

# Meriwether Lewis Elementary School

## Weekly Letter

503 916 6360 - <http://lewiselementary.org>

September 30, 2009



### Principal Notes From Mr. Lauer

Dear Families,

#### Lewis Email List

I wanted to remind our families that we have established a new email list to keep families informed of news and events at Lewis. You can subscribe to our list by visiting this page: <http://lewiselementary.org/email-list/>

#### Free and Reduced Price Meal Information!

Lewis is a Title I school. This designation allows us to provide more resources to our students including free full day kindergarten. Our Title I designation is dependent on a certain percentage of Free and Reduced Meal participants. If you believe that your family qualifies for Free and Reduced Meals, I encourage you to please fill out a FRM application. Applications are available in the school office, or online at: <http://www.nutrition.pps.k12.or.us/>

If you qualified last year, please be aware that you must fill out another application in order to be in the program this year. Prior year eligibility will expire on Oct. 14. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Lauer

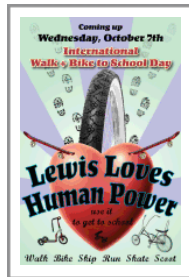
#### Below are a few Important Reminders: Tardies and Absences

At Lewis Elementary School our first bell is at 8:40 am and we begin work at 8:45. Teachers begin to dismiss students at 3:00 pm. It is important that students are in their rooms at 8:45 ready to learn. I have noticed a trend of tardies that I wish to address and encourage all of our families to work to be sure that students are in their classrooms at 8:45 am.

Our lunch period is now beginning at 11:40. Students having breakfast at school should arrive at 8:25. If not eating breakfast at school students should not arrive until after 8:30. Students are not allowed to wait in the hallways near their classrooms. Students can wait near the main entrance or on the benches near the mural in the north hallway.

#### International Walk & Bike Day

Wednesday, October 7th is International Walk and Bike to School Day. Walk and bike to school early and help celebrate with a cup of hot chocolate! Meet on the playground outside of the Kindergarten classrooms to sign in. If you are interested in joining the Lewis Walk and Bike Program planning committee, please contact Julia Hamlin by leaving a note in her box in the office. The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 14th at 8:45.



#### Lewis Weekend at Barnes & Noble - Oct 17 & 18

Please check out the web site for more information about this event at: [lewisevents.org](http://lewisevents.org)

#### Seeking Support for this year's Community Dinners

We would like to partner with local growers or businesses (New Seasons, Safeway, etc.) for this year's Community Dinners in October, February and May. We are seeking seasonal food, or monetary, donations to support these community building events. Do you have any farmer connections, or know of any local businesses, or individuals who may be interested in donating, or becoming a partner? Please let Julia Hamlin know by leaving a note in her box in the office. Thank you!



#### Cob Bench Project - starts next week

We will be building a new cob bench in the Lewis Garden October 5, 6, 7, 8, & 12 with the help of natural builder James Thompson. All Lewis students will be participating in the project and will be mixing the cob with their feet. Please make sure that

your child wears clothing and shoes that can get dirty. The date they will be participating in posted on a yellow sheet, next to their classroom door.

#### Chess Club News

Mr. Manger reports that Chess Club Applications will be available for students in grades 1 - 5. He will distribute them in classrooms on Thursday.



#### Leslie Lauretti/TAG News

##### TAG Nominations

If you would like to nominate your child for TAG, please pick up the forms in the office. The nomination deadline is November 23rd. If you have any questions about the process, please email me at [laurett@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:laurett@pps.k12.or.us) or come talk to me in Room 15.

##### Parent/Student Surveys

Parent/student surveys for current TAG students will be sent home today. Please fill these out and send them back to your children's teachers by Monday, October 5th. Teachers use the information when writing the Instructional Plans. THANKS!

#### PTA Meeting on October 1

Please join us for our first PTA Meeting Thursday October 1st from 6:30 - 8:30pm

- Meet the Board Members
  - Review and approval of the 2009/2010 Budget
  - Fundraiser Committee update
  - New year update from Mr. Lauer
- Childcare will be provided

#### Lewis Holiday Bazaar

The application deadline for the Lewis Holiday Bazaar is this Friday, October 2nd. If you or your child plan to apply please do so by this Friday! Parents, children, and alumni of Lewis will be included in this sale (no need to jury in!). Kids vend for free, alumni and Parents pay the \$10 application fee or can volunteer one or more hours toward the sale. Want to be on the Holiday Bazaar Committee? We will be having our first meeting on October 7th at Papaccino's at 9am. Can't make the meeting, but want to stay involved? Email us at [lewisholidayale@yahoo.com](mailto:lewisholidayale@yahoo.com).

#### Fundraising Opportunity for Lewis School

Here is another great and easy way to help raise money for Lewis. Our friends at **Sweetpea Consignment Shop** in Sellwood are once again opening their doors to donations from Lewis. As you go through your closets switching out summer clothes for fall clothes please consider donating gently used clothes, books, and shoes to Lewis. Lewis will get a percentage of the clothes sales. This money will go to supporting all of our wonderful programs. It is easy. Just drop off your gently used items with Tracy in the front office. Our friends at Sweetpea will come to Lewis and collect your generous donations. Remember instead of donating your items to Goodwill, or other worthy organizations, we ask that you think of Lewis first. Thanks and happy fall. If you have any questions you can contact Lori at [l\\_hymowitz@yahoo.com](mailto:l_hymowitz@yahoo.com)

#### Catalog Sale Fundraiser

All families should have received the **Innisbrook** catalogs this week. 50% of profits from this fundraiser goes to Lewis School. This year you can place your order online. If you are not comfortable placing online orders yourself please send the check and your order form back to school with your child and we will take care of the rest. Be sure to tell out-of-town family members that they can order from the catalog online, just go to [www.innisbrook.com](http://www.innisbrook.com). You can send family members emails from Innisbrook that notify them about our school's sale. The email that Innisbrook provides includes a link that automatically transfers our school's number and your child's registration number, which are necessary for prizes and credits.

#### Free and Reduced Price Meal

Free and Reduced Price Meal forms need to be submitted each year. If you believe you qualify to for free and reduced price meals please return the form included in your registration packet to school as soon as possible. Families can pick up a form in the office or also enroll online. For more information please visit the PPS web site: <http://www.nutrition.pps.k12.or.us/>