

# 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](http://www.stafford.wlww.k12.or.us)



Dear Families,

Stafford School has been in West Linn since 1898. It is amazing to think of all the changes that have occurred since Stafford first opened its doors to the children in the community. The building we now inhabit everyday was built in 1967. It is fun to think about the changes in the 42 years that students have been walking the halls of the current school. One of the many changes over all this time has been our growing understanding of how children learn. I often think about the fact that when my dad, who turned 80 this year, was in school it was thought that children could learn all there was to know in the world. However, this is definitely not the case any more. Knowledge and information is growing at such a rate that it is impossible to keep up. Thus, it is the focus of schools to teach children how to ask questions, seek answers, and to continue to foster the deep level of wonder and curiosity that they bring to school with them each day. Guiding students to become thinkers is a tremendous and exciting task and it is what forms the foundation of our work with children each day.

As you all know, we have turned our focus this year to mathematics and will be exploring practices that help to press student thinking and understanding. It is important that they do not just develop fluency of the procedures of math, but that they come to truly understand the conceptual underpinnings as well. It is our goal that students understand the different strands of mathematics and to be able to use this understanding flexibly and with purpose in a wide variety of mathematical problems. We want students to become strong mathematical thinkers who understand math concepts deeply and who have a repertoire of efficient and effective strategies which they are able to apply appropriately to mathematical problem solving and in real-life situations.

One key aspect of this work, is creating environments in classrooms where students are encouraged to share different strategies, explain their thinking and to collaborate in order to further explore a problem. The time for students to hear from one another and to listen to other's strategies creates opportunities for children to take their own learning farther as their thinking is pressed and challenged. It is through the explanation and exploration of their thinking that the teacher comes to understand the depth at which a student truly understands a concept or algorithm. Over the course of the year, I will continue to share our thinking and learning about mathematics with you. If you would like to talk more about this, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Take Care, Patrick

## TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK!

Daylight Savings Time has come to an end! Please turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday night. Standard Time begins on Sunday, November 1st. Please make the correction so your children are on time on Monday morning!!

## THE LIBRARY CORNER

The Stafford Community will have the opportunity to welcome local author, Deborah Hopkinson, to our school on February 1st. She will spend the day in writing workshops with students and will return in the evening for our Writers' Fair to speak with parents and students about the challenge and thrill of the art and craft of writing. Ms. Hopkinson is the author of more than 30 books for children, including *Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt*, winner of the International Reading Association Award, *A Band of Angels*, winner of the Golden Kite Award, *Under the Quilt of Night*, winner of the Washington State Book Award, *Girl Wonder*, winner of the Great Lakes Book Award and a Jane Addams Peace Award Honor Book, *Apples to Oregon*, winner of the Golden Kite Award, Spur Award, and an ALA Notable book, and *Keep On! The Story of Mathew Henson, Co-discoverer of the North Pole*, winner of the Eloise Jarvis McGraw Award, to name a few. In many of her books, 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!

## STAFFORD YEARBOOK!

A yearbook reminder: Please pass along any photos to your classroom photo representative of Stampede, First Day of School, Art Literacy, Buddy Classes, Field Trips and Halloween. Also, at any time you can order your yearbook at [www.myyear.com](http://www.myyear.com) for \$20.00 (plus convenience fee). If you want to purchase a yearbook by writing a check, we accept those in the spring of 2010. Thank you! Any questions please call Erica Yraguen @ 503-344-4725.

## PICTURE RETAKE DAY: NOVEMBER 4TH

Picture Retake Day is Wednesday, November 4th. If you want retakes, please return the original picture packet, and have your child take it to the photographer during your child's designated class time for photos. New picture packets are available in the office if your child was absent on the original picture day. Return the order envelope and a check made payable to Lifetouch on November 4th.

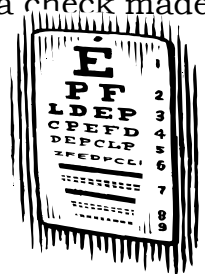
## VISION SCREENING ON NOVEMBER 12TH

School Health Services will be offering vision screening for Grades K, 1, 3 and 5 on Thursday, November 12th. Please be sure that your child wears

their glasses or contacts on vision day. You will be notified **only** if a more comprehensive eye exam is recommended. If you **do not** want your child to have their vision screened, please notify us in writing the day of the screening. If you have a student in 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade and would like to have their vision screened, please contact Brenda Hogan at 503 673-7007 by November 5th.

## HELP!!

Volunteers are needed for Vision Screening! If you are available, please sign up for this very important morning with our children. A morning snack will be provided for our valued volunteers! Please contact Shellie Allen at [shellieallen@comcast.net](mailto:shellieallen@comcast.net) or the school office at 503 673-7150.





# Messages From The Office



## THE FALL BOOK FAIR A HUGE SUCCESS!

Thank you to all of the families who helped make this Fall's Scholastic Book Fair such a success. The library earned \$1115.00 in cash and \$2000.00 in books. In addition to money earned and books collected through the fair we also collected \$119.00 for "One for Books" . Books will be purchased and donated to our sister school, Mill Park Elementary School, in the David Douglas School District. Special thanks to all of the volunteers who took time out of their busy schedules to work a shift at this fun event. "Donuts for Dad's" was a wonderful addition to the event as they shared with their child the excitement and enjoyment of books. A huge thanks to Mitzi Brumbaugh, Mindy Schmitz and Kristen Juster who organized, set up and coordinated this fun event. Because of all your hard work, our kids are even more connected with books!

