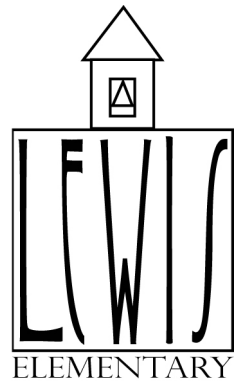


Meriwether Lewis Elementary School

Weekly Letter

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

February 5, 2009



Principal Notes From Mr. Lauer

Snow Makeup Days Announced

Because of the snow related missed days in December, all PPS schools will add one makeup day at the end of the school year. The last regular day of school will fall on Wednesday, June 10, instead of June 9. In addition we will make up another day of school by attending classes on a day that had been set aside for staff professional development. Schools, like Lewis, that are following the trimester and year-round calendars will now have class on Friday, April 10.

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

Sincerely,
Tim Lauer

TRANSFER INFORMATION FOR 5TH GRADE STUDENTS

Important Information for our 5th Grade Students and Their Families Regarding Middle School and 6th Grade: Transfer Window: January 30, 2009 - March 13, 2009
Middle School Transfer Process: Very IMPORTANT PLEASE READ
This process is very important for our 5th grade students who may be considering a middle school other than their home middle school. Some middle schools require attendance at a mandatory parent information meeting in order to be considered for a transfer.

Students who live in the Lewis attendance area are slated to attend Sellwood Middle School. Students who have transferred to Lewis are slated to attend their neighborhood middle school unless they choose to go through the transfer process. More information can be found on the PPS Enrollment and Transfer Office page at <http://readyssetconnect.pps.k12.or.us>.
Note: If you would like further information or any help with the transfer process, please contact the school office or the Enrollment and Transfer office at 503 916 6360 .

Lewis Kindergarten Round Up Meetings Scheduled

We will be offering two informational meetings for prospective kindergarten families. Please share this information with family and friends who might be interested. The dates and times are listed below:

Tuesday, February 10, 2009 - 9:00 am
or
Thursday, February 26, 2009 - 6:00 pm

More information can be found at:
<http://lewiselementary.org/kindergarten>

Lewis Eat Out...
at Burgerville
at 25th and Powell
February 10th, from 5-8 pm
10% goes to Lewis.
This is such a fun way to
earn money for our school.
Please come join us!"



Walk & Bike Day is coming next Thursday, Feb. 12.

Be sure to hit the ground running, or any way you like, as long as you use your legs! We will be giving out the first set of prizes to students participating in our new punch card program at that time (we will have a tally for each student). You can earn a prize with as few as 5 days of walking, or save up to get the coolest items - see the current list of incentives at the front office.

Over 160 students have signed up for the punch card program, either online or in class. If you haven't signed your walker/biker up yet, don't miss out - follow the link from the Lewis home page today or ask your child's teacher to sign them up.

Remember, families that drive to school can also participate by parking their car 3-4 blocks from school and walking the rest of the way. Kids that get even a little exercise and fresh air in the morning are better able to focus. If you would like to learn more about this program or help spread the word, Safer Routes will be hosting a "Stop + Walk" information meeting at Lewis this Thursday, Feb. 5 at 3:30pm. Contact Art Burden at 971-235-9016 or aburden@hevanet.com for more information.

MORE WALK & BIKE: FRIENDLY FACES, HAPPY FEET

Are you interested in getting more students to walk or bike to school? Do you want more fitness opportunities and cleaner air for Lewis Elementary School?

Safer Routes to School is excited to present our latest campaigns "Stop + Walk" and the "Walking School Bus/ Bike Train". Both campaigns provide school volunteers the resources to get more students active on their commute to school. If you are interested in organizing a "Walking School Bus/Bike Train" or "Stop + Walk" at Lewis, please contact Carolina at 503.823.1189. We will be holding the following training sessions:

- Thursday Feb 5th, 3.30-5pm at Lewis Elementary School--- Stop +Walk
- Tuesday Feb 10th , 6pm-7:30pm at Gregory Heights Library--- Walking School Bus/ Bike Train
- Wednesday Feb 25th, 12pm-1:30pm at Southeast Precinct--- Walking School Bus/ Bike Train

PTA Meeting Thursday, Feb. 5 - 6:30 pm in the library...

Attention 5th Grade Families!!!

Sellwood Middle School Open House

Sellwood Middle School is inviting incoming 5th graders and New Students to Sellwood MS for an informational meeting. Parents and new students are welcomed to join us on Wednesday, February 18 at 6:30 - 8:00 PM in the big gym. Sellwood 6th grade teachers and elective staff will be here to greet you. Tours and staff discussions are planned.

New students -5th, 6th, 7th, 8th grade - are invited to a student meeting on March 4th, 9:30 - 11:45 AM. Buses will be sent to Lewis, Llewellyn, and Duniway to pick up students. Pizza is included in this exciting visit!

Lewis Auction Ticket Sales

AUCTION TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!

Get 'em while they are inexpensive.

Auctions tickets \$20 through this Friday, 2/6/09. After Friday \$25 March \$30

See the flyer in today's packet for more information...

This is sure to be a fun, community building, affordable, fundraising event for all of our children and for Lewis.



Kindergarten Round Up Meeting

Tuesday, February 10, 2009 - 9:00 AM

an additional meeting is also scheduled for Thursday, February 26, 2009 at 6:00 pm...

