

Stafford Primary School Newsletter

WEST LINN-WILSONVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT
19875 SW STAFFORD RD., WEST LINN, OREGON 97068
(503) 673-7150 - www.stafford.wlww.k12.or.us



Dear Families,

Happy New Year! I hope that your holiday season was filled with joy. Even though it was the holiday season, it was nice to feel the pace of life slow a bit. We spent our time playing games, reading together, skiing and simply spending time together as a family. It was lovely. One of my joys is coming back to school and hearing the stories and adventures that staff and students have had over the break. When the smiles, laughter and excitement fill the halls again, it is such a great reminder of the importance and joy of our work here.

While the pace of a break is so different from the norm, I am always amazed how quickly we get back into the swing of school. I want to share with you some of the work in mathematics that we will be doing this winter and spring.

Throughout the fall, we have been studying those instructional practices that illicit student engagement and deepen the conceptual understanding of mathematics. We are embarking on a wonderful opportunity for our math learning. Next week, the two district math specialists, our own Nancy Curtis along with Lana Lervick, will be working along side 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade teachers on math. This work has been done through planning sessions, team meetings and teacher meetings. One of the on going challenges for teachers is to find blocks of time to collaborate and deeply explore instructional practices, student work and big math ideas in a concentrated manner. Next week these three teams will have the opportunity to be involved in a math residency that will give each team this kind of time. The residencies will consist of time for teachers to plan together on Monday and then to be in each other's rooms team teaching Tuesday through Friday. This will give teachers more of an opportunity to collaborate, reflect and debrief with their colleagues over an extended and dedicated period. In this team teaching opportunity, teachers will have the unique chance to step back from the teaching and pay close attention to how students are engaging in math, which in turn will further enhance their own instructional practices. While they are working in one classroom, Allison Ogden and I will be teaching the same math lesson in the other classroom. The residencies have two main goals: 1) deepen mathematical content knowledge and 2) focus on the big math ideas and the instructional practices to address those ideas.

We are a great learning community here, teachers, students and parents, and we continue to be committed to creating sustainable models for on-going professional growth. After doing residencies in the other primary schools, Nancy and Lana will be returning in March to work with Kindergarten and the 4th and 5th grades. In the interim, each team will have the opportunity to be in each other's rooms and in order to collaborate to enhance their already strong instructional practices.

I am so excited for this opportunity for teachers, as well as the opportunity for me to be in classrooms and teaching next week. I will be sure to let you know more about the experiences of all in the next newsletter. We know that it is important for children to know that we are learners along side them and this is a great chance to explicitly model this for children. If you have questions, please let me know.

Take care,
Patrick



Messages From The Office



MINOR MOMENTS

This year Stafford Primary is opening the Science Inquiry Fair to all interested Stafford students in grades 1-5 who want to commit to designing and completing a project. We will be holding the Science Fair on February 25th. Science Inquiry Fair projects can be:

- *Experimental*
- *Observational*
- *Models and Designs*
- *Research in any scientific field!*

This year, all science fair projects will have the opportunity to be critiqued by students from West Linn High School, who will be visiting and offering feedback on all the projects. This will be a wonderful chance for students who have a passion for science to talk with older students who share that same desire to learn about the world around them.

On Thursday, January 7 there will be an informational meeting for parents in the library starting at 6:00 p.m. Tea, coffee and a light snack will be provided. Registration packets and more information are available on our website on the science fair page under the events menu. There will be some registration packets available in the office.

I will be out of the office for the next two weeks as my wife and I welcome our first child into the world. I will miss the Stafford community, but will be back at school on January 26. If you need any assistance about events or programs at Stafford, please feel free to contact Patrick Meigs at (503)673-7153.

Attachments:

[Science-Fair-Registration.docx](#)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: STRIVING TO LIVE STRONG

In January, we are covering the basic skills for basketball development. We will focus on skills that are needed to participate in the game instead of actually playing a game. We will play some modified games the last two weeks of the month that incorporate these new skills. Hopefully bringing all the students to a new level of success so they can enjoy participating and or have a better understanding when watching a game. Go Blazers!

