

# 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

- Wednesday, 4/27      Mentorship Evening, 5-8pm
- Friday, 4/29            5th Grade Science Fair, 8:45-10:30am
- 2nd Grade Play, 6:30pm
- Saturday, 4/30        Paint-prep work party at new school, 9am-2pm
- Monday, 5/2            Walk & Bike to School Day!
- Building Development Committee Meeting, 5:30pm
- Tuesday, 5/3            1st Grade Play, 6pm
- Tuesday, 5/3-5/4      5th Grade at Greek Games
- Thursday, 5/5          1st/2nd Grade Field Trip  
May Day Festival, 1:15-2:45pm
- Friday, 5/6              NO SCHOOL



A confluence of values was on display. Children's dreams for a natural environment which will provide them with beauty, health, and adventure along with the actions by volunteers and staff to create a safe and beautiful place where children want to be. For not only did we celebrate our earth, it was a day for all families to practice the care needed to drop off their children at the new school - each member of our school community contributed to keeping our children safe and to create a beautiful school.

## MAY DAY CELEBRATION 2016

Spring is finally here! May is just around the corner and with it, our Annual Village School MAY DAY Celebration.

**Families are invited to attend on Thursday, May 5th from 1:15 to 2:30pm.** All students from Grades 1 through 8 will be performing/helping in our Celebration of Spring, performances of music, song and dance, and winding and weaving the colors of the rainbow around our May Pole. Other festivities include making flower garlands, face painting, enjoying fresh fruit snacks, plus an assortment of fun games!

During the few days leading up to our May Day celebration, several classes will be making May Baskets to deliver to houses around the neighborhood. Please check in with your child's teacher to see how you can help with this project.

**On the morning of our celebration – Thursday, May 5th–** we will need **LOTS of fresh flowers** – for decorating the May Pole, making flower garlands and filling May Baskets as we are no longer receiving flower donations from Trader Joe's. Please share the beauty of your gardens with the school! We would also appreciate any donations of **fresh fruit** to share with the children at the Celebration. **Please bring flowers, greenery and fresh fruit to the office at the beginning of the school day on May 5th!**

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK APRIL 22ND, 2016

Our students planted a tree in honor of the earth and to take a unified first step to care for the new school and our natural world. Each student wrote a wish for the future and they were placed next to the tree ball during the ceremony. Earth Day is every day at The Village School.

One student wrote, "I hope my children get to play on the tree when and if they go to The Village School."

Another wrote, "I hope this tree grows strong and healthy and I hope we get more movement (PE). May this tree have many adventures."

A third child wrote, "I hope the courtyard has living flowers and trees and bushes and bees. Maybe we could get a fountain."

## WALK & BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY MONDAY, MAY 2ND



Monday, May 2nd kicks off Walk & Bike to School Month. Plan ahead to walk/bike/skate to school! On Monday morning, the Eugene Emeralds Sluggo will be walking with students from Friendly Park, leaving at 8am!

Students who walk/bike/skate to school can enter a raffle for prizes, purchased through funds generously donated by Point2Point

Solutions. All students will also be offered healthy treats as they arrive. So arrive a few minutes early!

During the month of May, each class will tally the number of students that walk/bike to school. The class with the highest percentage of participation will win a bike blender party!

## 7TH & 8TH GRADE TRACK MEET (SEE PG 5 FOR MORE PHOTOS)

The 7th and 8th graders participated in the annual spring track meet for the 15th consecutive year at SEHS track last Friday with Madrone Trail and Eugene Waldorf Schools. It was a perfect day for a track meet, cool and dry and Britten Kimbell and Tim Tabor (with parent volunteer help) led the kids through many track and field events.

Among the highlights, Issac Vandagriff winning the 100m dash with one shoe (you had to see it to believe it, his shoe flew off in the first ten meters and he ran the rest of the race and won, with one shoe. Legends are made from such events!) Kiarha Scott-Gallo racing stride for stride with Samira Lamont, Samira and Madysen Utz also running stride for stride. Harper Neubeck running with an ease and power that screamed "this kid is a natural on the track". Five minute mile, just over a minute 400m time...just beautiful watching Harper run. The relay races at the end of the day were also really fun to watch. I appreciate the effort and sportsmanship of all VS students who participated. Thanks to Britten and Tim for all their hard work. -AT

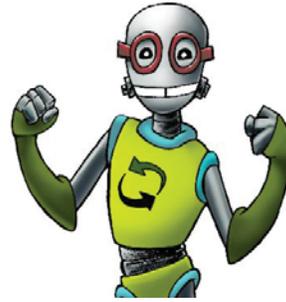


## PARENT & FAMILY PARTNERSHIP SURVEY

Each year, 4j has the parents at Title I schools fill this out. It is quick and simple, taking about two minutes to complete. Please take a few minutes between now and Friday, April 22 to complete. The survey is online at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/4jparentpartnership2016\\_English](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/4jparentpartnership2016_English)

If you would prefer to complete the survey on paper, you can pick up a copy in the school office. Thanks for your help with the survey!!

