

# Stafford Primary School Newsletter

WEST LINN-WILSONVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
19875 SW STAFFORD RD., WEST LINN, OREGON 97068  
(503) 673-7150 - [www.stafps.wlww.k12.or.us](http://www.stafps.wlww.k12.or.us)



Dear Families,

It is that time of year that we begin to think about class placement for next year. Creating classroom communities for next year is a complex task, but one that we take on with a great deal of thought and care, because it is critical that each student have a year of academic and social growth. It takes a lot of time and thought to create these communities because we know the relationship a child has with their teacher is extremely important. We also know creating learning communities that challenge and engage each and every learner is critical. It is important to us that all students have academic peers who they can work with and peers with whom they feel comfortable and confident with in their classroom. We also believe that each classroom community needs to include students with a variety of skills and experiences. Our goal is to have balanced classrooms that will support the needs of each individual student. Classroom teachers, specialists, and administration work diligently together to create communities of learners where each student will flourish both academically and socially.

We also believe that parents have valuable information to share and offer in this process. Parents help us to better understand the learning styles, areas of needed growth, and social needs and/or concerns of their child, along with neighborhood issues. Creating balanced learning communities that foster strong relationships and appropriate levels of challenge is our goal. Please share your thoughts and concerns, in writing by May 2nd, as we begin our work in planning classroom assignments for next year.

As you can tell, there is a lot of consideration and thought that goes into class placement. Placement is an exciting opportunity to think about the possibilities of the next year. It is important that we create classroom communities that honor and support the learning of each child. However, it is also the fabulous work of teachers that bring these communities together and Stafford teachers do this so well. I am continually inspired by the care and thoughtfulness of teachers and their work with your children. We are so fortunate to have such an outstanding group of educators in each grade level; helping them grow, develop and thrive. I can honestly say that I would be honored to have my child in any of their classrooms. Thank you for your support and trust of teachers and our placement process.

As always, thank you for all you do for the school and the support you give us all each day.  
Take care,  
Patrick

## **DRIVERS . . . BEWARE OF PEDESTRIANS AT ALL TIMES!**

Please drive carefully at arrival and dismissal times. We have had some close calls! All of our children and families are precious and we don't want any mishaps. Please remember to slow down and be careful!



# Messages From The Office



## SCHOOL IN SESSION ON APRIL 18th!

April 18th was previously a furlough day, however, we will be in session to make up or the snow day. Please make a note of this! Thank you.

## NOW ACCEPTING YEARBOOK ORDERS IN THE OFFICE!

Yearbook orders via the [www.myyear.com](http://www.myyear.com) website can be taken at any time. The cost is \$20.00, in addition to a processing fee of \$1.85. Judy Woodruff is now accepting checks/cash for the yearbook. Any questions please call Erica Yraguen at 503 344-4725.

## PLEASE TURN IN THE REGISTRATION/VERIFICATION FORMS

The Registration/Verification forms for attending Stafford in the fall will be going home on Friday, April 1st and need to be returned by **April 15th**. **This is your child's registration for the 2011-2012 school year!** Please remember to sign the back of the form before returning it to the school. If you are moving out of the attendance area, please indicate that on the form and return it to the office. This information helps us with staffing. Thank you so much for your promptness.

## COUNSELING CORNER

### Responding to the Crisis in Japan

*When tragedy strikes, children naturally turn to their parents for support and comfort. They need help in overcoming their fears. Plus, they need reassurance that they are safe. No doubt kids are asking questions like, "Could this happen to me? What's going to happen to the children? Can I do anything to help the children in Japan?" Here is a list of ideas for responding to your children regarding the crisis in Japan. Thank you for your support!*

Laura Barbour, Stafford School Counselor

### World Vision suggests eight ways to make a tough job a little bit easier.

#### 1. Start by listening.

Find out what the child already knows, then respond in an age-appropriate way. The aim isn't to worry them with the devastating details but to protect them from misinformation they may have heard from friends or disturbing images they may have seen.

