

The Village Voice



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August 2010

Events Calendar August 2010

- 28 Sat—**Eugene Celebration Parade!** Join our entry! The first 100 people get a free t-shirt with our dragon mascot!
- 30 Mon—**Kindergarten Open Classroom Hours** for children and parents; 11-2 pm
- 21 Tues—**Kindergarten Open Classroom Hours** for children and parents; 2-5 pm

September 2010

- 1 Wed—**Grade 2 Potluck Picnic** at Friendly St Park; 5-6:30 pm
- 1 Wed—**Grade 3 Potluck** at Friendly St Park; 5:30 pm
- 1 Wed—**7th and 8th Grade Potluck Social** at Tugman Park; 6-8 pm
- 2 Thurs—**Kindergarten Potluck** at Friendly St Park; 5-6:30 pm
- 2 Thurs—**Grade 5 Potluck** at Tugman Park; 5-7 pm
- 3 Fri—**Back to School Site Cleaning Party**; 10 -2 pm
- 5 Sun—**Grade 6 Potluck Picnic** at Washington Park; 5-7 pm
- 8 Wed—**First day of school!**
- 8 Wed—**New Parent Orientation**; 10 am
- 8 Wed—**Parent Council**; 6:30 pm
- 10 Fri—**Village Café**. Every Friday during the school year, all parents are invited to the Village Café outside the cafeteria from **8:30-9:30 am** for socializing and organizing. The school will provide coffee and tea and parents are welcome to bring treats. Help coordinating this fun event is always appreciated!
- 10 Fri—**Grade 6 Parent Meeting**; 5:30 pm
- 13 Mon—**Site Search Committee** meeting
- 14 Tues—**Village School Board** meeting; 5:30 pm
- 15 Wed—**All School Meeting** and **Class Meetings**, 5:30-7:30 pm. We hope to see you!
- 17 Fri—**Village Café**; 8:30-9:30 am
- 24 Fri—**Village Café**; 8:30-9:30 am
- 27 Mon—**Site Search Committee** meeting
- 27 Mon—**Safety Committee** meeting; 3:30 pm
- 29 Wed—**Picture Day!**

**Eugene
Celebration
Parade:
Saturday,
August 28, 2010**



Please join us for the 28th Annual Eugene Celebration Parade! Our entry will be similar to last year's, complete with over 100 marchers, our own dragon mascot, beautiful banners, and our Middle School Marimba band. This year's theme is "**Raise the Roof**". We will be giving out free t-shirts to the first 100 people to meet us at the parade site. We will **gather at 8:45 am** for the 9:30 parade at **11th and High**. Help spread the word, call your friends, grab your kids and plan to meet us there—it's a blast! The Awards Ceremony will be at the Broadway Stage at 5:45 pm. We've won a "blue ribbon" for the last five years! Help us to win another.



Back to School Cleaning Party

The Village School will be holding our Annual Back-to-School Cleaning Party on **Friday, September 3rd from 10 am - 2 pm**. Stop by anytime and lend a hand. It's a great way to meet other families, let the children get together, play, and help out! Our focus is to get our grounds and buildings ready for school, and you can get a jumpstart on volunteer hours!



All School Meeting & Class Meetings

The Village School is overseen by our own Board of Directors made up of staff, parents, and community members. Join us on **Wednesday, September 15th** for important information about our school. Refreshments will be served from **5:30-6 pm** followed by a board presentation and then class meetings from **6:45-7:30 pm**. Childcare will be available for a nominal fee, please sign-up through the office.

Letter from the Administrator

August 11, 2010

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you are having a fabulous summer! Please join me in launching another school year designed to be a memorable, positive and lasting experience for each child.

I am delighted to serve as your school principal. The Village School has a strong ten year history of being at the forefront of providing a caring school environment dedicated to the whole child – educating the head, heart and hands of our students. It is exciting to be part of a school with a curriculum inspired by Waldorf methods and techniques. It is an honor to work alongside talented and creative teachers and staff, as well as all the parents and extended family members that willingly give their time and resources to build and maintain a school that is a beautiful place for children to grow and learn.

NEW!! The First Day of School is a ~ FULL DAY ~ Wednesday, September 8 NEW!!

