



2855 Lincoln Street
Tel: 541-345-7285
Fax: 541-242-6874

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.



village@4j.lane.edu
eugenevillageschool.org
@EugeneVillage

February 20, 2015, Volume 14, Issue 23

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, 2/26	2nd Grade Play Performances
Wednesday, 3/4 5:15-8:00 PM	Title I Author's Night
Thursday, 3/5 10:15-11:15 AM	Eco-Warriors School Assembly
Friday, 3/6 3:00 PM	NO SCHOOL - Teacher Work Day '15-'16 Lottery Applications Due



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Greetings! Yes, I'm still loving the lunches and getting to know everyone a little more.

The sixth grade girls talked me into chaperoning their Valentine Dance last Friday, what a fun time that was! They did great, bringing lots of food and decorations and dancing a lot better than I did in sixth grade. Grandparents Day brought more than fifty participants yesterday. They visited classrooms, told some stories, watched performances and had lunch from the kitchen.

Toña, Stacey, and staff passed the annual ODE School Nutrition Program evaluation on Tuesday with great marks; good job Village Kitchen, Sherri, and office staff-- what an amazing program. Tomorrow, Saturday, is Heart of the Village. I hear it's so much fun, and I know there's so much to do. Please don't miss it--I will even open up the stage with my Village School singing and guitar playing debut!

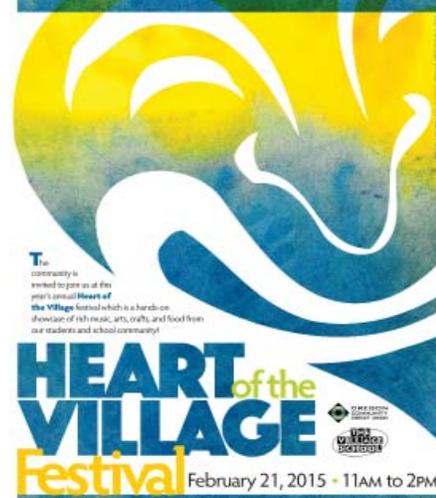
Thanks for all you do for Village School and for helping me to learn and grow here. --Kent

PERTUSSIS (WHOOPIING COUGH)

A child in our school recently contracted pertussis (whooping cough). Please watch for pertussis symptoms, and if you believe your child may be sick, keep him or her home, and notify the school office ASAP. This illness is most contagious before the trademark cough develops. During this most contagious phase, pertussis may seem like a common cold, with symptoms including: runny nose, nasal congestion, sneezing, red/watery eyes, mild fever, and dry cough.

Thank you for keeping children at home if you suspect they have pertussis. This will help protect those most at risk for complications, including babies, people with compromised immune systems, and the elderly. Learn more at: <http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/whooping-cough/basics/definition/con-20023295>

HEART OF THE VILLAGE



The Heart of the Village Celebration is this Saturday, February 21st from 11am-2pm!

Don't miss out on this fun family festival that the whole community is invited to. There will be Music Performances, Cake Walks, Storytellers, Puppet Shows, Student Choir and Marimbas, Crafts, Prayer Flag Making, Pocket Lady, Dragon Parade and more!

We have still need volunteer help for the event:

- *Prayer Flag Room helpers*
- *Raffle Ticket Sales*
- *Setup and Cleanup*
- *Bring Baked Goods for Bake Sale*
- *Cakes for cake walks*

Student Performance Time Reminders:

1st & 2nd grade students participating in the dragon parade should meet at 10:45am in the courtyard to be ready for the parade at 11am.

5th grade students helping with the puppet show with Instructor Lesley McClintock should be at the main stage at 11am to be ready to perform.

6th, 7th & 8th grade Marimba students are asked to be at the main stage at 11:10am to be ready to perform.

3rd, 4th & 5th grade Choir students should be at the main stage at 12pm to be ready to perform.

If you have any questions, please ask Sherri in the office. See you there!