## Responding to the Crisis in Japan (continued)

### 2. Provide clear, simple answers.

Limit your answer to the question asked and use simple language.

### 3. If you don't know the answer, admit it.

If kids ask questions that you can't answer, tell them so, and then do some research to try and help them sort it out. If they ask "Why did this have to happen?" don't be afraid to say "I don't know."

### 4. Follow media reports or online updates privately.

Young children in particular are easily traumatized and seeing or hearing about the horrifying details of the quake may be more than they can handle. Adults, too, should ensure they are dealing with their own emotions by talking to others, so they can continue to respond well to children's needs.

### 5. Concentrate on making them feel safe.

When tragedies take place, children wonder if the same event could happen in their hometown. If it was an act of nature that can't be repeated in your area, tell them that. Placing themselves in the situation of the victims isn't bad—it is a sign of empathy and an essential life skill, but watch for signs of excessive worrying.

### 6. Give children creative outlets.

Some children may not be prepared to speak about what they have heard but may find drawing or other creative activities helpful to deal with their emotions and stress. Their drawings can be effective points for initiating conversation and introducing them to books.

### 7. Model involvement and compassion.

Tell your child that, as a family, you will be helping the people in Japan by giving a donation to a reputable charity.

### 8. Give your child a chance to be involved.

Being involved in the solution will help relieve some of their anxiety. Invite them to contribute to the family's gift by giving something out of their piggy bank.

### Stay Tuned...

There will be opportunities at Stafford School for students to express their care and compassion for the people of Japan. My class lessons this month are about *making a difference for the world*. We will be learning about Japan through story books. We will be working together to send messages of hope to students in Japan. **Hope Letters** is an on-line initiative to collect words and letters of hope which are translated and delivered electronically to school children in Japan ([www.hopeletters.org](http://www.hopeletters.org)). Students will also have an opportunity to fold origami paper cranes as a message of hope and peace.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions at 503 673-7157.

## MINOR MOMENTS

The work day for our Teaching and Learning Garden has been set for **May 21st, from 9:00-3:00 p.m.** Please feel free to come to all or part of our work day. During this day we will be doing general maintenance around the school, as well as building compost beds, potting tables and possibly a structure to support beans and other plants that like to vine. We are in need of volunteers who have some carpentry expertise and those that will be able to bring tools to support our work. Of course, we welcome volunteers of all ages and skill sets- there is a lot of work to be done to help make sure that our garden is productive this year. If you think you may be able to attend, please contact Patrick Minor at 673-7154 or [minorp@wlwv.k12.or.us](mailto:minorp@wlwv.k12.or.us). Thank you for your support

### The Stafford Primary Poetry Post

Introducing Stafford's own Poetry Post, where children, friends, family, and staff can find a fresh poem for their pockets. Available poems will include old favorites, as well as those recently written by both published and aspiring poets. We invite all the community to take a poem to enjoy and share. April 14 is the ninth annual Poem in Your Pocket Day. Be sure you are well prepared with a poem you would like to share that day!



### ENCOURAGE THOSE IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS TO REGISTER!

If you know of families with Kindergarten age children who have not yet registered for next year, please encourage them to do so as quickly as possible. **Kindergarten Round-up will be on May 11th** and we would like to have as many families as possible in attendance. **If you know of any families who have their child in a private school or another kindergarten program who plan on attending Stafford in the fall, please encourage them to come in and register for the first grade.** Thank you for your help with this.

