



The Village Voice



This is our school, Let peace dwell here
Fill all the rooms with happiness.
As many hands do make a house,
So many hearts do make our school.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday, 1/29 No School (grading day)
- Wednesday, 2/3 Village School Lottery Meeting 6-8pm
- Thursday, 2/4 4th Grade Play 10:15-11:15 & 6:00pm
- Saturday, 2/6 Village School Lottery Meeting 10am-noon
- Sunday, 2/7 Work Party at new school 9am-12:00pm
- Monday, 2/8 Building Development Committee Meeting, 5:30-7pm
- Wednesday, 2/10 Parent Council, 6:30-7:30pm
- Monday, 2/15 NO SCHOOL - President's Day
- Thursday, 2/18 Grandparents Day
- Saturday, 2/20 Heart of the Village, 11am-2pm



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK JANUARY 28TH, 2016

Greetings! We're starting to see little sun breaks, reminding us that warmer, lighter weather will be coming and with it our first work parties and projects at the new site. Tomorrow morning we are painting the wellness rooms, feel free to join us on the lower level from 9AM-12PM. February 7th, Super Bowl Sunday, we are having an outdoor clean up and spruce up party early in the day which is our first official Village School work party at the new site.

We are still looking for volunteers to help our children at the crosswalks. Any shifts that can be done are greatly appreciated. Remember that there is no school for students tomorrow – have a great weekend and thanks for all you do for Village School! Kent

SUPPORT OUR SPECIALTY CLASSES AT OUR NEW SITE, CONTRIBUTE TO THE ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

JUST 3 DAYS LEFT!

So many families donated to the Annual Giving Campaign this week! A big thank-you to each of you. The Annual Giving Campaign has raised \$9273. If you have not yet made your donation - there is still time. Please go online and donate using your credit card, on our website: <http://www.happyvillage.org/>

To give by check, make it payable to "The Village School" and mail it to The Village School, 2855 Lincoln St, Eugene, Oregon 97405. Please earmark your gift to Annual Giving anywhere on the check or accompanying letter.



HELP! CROSSGUARD VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED!

Here comes the sun, and with it more students are walking and biking. Imagine how great it would feel to help them cross the long and winding road. We can come together to meet this important Village School need! We currently need volunteers for all days, before and after school. If you can take a shift, contact Holly in the office and let her know. holly@eugenevillageschool.org

GRANDPARENTS & GRANDFRIENDS DAY THURSDAY FEBRUARY 18TH

On Thursday February 18th, two days before Heart of the Village, “grand” family and friends will visit your children’s classrooms, sample some of our music and eat lunch with your child and their class while they get to know our school a little better. Last year’s event was a great time, and we highly recommend it!

If you have grandparents or grandfriends you would like invited, stop by the office to complete the invitation contact form by or email the information to holly@eugenevillageschool.org no later than 2/2/05



We are busy preparing for our annual Celebration, Heart of the Village, and can use your help. Your child’s classroom coordinator will have information about your grade’s specific volunteer needs and how to sign up. Signup sheets will be hung outside of classrooms and available online. <https://www.help-counterweb.com/ci/signup/130140a5e64>

Raffle Basket donations are needed for each grade. Please see your classroom coordinators for your grade’s basket theme. Donations are due by Friday, February 12th at the end of the school day.

In addition to the popular raffle for fantastic baskets, we will be holding a silent auction for “experiences.” We are looking for donations of cabins, raft trips, spa services, etc.

If you have any plain white or light colored sheets without prints to donate for the prayer-flag room, please bring them to the office by Monday, February 8th.

Interested in volunteering your time to be a videographer at the Heart of the Village celebration? Contact Holly if you are interested.

GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATIONS ON BEHALF OF THE 8TH GRADE

Thanks to our school community for bringing their immense and varied talent to our Village School stage. It’s worth mentioning that for 15 years that ol’ stage has hosted every imaginable talent associated with our school community—way too many to name. For many years we performed without the benefit of even a curtain until Pamela Boyatt and Parent Council bought us “red velvet” around 2007.

As we move into our last months at the Frances Willard School, let’s take a moment to appreciate our stage and all it’s given us (and all we’ve given back). Next years Talent Show, class plays and all our gatherings will feature a new stage in a new Village School with new and old talents to break it in. What we leave behind is our gathering and performance spot that has hosted over 100 plays (no exaggeration), dozens of festivals, assemblies and gatherings of every stripe and the birth of the most amazing public school food program in the United States.

Appreciations for this years all-school “Village School’s Got Talent” evening goes to all student performers across the grades for their courage and generosity in sharing their talents with our school. Without these performances we don’t have much of an evening. Thanks to Stacey Black’s support and help in the kitchen, Holly and Sherri for all the little (and not so little) things you do to support these events; to Justin who donated his evening running the sound, for all the 8th grade parents who worked so hard to offer a wonderful dinner (has it ever run more smoothly?), to the 8th grade students on and behind the stage, in the kitchen, at the bake sale table, working in setup, cleanup, making posters, on the floor, appreciating that the proceeds for this evening was for their benefit, to the many Village School alumni who showed up and lent their support (Quinn, Lucy, Perrin, Naquel, Journey, Sylvani to name a few). Special thanks to Remy, Nate, Elijah and Dillon our show’s MC’s and for Enoch who sat quietly backstage working the curtains.

