

# Beverly Cleary K-8 Family Newsletter

*Academic Excellence in a Caring Community*

January 15, 2010

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Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful winter break that was filled with family, fun and frivolity. I know that those two weeks provided me with time to reflect on how the year has gone thus far and to look ahead to the upcoming months. I find it reassuring to get back to school and spend time around your terrific children. Our first week back was great. Students were happy to see one another and easily transitioned back to the routines of school.

There are many exciting things coming up in the next few weeks at Beverly Cleary. For our eighth graders this is the time to begin planning for and thinking about their high school choices. While most of our students will go off to Grant, others will look at options around the city. This week our students had a chance to hear about the Benson High School program from the Benson counselors. Grant counselors will also meet with our students, but will do so later in the spring. Grant also allows 8th graders to "shadow" a student for a day. The day for "shadowing" is February 9, 2010 and the form is due to Grant by Friday, January 29, 2010. Forms are available in the Beverly Cleary office and on our website. Grant's Parent Information Night is February 10, 2010 at 6:30 PM.

The transfer process is now open for high schools and will close on February 26, 2010 at 5:00 PM. Please be certain that if your 8th grade student is applying for a transfer you have completed the form prior to this date.

Speaking of opportunities to learn more about certain schools, we are also offering a Parent Information Night to families of students in 4th-7th grade at Beverly Cleary. Please join us on January 20, 2010 at 7:00 in the cafetorium to hear about our mid-level program goals and to give us your input. We are working hard to meet the unique needs of all students at Beverly Cleary and want to communicate to you what our mid-level program is and why you should keep your child at Beverly Cleary through grade 8. Even if you have no plans to leave Beverly Cleary, we hope you will join us as we would like to share our vision and get your input as we begin to shape our program for next year and beyond. The transfer deadline for elementary and middle schools ends on March 12, 2010 at 5:00 PM.

In the last newsletter you heard that we have a school-wide focus on writing. On January 19th all students at both campuses will be participating in an all school writing activity that staff will analyze on the January 20th late opening. By

looking at writers from Kindergarten to grade 8, staff will determine what areas students still need to develop and can begin to see how a writer develops their ideas and content as they move through our school. The topic that we will be writing about is food. Students can write about a favorite food, a food they enjoy making or a favorite place they eat a particular food. I am sure that after the holiday break, students will have many ideas for this topic!

Finally, please remember that Monday, January 18th is the day we are given to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Junior's birthday. Our students will not be in school that day. Many families will use this opportunity to volunteer around the city and to talk with students about the Civil Rights Movement. Enjoy the day off from work or school and find a way to realize your dreams.

Melissa

## **Beverly Cleary School News**

We have had reports recently of students engaging in aggressive behavior towards each other on the playground after school. To avoid children being hurt, and having playground issues impact learning in the classroom, please make sure your student follows the same rules of behavior after school that we use during the school day. A good example of a rule is "hands to self." Often when students are "goofing around" and have hands on each other, issues arise and can quickly escalate. Please help us by reinforcing these rules and by monitoring your children after school.

We have had several instances this year of dogs being brought into our school buildings. Please be advised of the existence of the following PPS Administrative Directive, "No domesticated mammals, including dogs, cats, primates, birds or livestock shall be allowed in school buildings or grounds while school is in session unless permitted by the Principal and proof of appropriate and/or current rabies vaccination is provided. This limitation applies to faculty, staff and student pets as well as those of the public."

Thank you in advance for your compliance with this policy.

## **K-1 Hollyrood Kindergarten Round-Up**

Thursday, February 18, 2010  
9:00 am-10:00 am & 6:30 pm-7:30 pm

We are pleased to announce our 2010-2011 Kindergarten Round-up for children turning five on or before September 1, 2010. Because of space constraints and fire code restriction, Kindergarten Round-up is for adults only. Meet the Principal, Assistant Principal and teachers and learn about this Kindergarten program. Registration packets will be available at the Round-Up. To complete registration forms you will need; Proof of birth date, two proofs of address, immunizations and names of emergency contacts. For your convenience, we will be accepting registration packets at the B.C. Hollyrood Campus between 9:00am and 3:00pm beginning February 19, 2010. For more information call (503) 916-6766.

### **New Phone System Coming to Beverly Cleary: Parent surveys available in the Office**

PPS is currently in the process of updating the telephone system at Beverly Cleary. They would like your feedback on how well the current phone system has worked for you. After the new system is in place, a follow-up survey will be conducted. Surveys are now available in the main office at both the Fernwood and Hollyrood campuses. Please note emergency messages should continue to go through the main office. Please also be advised teachers may respond more quickly to an e-mail than call left on voice mail.