## NEXTSTEP E-WASTE ROUND-UP



Today through Friday April 29th, The Village School is hosting an E-Waste (electronics waste) Drop off for Next Step Recycling. We invite you to bring all your old electronics that you are not using and put them in one of the bins. Anything from cell phones to video games, we will

take it! (No refrigerators or Freezers). This is a contest that the 4th grade has entered to try to win a recycled robot for our school! (sadly the robot does not work). Hope you can donate to help our planet!

## GOING GREEN AT THE VILLAGE

The 5th Grade Students performed a waste audit with the help of Brett Jacobs and Jo Rodgers. We will conduct a second waste audit at the end of May to see if we can successfully reduce our waste and energy consumption. If we succeed, the students will receive a swim party! The 1st/2nd Grade classes will go to McDowell Creek Falls and the 3rd-8th Grades will go to Amazon Pool.



# New School News! 4/22/16

## Mock Drop Off - What We Learned

Thank you to the entire Village School community for pulling together for our practice drop-off at the school's new site! The experiment was a great success, as it allowed us to answer some important questions we have had while planning the site, examine safety issues involved with bringing kids to school, and see how the children used the new school and the grounds.

Most of what we learned came from watching the traffic & people flow around and into the site. Here are some of the lessons:

- It appears that there is plenty of capacity on the surrounding streets to handle our need for parking and walking the younger kids to class.
- The area around the 35th Ave. entrance to the school mostly had Village School traffic. We are working with the City to have a crosswalk painted on Donald near 35th to facilitate safe crossing.
- The steps leading down to the school on 35th Ave. need better visibility. To this end, we will create a "no parking" zone on 35th near the stairs, as part of creating a safer, better seen and more welcoming entryway for pedestrians. The grounds committee and transportation committee will work on creating some paths with gravel or wood chips, to make it clear where people should go, and provide a safer walking surface.
- We may want to designate a "drop-off only" area on 35th, exclusively for middle school student drop-offs.
- Donald St. was quite busy and had a lot of vehicle traffic traveling above the posted speed limit (25 MPH). A crosswalk and crossing guard will be needed at Donald near 35th. We are working with the City to have a crosswalk painted before school starts. We have also requested "School Zone" signs.
- There may be some need to manage traffic at the Donald and 35th intersection — or that may resolve itself with familiarity.
- We are working with the City to have a crosswalk with a light installed on Willamette St. around 34th Alley. Currently, crossing Willamette at any place other than a marked crossing is clearly very dangerous. Families will continue to be encouraged to cross Willamette at the light at Crest.
- We will continue to educate parents that there will be no entering of the school site in a vehicle. For those driving, parking near the "front" of the school (on 35th Ave.) will be preferred.
- The 35th & Willamette intersection was much less of a problem than feared. People were able to turn off of and on to Willamette with little difficulty, although there is still a need to educate families about the dangers of that corner.
- 33rd Ave., near the Post Office and fire station, turned out to be the most challenging area of the entire drop-off. Many non-Village School cars turn onto the street from all directions, so traffic is heavy. Parking is limited due to the fire station and many driveways. Even with a crossing guard at the corner, many kids crossed 33rd mid-street from behind parked cars. With two highly visible crossing helpers at Willamette, many people (including the crossing guard) still felt unsafe.
- A crossing guard will be posted at 33rd and Willamette next year, and we will discuss with the City having a crosswalk installed across 33rd near Willamette.
- City of Eugene traffic staff were present and impressed with our planning. It helped them to see the problem spots first-hand, and they acknowledged our need for traffic safety improvements around the school. We submitted a request to the City for these traffic safety improvements early this year, and we are working with the City on time lines for improvements to happen, hopefully before the next school year begins.
- The kids seemed excited about the new spaces, especially with the lovely weather!

We would love to hear from parents about how the drop-off went for you! Both drivers and bikers/walkers are encouraged to share information, concerns, and thoughts. Please email Holly McRae at [holly@eugenevillageschool.org](mailto:holly@eugenevillageschool.org).