We will be working on our Pilate routines incorporating, strength, balance, and flexibility as well as working on cardio movement reinforcing the concept of cooling down after a workout. Some fun tag games will be used as well as some sprinting and jogging drills.

The younger K-1 groups will be focusing on hand eye development, some strength and balance and some parachute fun. We will be working with bouncing a ball so it rebounds back to us with a rhythm as well as manipulating different size objects with our hands. If you have any comments or questions please let me know. Tammy Ellis, PE/Wellness Instructor

LIBRARY CORNER

The Stafford Community will have the opportunity to welcome local author, Deborah Hopkinson, to our school on February 1. She will spend the day in writing workshops with students to talk about the challenge and thrill of the art and craft of writing. Ms. Hopkinson is the author of more than 30 books for children. Ms. Hopkinson weaves powerful stories focusing on a historical event or person, engaging both children and adults in imaging the past. Our time with her is sure to be a memorable one filled with learning and fun. You might consider enjoying some of Hopkinson's work with your child in advance of her school visit. We have many of her titles in our library collection!

LIBRARY BOOK CIRCULATION

Wow! The books are flying off the shelves in our library this year! As many of you may know, 1-5th graders can now check out up to FIVE books at a time. Kinders are checking out TWO at present. We are busy, in the library teaching, researching, and writing. If you have a few minutes or an interest in making a HUGE difference please stop by and help reshelv the books! We would love to have your help!

Stafford Kindergarten Registration for 2010-2011

Parents who have Kindergarten students beginning in the fall of 2010 may begin registering their child(ren) on Monday, February 1, 2010 at 7:00 a.m. in the Stafford Multi-Purpose Room. Registration packets will be available on Monday, January 11th in the office. Your child will be considered registered when our office has the complete registration packet. Please call us if you have questions about the packet. We will have both full day and half-day kindergarten programs again next year. Full day is funded partially by families and costs \$386 per month. A \$100.00 deposit will be required for full day on the day of registration. The deposit will be refunded if there should be no space for your child. There is no tuition for the half day Kindergarten session.

Students will be admitted to a class in the order they have registered. Students who live in the Stafford attendance area will have top priority if they are registered on Monday, February 1st or Tuesday, February 2nd. Transfer students will be put on a wait list until Wednesday, February 3rd. At that time, if there is space, they may be moved into classes in order of registration. Any student registered after February 3rd, whether transfer or in the Stafford area, will be placed on a wait list for any class that is full. We currently have two all day sessions and one afternoon session for the 2009-2010 school year. We hope to offer a morning session if there is enough interest and increased enrollment for the 2010-11 school year. Both the half-day and full day programs are excellent!

WEST LINN—WILSONVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATION

CREST LEARNING -ON-THE -GO FIELD TRIPS FOR 2010

It's time for another CREST Learning-On-The-Go Field Trip and you're invited! CREST, the district's science center offers field trips on non-school days so students have an opportunity to get outdoors and explore the natural areas around them. All trips will be lead by CREST staff.

To learn more about CREST visit our website at <http://www.crest.wlwg.k12.or.us>

WINTER WONDERLAND

GRADES 1, 2, & 3

FEE: \$40.00

Monday, January 18, 2010

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Have you ever wondered how animals survive the winter? Or how a snowflake is formed? Or whether or not you can garden in the winter? Well, wonder no more! Join us at CREST where we'll spend some time outdoors to explore the world of migrating birds and hibernating animals. We'll play with pelts, play some fun games, and get a chance to plant some seeds in the garden for spring!

SCIENCE OF SWEETS

GRADES 3, 4, & 5

FEE: \$40.00

Friday, February 12, 2010

8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Got yourself a sweet tooth? If you do, then join CREST as we discover the science and chemistry behind making sweets! We'll learn how the professionals do it and have a chance to make and sample some of our own creations. Some of the things to look forward to include: root beer, rock candy, and ice cream! Make sure not to pack anything too sugary, because after today, you may need a sugar-vacation!

