show—5:30
- 4 Fri— Lockdown Drill; 11:20
- 10 Thurs—Winter Concert @ First Christian Church; 5:30 (more info to come)
- 14 Mon—No School; Winter Break Begins

### Ongoing Events:

- After School Homework Help—every Wed, 3-4
- Village Café, 8:30am EVERY FRIDAY

### Attention Village School!

*If you have a talent we're your people!*

The fourth annual Village School...

### Talent show

Produced by the Village School Eighth grade on

Friday December 4<sup>th</sup> at:

5:30-8:30 P.M. in the cafeteria

(dinner will be served from 5:30-6:30 P.M.)

Performances begin at 6:45p

\$6 per person for Spaghetti/Salad/Bread dinner

\$20 per family (no more than 5 please).

\*\*\*\*\*

### Auditions will be:

Monday and Tuesday

November 24-25<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-4:00P.M

Rm. 14

\*Makeup audition day Mon. 11/30 3:00p by appointment

*Sign-up sheets will be given to each classroom*

*All funds raised by this event will go to the eighth grade class trip!*

**H1N1** is going around still. If your child is sick, please keep them home until the fever has been gone for at least 24 hours...

**Head Lice** has been confirmed in grade 2 and Kindergarten. Classroom lice checks are done routinely by parent volunteers. Please be advised if a student has any number of nits found in their hair, they will be sent home. If your child is sent home due to lice, we ask that you do a thorough treatment and removal before they are allowed to come back to class. For questions or concerns about head lice, please pick up a hand out in front of the office.

Please let the office know if your child has had head lice or is sick with other illnesses.

Caught Doing Good!

Samira, Grade 2

Thank you for helping the office get caught up on their shredding!

Thank You So Much!

# Announcements

**Winter Green Farm has Organic, Grass Fed Beef Shares Available Now**—for info, 541-935-1920, [folks@wintergreenfarm.com](mailto:folks@wintergreenfarm.com) or check our website at [www.wintergreenfarm.com](http://www.wintergreenfarm.com) (this is a Village School family!).

**Come Home to a Beautifully Clean House!** As well as making tea each day for the children at school, I also, with joy and great care, clean houses. I have a couple of opening in

my schedule for weekly or bi-weekly cleaning. I use all natural cleaners, and have reasonable rates and excellent references. Please call Krishnangini at 687-1093 or 743-3630.

**Childcare Available**—Waldorf Teacher Graduate, lots of classroom experience, references available, love children of all ages! Call Meadoc at 844-1380.

**Village Voice Submissions** must be in the office by 10am Thursday morning before the next bi-weekly issue. Bonus points for emailed submissions ([village@4j.lane.edu](mailto:village@4j.lane.edu)). Announcements will run for 2 issues in a row unless otherwise arranged. All submissions may be edited for length or content. The VV will be posted on our website every Friday afternoon; paper copies available in the office by request.

## FYI & Other Tidbitz

**Leftover Cornstalks** from the Dia De Los Muertos are outside the cafeteria doors if anybody could compost or yard-waste them we would appreciate it!

**Leftover dishware** sits in the office from last weekend's festival. Please check in with the office staff if you still need to pick yours up.

**Lots of nice clothes and jackets** are getting left out in the rain on the playground. Please remind your students to bring their belongings in! Also, the Lost and Found is getting very full. Please check it regularly. Items will get put on the railings on Monday at the Bake Sale. Left over items may get donated, so don't forget to check!  
here to join them!

**It's time to get a bit creative!** We've recently added sand to the sandbox, which is now a popular recess hangout, but now have a number of cats that take care of their business in it at night@ pretty gross....

Anyways, we need to come up with some sort of cover for it. We've been brainstorming some different ideas and think maybe the use of a tarp tied down and bungee's or chicken wire that would lay on top would keep them furballs out! If you know of someone that could get this job done, please send them our way!

**8th grade end of year trip fundraising**—Bake sale every Monday, Cozmic Pizza sale every Wednesday after school. Call Karen (510-9521) or email her [austink@peak.org](mailto:austink@peak.org) with questions or offerings

## Upcoming Events

**Jake Russin, an eighth grade student, will be collecting coats, mittens, gloves and hats** to distribute at the Whiteaker Annual Thanksgiving Dinner. Please bring your clean items to school next week – a clearly marked box for these donated items will be located under the mailboxes by the office. Thanks for your support in providing some warmth for the winter!!

**Talib Lamont, 6<sup>th</sup> grade student, will be performing Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at the Agate Hall Auditorium.** Come support Talib and enjoy an interactive, collaborative performance of African music and dance in "We Are One" presented by Won Tan Nara Productions. Doors open at 7, showtime 7:30.

### **Come One, Come All!**

Jon Bilenki is hosting a benefit at Cozmic Pizza for the Village School Guitar Program. Student performances start at 7pm. \$3 suggested donation at the door. Please and Thank you.



## And now a word from our Administrator

November 13, 2009

**Dear Village School Parents:**

I hope you are enjoying the fall weather. It is hard to believe, but as of today, there are a mere four weeks until winter break begins. As you know, this is the School's tenth year of operation. We will be seeking a renewal of our charter in the next few weeks. As part of the renewal, the District charter renewal team will take a wide range of information into consideration. One aspect that will be considered is how you, our parents, feel about us. Some of you have already had an opportunity to give the school your feedback by completing the **Annual Village School Parent Surveys**. Your feedback on how the school is doing is an essential part of how the staff can ensure its success into the future. You are our customers and we want to hear from you! If you were not at a recent evening class meeting where you were approached about completing the survey, and if you have not already received one either in your family mailbox or via delivery by your student, you will receive a copy in the next few days. Please take a moment to complete the survey and return it to the school by November 20<sup>th</sup> at the latest. Thank you in advance for lending your voice in support of our School.

