

# Beverly Cleary K-8 Family Newsletter

*Academic Excellence in a Caring Community*

December 4, 2009

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Hollyrood Phone: (503) 916-6766 Voice Mail/Messages: (503) 916-3638 Fax: (503) 916-263



I truly can't believe it is already December and there is so much going on. Let me back up to November and send a thank you to each of our families and teachers that participated in conferences this year. Conference time is such an important time to get to know your child's teacher, provide pertinent information to the teacher regarding your child and demonstrate to your child that there is a strong home/school connection.

All TAG nominations were due on November 30, 2009. Nominated students will be assessed in January. Testing is scheduled at BC-Fernwood on January 6th and January 7th. Testing is scheduled at BC-Hollyrood for January 13th and January 14th. The Leadership Team will review test scores and will make final decisions regarding TAG identification.

Every year schools practice a variety of safety drills to ensure that we are prepared for any type of emergency that may come our way. This year we have practiced fire drills, earthquake drills, and will soon practice a drill we call a Lock In/Out Drill. During this drill, one long bell is rung to signify that there is a dangerous situation inside/outside our building which requires us to lock all classroom doors and stay quiet inside the classroom. This is a standard district drill. Typically this type of drill occurs when the police notify a school there's dangerous activity in the neighborhood and they want all students safely inside a classroom. While we hope that we never have to utilize this drill, we know that practice is necessary for children and adults alike. Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, both Beverly Cleary campuses will be involved in a Lock-In Drill.

Because this is a drill and can be intimidating for some youngsters, we wanted you to have advance notice so that you might talk to your own child about it. As always, reassure your child that the adults at school are responsible for keeping them safe and that this is a practice drill. All children should feel safe and secure at school and these safety drills allow us to practice for dangerous situations. In the event that we ever need to use this procedure for a real emergency, our administrative staff would send a letter home to notify you of the event.

We have two exciting activities happening in December. An incredible 4th grade student has initiated a supply drive for our active US soldiers in Afghanistan and Iraq. If you'd like to donate to this drive, you may put supplies in boxes at both Beverly Cleary Campuses.

The second act of kindness occurring at Beverly Cleary School is our community is once again preparing holiday food baskets for local families in need, as well as for the Oregon Food Bank. Our food drive will go from Monday, December 7th, through Thursday, December 17th. Please see the information about this food drive in the newsletter.

## A QUICK VISIT TO KINDERGARTEN AND FIRST GRADE:

If you were to visit BC-Hollyrood you would observe kindergarten students working in small groups, large groups and individually with their teacher. Classroom activities are designed to be "open ended" to allow teachers to meet the rate and level of each student. In reading this might look like a group of students building three letter words with consonants and short vowels using magnetic letters or letter tiles. Another group of kindergarten students may be practicing writing letters and words to develop their fine motor skills. Some students may be responding to the story they read by illustrating a response to reading form and writing about what happened next in the story. Another group might be reading a decodable book that allows students to use letter sound knowledge to read a book. Next to this group you may see a small group reading a chapter book which is appropriate for their rate of learning.

When visiting first grade, you may see a whole group math lesson on the floor where the teacher is discussing the attributes of buttons and is asking students to find a button with a similar attribute (color, shape, number of holes, or size). The classroom next door is also discussing attributes, but is looking at attribute blocks instead of buttons (triangle, hexagon, polygon, rectangle, square and circles).

Writing in first grade is amazing. Each classroom has a writer's workshop time where students are writing. One lesson, often taught in first grade, is teaching students what a "Small Moment" is. Students get very excited to tell their story but often get stuck telling a long story. With a "Small Moment", students focus on one small piece of their story and develop this with descriptive language while practicing their punctuation. The classroom next door may be working on a "Small Moment" story but are editing and practicing using similes or metaphors.

Play auditions began today for the production of Ramona Quimby which will be performed on February 25 at 7 pm. . I can't wait for this Beverly Cleary classic to come alive on the BC-F Campus.

Winter break begins December 21 and runs through January 3, 2010. I look forward to seeing smiling faces on January 4, 2010.

