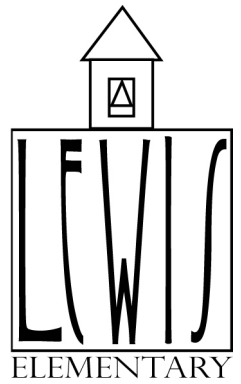


Meriwether Lewis Elementary School

Weekly Letter

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

March 18, 2009



Principal Notes From Mr. Lauer

Drama Club Productions This Week

We are looking forward to our Drama Club production, which will take place on Thursday and Friday evening at 6:30 pm. The students have been working very hard and having peeked in on rehearsals this week, I can say it will be a very entertaining show. I wanted to thank our Drama Club sponsors, Debbie, Keefer, Aleta Ross, and Tori Paddellford, for their work. Also Mr. Jamesbarry for his work with with our Orff Ensemble which is providing the music for the show. This production would not take place without their support and dedication. Also I wanted to acknowledge the many hours of time put in by our parent volunteers. A big thank you to all of them for their work. I hope to see you at the show.

Tray Washing Help Needed

Looking for Wednesday Tray Washing Volunteers

Lewis started using washable trays in the cafeteria in December of 2007. All of our trays are washed each day by a parent volunteer and a fifth grader. We are in need of someone to wash every other Wednesday, only twice a month. The shift is from 12:00 until approximately 1:15. Please leave a message for Julia Hamlin in the office or email lewislearninggardens@gmail.com if you are interested in helping with our project to reduce waste and keep our kids healthy. Thanks for your consideration.

Lost & Found: Final Call

Our lost & found is overflowing!! There are some students missing some pretty nice coats, hats, scarves & lunch boxes. Please stop by the lost & found and see if you can claim any of these lost items. Everything will be sent to the PTA Clothes Closet or Goodwill on Friday, March 20th.

PTA Clothes Closet

The mission of the Portland Council PTA Clothing Center is to provide school clothing based on need for children enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade. Used and new clothing is available. This is a great resource for winter clothing, jackets and shoes. 4th & 5th graders going to OMSI Camp may even be able to find outdoor clothing for camp. Please come by the school office for an application.

Free Reduced Lunch Reminder:

If your household has experienced a change in income, your child(ren) may now qualify for free or reduced priced school meals. You may apply at any time during the school year if your household size goes up, if your income goes down, if you lose your job, if you start getting food stamps or TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families). You may submit an application for the first time, or you may reapply if previously denied and your income has changed.

School meals are nutritious and offer unlimited fruits and vegetables with every lunch. If your children are not currently eating school meals it would be an honor to serve them.

For more information and to download an application, go to: <http://www.nutrition.pps.k12.or.us/.docs/pg/10057>
Ask for an application at your school or call: Cindy Baumbach @ 503.916.3247

Vision, Dental and Hearing Screening Scheduled

On Thursday April 9th, we will be having our annual screening for vision, dental and hearing. The vision/dental is for all kindergarten, 1st, 3rd and 5th graders. The hearing is for the kindergarten and 1st graders on the re-evaluation usually a month later they will except referrals for older children you have concerns about.

Important Health Care Information

Please review the information (in the box to the right) about an opportunity from Multnomah County and Kaiser Permanente regarding health care coverage for children. This is an outstanding program and we encourage families with students who qualify to please consider applying. For more information, please contact the Multnomah ESD at 503-257-1732.

Sincerely,
Tim Lauer

Upcoming Events

Lewis Drama Club Production -
Thursday, March 19 & March 20 -
6:30 pm
Tickets available at the door.

Spring Break: March 23- 27

Vision, Dental and Hearing Screening: Grades K, 1 3 5.
April 9, 2009.



Christian in gym class...

Looking for Incoming Kindergarten Students

As we begin our planning for the 2009-2010 school year we are asking any of our families who will have an incoming kindergarten student to please contact the school office if they have not already done so. Also if you know of neighborhood children who will be attending Lewis, please encourage those families to contact the school office. Thank



Do you need health insurance for your children?

Schools, Multnomah ESD and Kaiser Permanente team up to enroll more kids in zero-premium and low-cost health insurance

Kaiser Permanente has recently expanded its zero-premium children's health insurance program and will add 4,000 more children who meet income and age requirements. This represents an additional value of \$4.8 million in medical services. In addition, the Oregon Health Plan has openings for children to receive low-cost health insurance. The children may attend public school in Multnomah County.

It's easy to become enrolled: Multnomah ESD's staff of experienced, multi-lingual specialists (English, Spanish, Russian and Vietnamese) can quickly and confidentially facilitate the enrollment process.

Who can be covered: Kaiser Permanente coverage starts with enrolling children in grades K-6. If they qualify, their siblings, age 3 through 12th grade, can be included. For enrollment in the Oregon Health Plan, children up to age 18 are eligible, provided they meet income guidelines.

Programs: Kaiser Permanente offers zero-premium health insurance coverage for children from families that earn up to 250% of the federal poverty level (about \$4,600/mo. for a family of four).

The Oregon Health Plan offers low cost health insurance to children from families that earn up to 185% of the federal poverty level (about \$3,400/mo. for a family of four).

Contact: Call Multnomah ESD: 503-257-1732
Email to: speterso@mesd.k12.or.us
Website:
www.mesd.k12.or.us/shs/childhealth/indexnew.shtml

Lewis Drama Club Presents
Folk Tales for Fun
Thursday, March 19 - 6:30 pm
Friday, March 20 - 6:30 pm

Tickets available at the door.
Adults \$2, Children 4 - 12 \$1, 3 & under Free



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you for your help and support.