### SPRING SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR IS COMING!



The Scholastic Book Fair will be at Stafford from April 11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>. We are looking forward to another fun and successful event! The book fair will be open before and after school, during lunch, and on **Monday evening** from 5:00-7:00 p.m. We hope that each family will take advantage of these times to come to the library and browse. As in the past, we ask that kindergartners and 1<sup>st</sup> graders not bring money to school to buy books. These students can use the guidance of an adult to help them select books and make wise buying decisions. Also, please do not send older children with large sums of money as lost bills make unhappy students. Times: 7:30-8:30a.m., 11:00-1:00p.m. and 2:00-3:30p.m. Hope to see you there! Contact Mitzi Braumbaugh if you would like to volunteer at [jonbfootin@comcast.net](mailto:jonbfootin@comcast.net)

\$



**off any Large or Extra Large**

\$

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**Redeemed to Stafford School**

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

**Lake Oswego 635-8700**

**West Linn 557-1460**

## WEST LINN—WILSONVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

### Calling all Chess Players!

On Saturday, April 9, 2011, we will be holding our annual Primary School District Chess Tournament at Athey Creek Middle 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 [lanej@wlwv.k12.or.us](mailto:lanej@wlwv.k12.or.us) for a registration form via email. 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.)

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Bye Bye Birdie Flying to a Stage Near You!

The 17th annual West Linn/Wilsonville Middle School Musical, "Bye Bye Birdie" will be performed at 7:00 pm April 14, 15, 16, 18, 19 and at 1:30 pm on April 16 at Wilsonville High School, 6800 SW Wilsonville Road. Two casts of seventh and eighth-graders perform on rotating nights--including one matinee. Tickets are \$8.50 and can be ordered on line at: [www.eticketexpress.com](http://www.eticketexpress.com). There is a small surcharge for ordering tickets online.

## APRIL

April 1	PTSA 2011/2012 Budget Requests Due
April 4	SCRIP order due/Delivery on April 7th
April 6	PTSA Meeting, 9:00a.m.
April 9	Parent Spring Social 6:00-11:00p.m. Oregon Golf Club
April 12	Burgerville Night 5:00-8:00p.m.
April 11-15	Spring Book Fair
April 18	<b>School In Session!! Snow Make up Day!</b> Stampede Planning meeting @11:00 a.m.

## MAY

May 4	PTSA Meeting
May 2-6	Staff Appreciation Week
May 9-13	Bus Driver Appreciation Week
May 11	Kindergarten Round Up
May 18	Gr. 5 Musical
May 25	Gr. 4 Marketplace Event
May 27	<b>No School/Furlough Day</b>
May 30	<b>No School/Holiday</b>



MARCH 31, 2011

Stafford Primary

**PTSA**

everychild. onevoice.

# Stafford PTSA

## NEWSLETTER

### *You are cordially invited to attend the 2011 Stafford Parent Spring Social*

Saturday April 9th  
6:00 - 11:00pm  
Oregon Golf Club  
Adults Only Please

*Join us for...*

**Casino Night and DJ**

**Wine Wall—Live and Silent Auctions—Raffle Prizes**

**(prizes include an Oregon Golf Club Social Membership and Golf Package)**

**Great Party Boards: Texas Hold Em, Wine Tour, Barn Party, Bunco, and much more!**

*Proceeds from this event will go directly towards the teaching and learning garden being built this spring at Stafford and a listening center in the new library.*

For more information, *Brittainy Tiffany*: [brittainyt@yahoo.com](mailto:brittainyt@yahoo.com)

### ◆◆NEXT SCRIP ORDER◆◆

Due Monday, *April 4th* by end of day with delivery on Thursday, *April 7th*.

Download your order form at <http://www.stafps.wlww.k12.or.us/school/scrip>

### Donate to the Spring Social!

The Spring Social Committee is looking for donations in the forms of vacation homes, wine, and party board hosts. Please contact Brittainy Tiffany at [brittainyt@yahoo.com](mailto:brittainyt@yahoo.com) for more details or if you plan to contribute.