ALL GRADES K-8 begin at **8:30 AM**

Kindergarten is released at 11:45 AM (Extended Care Released 2:30 PM)

Grades 1-3 are released at 2:30 PM

Grades 4-8 are released at 2:45 PM

All-School Meeting and Class Meeting, 5:30 PM, Wednesday, September 15

This is an essential meeting. It is a time meet new staff members and learn about special events for the new year and to meet with old and new friends as well as. Refreshments will be served and child care will be provided.

Agenda Highlights: New staff introductions; Board of Directors report; Parent Council news; School Festivals update

Class Meetings begin at 6:45 PM: Promptly after the All-School Meeting. Parents are invited to meet the teacher(s) of your children. There will be a class meeting for all grade levels, K-8. The teachers will provide vital information so parents can ensure their children will have a successful school year. Many of your questions will be answered at the meetings. Consideration has been made for parents that must attend more than one class meeting. Class meetings end at 7:30 PM.

Eugene Celebration Parade, Saturday, August 28

The parade theme is "Raise the Roof." Village School will be there in full force and color. Please, please, please plan to be in the parade. The first 100 people that arrive to march in the parade will receive a fabulous Village School tee-shirt.

Plan to arrive and assemble at 8:45 AM at 11th and High St. Be ready for a good time! A special thanks to Tracey Johnson and her family for taking the lead on our entry.

School Beautification Work Party, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Friday, September 3

Let's join together to sweep, trim, paint and add the caring & loving touches that makes school a special place for children and families. Drop in anytime. Add your hand to the beauty.

Oregon Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (OAKS)

Early results indicate Village School met benchmarks for the national requirement of Average Yearly Progress (AYP). More information and disaggregated data from the Oregon Department of Education will be forthcoming. Congratulations to the students, families and teachers!

I look forward to greeting the children the first day and every day at Village School.

Sincerely,

Bob Kaminski
Principal

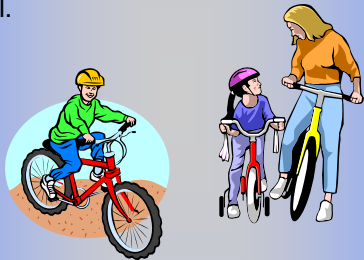
PS – I want to meet with as many parents as I can early this fall. Please consider calling Cara Abrams-Simonton, Administrative Assistant/Student Services to set an appointment. She can be reached at 541-345-7285, Ext. 102

Announcements

School Photos—Mark your calendars! School photos will be taken **Wednesday, Sept. 29th** by Inter-State Photography. They will also make our Middle School ID cards on that day, and if parents have returned the LTD bus form, students in grades 6-8 will also receive bus stickers on their cards. Photo Make-Up Day is Nov. 17th.



Walk & Bike to School Event—All across the globe, on **Wednesday, October 6, 2010**, children and their parents will join together to walk or bike to school. Oregon is proud to be a major player in this international event that is part of a worldwide movement to encourage children to be more active. Walk and Bike to School Day is the capstone event for Safe Routes to School programs, a movement for which Oregon serves as a leader and innovator in promoting walking and biking to school throughout the community all year long. We are looking for interested parents to help coordinate this event. If you are interested, contact Rachel.



Village School Festival Planning— Below is the continuum of planning and preparation for the annual calendar of community activities and festivals. Each grade is assigned a festival/site clean up for the year. Class Coordinators can access more information about each of these events in the School office.

All Grades—9/3/10 Site Clean Up

Kindergarten—5/7/11 Site Clean Up

Grades 1 & 2 – Winter Concert, 5/7/11 Site Clean Up

Grade 3 – May Day Celebration, 1/22/11 Site Clean Up

Grade 4 – Math Night, Authors' Night, 1/22/11 Site Clean Up

Grade 5 – Heart of the Village Celebration, 1/22/11 Site Clean Up

Grade 6 – Heart of the Village Celebration, 11/20/11 Site Clean Up

Grade 7— Dia de los Muertos, 11/20/11 Site Clean Up

Grade 8 – Dia de los Muertos, Talent Show, 11/20/11 Site Clean Up



Student Directory Information—All families will receive a Handbook and Directory. The Directory lists the student, parents, addresses, and phone numbers. All families will be included in this directory unless they request otherwise. If you do not want your contact information released, please notify Cara Abrams-Simonton at 541-345-7285 ext 102 or village@4j.lane.edu by Sept. 30th. Please return your student verification form to the office by Sept. 17th.