Happy holidays to all-  
Annie Tabshy  
Beverly Cleary-Hollyrood / Assistant Principal

### Beverly Cleary School News

- Parents: Letters and certificates of immunization status (CIS) needing immunizations were mailed home November 23. If your student has already had the required immunizations, please fill in the date of the immunization on the CIS form, sign, date and return the form to the school office. If additional vaccines are needed, please contact your health care provider or call (503)988-3816 for Multnomah County Clinic locations. If your child's immunizations are not current, they will be sent home on February 17, 2010.  
Cindy Schlatter, RN, Beverly Cleary School Nurse.

#### **PARENT SURVEY**

- Please take a few moments to complete this brief online survey about before and after school programs. This survey is for all families with elementary-age students whether or not you use childcare services or not. Survey results are used as part of an annual program evaluation and to help the district make childcare decisions. Please complete the survey by Friday, December 18, 2009.

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/?p=WEB229V5VK3A36>  
Nancy Hauth, Program Manager, 503.916.3230,  
[nhauth@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:nhauth@pps.k12.or.us)

- Beverly Cleary **Food Drive** will collect food for Beverly Cleary families in need during the holidays. Food will be collected from December 7<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup>. Bring non-perishable, un-opened food items to either the Fernwood or Hollyrood Campuses. Drop boxes are located near the main office.

- Hollyrood parents are invited to attend music class with their students to share what they have been learning. Please mark your calendar and plan on attending these dates:

Monday Dec. 7 <sup>th</sup>	1:30-1:55 Ms. Osborne's class
Tuesday Dec. 8 <sup>th</sup>	12:30-12:55 Ms LaTocha's class
	1:00-1:25 Ms. Miller's class
	1:30-1:55 Ms. Shue's class
Tuesday Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup>	12:30-12:55 Ms. Hart's class
	1:00-1:25 Ms. Hunt's class
	1:30-1:55 Ms. Morris's class

- On December 9<sup>th</sup>, cabbage will be served for Harvest of the Month in the school cafeteria. The same farmer who has

grown parsnips, beets and cabbage for our Harvest of the Month Program in the past will be providing cabbage for us again. This fresh cabbage was grown by Hilltop Farms located in Troutdale and their family has been farming on the same land for over 100 years. Please help us support local farms and local purchasing. Join us for Harvest of the Month December 9th in the school cafeteria.

- Grant Gendrills Dance Team will be sponsoring Dance Day again this year. This is an exciting opportunity for kids K-8 to learn a routine with the Gendrills dancers and perform for parents and friends later that day. Dance Day is on Dec. 12th from 9 -3 pm. The cost is \$25.00. Flyers are in the school office. See flyer for details. Mail-in registration must be received by December 9th. Contact Kathy Hook if you have any questions (503)201-8841.

### Beverly Cleary School PTA NEWS

- Congratulations! Thanks to your support we have earned \$3000 for the PTA from sales of Chinook Books. Thank you to all the families, neighbors and businesses that helped support our sale.

The official fund raiser is over, but there are still books available for purchase through December 18th. Need a last minute Christmas gift? How about something for that hard to buy for co-worker. Here you go! Help narrow down your list while you support a good cause.

Please contact Christine Putnam at [gcput@yahoo.com](mailto:gcput@yahoo.com) or 503-206-4552 for any additional books and front door delivery!

- **Scrip gift card orders** are collected in the front hallway of both schools at the beginning of the school day or, if you have a completed order form ready before Tuesday morning, you can deposit it in the Scrip mail box in the office at either school anytime.

