

The Village Voice

Celebrating our 10th year!

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February 5, 2010 Volume 10, Issue 10

Calendar Events

February 2010

- 5 Fri—Deadline for Re-enrollment Forms
- 6 Sat— Heart of the Village Celebration
- 9 Tues— Parent Council: 6:30 PM
- 15 Mon—No School; President's Day
- 16 Tues - VS Board Meeting; 5:30 PM
- 16 Tues—Grade 5 Parent Meeting; 6:30 PM
- 19 Fri—Deadline for New Sibling Applications
- 22 Mon—Safety Committee; 3:30 PM
- 24 Wed—New Parent Information Meeting; 6-8 PM
- 24 Wed—4th Grade Play: 10 AM
- 25 Thurs—4th Grade Play: 6:30 PM
- 27 Sat—New Parent Information Meeting; 10 AM-12 PM

March 2010

- 1 Mon—Grade 2 Parent Meeting; 6 PM
- 2 Tues—Middle School Orientation; 6-7:30 PM
- 3 Wed—Author's Night; 5:30-7:30 PM (Dinner will be served)
- 9 Tues— 8th Grade Play; 1:15 PM
- 10 Wed—8th Grade Play; 7 PM
- 12 Fri—No School; Teacher Work Day
- 16 Tues—Enrollment Lottery for the 2010-2011 School Year
- 17 Wed—Grade 6 Parent Meeting; TBD
- 22 Mon— Spring Break Begins!

April 2010

- 6 Tues—School is back in session!

The Village School 2010-2011 Re-Enrollment Process

The re-enrollment process is now closed. Thank you everyone for turning in your paperwork on time. This makes our future enrollment process easier and clearer.

Caught Doing Good!



3rd graders Hadlie, Zia and Sydney were caught doing good by cleaning up trash on the playground!



Thank you so much!

Thank You

The Village School would like to give a huge thank you to Parent and EWEB Educational Outreach Coordinator, John Femal who recently helped to teach a Magnetism and Electricity main lesson block in the 6th grade.

Additionally, John, and EWEB donated two crates of science curriculum and equipment to the Village School which will help to facilitate the continuation of hands-on science instruction in the school. Please see the "Hidden Circuits" projects outside of the 6th grade classroom for a sampling of the science unit. For more information, talk to Mr. Bigongiari.

Thank you EWEB and thank you, John!

Heart of the Village Celebration:

Tomorrow, Saturday, February 6th from 11 am—3 pm

The celebration will include: **Professional Story-Telling**, a **Magician Performance** by Vince, **African Drumming and Dance Performance** by **Won Tan Nara**, **Improv Theatre** Performed by Village School Alumni, **Cake-Walks**, **Valentine Making**, **Salmon Dance** performed by our 4th graders, **Choir Performance**, "Michael Fever" **Dance Performance** followed by a **Break Dancing Workshop**, **Shadow Puppet Shows**, **Marimba Performance**, **Geometric Drawing Workshops**, **Themed Raffle Baskets**, and **Face Painting**.

There will also be Hot Food and a Homemade Goodies Bake Sale. Don't miss out on this exciting, annual celebration!

Ms. Collins



Dizzy Grant

DIZZY GRANT, Harlem Globetrotters' Guard, started playing basketball after he attended a Harlem Globetrotters game at the age of seven. He joined us last Monday to present the Globetrotters' "C.H.E.E.R.™ For Character" program. "C.H.E.E.R."™ extols the benefits of character development and leading a positive lifestyle. Please register/sign in to view the album:

http://www5.snapfish.com/thumbnaillshare/AlbumID=1036636028/a=2125008028_2125008028/ctsc=SHR/ctsl=SALBlink/COBRAND_NAME=snapfish/



Announcement from our Administrator

February 5, 2010

Dear Village School Families:

Thank you to the many parents who took time to complete the No Child Left Behind survey that has been circulating for the past week. The survey is now closed.