Cell Phone and other electronic devices are not to be used during school time. This includes video games, MP3/iPods, etc. If a student must make a phone call during school time, they must use the phone in the office. (In isolated cases, parents may arrange with the School for their child to carry a cell phone with the agreement that it is to be used only under certain extenuating circumstances.)

Bikes, Blades, Skateboards and Scooters are a great way to get to school, but please, no wheels on campus as it is a safety hazard. Students should walk/put the wheels away once they reach the school grounds. Students should walk once they reach the school grounds and put the wheels away.

Parking Rules—Parents may park in the lot or on the street. Please be courteous to our neighbors and do not block driveways or move garbage cans! Drive slowly and safely, looking out for children. Do not park in the yellow zone, near intersections, or on the grass.

How to be a Safe Pedestrian—When school is back in session, there will be more cars and people in and around schools. Look out for each other! Walking and biking is a fantastic way to get to school and get around town. With so many different kinds of wheels using the roads, we need to have a few rules to keep all of us safe and happy.

Pedestrian Safety Rules

- Keep your eyes open and be ready to get out of the way.
- Cross the street at the corner or the crosswalk and obey all traffic signals.
- Walk on a sidewalk or on the left side of the street, facing oncoming traffic.
- Look left, right, and left again before crossing. Continue looking both ways until you reach the other side.
- In traffic, make eye contact with the driver so they see you; make sure they are at a full stop before you cross

Announcements

Village Voice Submissions must be in the office by Thursday afternoon. Please email village@4j.lane.edu. Announcements will run for 2 weeks in a row unless otherwise arranged. All submissions may be edited for length, clarity, and content. The *Village Voice* will be posted online with some copies available across from the front office. If you would like a copy in your family mailbox, please notify Rachel or Cara in the office or at 541-345-7285



Back to School Healthy Lunch Ideas

Keep your Child's Brain and Body Well-Fueled with a Healthy Lunch

A healthy lunch during the school day is important for children because the fuel allows them to stay engaged at school and enjoy the activity that helps keep them healthy. The basic elements of a healthy lunch include a whole grain, fruit and/or vegetable, low-fat protein source, calcium source, and a small treat once in awhile.

Use these ideas as a starting point:

- ♥ Roasted veggie sandwich, low-fat yogurt with frozen berries
- ♥ Low-fat cottage cheese, fruit, cold veggie pasta salad
- ♥ Whole wheat pita, hummus, veggie sticks, dried fruit, cheese
- ♥ Veggie & bean chili or soup in a thermos, whole grain crackers, apple slices, oatmeal cookie

Eat the rainbow! A variety of colors in each meal will help provide good nutrition. When shopping, remember whole natural foods are better than processed foods, which are often high in fat and sodium, and low in nutrients. Have healthy lunch & snack ideas? We'd love to print them in the *Village Voice*; send them to village@4j.lane.edu.

See Page 7 for 4J Food Services information.



Volunteering at the School

There are many ways to help out at the Village School. Whether it's during the school day, after school, or on the weekends from home, there are many essential activities that parents do to help our school. Look in each newsletter for ongoing volunteer needs (Page 5), check the board outside the office, or check with your classroom teacher.

Volunteer Ideas to Get you Started:

- ♥ Help with organizing our entry in the Eugene Celebration Parade
- ♥ Attend the All-School Meeting (you get hours for attending meetings!)
- ♥ Come to Site Clean-Up days
- ♥ Volunteer to be your classroom coordinator
- ♥ Help set-up/break-down or gather treats for the weekly Village Café
- ♥ Anything else that you want to do to help!



Fundraising

Volunteering

Please join us in our fundraising efforts!

Register your debit/credit cards with **eScrip** and a small percentage of your purchases go to the Village School! You can register either online or by mail. For more information on E-Scrip please pick up a flyer and registration form outside the Administration office. Our Group ID is # 9130886.

Order **Café Mam Coffee** through us (order Tuesday, have your coffee Wednesday).

