

# Stafford Primary School Newsletter

WEST LINN-WILSONVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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Dear Families,

One of my joys with my own children is going to their conferences. I love the opportunity to meet their teachers and to be able to spend some focused time thinking and talking about their growth and progress. I also love the opportunity to set goals for the year with their teachers. It is lovely to hear the confirmation of what I know and believe about my children as thoughtful, caring and engaged students. I know that my wife and I play an important role in their growth and development. However, it is has also been great teachers, wonderful friendships and a wide range of adults in their lives that have been an important aspect of their coming into their own as students and members of their community. I understand that my kids will continue to need guidance, nurturing and care along the way and that they will look towards their parents, at least for the time being, for these things. I find myself wanting to savor each moment more and more and to be as present in their lives as I can or they want me to be. With Helen being a 5<sup>th</sup> grader, I realize the speed at which time is flying by and the opportunity to slow down and talk about my children is something I hold dear.

Next week is conference week at Stafford. This is your opportunity to listen, discuss and share the successes and goals for your child's learning in the coming year. Curriculum night is the broad brush strokes that paint a picture of the year. Conferences are another time to come together and collectively share thoughts not just about where an individual child is at academically and socially, but an important time for us to hear from you about your child. This is a great opportunity to settle in and talk about goals and plans specifically for your child. We know that you are all excellent sources of information and support as we think about how to engage and challenge your child in deep, thoughtful learning and we know that you share our goal that each child meets their learning with perseverance and a sense of pride. While next week is a shortened week, the hope is that there is time during that week for teachers to talk with all their families. If at all possible, please plan on attending your child's conference next week.

Lastly, I would like to thank you all for a wonderful curriculum night. There was tremendous energy in the building that felt wonderful to all of us here at school. It has been a great start to the year and that is due to outstanding teachers, children and families. As always, thank you for your support of our school and community.

Take care,

Patrick

**Reminder: No School on Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> for Conferences. No School Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>: State In-service Day**



# Messages From The Office



## MINOR MOMENTS

The interest in our enrichment program has been fantastic! Thank you for returning your forms so quickly! While I wish that every child would be able to be in each class they desire, it is important that we do not overwhelm the instructor with too many students. Therefore, if your child is not able to be in a class they have chosen, we will make sure that they are able to participate in the class during our next program.

## LIBRARY NEWS

### SCHOLASTIC BOOKFAIR IS COMING TO STAFFORD!

Get ready for the Book Fair! The Scholastic Book Fair will be in the Library the week of October 19-23. Look for more information in the next newsletter and flyers which will go home with children about a week before. Come take a look because fall and winter are wonderful times to curl up with a great book!

## POSITIVE START TO THE DAY

Please do everything that you can to get your child to school on time every day. It is so important for students to have a consistent start to each day. If every child is at school on time then every student is engaged in the morning instruction and the flow of the classroom routine is uninterrupted.

## REMINDERS!

**Is a Birthday or Classroom Party on the horizon?** Please remember that we are a **latex free zone** so we are unable to have latex balloons in the school.

The Clackamas County Health Department sends the reminder that any **food brought to school to be shared amongst students must be prepared in a commercial facility.** Thank you.

**GENTLY USED CLOTHES NEEDED** - You can help needy families in Clackamas County by bringing in your child's outgrown or no-longer-needed clothing and place the items in the CLOTHES CLOSET box in the entry way of the school. Contact Brianna Currey at [bkcurrey2002@yahoo.com](mailto:bkcurrey2002@yahoo.com) with questions or if you need a receipt.

# OCTOBER

- Oct. 1 PTSA Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- Oct. 5 & 6 Evening Parent Conferences
- Oct. 7 NO SCHOOL, Parent Conferences
- Oct. 8 NO SCHOOL, Parent Conferences
- Oct. 9 NO SCHOOL, State In-service
- Oct. 19-23 Book Fair in the Library

# NOVEMBER

- Nov. 4 Photo Retake Day
- Nov. 4 Parent Enrichment Night 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
- Nov. 5 PTSA Meeting 9:00 a.m.
- Nov. 11 No School / Veterans' Day
- Nov. 23-26 No School / Staff Work Days & Thanksgiving Holiday

## Fall 2009 CREST Learning-On-The-Go Field Trips

### **Fossiliferous Dude!**

**GRADES 3 - 5**

**FEE: \$40.00**

**Wednesday, October 7**

**8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

There are hundreds of sea creature fossils hiding in the coastal mountains just waiting to be discovered by you! On this adventure we'll look for fossils at the Vernonia Fossil Beds and learn why they are so far from the ocean. You'll be able to take a photo of your favorite fossil, but since we will be in a state park, we'll leave them for others to find! We'll also stop at the Rice Museum where you can touch fossilized shark teeth & other cool rocks. You'll see an amazing collection of minerals, crystals, fossilized dinosaur eggs, and petrified wood. This little known museum is a real treat!

### **Sauvie Island Fall Festival**

**GRADES 2 - 5**

**FEE: \$40.00**

**Thursday, October 8**

**8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

Join CREST as we travel to Sauvie Island to enjoy the changing of the seasons and learn about the fall harvest. We will visit a beach and other wildlife areas, look for animals, play fun games, and do some sand art. Then it's off to The Pumpkin Patch where we will take a hay ride and pick a pumpkin to take home...if we can find our way out of the MAiZE, Portland's original corn maze! Parent chaperones are encouraged to attend.

### **Awesome Animals**

**GRADES 1 - 3**

**FEE: \$40.00**

**Friday, October 9**

**8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

Do you love animals? If so, then join us at CREST to learn from our collection of reptiles, amphibians, and mammals! We will even get to hold some animals and talk about what they need to survive and the cool adaptations they have. During the day, we'll also go on an insect safari outside and play fun predator and prey games!

### **Canoes, Creeks, and Critters!**

**GRADES 3 - 5**

**FEE: \$40.00**

**Friday, October 9**

**8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

Join CREST on a fantastic adventure to Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge. We will be touring the area for part of the day on giant 34 foot canoes operated by the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership! These canoes can fit up to 18 people, and give the perfect vantage point for viewing birds and other animals. Then we will visit Gee Creek to search for crawdads, aquatic insects and other critters! We will also take a tour of the Wildlife Refuge and get an inside look at their Cathlapotle Indian Plankhouse.

## **CREST OPEN HOUSE!**

CREST is pleased to invite you to our annual open house on Saturday, October 3 from 10:00—2:00 p.m.! Come by and visit the school district's 4-acre Science Center. Harvest veggies from the garden, press fresh apple cider, meet the animals, do some hands-on science and learn how your child can take advantage of our programs. Make sure to check-out the new improvements, including a pond for water studies. They are located at 11265 SW Wilsonville Road, Wilsonville, one mile west of I-5, exit 283. Contact the center at (503) 673-7350.

**STAFFORD PARENT CALENDAR:** To keep up with all that goes on here at Stafford please check our calendar website. <http://ical.wlww.k12.or.us/stafford>