### 2nd Annual Burgerville Night

**Tuesday April 12th, from 5-8pm; West Linn location.**

**Proceeds to benefit Stafford's international community service project. For more information contact Briana Currey: [bkcurrency2002@yahoo.com](mailto:bkcurrency2002@yahoo.com).**

*Stafford Primary Adult Spring Social*  
*Presented by your PTSA*

***Casino Night***  
***Green for Green!***

*All Proceeds Benefit the Building of a New Learning Garden  
and Listening Center at Stafford Primary School*



*Date: Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>*

*Time: 6:00 pm - 11:00 pm*

*Place: Oregon Golf Club  
West Linn, Oregon*

Thank You to Walsh  
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*\$25pp* - Includes Appetizers, \$300 Funny  
Money/Raffle Tickets, DJ & Dancing

*Raffle Prizes ♦ Party Boards ♦ Live and Silent Auctions*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ @\$25.00      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Voluntary Donation for staff to attend      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Checks payable to

Stafford PTSA (return to front office) TOTAL      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN TICKET FORM BY Thursday March 17<sup>th</sup> and be entered to win a \$50 Visa Card**

Raffle tickets and additional "Funny Money" available for sale night the night of, Cash, Credit or Check accepted.

Raffle tickets and additional "Funny Money" available for sale night of, Cash, Credit or Check accepted.

Adults only Please

Contact Briana Currey at [bkcurrey2002@yahoo.com](mailto:bkcurrey2002@yahoo.com) for more information regarding tickets.



*Better taste comes from better food.®*

## **Supporting More than Local Farms.**

***Come join us for food and fun,  
and support a great cause.***

### ***Stafford Primary School***

***On Tuesday, April 12th, visit Burgerville at  
18350 Willamette Drive between 5-8 pm and  
10% of all sales will be donated to  
Stafford Primary School.***

***BV#33***

***503-635-7339***

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**Questions:** Briana Currey at [bkycurrey2002@yahoo.com](mailto:bkycurrey2002@yahoo.com)



## Coming Soon....Stafford Striders



Spring is almost here, and so is Striders! Please consider volunteering for this annual running club at Stafford. We are looking for volunteers to help with registration, facilitation, and sponsorship. No experience or knowledge necessary, we'll guide you through it! Contact Lola Skates at [lolaskates5@earthlink.net](mailto:lolaskates5@earthlink.net) for Striders volunteer opportunities.

### Looking Ahead to Next Year

#### **PTSA 2011-2012 Open Positions**

Please contact Stephanie Stewart at [stephaniestewart@comcast.net](mailto:stephaniestewart@comcast.net) or Susanne Nelson at [susanne.nelson@comcast.net](mailto:susanne.nelson@comcast.net) if you are interested in nominating someone or would like to volunteer to serve in a position for the 2010-2011 school year.

#### **PTSA 2011-2012 Budget Requests**

Budget request forms are due to Judy Woodruff by April 1st. There are Budget Request forms on the PTSA cart or you can print the form at the end of this newsletter. If you have questions about the budget process, please contact Rachel Stevenson at [perfectwedding@hotmail.com](mailto:perfectwedding@hotmail.com).

#### **Stampede 2011**

If you are interested in helping with the 2011 Stafford's Stampede, please be sure to attend the upcoming planning meeting scheduled on **Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am**. We will meet at Stafford and start discussing plans for one of the biggest events of the school year. There are many ways to volunteer and it is a fun event to be part of. Any questions or comments about the event, please contact Rachel Stevenson at [perfectwedding@hotmail.com](mailto:perfectwedding@hotmail.com).

### **Want More Information Regarding PTSA?**

Try the **Stafford Primary Website** and click on PTSA: [www.stafford.wlwy.k12.or.us](http://www.stafford.wlwy.k12.or.us)

**Co-Presidents:** Joanne Masters (503) 635-2808 / [joanne.gmasters@comcast.net](mailto:joanne.gmasters@comcast.net) - or -  
Courtney Kennedy (503) 638-0989 / [courtney@pickaback.com](mailto:courtney@pickaback.com)

**Volunteers:** Please Contact Erika Vincent (503) 723-9380 / [erikavincen@me.com](mailto:erikavincen@me.com)

**Newsletter Inquiries:** Please Contact Dardee Layne (503) 709-6295 / [dardinel@hotmail.com](mailto:dardinel@hotmail.com)