Buy Student Art **Greeting Cards** (beautiful Village School artwork for \$1.00).

Donate **Campbell's Soup Labels** to get some free items for our school; the container is placed above the family mail boxes.

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

Please Visit Cornbread Café from Tuesday - Thursday 11 am - 3 pm, Friday evening from 6 pm - 9 pm, and Saturday from 12 - 4 pm at 112 E. 13th (& Oak) Eugene, OR.

Please bring the included flyer with you for an opportunity to support The Village School. For every purchase you make, a percentage of your total sale goes to support our school program. It is valid through September 1, 2010.

The cafe also runs the community space (The Birdhouse - brick house formerly known as Briggs Photography Studio) and is part of First Friday Art Walks. Hope to see you there!

If you are interested in helping to coordinate fundraising efforts for the school or being part of a committee, see Rachel Williams in the office, call 541-345-7285 ext 101, or email rachelw@eugenevillageschool.org.

The Village School Board of Directors is actively recruiting volunteer members!

The Board consists of the School's administrators, teachers, parents, and community members. It meets once a month. Meetings are open to the public. Parents and community members are welcome to attend.

Board of Directors Job Description at a Glance

The Village School Board of Directors has ultimate legal and financial responsibility for the school. The Board is composed of teachers, parents, and community members. Primary Board responsibilities include maintaining the legal and financial security of the school, long-range planning and development, and creating and overseeing the implementation of policies and procedures of the school that are consistent with the school's pedagogy, community vision, and its charter. The Board elects a President, Secretary, and Treasurer from among its members. All Board members are encouraged to participate in the major committees of the school.

Village School Volunteers Needed

After School Supervision: Please remind the children that they are not to hang from the hand rails, play tag in front of the doors, or stand on the ramp ledges.

Crosswalk Cones: We need someone to put the cones into place before school and to bring them into the building after school.

Crossing Guards: Mon-Fri: 8:10-8:30 am & 2:30-2:50 pm

Illegal Dumping: Please watch out for people illegally dumping their trash in our dumpsters, bins, and on our lawns. We would like to keep our school clean! If you see a license plate, please write it down.

Playground Helpers: 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! Lower grades have recess from 12:00 – 12:30 pm and upper grades have recess from 12:45 – 1:15 pm.

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!

Don't forget to log your Volunteer Hours!

Calendar Highlights

<u>Month</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Event</u>
September	3	Friday	Back to School Cleaning Party; 10-2 pm
September	8	Wednesday	First Day of School New Parent Orientation; 10 am
September	15	Wednesday	All School Meeting and Class Meetings; 5:30-7:30 pm
September	29	Wednesday	Picture Day
October	8	Friday	No School, Teacher In-Service Day
October	15	Friday	No School, Teacher Grading Day
October	18	Monday	No School, Parent Teacher Conferences
October	19	Tuesday	No School, Parent Teacher Conferences
October	29	Friday	Halloween Carnival
November	6	Saturday	Dia de los Muertos
November	11	Thursday	No School, Veteran's Day
November	17	Wednesday	Picture Retakes
November	18	Thursday	Lantern Walk
November	20	Saturday	Site Clean Up
November	23	Tuesday	Math Night
November	25	Thursday	No School, Thanksgiving Holiday
November	26	Friday	No School, Thanksgiving Holiday
December	3	Friday	Talent Show
December	9	Thursday	Winter Concert
December	13-31	Monday-Friday	No School, Winter Holiday
January	3	Monday	No School, Teacher Work Day
January	4	Tuesday	School Resumes
January	17	Monday	No School, Martin Luther King Day
January	22	Saturday	Site Clean Up
January	28	Friday	No School, Teacher Work Day
February	7	Monday	No School, Parent/Teacher Conferences
February	8	Tuesday	No School, Parent/Teacher Conferences
February	12	Saturday	Heart of the Village
February	16	Wednesday	Parent Information Meeting
February	19	Saturday	Parent Information Meeting
February	21	Monday	No School, President's Day
February	23	Wednesday	Middle School Orientation
March	2	Wednesday	Author's Night
March	11	Friday	No School, Teacher Work Day
March	15	Tuesday	Lottery
March- April	21-1	Monday-Friday	No School, Spring Break
April	4	Monday	No School, Teacher Work Day
April	5	Tuesday	School Resumes
April	15	Friday	No School, Teacher Work Day
April	29	Friday	May Day Festival
May	7	Saturday	Site Clean Up
May	12-13	Thursday-Friday	Greek Games
May	23-24	Monday-Tuesday	Medieval Games
May	30	Monday	No School, Memorial Holiday
June	10	Friday	No School, Teacher Work Day
June	16	Thursday	All School Picnic
June	17	Friday	Last Day of School, Early Release; 1 pm 8 th Grade Graduation

