

The Village Voice

Celebrating our 10th year!



2855 Lincoln St. Eugene, Oregon 97405 phone: 345-7285 fax: 242-6874 village@4j.lane.edu eugenevillageschool.org

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Calendar Events

October 2009

- 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 to River's Turn Farm, 8:40-11:40
- 29 Thur—Grades 1 & 2, Trip to Hult Center
- 30 Fri—Grade 5 Trip to Dorris Ranch, 9-12:30
- 30 Fri—Grade 1 Trip to Thistledown, 9-11
- 30 Fri—Grade 4 Trip to Maude Kerns, 12:30-1:45
- 30 Fri—Grade 6 Halloween Carnival (here), no costumes allowed at school this year.

November 2009

- 3 Tue—Grade 4 Parent Mtg, 6-7:30pm
- 3 Tue—Strong Families Eugene, 6-8pm***
- 4 Wed—5th Grade Parent Mtg, 5:45
- 4 Wed—Grade 5 Parent Mtg, 5:45 pm
- 7 Sat—Dia de los Muertos Festival—look for details next week!
- 11 Wed—NO SCHOOL, Veterans Day
- 12 Thur—Grade 1 Parent Mtg
- 19 Thursday—Kinder Lantern Walk, 5pm NOTE DATE CHANGED



Ongoing Events:

After School Homework Help—every Wed, 3-4

Village Café, 8:30am EVERY FRIDAY

***See Article in this *Village Voice*

Caught Doing Good!

Harbor, Grade 4

Thank you for helping straighten up the Kindergarten before school, even ironing the play clothes!

Thank You So Much!

Village School Playground Supervision Policies

The staff has been reviewing the School's playground safety policies and procedures and we want to share them with you. We ask that you familiarize yourselves and your children with the School's expectations for safe and appropriate conduct on our playgrounds. This information (also available in the Village School Family Handbook) will be especially valuable to any parents who are interested in volunteering to join staff in supervising during the lunch recesses.

The following policies are based on the School's Core Values and supplement the disciplinary policies as well as offer some additional guidelines for playground safety and behavioral expectations.

Playground Boundaries—Children are to remain within the visual field of supervising adults. Play is not permitted in the areas between the classroom buildings. Children are permitted to play in the lower field and blacktop area by the gym only if an adult is present.

Playground Conduct

- ☞ The rule "Hands are for Helping" applies especially to playground behavior.
- ☞ Language must be respectful and inoffensive to the other people.
- ☞ Taking turns is required on playground equipment.
- ☞ Jumping off equipment or high ledges is not allowed.
- ☞ Running on play structures or climbing up the slide is not permitted.
- ☞ When sliding down the slide, children must go one at a time.
- ☞ Jump ropes are to be used for jumping rope only.
- ☞ Balls are not to be kicked unless as part of a game.
- ☞ Games that exclude others are not permitted.
- ☞ Competitive games are permitted only if directed by an adult.
- ☞ Children are to follow directions given by the supervising adults.

Consequences for problem behavior will follow the behavioral rubric.

Bathroom Use—Students are encouraged to use the bathroom before going out to the playground, and must have permission to go inside during recess.

Other—The outside doors of the wings are to be closed and locked at all times.

Staff and Volunteer Expectations—A ratio of 1 adult per 20 children is required during outdoor activities. Recess will begin for individual classes after the respective teacher leads his/her entire class out to the playground. Adults supervising the recess areas need to be focused, physically and mentally, on the children. This includes following the "flow of traffic" and always moving with the children as their play takes them from one location to another. Adults must mindfully balance individual needs while maintaining an awareness of the entire group. Safety must always be kept in mind. Be watchful for such potential dangers such as untied shoelaces, wet slippery equipment, unsafe games, etc. A periodic head-count is recommended and should be the regular practice of all teachers or supervising adults before returning to the classrooms. Supervising adults must be proactive in helping to mediate and resolve conflicts. Teachers and supervising adults must be actively observing playground behavior, not playing with the children, unless the ratio of adults to children exceeds 1:20.



Stay Tuned for Next Week's Topic: Safety and Courtesy in the Common Areas! (or if you can't wait, just read it in the Family Handbook or on our website!)

Announcements

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

School Coordinator Position posting is on our website and also ran in Sunday's Register Guard.

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 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.

FYI & Other Tidbitz

Fabric Needed— If you have some corduroy or medium-heavy fabric large enough for a vest for a kinder-age child, please bring to Ms. Sarah in the Kindergarten.

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!

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. 27, and Nov. 3 from 6-8pm. Cost is \$10/session, ½ price for each additional parent; drop-ins welcome.

Family Directory will be coming out VERY SOON.

You can help our school win \$20,000—There is still time to vote for us at www.AmericasFavoriteSchool.com

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.

Site Clean Up, Saturday, October 24, Grades K, 1 & 2, 9am-12. We ask all families to commit to attending one of these work parties a year, each grade is only assigned to one of the three events. At this upcoming event, we are very excited to be joined by a group of UO students who are coming to help as part of a big community volunteer day. It would be really great to have a nice showing of our community here to join them!

Upcoming Events

South Eugene is offering a FREE ALL AGES WRESTLING MAT CLUB. No experience necessary! Every Monday and Wednesday, 6-7:30 pm in the SEHS Wrestling Room through Nov. 4th There is also a South Eugene Wrestling Club Team for 5th-8th graders starting the last week of October. Email Gabriel Hamel, South Eugene Head Wrestling Coach at GabrielRHamel@yahoo.com or call 912-5961 with any questions.

University of Oregon Youth Enrichment/TAG programs are starting—flyers are available on the racks outside the office.

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. In the last newsletter, we said that she wanted students to go on stage with her. That has been changed, instead she'll invite you to participate by clapping at her statements at the end of her speech. Listen and clap as she inspires us to make positive changes!



Volunteer Corner

👋 All School clean-up 👋 Office helpers 👋 Storage haulers 👋
Crossing Guards 👋 Fundraisers—escrip! 👋 Playground Helpers 👋
Handwork Readers 👋 Handwork knitters 👋 Morning tea makers
👋 After school monitors 👋 And More! 👋 See Ashleigh if you can help. 👋

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

Many Hands Make Light Work!



NO HALLOWEEN COSTUMES THIS YEAR!

Breaking from tradition, staff have decided that we will NOT allow any Halloween costumes, props, or candy at school this year. We won't have a parade, but Grade 6 will be having a carnival for the younger kids. Thanks for your cooperation!

