

The Village Voice

Celebrating our 10th year!

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October 12, 2009 Volume 10, Issue 4

Calendar Events

October 2009

- 12 Mon—Photo Proofs Due in, you can still order!
- 13 Tue—Parent Council, 6:30 All parents invited
- 15 Thur—3rd grade farm field trip, 8:30-11:30
- 16 Fri—NO SCHOOL—Grading Day
- 19 & 20 Mon & TUE—NO SCHOOL—Conferences
- 20 Tues—VS Board Mtg, 5:30
- 20 Tues—Strong Families Eugene, 6-8pm***
- 24 Sat—Site Clean Up, Grades K, 1 & 2, 9am-12; a group of UO students are volunteering to join us to help out!
- 27 Tue—Photo Retake Day
- 27 Tues—Strong Families Eugene, 6-8pm***
- 29 Thur—Kinders' Trip to Farmer John's
- 29 Thur—Grades 1 & 2, Trip to Hult Center
- 30 Fri—Grade 5 Trip to Dorris Ranch, 8:30-12:30
- 30 Fri—Grade 6 Halloween Carnival (here)

November 2009

- 3 Tue—Grade 4 Parent Mtg, 6-7:30pm
- 3 Tue—Strong Families Eugene, 6-8pm***
- 4 Wed—Kinder Lantern Walk, Parent-Child Mtg, 6pm
- 4 Wed—Grade 5 Parent Mtg, 5:45 pm
- 7 Sat—Dia de los Muertos Festival

Ongoing Events:

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

***See Article in this *Village Voice*

It's A Boy!

Congrats to Mr. B on the birth of his beautiful baby boy!

He was born peacefully at home on Saturday, October 10 at 2:20pm. Mr. B will take the next week off work to stay at home with his wife Donica and the baby, and the fabulous Ms. Monterossa will be subbing for him. Welcome little Bigongiari Boy, we are so excited you are here and we can't wait to meet you! Much love to Matthew and Donica and their beautiful family! If you are interested in being a Food Fairy and bringing a meal to the family, there will be a sign-up sheet in the office soon, or you can call Karen who is coordinating food at 510-9521.

Artists for Climate Action 350 Event!

On Saturday, Oct. 24, from 3-5pm there will be a huge gathering at the Hult Center Lobby, featuring The Sugar Beets (with VS parents Megan and Matt), Samba Ja, Oregon Mozart Players, UO Dancers, and many more artists. The keynote speaker will be UO Law professor Mary Wood. Professor Wood is a dedicated climate action advocate, and she has worked with Village School students in the past to organize climate action events. "350" is the emissions level that she is advocating for, and to emphasize this number, her goal is to go up on stage to speak with 350 youth behind her. If you are able to attend this event, all students should listen for her name and go up when she is asked to speak. She wants to make this a dramatic statement, and has personally invited Village School students to participate. Please Join Us!



Advertise in our School Directory!

Advertise your business or service to other VS families in the Village School Yellow Pages in our school directory. This is a great opportunity to have your ad seen throughout the year by 200 families. This year, the ads will also get placed on our website for no additional cost. Please respond if you are interested to Catia in the office ASAP, as the deadline for the ads is pretty short (sorry about that—time flies you know!). Ads cost \$25 for an 1/8 pages (business card size), \$50 for 1/4 page, and \$100 for 1/2 page. Ads must be paid for at the time the order is placed. Ads not paid for by the deadline will not appear in the yellow pages. Ads must be digital, please email to village@4j.lane.edu by Oct. 15 (but the sooner the better!).

Caught Doing Good!

These 4th Grade students were caught picking up trash during an entire recess:

Eloise, Kalila, Kai, Morgan & Summer

Thank You So Much!

Announcements

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.

School Day out at Alvord Farm—Fri. Oct. 16, 9-12:30. Kalapuya Harvest with Matt and Anna of ReWild Eugene. Cost is \$15/child, pre-reg. required, call Karen at 683-8271 or see www.alvordmuseum.org. Carpools leave Village School at 8:45am.

Childcare Available—Waldorf Teacher Graduate, lots of classroom experience, references

available, love children of all ages! Call Meadoe 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). 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.

