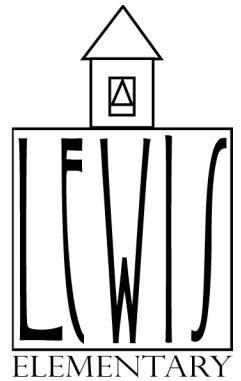


Meriwether Lewis Elementary School

Weekly Letter

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

April 15, 2009



Principal Notes From Mr. Lauer

5th Grade OMSI Camp

Our 5th grade students are at OMSI camp this year. Ms. Jen and Mrs. Gould report that the students are doing well and enjoying the science activities. We have posted on our web page some pictures from camp sent by Ms. Jen.

2009 - 2010 School Staffing Update

We have gone through the first phase of our staffing for the 2009 - 2010 school year and listed below you will find our teacher staffing assignments for the 2009-2010 school year. As per the PPS/Teachers Union contract will be posting a 2nd grade and Learning Center position during what is called Round One of the hiring process. This will happen during the first part of May and we should have our full staff in place before the end of this school year. Because of our growth, we anticipate some room changes and will share this information as it becomes available.

Kindergarten: Cindy DiCenzo
Kindergarten: Dana Jacobsen
Kindergarten: Sarah Kohn
1st Grade: Lynne Leake
1st Grade: Anne Logue
1st Grade: Teresa Pechette
2nd Grade: Deborah Swan
2nd Grade: Vacant
3rd Grade: Anna Davis
3rd Grade: Aleta Ross
4th Grade: Debbie Keefer
4th Grade: Jeremy Manger

5th Grade: Kathy Gould
5th Grade: Sylvia Jen
Life Skills: Brian Post
Life Skills Nursing:
Merry-:Lynn Amsbury
Music/Tech: Tony Jamesbarry
PE: Ken Woods
ELL/Support: Leslie Lauretti
Support: Sarah Jamesbarry
Speech: Suzie Ramirez
Media Asst.: Tori Padallford
Learning Center: Vacant

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 you for your help and support.

Sincerely,
Tim Lauer



Run for the Arts:

Run for the Arts pledge sheets are due in one week on April 24th, Wednesday. Our run is scheduled for April 29, Wednesday. We are looking for volunteers to help during the run to hand out water and snacks, count laps, and process pledge sheets (after the run). We are looking for parents and community members to help with the run. To volunteer, please call Julie LaRoche at 503.754.8996.

Lewis Eats Out is coming up . . .

One on April 28th at Pizzicato Pizza on 60th and Division (20% to Lewis) and the next one on May 5th (Cinco de Mayo) at the McMenamins Bagdad on Hawthorne (50% to Lewis). These two events are very close together because these dates worked best for the restaurants. If you want to adjust your families regular eating out night to fit with the Lewis Eats Out nights you have plenty of notice. Lewis Eats Out nights is such a great community building event and is a great fundraiser for our school too. Please join us!

Student Meal Account Information:

Families have several ways to pay for student meals: they can bring cash or check to the cafeteria, drop it off in the office in an envelope with students name and ID # on the outside or through

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
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

MyLunchMoney.com which allows families to use a Visa/MasterCard as either credit or debit online.

MyLunchMoney.com also allows families to view their child's account history online. An account history can also be checked by Maria in the cafeteria if a parent or guardian would like to call or stop by. A family can also at any point in the school year fill out a free and reduced meal application to apply for financial assistance.

Talent Show:

Talent Show Audition are Friday, April 24th. Information and permission slips were sent home last week and are also available in the school office. Please be sure to check the Talent Show guidelines outlined in the flyer. Please contact Patty Jay if you have any questions. 503-659-0677

Walk & Bike:

The Lewis Walk & Bike punchcard program is still going strong! We'd like to give a big 'thanks' to all the teachers that make it possible by logging students' participation each day. Look for another opportunity to redeem points for prizes after school on Tuesday, April 7th.

The BTA's Walk & Bike Challenge Month is fast approaching. Last May, Lewis students had the highest participation of all schools involved in the challenge. Look for more information to follow. To inquire about current and future Lewis Walk & Bike projects or sign up to volunteer, please contact Art Burden at 971-235-9016 or aburden@hevanet.com.



Garden Social and Plant Swap

Today!!!! Wednesday April 15th from 3:00-4:30 :

Come check out the garden, eat some healthy after school snacks, enjoy a performance by the 4th Grade Strings and swap plants.

Sellwood Sustainability Fair:

Sellwood Middle School Invites its Neighbors and School Families to a Party! Sellwood Middle School is hosting the first Sellwood Sustainability Fair, April 25th from 10 am to 2 pm. Admission and almost all activities at the fair will be FREE. At this event students and neighbors consider their carbon footprint and will feature entertainment, educational, service, and food booths and events, including veggie races, worm and compost bin demos, and a potting station. For more information or to participate as a volunteer at the Sellwood Sustainability Fair, go to www.sellwoodmiddleschool.org

Sellwood Family Math Night

Sellwood Sun School is sponsoring a Family Math Night. Suggested grades levels are 5th - 8th. For more information please contact Sellwood Middle School Sun School.

Saving paper at Lewis:

We have compiled a list of all the siblings at Lewis. Starting today, we are going to be sending home only one newsletter per family. The newsletter will be going home with the youngest child. This will reduce the amount of newsletters by 77 per week. If for any reason you would still like to receive a newsletter for each of your children at Lewis, or would like your newsletter to go home with one other than the youngest, please leave a message for Julia Hamlin in the office, or email her at lewislearninggardens@gmail.com

Front Entryway Garden Renovation Project:

Have you noticed lately that the gardens surrounding the front entryway of the school need some tending to? We need your help. We plan to clean-up, weed and do some planting in these gardens. We will be meeting there after school on Wednesday's from 3:00-4:30 (4/8 (today), 4/22 (Earth Day!)), and April 29th). We are also looking for a couple of parents on these days to watch kids on the playground, so that other parents can come and help with the project. Please leave a note for Julia Hamlin in the office if you are able to help with this.

Looking for Wednesday Tray Washing Volunteers

We are in need of volunteer tray washers for our Washable Tray Project in the cafeteria. Shifts are from 12:00-1:30 as little as once a month, and as much as once a week. We are also looking for substitutes. Every day 150-200 trays are saved from going into the landfill. If you are interested in helping with our project, please call the office and leave a message for Julia Hamlin or email lewislearninggardens@gmail.com