On another topic altogether, some students brought their **personal cameras** to school this week. At first, this seemed inconsequential. A few years ago, students taking pictures at school might have even been considered a complete non-issue. However, subsequently to the appearance of cameras on campus, a photo of a staff member appeared on the personal **Facebook** page of student without consent of the staff member. It immediately became apparent that an intervention on behalf of School employees was called for. What with the rapidly expanding potentials that the media present to all of us, it has become all too easy to violate the privacy of an individual completely unintentionally. For this reason, I ask that students not bring their cameras to school unless there is a specific activity in which a teacher requires students to have these tools. Such a specific activity might include taking photos for the Village School Yearbook, or documenting a specific event. In all cases, there should never be an assumption that a photo of a Village School staff member can be published without their consent. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about this. For now, the rule is that students may not bring their cameras to school without express direction from teachers or other staff members.

Finally, I want to remind you all that we need your completed **Free and Reduced Meal Forms** turned into the School office. Every family in the school must file this form, regardless of whether or not you think your family will qualify for this benefit. In some cases, families may qualify for free and reduced meals, but may choose not to participate in the program. You make the choice. However, the School's Title I budget is determined on the basis of the percentage of families who qualify for the **Free and Reduced Meal Program**. The higher this percentage, the more funding the School receives. This funding pays for the Title I staff that works with struggling learners throughout the School. The School's academic performance as documented by the State Report Card is a strong testament to the overall success of our school and part of that success is the effectiveness of our dedicated and professional Title I staff.

If you would like to view the School's **2008 – 09 State Report Card**, you can access it by going to the **Oregon Department of Education web site** – [www.ode.state.or.us/](http://www.ode.state.or.us/). On the left side of the page, go to **"Reports."** Under **"Reports"** go to **"AYP/Report Cards,"** then to **"School and District Report Cards"** and again click on **"School and District Report Cards – updated."** Under **"District Selection,"** choose **"Eugene School District 4j"** and then scroll down to **"Village School."** We are pleased that the Village School received the designation of **"Outstanding"** for 2008 – 09.

On a final note, there has been a significant rate of student absenteeism due to illness since the last week in October. We are not convinced that all of the absences are attributable to the spread of the H1N1 virus. We continue to monitor the rates of absenteeism and to ask families when they report their child is ill to report the symptoms. We will keep you informed of any new information that we receive regarding the flu. In the meantime, the Center for Disease Control or the Oregon Dept of Education web sites are the best sources of information.

Have a good weekend.

Martha Collins

Administrator

## LOOKING TO VOLUNTEER??

### **CROSSING GUARDS NEEDED!!**

In order to feel a bit safer, we are in need of crossing guards! Our crosswalks are the best, and we could use all the help we can get! Please, if this is something you would like to do, even if it was once in a while, let us know!

### **Help Raise Money for Village School!**

Register your debit/credit cards with eScript and a small percentage of your purchases go to the Village School! Registration can be done either online or by mail. Pick up a form outside the office today!

### **Don't Forget About Cambell's Soup Labels!**

We are collecting soup labels from Cambells again this year; the container is placed above the family mail boxes.

### **COMPUTER LAB NEEDS ATTENTION!**

We have recently moved our computer lab into the lower wing and it needs to be tidied up a bit. There are multiple computer wires that we need to hide and bunch together. Computer knowledge would be helpful! If this is a project you would like to take on- see Ashleigh in office!

### **Repairs needed for Desk Chairs**

We need someone with some extra time to screw on new seats to some of our student desk chairs. We'll supply the screw driver if you can supply the hands and time!

### **Playground Helpers Needed**

Supervision on the playground during lunch time is needed for both the upper wing and lower wing. This is a great time to get some volunteer hours and you don't have to commit to a certain time or day! If you've got some spare time over the lunch period and would like to help out, let Ashleigh know when works best for you! Lower grades have recess from 12:00 – 12:30 and upper wings have recess from 12:45 – 1:15.

### **We Need Another Tea Fairy**

We are in need of another person to prepare, make and deliver tea to our student classrooms. If you could do it once or twice a week, that would be fantastic! The kids really enjoy getting out of class for break and recess with their very own mugs to find tea pots set outside and labeled for their different tastes each day! This is something that Krishnangini will tain you on, for she's been an expert!

### **RECYCLING BINS**

The large BLUE recycling bins that sit outside the wings entrance doors need to be brought out to the curb each FRIDAY afternoon and returned to their spots MONDAY afternoons...if you take notice of them; please feel free to take them to their designated spots!

### **AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISION**

There has been a consistent pattern of unsafe behavior outside the entrance doors after school. If you pick your children up after school and wouldn't mind reminding the students that they should not be hanging from the hand rails, playing tag in front of doors and standing on the ramp ledges after school, please do. This is mainly needed from 2:45-3:00. Don't forget to log your time on your Volunteer Hours Card!

### **IN NEED OF A READER**

If you're interested in being a reading buddy to our students, please let Ashleigh know in the office, this could be only once a week or more if you're willing.

### **OFFICE HELP**

We are in need of someone to come in the office one day and help with some clerical duties. If you've got some spare time one day, please let Ashleigh know and we'll go from there!