- There are only three more weeks before school gets out for winter break! If you are looking for convenience as you are shopping for gifts this year, check out the attached order form and see how much of your holiday shopping you can do using Scrip gift cards! Here's a sample of how you can use Scrip Gift Cards during the holidays:

*Stocking Stuffers* - Car Wash Gift Cards, Baja Fresh, Burgerville, Baskin Robbins, Cold Stone Creamery, Jamba Juice, Mrs. Field's Cookies, Peets Coffee and Starbuck's

*For That Hard to Buy for Teenager in Your Life* - American Eagle, Gap & Old Navy, Nike, Regal Cinema, Hollywood Video, iTunes

*For Your Favorite Cook* - Macy's, Home Goods, Pier 1 Imports, Pottery Barn/Williams Sonoma

*For Book Lovers* - Barnes & Noble, Borders and Powell's

*For Dads* - Nike, REI, Big 5 Sporting Goods, Best Buy, Home Depot, Lowe's

*For the Younger Set* - Hanna Andersson, Family Fun Center, Build-A-Bear Workshop, Learning Palace

*For Those Crafty Folks You Know* - Backyard Bird Shop, Craft Warehouse, Joann Fabrics, Michaels Crafts

*For Moms* - Bed, Bath & Beyond, Bridgeport Village, Lloyd Center Mall, Bath & Body Works, See's Candy

*For Pets and Pet Lovers* - Petco

*For Your Holiday Dinner* - Fred Meyer, New Season's, Safeway, Honey Baked Ham

*Need a break from cooking during all the hustle & bustle of the holiday season?* - Applebee's, McMenamins, Spaghetti Factory, Olive Garden, Panera, Pizzicato, Pizza Schmizza, Red Robin

It's so easy - you turn in your completed order form on Tuesday morning, and by the time school ends on Thursday afternoon, your shopping is done! Remember to include a check made out to "Beverly Cleary PTA" with your order.

If you have any questions regarding Scrip Gift Cards, please contact Anne Pearson at [UsPearsons@msn.com](mailto:UsPearsons@msn.com) or Nancy Drinnon at [ndrinnon1@comcast.net](mailto:ndrinnon1@comcast.net) If you need a fresh scrip form, there is a link on the front page of our website.

Have a great Holiday Season, and thanks for using Scrip!

- Looking for an alternative to traditional holiday entertainment this season? Acoustic holiday bluegrass visits Portland December 20 with the inaugural Cascadia Yulegrass Celebration. Produced by parents of Beverly Cleary School students, the event features world-renowned musicians and regional favorites including Darol Anger, Sharon Gilchrist, Billy Nerishi, Hollywood local Matt Butler, and others. Cascadia Yulegrass is a contemporary, family-friendly, and affordable holiday alternative that doesn't involve cracked nuts or ballerinas.

All buyers using the promo code CLEARY2009 will generate valuable funds for the Beverly Cleary School arts programs. In addition, a portion of the profits generated by the Cascadia Local Goods Gift Gallery, open during the show in the Wonder Ballroom art gallery, will be donated to the cause.

The show starts at 7pm on Sunday, December 20th, but there's no school for BCS students on the 21st so bring the whole family. The event is general admission. However, there will be seating available on a first-come first-serve basis. Questions? Email Jason Mastrine at [hello@cascadiayulegrass.com](mailto:hello@cascadiayulegrass.com), or visit [cascadiayulegrass.com](http://cascadiayulegrass.com) to listen to music and watch an introductory video.

- Are you looking for a way to "give back" this holiday season? Here's a great opportunity: Volunteer at the PTA Clothing Center. Our school is responsible for providing volunteers to staff the Clothing Center at Marshall High School on Monday, December 7th from 9:30 am-1:30 pm. The center serves PPS students in need, and about 60 students per day have been coming into the center to get clothing they can wear to school. We currently have one volunteer for this event, and need 3-4 more people to help out. If you are interested in volunteering on the 7th please contact Abbie Rankin ([abbie@witscher.org](mailto:abbie@witscher.org)). Thank you!

- Does your student need help in math? Do you need a reference book? The PTA is selling two math reference books for upper grade use. Math on Call, for grades 6 – 8<sup>th</sup>, assists the student in homework, test review, daily assignments, and

cooperative learning. Algebra to Go, for 8<sup>th</sup> grade and up, helps the student understand algebraic concepts by providing detailed explanations and problem solving strategies. Math on Call sells for \$15 and Algebra to Go cost \$20. These books may be purchased at the Fernwood campus front office or by contacting PTA Board member, Anita McKey, [amckey2578@msn.com](mailto:amckey2578@msn.com).