By now, you have all received at least one letter that begins, "As you may know, the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) federal law has placed new requirements on schools, districts and states. Among the new requirements is the reporting of teacher qualifications."

When the Village School was founded ten years ago as one of the first charter schools in Oregon, the intention of the charter school law was to provide a vehicle for creative and innovative approaches to public education. The specifications for teachers in charter schools are not limited to the same specifications dictated by Oregon State law.

Because our approach is inspired by Waldorf education, our hiring process values among other criteria, Waldorf teacher training which typically takes two years. We also place high value on teachers who may come from a more traditional teacher preparation, but who are drawn to our mission and who are willing to do some training in Waldorf education. All Village School classroom teachers have Bachelors Degrees and some have Masters Degrees as well. Village School teachers who do not have Waldorf teacher training certificates have Oregon State teaching licenses. We are fortunate to have an outstanding teaching staff whose dedication manifests the vision and mission of the Village School.

Sincerely,
Martha Collins
Administrator



Announcements

With the rainy season upon us, it is a good idea to have an extra set of clothing in the building. Please bring in an extra set of clothing for your child for emergency use.



Lost and Found

Lots of nice clothes and jackets are getting left out in the rain on the playground. Please remind your students to bring their belongings home! Also, the Lost and Found is getting very full. Please check it regularly.

New Online Resource

Please check our website for ongoing community opportunities:
<http://eugenevillageschool.org>



The Village School's Student Work will be on Display

For the months of February and March, the Eugene Public Library will display samples of The Village School students' artwork and handwork in the children's section! Check it out!

Family Directories were handed out at the beginning of the year! Please be sure to pick up a new one if you're currently using an old one...we have been getting phone calls regarding wrong numbers for families that attend the Village School.

Robert and Bindi Irwin: Kid Empowerment

Robert and Bindi Irwin, son and daughter of Steve and Terri Irwin are hosting a Kids Empowerment event in Eugene on February 25, 2010.

Bindi Irwin has been the star of several Animal Planet television programs, including *Bindi the Jungle Girl*, *The Crocodile Hunter* and *The Wiggles*. She has also recorded a children's environmental hip-hop album and will be starring in the upcoming movie *Free Willy 4: Escape from Pirate's Cove*.

In addition to being fun, this interactive session with Bindi and Robert will educate children about conservation and things they can do to make a difference in this world.

When: **Thurs, February 25th from 3:30-4:30 PM**
Where: **University of Oregon, EMU Ballroom.**

This event is **FREE**, but guests **MUST** register in advance. A limited number of seats are available, so register today: www.pielc.org/2010/bindi.htm

Help for Haiti Penny Drive

The 6th grade class has organized a penny drive to benefit UNICEF's relief efforts for children. Each of the grades has a jar for collecting pennies.

"KPFF Consulting Engineers" has agreed to match the donation our children collect for the penny drive.

Do you know another local business that would match The Village School's donation? If so, contact Megan Bassett at meganbeet@msn.com or call 541-543-9536

Please bring your loose change to tomorrow's Heart of the Village Celebration; we will be collecting there.

We will extend our collection to Friday, 2/12/10.

For more info on UNICEF's work visit:
<http://www.unicefusa.org/news/news-from-the-field/>



The Children's Program Initiative to Bring Dental Services to Uninsured Students

ODS and the Oregon Educators Benefit Board (OEBB) are launching a joint 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.



Announcements Cont'd

Lane County Public Health wants you to know it's still flu season. Don't delay! Get your H1N1 flu shot today!