Volunteer Corner

- ♥ Regularly scheduled office helpers appreciated.
- ♥ We need someone with a truck to bring things to & from our storage unit.
- ♥ **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 IMPROVE CROSSWALK SAFETY!** We need to get the bright orange crosswalk fence up again! You will need to hammer (which we have) the posts into the ground and it should only take 10 minutes! Please- if you have 10 minutes, see us in the office so we can improve the safety of our walkers.
- ♥ **Help Raise Money for Village School!**—Register your debit/credit cards with eScrip and a percentage of all 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 Campbells' Soup Labels!**—We are collecting soup labels from Campbells 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 helpful!
- ♥ **Repairs needed for 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.
- ♥ **Readers Wanted**—The 5th grade class is still in need of readers during Handwork. If you're available Tuesdays and/or Thursdays, come sign up in the office!
- ♥ **Do You Know How To Knit?**—Handwork teachers could use someone extra in the room to help the lower grades get started on their projects. If you know how to knit and would like to help out, let me know!
- ♥ **We Need a Tea Fairy Apprentice**—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 train you on, for she's been an expert!
- ♥ **Handy with Tools?**—Needed: A handy dandy kinda person that can put up our new curtains in the office! Holes need to be drilled and a ladder needs to be used!
- ♥ **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 2:30 or 2:45-3:00. This is a great job for parents while you wait after school for your kids.

See Ashleigh if you're interested in helping out with any of the above.

And, don't forget to sign in, wear a visitor pass,
and to log your volunteer hours each time.

Upcoming Events

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 with questions or offerings.

South Eugene is offering a FREE ALL AGES WRESTLING MAT CLUB. No experience necessary! Everyone welcome! Every Monday and Wednesday, 6-7:30 pm in the South Eugene Wrestling Room, starting Sept. 21 and ending Nov. 4th (just prior to the high school season). There is also a South Eugene Wrestling Club Team for 5th-8th graders starting the last week of October. Also, all ages Freestyle and Greco Season starts back up beginning of March. Email Gabriel Hamel, South Eugene Head Wrestling Coach at GabrielRHame@yahoo.com or call 912-5961 with any questions.

New Fall Feldenkrais® Classes: Finding Ease and Comfort Awareness Through Movement® with VS parent Katie Hynes-Petty, GCFP. This is an opportunity to: break cycles of pain, alleviate the effects of everyday stresses, find greater ease and pleasure in everyday movements, enhance performance in sports, music and daily activities, increase range of movement without stretching, improve coordination and posture, feel younger and move better. Call Katie Hynes-Petty at 344-4041 or email hynespetty@comcast.net to reserve your space. Class Fee: \$40 for 5 class series or \$10 drop-in. Times: 5 Mondays, 5:30-6:30 p.m., 10/12-11/9. Location: Tower Room at 4J Education Center; 200 N. Monroe

FYI & Other Tidbitz

Want a Village School Dragon T-Shirt? If you didn't get one of these beautiful t-shirts at the celebration parade, you can order one. Available in Men's, Women's and Youth sizes. T-shirts are only \$10!!! Order and pay in advance in the office. These make great gifts, so think ahead! Beautiful high quality hoodies are also available, these same sweatshirts sell at the UO bookstore for \$40, they are available here for \$30.

Strong Families Eugene is offering a three-session series for parents of adolescents, Oct. 20, Oct. 27, and Nov. 3 from 6-8pm. Invitations were put in mailboxes of students in grades 6, 7 & 8. Cost is \$10/session or \$25 for all three, and ½ price for each additional parent. If you need scholarship info, please contact Catia. Please RSVP if you can so we can plan accordingly, drop-ins are also welcome.

Don't Forget About After School Academy! It's not too late to sign up for the 3 different opportunities we are making available on our site. The more participation we get, the more classes we will try to make available, so sign-up now if you're interested! Survivor kids, Strings and Piano are currently available.

Reminders to parents of grades K-3—We request that parents walk their children into the wing and pick them up outside the classroom at the end of the day. This really helps the children transition smoothly from home to school. Thank you!