Food Services Information

Federal School Lunch Program: If your child(ren) participated in the Federal School Lunch Program last year or if you would like to apply for this year, here is what you need to know:

Returning students to the program must complete a NEW form at the beginning of the school year. Complete one form per family including all your children enrolled in 4J schools, no matter what other program you have been accepted to.

If a NEW form is not complete, you will be dropped from the program and charged full price for all meals, beginning October 22, 2010.

Those new to the program must also complete one form per family, including all your children enrolled in 4J schools. Please be aware that applications can take up to 10 days to process.

You are considered approved when you have received a letter from Food Services stating that you are now a part of the program. Until that time, you are responsible to provide meals for your child either from home or paying full price for them at school.

While on the Federal Lunch Program, your student is not allowed to purchase only a milk or juice. They must either purchase the whole meal or bring cash from home to purchase only the beverage to accompany a sack lunch from home.

Account Balance:

Lunch slips are sent home every Friday for those student's with a balance of less than \$9.50. Please check your family mailbox! This should give you enough time for a payment to be posted before your child needs to charge. If there is a minus sign in front of the dollar amount, you have a negative balance that needs to be made current.

Pay for meals on-line, with a major credit card. Signup by using your child's student ID number, which is available by calling Food Service office at 541-790-7656. There is a 5% processing charge for all on-line payments that goes directly to the credit card company.

Pay for meals with cash or check payments directly to the kitchen in the morning before classes begin. Make checks payable to: 4J Food Services.

Each student is allow only 3 charges. If your child exceeds this limit he or she will be offered an Emergency Meal, free of charge, until their account balance is brought current.

(Emergency Meal consists of: cheese sandwich, milk or juice and salad bar.)

All account balances (negative or positive) are carried over to the following school year, even if the student is moving onto middle school.

Meal Prices:	Breakfast (full price)	\$1.20
	Breakfast (reduced price)	Free
	Lunch (full price)	\$2.25
	Lunch (reduced price)	\$.40
	Milk	\$.50
	Adults	\$3.00



Any questions, please feel free to call Debby at 4J between 7:30 a.m. – 1:45 p.m. @ 541-790-4050

Food Services Information cont'd

USDA to Study 4J for Farm to School Program

4J's locally produced school lunch offerings will be an exemplar for other districts

A team from the U.S. Department of Agriculture spent two days in Eugene School District 4J in late May, learning about how 4J Nutrition Services puts locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables on the table for Eugene students.

Did you know?

- An all-you-can-eat daily offering bar is included with every cafeteria meal, featuring a variety of fresh produce and other healthy foods.
- Much of our produce comes from the Pacific Northwest. Our primary produce supplier was the first U.S. food distributor to earn the non-profit Food Alliance's certification for sustainable business practices.
- Eugene schools serve many items that come from Oregon farms. Examples this year have included Oregon-grown apples, potatoes, radishes, onions, pears, frozen cranberries, frozen corn, and frozen marionberries.
- 4J school menus highlight several different items from Lane County farms each year. This year's highlighted produce selections have included tomatoes, raspberries and strawberries from Thistledown Farm, strawberries from Hentze and Johnson's Farm, and Braeburn apples from Detering Orchards.
- Efforts to provide healthy, local foods don't end with fruits and vegetables. For example, our milk is rBST free and comes from dairy farms all over the Willamette Valley. Our bread, dinner rolls, hamburger and hot dog buns, and English muffins are all 100% whole wheat and are baked at the Franz Bakery in Springfield.
- Our schools' weekly menus are carefully planned to meet nutrition guidelines set by the USDA. 4J has an extensive Wellness Policy in place that guides healthy food offerings outside the cafeteria, as well.