### Upcoming Meetings

- Saturday, 4/30 Paint-prep work party, 9am-2pm
- Monday, 5/2 Building Development Committee Meeting, 5:30-7pm
- Monday, 5/9 Library Committee Meeting, 3:30, new school

**Paint Prep  
Work Party  
Saturday, 4/30  
9am-2pm**

**Bring your 8 foot ladders and cordless drills.  
For questions, email: [trail\\_digger@yahoo.com](mailto:trail_digger@yahoo.com)**

## WEATHERGRAMS

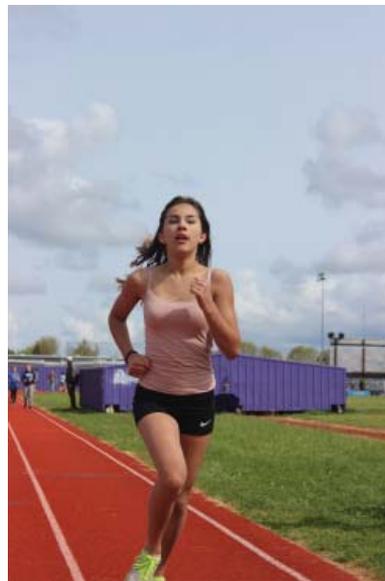
At the end of their creative writing block, the 7th Grade students created their own original Weathergrams and hung them amongst the trees of Friendly Park. The weathergram is indigenous to the Pacific Northwest and was created by Lloyd Reynolds at Reed College in the 1970's. They will decompose naturally over time. Check them out if you're out and about in our neighborhood park!



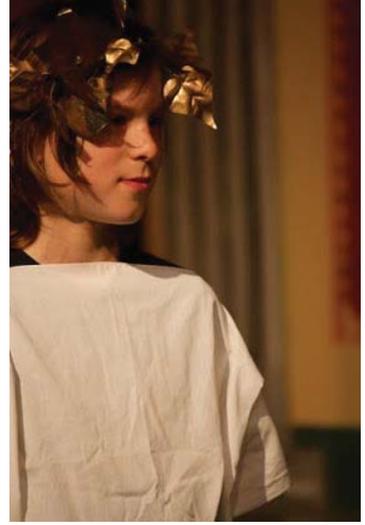
## EARTH WEEK CELEBRATION - AT OUR NEW SCHOOL!



# UPPER GRADE TRACK MEET 2016



# 5TH GRADE PLAY THE ORIGINS OF WINTER AND OTHER GREEK STORIES



# Village Classified

## FILM SHOWING

AWARD-WINNING DOCUMENTARY

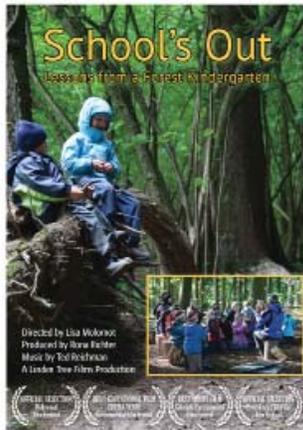
### School's Out

Lessons from a Forest Kindergarten

**APRIL 30TH, 7-9 PM**  
Saturday

**COZMIC**  
8th & Charnelton

**\$3-20**  
Sliding-scale donation  
*Your donation will enter you to win fabulous door prizes.*

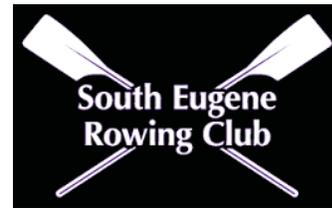


"Every parent and teacher should see this film."  
Dr. Marcy Buddem, Executive Director of the Gesell Institute of Child Development, CT

**All proceeds will benefit:**  
Hazelwood Outdoor Kindergarten's Scholarship Fund



**Learn more about local camps and programs that connect children with nature:**



South Eugene Rowing Club is hosting summer camps! Discover the joys of rowing in a fun, team environment and enjoy summer mornings at Dexter Lake. Open to everyone entering 8th-12th grades; no previous experience necessary. Attend one or both sessions, July 25-29 or August 1-5, 8 am-noon. Transportation to the lake is provided to and from South Eugene High School. For more information and online registration please see: [SouthEugeneRowingClub.org](http://SouthEugeneRowingClub.org)

## Celebrate safety

Here's a free, family event that benefits a great cause – you. When accidents or injuries occur, the entire family feels the pain. Learn to prevent accidents before they happen by understanding the hidden hazards around you and your kids – from bicycles to big screens.

- Free safety checks
- Safety item giveaways
- Emergency vehicles on display

**Family Safety Fair**  
Sat., May 21 • 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Willamette Center for Sports and Recreation, Springfield  
[peacehealth.org/whmc/safetyfair](http://peacehealth.org/whmc/safetyfair)

**PeaceHealth**  
The Spirit of Health