Contact your health care provider, a pharmacy near you, or one of these community sites:

In Eugene/Springfield:

- Lane County Public Health, (541) 682-4041 (FREE!)
- Eugene Urgent Care, (541) 636-3473
- The Travel Clinic, (541) 343-6028
- Peace Health RiverBend Hospital - Urgent Care, (541) 222-6005
- Cascade Health, (541) 228-3095
- UO Health Center (students, faculty & staff only), (541) 346-4444

In Cottage Grove:

- Cottage Grove Community Hospital, (541) 942-6614
- Prime Med Medical Clinic, (541) 942-7000

In Junction City:

- Junction City Medical Clinic, (541) 998-6750

In Florence:

- Peace Health Siuslaw locations, (541) 907-6057

In Blue River:

- McKenzie River Clinic, (541) 822-3341

For a complete list of providers, visit:
www.lanecounty.org

To find the site nearest you visit:
www.google.com/flushot or call 1-800-978-3040



Heart of the Village Performance



Won Tan Nara Drum & Dance Ensemble will be performing at the Heart of the Village Celebration. This is a vibrant group of dancers and percussionists under the artistic direction of Alseny Yansane who shares the compelling and beautiful cultural arts of his homeland Guinea, West Africa: www.wontanaraproductions.com

Fundraising

We have a very active fundraising community at the school. We sell Café Mam Coffee (order Tuesday, have your coffee Wednesday), Student Art Greeting Cards (beautiful Village School artwork for \$1.00), and Escrip. Our Group ID is # 9130886.

We also have weekly bake sales and pizza sales for our eighth grade graduation field trip.

Please join us in our fundraising efforts.

Look in this box for information on new and ongoing fundraising projects.

If you are interested in helping to coordinate fundraising efforts for the school or being part of a committee, see Ashleigh in the office.

Announcements Cont'd

Safety and Courtesy in the Common Areas

Village School/Ridgeline Montessori School Rules

Practice Safety, Grace, and Courtesy

Be Safe • Solve Problems • Include Everyone • Respect Others

This is a code of conduct that is in effect at all times when on school grounds or attending school sponsored events. The Ridgeline and Village staffs wish to remind all who come and go from the school grounds that there are two schools at this location and these expectations apply to everyone at both schools.

BEFORE SCHOOL – ARRIVAL TIME

Students should not be dropped off at school before 8 AM unless their families have made special arrangements with school staff. Generally, the School buildings are closed up until 8 AM.

- Arrive no earlier than 8:15 AM and be in the classroom by 8:30 AM.
- Bicycles must be walked to the bicycle racks on the school grounds. Skateboards, rollerblades, scooters, and other wheeled devices must be carried on school grounds. Wheeled devices may not be ridden on school grounds.
- Once students arrive on campus, they must remain on campus until dismissal.

IN HALLWAYS, BREEZEWAYS, CAFETERIA, OR BATHROOMS

- Feet must be on the ground. Sliding and climbing on railings and running are not permitted.
- Use quiet voices in hallways at all times. Show your respect for classes in session.
- Follow procedures for obtaining the appropriate pass upon leaving the classroom.
- Enter/Exit through appropriate doors.

.RECESS TIMES

- Respect the space and feelings of others. Keep unkind words to self, play gently, and keep touch appropriate.
- Conduct all outside activities within sight and hearing of a teacher at all times.
- Use appropriate language.
- Stop all play when the bell rings and line up in the area designated by your teacher.
- Be respectful in the use of specific playground equipment:
 - * Go down the slide one at a time, feet first and only on your bottom.
 - * Keep your hands on the "fire pole" when descending.
 - * Do not jump off the platform while using the play structure.
 - * Do not dig beneath play structures – please be sure that wood chips remain under the climbing structures.
 - * Do not throw chips, rocks, sand or inappropriate objects.
 - * Notify an adult immediately of any safety issue you observe on the playground such as broken glass, broken playground equipment, or unsafe people.

AT THE END OF THE DAY – DISMISSAL TIME

- If you are waiting to be picked up, you are expected to wait quietly in the designated area and follow school rules.
- If you came to school on a bicycle or other wheeled device, remember that you may not ride it on school grounds. Collect your wheeled device and walk it to the public sidewalk before mounting it.
- Students who have not been picked up within 15 minutes of dismissal will go to the school office to wait for their ride.