Hey Bikers! We love to see all you bikers getting to school on wheels, but please remember to GO SAFE! A few adults have reported seeing our bike commuters crossing streets unsafely: too fast and not at the right places.

We tweet! If you would like to receive tweets from us, follow us at VillageSchool. This is a great way to receive quick reminders of school events, instant news, and important information.

Family Directory will be coming out end of this month.

You can help our school win \$20,000—Vote for our school: it's quick, fun and it can make a difference!

Go to www.AmericasFavoriteSchool.com and vote for our school; you can also make comments, join the fun, there are already 57 comments on our school, check it out, get inspired, and add some love!

Parking—There's lots of car and bike parking in the lower lot near the gym. Please use safety and courtesy when driving, parking, picking up & dropping off.

District Testing—We have completed fall testing for grades 1-8 in reading and math. If you are interested in discussing your child's results, please speak to your child's teacher.

The Office would like to offer a great big THANK YOU for remembering to call in attendance before 9am. Some days we get 100% call-ins! We really appreciate it!

Hey, Students! Safety Tips for Riding LTD

If you plan to cross the street after getting off an LTD bus, please cross *behind* the bus. Wait on the sidewalk for the LTD bus to pull away from the curb, then using a marked crosswalk if available, cross the street when you have a safe interval between traffic.

The rules are different than when you are riding on a yellow school bus, where the driver expects you to cross in front of the bus. Here's why: Regular traffic is not allowed to pass a school bus that is stopped and has its red lights flashing. But traffic is allowed to pass by an LTD bus. If you cross the street in front of an LTD bus, you may not see oncoming traffic before it's too late. We want you to be safe!

SAFE PLACE: Did you know that LTD is part of the national Safe Place program? The program allows LTD bus operators and staff to provide youth with immediate help and safety. If ever you feel threatened, you can ask a bus operator to help you! And as a daily practice, it's a great idea to sit toward the front of the bus, closer to the driver.



Walk and Bike to School Day!

CONGRATULATIONS ON A SUCCESSFUL WALK AND BIKE DAY!!!!

As you all know last Wed. Oct. 7 was Walk and Bike Day. This event was a huge success. The weather was perfect, the bike rack was overflowing and many, many people discovered that they could walk, bike or car-pool to school easier than they imagined. We hope that you all can maintain that momentum through the winter. It may seem daunting when the weather turns wet but there is nothing like arriving by bike or foot all warm and cozy from your efforts inside your impermeable rain gear. Give it a try, arrive inspired and ready to learn.

We were grateful to be entertained by the McCornack Unicycle Club in the afternoon and many were inspired to try unicycling themselves. There were some mumblings about starting our very own unicycle club at the Village School. Anyone interested in putting some steam behind that idea should talk with me about that.

The bike blended smoothies were a highlight of our day as well. I think everyone peddled for their beverage. Thank you to Shane Rhodes of Safe Routes to School for procuring this for us and also to Nancy's Creamery for the yogurt and Organically Grown Co. for the bananas and strawberries. Imagine what else we can do with our own power!?

The raffle prize drawing wrapped up the entire event and, while not everyone can walk away with a prize, everyone who participated in the raffle is a winner. Keep on biking and walking!! The winners were: Two Nutcase Helmets donated by the Bicycle Transportation Alliance to Arianna and Gracie. A water bottle and cage from Collin's Bike Shop to Emma. A Rainy Peaks Cyclery bike hat to Rudy and Molly. A frog bike light from Collin's to Noah, another helmet from Rainy Peaks Cyclery to Bodin and yet one more helmet from Paul's Bike Shop to Haile, a pant leg band to Maya and finally, a Keen backpack to Kobi. Congratulations to all the prize winners and to everyone who participated!

We generated quite the list of people interested in getting involved in making the zone around our school safer. Please stay involved and look for future emails regarding this issue. If you would like to know what you can do right now please contact Chris Bayham by putting a note in his box at school. Look for other surveys and information in the near future. Thanks again to all that participated to make this a successful day, VS parent Colleen Forbes. And, the Village School would really like to thank Colleen and Chris for the extraordinary event that they put together. Thank you so much for your volunteer energy!