GRANDPARENTS & GRANDFRIENDS DAY

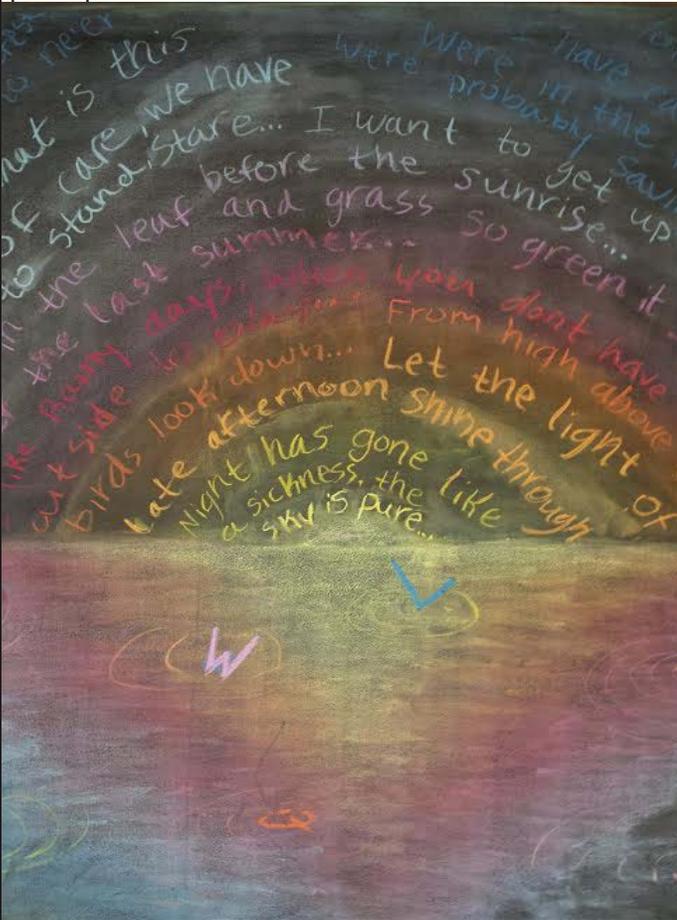
Thank you to all of our grand-guests who joined us on Thursday! It was a joy to have over 50 grandparents and grandfriends visit our school to share in our learning and tell some wonderful stories. We're already looking forward to next year's special day.



See more pictures on page 4!

ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN 2015

Our specialty programs, Spanish, Music, Handwork and Movement, rely on your support. Thank you to all who have already made contributions; we hope to see 100% participation!



AFTER SCHOOL MARIMBA PROGRAM

Village School Marimba teacher Mandy Walker-LaFollette will be offering an after-school marimba program beginning Tuesday, February 24th, running 8 weeks, for \$80. The program is open to 6th, 7th, and 8th graders; siblings and parents are welcome. Please contact Mandy (Ph: 541-359-8719, Email: mandy.wa.la@gmail.com) ASAP to enroll. Minimum enrollment is 5 participants.

THE GREEN SCENE

Free Gardening Workshops with Ted Purdy
(Village School parent & coordinator of the FOOD for Lane County Youth Farm)

Free Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop on Saturday February 21, 1-3pm. Learn basic skills of pruning fruit trees at the FOOD for Lane County Youth Farm, 705 Flamingo Ave, next to Game Bird Park in Springfield. Bring tools and try out what you learn in our orchard.

Free Seed Starting/Greenhouse Growing Workshop on Saturday March 7, 1-3pm. The workshop will cover the basics of annual plant propagation and greenhouse management as well as seeding schedules, best varieties for our area and more. At the FOOD for Lane County Youth Farm, 705 Flamingo Ave., Springfield.



Class attendees will not only learn about basic traffic skills but also learn how to perform a bicycle safety check, how to properly fit a helmet, how to size a bicycle for a child, and how to properly carry things on a bicycle. Information will also be provided about gear and clothing, proper lighting, use of lights, and locking a bike. Half the course will be conducted indoors and the last portion will be held in the parking lot with skills & drills before a final ride on neighborhood streets.