## THE FLU SEASON IS HERE!

In an effort to track the incidence of the H1N1 flu virus in our schools, please call the office at 503 673-7150 and let us know if your student will be absent due to any of the following flu symptoms: fever over 100 degrees, cough, runny nose, sore throat, vomiting, or diarrhea. Also, please remember to keep your student home until he or she has been symptom free for 24 hours - without the use of medications. For further information about the H1N1 flu virus, please go to the school district website at [www.wlww.k12.or.us](http://www.wlww.k12.or.us)

## WINTER WEATHER

In case of inclement weather and there is any question about whether school will be open, please tune in to a local radio or television station. They will begin reporting school closures by 6:00 a.m. School closure information is also available on our district website at [www.wlww.k12.or.us](http://www.wlww.k12.or.us) or sign up for an email/text alert when the school has a closure. Click on the link at the top of the district web page and follow the prompts.

**Note:** Conditions can change quickly so please stay tuned for closure updates throughout the morning before school begins. **Snow Bus Routes are now available on the district website!**



## ENRICHMENT FEES ARE DUE!

We hope your child is enjoying the class he/she is attending. Please make sure you send in your enrichment class payment to the office by Oct. 30th. Patrick Minor

## PLEASE CHECK OUT THE LOST AND FOUND ITEMS!

The Lost and Found is over flowing with nice clothing! We have no more hooks to hold all of the coats and sweaters! Please view and claim lost items. We would appreciate a volunteer to fold the clothing and return items to children in their classrooms. Unclaimed items will be donated in December. Contact the office if you can help in this way.

## TO VIEW 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> You can also find our newsletter, bus routes, supply lists, library information and much more by logging onto our website at <http://www.stafps.wlww.k12.or.us>



## INTERESTED IN GIRL SCOUTS?

Are you or your daughter interested in joining or leading a Girl Scout troop? We are currently starting new troops and adding girls to existing troops that have space (at all grade levels). Contact Sandy Parker at [sandysp@easystreet.net](mailto:sandysp@easystreet.net) or <http://www.girlscoutsosw.org/homepage.aspx> for more information.

## SCHOOL DISTRICT SEEKS TO FILL VACANCY ON BUDGET COMMITTEE

The West Linn-Wilsonville School District is seeking applications for a vacancy on their Budget Committee. The term of office begins upon appointment by the Board and ends on June 30, 2011. Applications can be obtained from Tara DuBois, [duboist@wlwv.k12.or.us](mailto:duboist@wlwv.k12.or.us), or (503) 673-7034, at the Administration Building on 22210 SW Stafford Road.

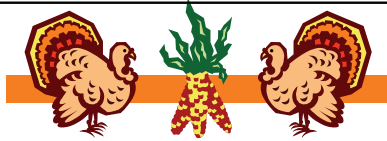
## October/November

- Oct. 31** Turn your clocks back 1 hr. Saturday Night: Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Nov. 4 Photo Retake Day / Volunteer photo for ID badge 8:00-11:45 a.m.
- Nov. 4 Parent Enrichment Night 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Author Trudy Ludwig will speak on, **“Understanding Our Kids’ Social World: Friendships, Cliques and Power Plays”**
- Nov. 5 PTSA Meeting, 9:00 a.m.
- Nov. 9 Site Council, 2:30 p.m.
- Nov. 11 NO SCHOOL, Veterans’ Day**
- Nov. 12 Vision Screening
- Nov. 19 Birthday Book Club 1:30 Library
- Nov. 23 NO SCHOOL, Staff Development Day**
- Nov. 24 NO SCHOOL, Report Card Prep**
- Nov. 25-27 NO SCHOOL, Thanksgiving Holiday**



## December/January

- Dec. 9 Jr./Sr. Choir Concert 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 10 PTSA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 21-Jan 4 Winter Break Happy Holidays
- Jan. 5 School Resumes



# Thanksgiving Dinners 2009

## American Legion

2146 SE Monroe St. Milwaukie

Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Drop in/Sit down holiday dinner

## Lake Grove Presbyterian Church

4040 Sunset Drive, Lake Oswego

Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Drop in/Sit down holiday dinner

Reservations preferred 503-636-5656

## St. John's Episcopal Church

2036 Jefferson, Milwaukie

(Regular Sunday meal schedule)

Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2:15 p.m.

Drop in/Sit down holiday dinner

## Clackamas Service Center

8800 SE 80<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Portland

Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>

5:00 p.m. (normal meal schedule)

Drop in/Sit down holiday dinner

## St. John the Apostle Catholic Church

417 Washington Street, Oregon City

Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>

12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Drop in/Sit down holiday dinner

## Estacada Christian Church

29101 SE Eagle Creek Rd, Estacada

Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>

3:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

Drop in/Sit down holiday dinner

Call 503 630-6707 by noon Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>

If no answer, leave a message

*The Clackamas County Compassion in Action Winter Holiday Sign Up*

*will run October 26<sup>th</sup> until December 4<sup>th</sup> this year*

*Forms will be available at DHS, DHS-SPD and Clackamas County Social Services, and other participating organizations. For further information you may call 503-632-0562*