- OUR PTA IS HOLDING AN ONLINE MAGAZINE, MUSIC & BOOK FUNDRAISER AND YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

- Give the gift of reading and help support your school!

- Our school will receive 40% of each order and these funds will be used to support important goals and programs that benefit our children.

- Over 700 magazine titles like People, SI Kids, Reader's Digest, and Time, plus music and books — great value and prices for everyone.

- You can RENEW your favorite subscription, ORDER a NEW title, or GIVE a Gift. Ask family, friends, neighbors, co-workers and don't forget local business professionals or service centers with waiting rooms (doctors, salons, etc.).

Here's how you can participate: All through this school year, you can order online by going to QSP.com. (There is also a link on the left-hand side of our school website.) Use our school code -- 425000623 -- and follow the instructions online.

Our goal is to raise \$1000. We listened to your feedback from last year's sale and we are only selling online this year in order to reduce the stress that comes with filling in envelopes and postcards.

This is a terrific fundraiser for out-of-town family and friends, with easy pay by credit card, and orders are processed immediately. SATISFACTION IS GUARANTEED! (QSP even has a toll-free customer service line -- 800-678-2673)

## **Beverly Cleary School Foundation News**

### **Auction News**

**Support Your School and Promote Your Business – Beverly Benefit Auction Opportunity!**

As you'd all agree, our greatest asset is our children! Are you a business owner or decision maker at your company? To help make this year's (March 5, 2010) auction even more successful than the last, please consider having your business sponsor the BCS Auction or advertise in the catalog. Your generosity will reach more than 500 families, as well as the 300 guests we expect at the auction. It's a great chance to leverage the visibility of your business while helping to raise funds for key programs like art, music, PE and language.

We are offering a variety of sponsorship options this year: Community (\$1000), Supporting (\$750), Neighborhood (\$500) and Wine Sponsor (\$100). Each level includes different benefits (contact us to learn more)! Ads range from half a page (\$400), quarter page (\$250) to business card size (\$150). For more information, please contact Kirsten Chambers ([chad.kirsten@comcast.net](mailto:chad.kirsten@comcast.net)) or Stacy Stokes

(stacystokes@realtytrust.com). We appreciate your consideration!

We know you already support BCS in so many ways, but unfortunately, we always need more help in order to provide the very best education for our children.

- The 2010 Beverly Benefit Auction will be held Friday March 5, 2010. The Beverly Benefit Auction’s proceeds support the Beverly Cleary School Foundation, and provide our children with important educational enhancements, such as PE, Music and Movement, Foreign Languages and Visual Arts.

Look for updated information on the Beverly Benefit Auction website (<http://auction.beverlyclearyschool.org/>), coming soon!

### **Beverly Cleary School TAG News**

#### **Important Dates for TAG**

**January 2010** – Testing will be scheduled by the district TAG office. School teams have two weeks after testing to meet with their Leadership team and make recommendations.

**February 2010** – PPS sends a notification letter to families approximately 30 days after testing.

### **Beverly Cleary School Calendar**

Thurs, December 3	Grading Period Ended 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Dance
Fri, December 4	NO SCHOOL-Teacher Planning Day
Wed, December 16	2 hr. Late Opening
Mon, December 21	Holiday begins <b>NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS</b>
Mon, January 4	<b>STUDENTS RETURN</b>

#### **Portland Public Schools Nondiscrimination Statement**

Portland Public Schools recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups and their roles in society. All individuals and groups shall be treated with fairness in all activities, programs, and operations, without regard to age, color, creed, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation.

#### **Board of Education Policy 1.80.020-P**

District Title VI & Title IX Contact: Carolyn M. Leonard, Compliance (503-916-3183)

District 504 Contact: Carolyn M. Leonard, Compliance (503-916-3183)

American Disabilities Act Contact: Suzy Harris (503 916-3152)