SUN. APRIL 19TH CONFIDENT CYCLING FOR FAMILIES CLASS 9AM-NOON – VILLAGE SCHOOL

To register:
<http://eugenerts.org/events/confidentcycling/>



For more information contact:
Shane MacRhodes
rhodes_sh@4j.lane.edu
541-556-3553

This class is made for parents AND kids so all participants are asked to bring a bicycle and a helmet with them to class. Some reduced cost helmets will be available. Anyone requiring a loaner bicycle for the class is asked to state that in the comments section of the registration form. This class is geared towards children ages 5 - 13 and is free and open to all families but registration is required.

SCHOOL SAFETY UPDATE

By: Tom Happy

The Village School Parent Council has committed to ensuring that crossing guards will be at both Lincoln Street crosswalks each morning. Please consider signing up to help with this important task. The new plan is to offer one family volunteer hour for each morning of service and to have parents of grades 4-8 each take on one morning a week. Here is the schedule:

Mondays	4th Grade
Tuesdays	5th Grade
Wednesdays	6th Grade
Thursdays	7th Grade
Fridays	8th Grade

In the meantime, it is extremely important for all parents and other drivers to be mindful of safe driving and parking habits in front of the school. There have been daily reports of people speeding, parking in the yellow zones, blocking the cross walks, and parking the wrong way. Please, please, please be aware that any one of these habits can lead to tragic consequences.

Safety on the streets adjacent to the school is of the utmost importance. We ask that you take inventory of your own habits and assumptions and work with the rest of the parent community to be part of the solution to safety issues, not part of the problem. Thank you very much for your help. Your children will be the beneficiaries of the positive changes.

SHOP LOCALLY OR ONLINE AND RAISE FUNDS FOR VILLAGE SCHOOL



We encourage everyone to use scrip from eScrip, Capella, and Unique Eugene. These programs help local vendors and bring fundraising dollars to our school.

To use eScrip, log onto www.eScrip.com, and click: Sign up! Our Group I.D. is 9130886 (beware: there are several Village Schools). Register your Safeway, debit & credit cards (the site is secured), then shop at eScrip merchants, such as Market of Choice & Safeway. You can use your eScrip registered cards for all your purchases.



To shop for Village School on Amazon.com, go to www.eugenevillageschool.org and click "Shop for Village School" on the left. Click the Amazon.com link, and shop. The Village School earns as much as 15% of your sales.



When you shop at MightyNest.com, a website that sells eco-friendly cookware and some natural toys, 15% of the proceeds of your purchases can be donated to our school when you select us when shopping! To check it out, go to MightyNest.com and click "Support your local school" to register Village as your school of choice before you make any purchases.

SITE & CHARTER RENEWAL NEWS

Earlier in January, the Eugene 4J School District agreed to dispose of one of its school buildings, the Dunn Center, which is located at 35th and Willamette. This week, the District agreed to negotiate directly with The Village School for the sale of the Dunn Center, meaning we will be offered the chance to buy the Dunn Center, without competing with a host of other buyers. The District reserves the right to sell property so as to support other public agencies, like ours. Our board, staff and site search committee will be investigating more in depth the practicalities of the Dunn Center, and be in touch with the our community about our findings.

If you are interested in reading more about the district's decision process, you should check out the following link:

<http://www.4j.lane.edu/facilities/dunn-property-disposition/>

The disposition process for the Dunn Center has coincided with the renewal process for our charter. The 4J District has approved a 10 year renewal of our charter, which is the maximum length possible by law. This is an improvement over the 5 year charters we've had over the last 15 years. The District board has thus had two opportunities to focus on The Village School recently, with charter renewal and the Dunn Center disposition process. As we've attended these meetings, we have been pleased to hear District board members express many supportive comments about our school. Thanks to everyone in our community!

Village Voice submissions are due by noon on Thursdays to Maureen Caldwell at village@4j.lane.edu.

GRANDPARENTS & GRANDFRIENDS DAY 2015