And lastly, thanks to the Robert Kaminski Stage for all your soul and good vibes, Friday night and across the years.

With much gratitude,

Andy Traisman

8th Grade class co-teacher

Check out the Talent Show Photos on pages 5-6

FOR CHILDHOOD'S SAKE: A FORUM FOR EXPLORING THE IMPACTS OF TECHNOLOGY ON CHILDHOOD

Unplug your kids: Get them off the electronics and playing outdoors (Part 4)

Do not use technology as a reward

It is very common for parents to use computer time or video game play as the reward for doing homework, or as a bribe for doing undesirable activities such as chores. Unfortunately, because the internet can be so pleasurable this may actually activate the same pleasure and reward centers in the brain that are involved in addictions. Parenting experts warn against rewarding kids for doing their expected jobs (such as homework and chores) with candy or cash, and the same reasoning applies to media and entertainment technology. Every family should establish clear rules about technology use that are fair, consistent, and in line with their values. These could include a rule that all non-school and non-work use of the computer for every family member happens when the important parts of our day are completed, including exercise and outdoor play. That will help you avoid statements such as "If you do your homework you can have two hours of video game time." Developing this new pattern will help your children improve their own internal desire to be productive which increases their self esteem. It may also reduce the association between pleasure and entertainment technology use and allow them to find passion in other activities.

Do not try and do this alone

Online gaming, social media, and internet time can be very alluring to children. Suggesting healthier, outdoor activities may be met with resistance such as complaints that parents just don't understand the younger generation, or even anger. Definitely enlist help. The most important step is that all parent figures in the home be on the same page. Parent conflict over technology use is one of the main reasons this new plan can fail. Try to find common ground on which you can agree. Then use the "village" approach. Talk to your relatives, neighbors, friends, church, or PTA about the problem of getting kids outdoors. Brainstorm with community groups, clubs, coaches, and parks departments about programs that foster healthy activities. One of the most successful group approaches can be talking with the parents of your children's friends. If your child's peers are involved in healthy activities they will be more likely to go along. Don't be afraid to share the challenges you are experiencing in your own family. Collaborate with like-minded parents to plan get-togethers that are tech-free. Using this community approach should greatly improve your success.

This is excerpt #4 (in a series of 6) from an article written by Ann H. Steel, MD, MA, LMHC. She is a video game and internet addiction specialist in private practice in Bellingham, Washington. You can read it online at: http://expertbeacon.com/unplug-your-kids-get-them-electronics-and-playing-outdoors/#.Vmj0-RorIT_ We invite you to share your musings/ideas/practices on the topic of childhood, family, and media. E-mail: JaneHappy@aol.com or drop it in the Happy family box, and let us know whether or not you want your thoughts to be included in future VV issues.

SMARTER BALANCE TEST OPT-OUT

Parents were emailed information pertaining to the Smarter Balance tests that will happen at The Village School sometime between February 9th and June 10th. In the email, information was shared about the tests and forms were given for parents who are choosing to have their children opt-out of the tests. Additional copies of the forms are available in the office. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the office as well.



IT IS WET OUT THERE!

We have run through all of our "extras," and could use some clothing and boot donations. Specifically we need sizes 6-10 pants (jeans, sweats and leggings), socks, and rainboots. Please bring donations to the office. Thanks!

Please send Village Voice submissions to Holly at village@4j.lane.edu by Wednesdays at 12:00 PM. Thank you!

New School News! 1/28/16



Get some exercise and have some community fun before pigskinning out at your Super Bowl Party. We are cleaning and sprucing up our new site. Below is a description of our projects and what we will be doing. Come one and all!

Debris – There is still quite a bit of trash around the site, wooden boards, an old couch, lots of weeds and overgrown beds. **Please bring: trucks/trailers, wheelbarrows, weed-whackers, and yard tools, and dollies.**

Signmaking – To give our kids something fun and meaningful to do we will have a room where signmaking is happening. The signs will be placed in appropriate and visible windows around the school. We are looking for someone to take the lead on this activity.

Moving Furniture – There is a tremendous amount of furniture that needs to be moved either for donation or for consolidation prior to remodeling.

Wear old clothes and bring gloves and any tools you think may help with the above projects. Most of all bring a good sense of warmth and humor as we dig in to our first collective work party. Hope to see you there!

We are looking for two specific volunteer tasks - please let Holly in the office know if you would like to take one of these roles!

Snack coordinator – purchase and bring drinks/snacks for our hungry volunteers.

Sign-making coordinator – pull together supplies, and work with the kids on making signs.

Upcoming Meetings & Events	
Sunday, 2/7	Work Party at our new school! 9:00am-12:00pm
Thursday, 2/4	Fundraising Committee 5:30-7:00 pm
Monday, 2/8	Building Development Committee 5:30-7:00pm
Thursday, 2/18	Fundraising Committee 5:30-7:00 pm
Monday, 2/22	Building Development Committee 5:30-7:00pm

VILLAGE SCHOOL TALENT SHOW