CREST 2010 Oregon Coast Spring Break Trip

March 22 – March 26

Grades 4, 5, 6, & 7

Spend a fun-filled week exploring the amazing Oregon Coast! We will explore the coastal forests, dunes, and seashores during our week-long, overnight adventure. Activities will include exploring tide pools, canoeing, a boat ride, campfires, and much more! Stay tuned for more information!

Information and interest meeting:

January 28, 2010

5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

HINI CLINICS TO BE HELD IN WLWV SCHOOL DISTRICT

The clinic schedule is as follows:

January 7, 2010 4:00 to 8:00 pm at Wilsonville HS
January 14, 2010 4:00 to 8:00 pm at Rosemont Ridge MS
January 28, 2010 4:00 to 8:00 pm at West Linn HS

All clinics will be open to *anyone* that wants to attend for dose #1 or dose #2. Dose #2 is for those 9 years of age or younger. Second dose will be given to those children 9 years of age or younger who had the first dose at least 28 days before the requested second dose.

In an effort to manage the clinic efficiently we request that you bring the completed Influenza Screening Form (VAR) form for each person receiving the vaccine to the clinic. The VAR form as well as the Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) are available on the school district website www.wlww.k12.or.us

The Clackamas County Health Department will be providing FREE vaccines to the first 400 people at each clinic. Tickets will be given out on a first come first served basis.

NOTICE! IMMUNIZATIONS UPDATE

If you have received a letter alerting you that your child is incomplete with his/her immunizations, please take notice! The exclusion process begins in January. Turn in your letter, complete with dates and signature to your child's school. Children with incomplete immunizations will be excluded from class in early February. If you have any concerns, please call Barbara Watt (Immunization Secretary) at (503) 673-7007.

PTSA NEWS

SCRIP ORDER

Attached is the electronic SCRIP Order . The order dates are: January 11, February 1st and March 8 with pickups on January 15, February 5 and March 12. The is a great way to support the school.

LOOK WHAT IS HAPPENING IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

February West Linn SnoBlaster's Bus To and From Willamette Primary School

Now is the time to sign up for a four week session with the **West Linn SnoBlasters** for Sundays in February! This is for children in 1st through 5th grade (and siblings close to those grades). The kids have a blast while learning with their peers!

Kids enjoy fun days of skiing or snowboarding with certified instructors at Mt Hood Meadows. Parents can leave the kid-toting to experienced parent chaperones and leave the driving to professional coach bus drivers!

Four week package includes chartered bus transportation (to and from Willamette Primary School) and a variety of lift, lesson and rental packages (\$360-\$490.) Prices increase after January 22nd.

For more information, please contact West Linn Advisors: Jen Butts, Donna Bezio or Kristine Webb at snoblasters@comcast.net. Additional information can also be found at Facebook, group name: Snoblasters of West Linn, and <http://www.skihood.com/Lessons/Consecutive-Week-and-Busing>

Calling all Chess Players!

On Saturday, January 30, 2010, we will be holding our annual Primary School District Chess Tournament at Stafford Primary School in West Linn. If you are in grades K-5, have learned the game of chess or are currently learning, we invite you to join us for a challenging day of strategy and fun!

The tournament will begin at 9:00 a.m. and will last until approximately 2:00 p.m. Pre-registration is encouraged. Please contact Julie Lane at 503-673-7024 or for registration information. There is a \$20.00 registration fee for pre-registration (The walk-in registration fee on the day of the event will be \$30.00.)

January/February

Jan. 18	NO SCHOOL —Dr. Martin Luther King’s Birthday Observance
Feb. 1	Author Visit: Deborah Hopkinson
Feb. 4	PTSA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Feb. 12	NO SCHOOL / Staff Development Day
Feb. 15	NO SCHOOL / Presidents’ Day
Feb. 19	BINGO Night 6:00 p.m.
Feb. 25	Science Inquiry Fair 6:00 p.m.



\$1

\$1 off any Large or Extra Large

\$1

BELLAGIOS PIZZA will donate \$1.00 for each coupon

Redeemed to Stafford School

West Linn 557-1406 Tualatin 691-7841 Sellwood 230-2900 Sunnyside 698-6699

Beaverton 466-2070 Gresham 465-8000 Goose Hollow 221-0110

Lake Oswego 635-8700

West Linn 557-1460