### **Robotics Club**

Changes have been made to the Lego Robotics Club to provide broader participation and a unique opportunity to program games. The club has been split into 2 parts and began this week.

On Tuesdays from 3:15 to 4:30 the group will meet and develop a game based upon the Oregon Game Challenge (OGPC). This group will be limited to 7 kids from 6th, 7th and 8th grade. This group's goal is to develop and program a game oriented to Oregon Game Challenge specifications (<http://techstart.org/ogpc>). This is a tough challenge designed for middle schoolers, and the team will be limited to 7 total kids from grades 6 through 8.

On Thursdays from 3:15 to 4:30 the Lego Robotics club will meet and is limited to first 10 kids from 5th, 6th and 7th grade. This group's goal is to have fun with building/programming robots to accomplish tasks developed by the team. – e.g. there is no competition, just fun and training for next Fall.  
NOTE: Participation is limited to either Tuesdays or Thursdays (e.g. one or the other but not both).

These changes have been made to:

1) Allow more kids to sign up and kids will not have to participate on both days.

2) The game programming group is limited to middle schools (6th-8th graders) and to 4-7 kids based upon recommendations from the TechStart Oregon Game Project Challenge. See <http://techstart.org/ogpc> for more details.

3) The reason for adding 5th graders to Lego Robotics is to 'train' for next Fall's Lego Robotics challenge (thus, no 8th graders).

If you are interested please contact Martin Jetton at 971-506-3475. Participation is limited and is available on a first come first served basis.

### **Family Arts Nights**

As a result of your generosity and support of our Run-for-the-Arts last spring, I am excited to offer an opportunity I'm hoping will be an annual event. On February 11th a local artist will be performing at Beverly Cleary, and we are offering families the chance to attend. There will be no charge to families as we are using some of the proceeds from last year's Run to fund the evening.

The performance will be held in the cafetorium on the Fernwood campus beginning at 6:30pm and will last about one hour. To guide you in your decision about participation, listed below is a description of the artist. We worked with Young Audiences to provide the artist which would appeal to our school community.

Tickets for the performance are available on a first come, first-served basis in the front offices on both campuses. If you do take tickets for the evening, we ask you keep your commitment to attend since it is likely more families will want to attend than there are tickets available.

I hope you will find this invitation appealing. I know I am excited to offer the performance and look forward to seeing the evening reach its capacity. It will be my desire to offer similar opportunities every year. Thank you for the generosity you have shown each spring in the support of Run-for-the-Arts.

**February 11th 6:30 p.m.** Trashcan Joe  
"Music Is All Around Us!"

Led by James Cook, this energetic quartet brings to life classic American jazz from the 1920s to the 1950s. They share original compositions as well as familiar children's folk songs, using a homemade trashcan banjo, trashcan bass, kazoo, accordion, cornet and more. Students accompany the musicians with singing and rhythmic clapping and volunteers join the band on stage to create a trashcan orchestra.

### **Hollyrood Garden**

There are some exciting happenings at the Hollyrood garden. In January, we will be starting a worm bin where we will compost scraps from lunch. This is a parent volunteer run

operation, so if you are interested in helping the student learn more about composting, being green, and the environment please let us know of your interest (volunteer time is usually during lunch to supervise scrap collection and then dump in the bin). Special thanks to Jon Jensen for designing and building the worm bin!

Various garden activities and lessons have been happening with different kindergarten and first grade classes, including planting bulbs and cover crop, taking garden tours, making a worm habitat for inside observation, and learning about pumpkins and the parts of plants. We will have more lessons and activities happening in the second half of the year, indoors and out. If you love gardening, or even if you yourself don't have a green thumb but would like to help support students learning more about the natural world through gardening, please contact the garden committee at Hollyrood (you can email [abbie@witscher.org](mailto:abbie@witscher.org)). It's lots of fun and we'd love to have your help.

Also, be on the lookout for some fancy new garden signs to mark the classes' garden beds. Special thanks to the Camp Fire group at Hollyrood for painting the signs for us!

### **PTA Reading Challenge News!**

The PTA Reading Challenge is an incentive-based reading program designed to celebrate and encourage reading. Those children who choose to participate will read, or have others read to them, and then will submit a tally of the number of pages read each month. The children receive incentives at specific milestones of accumulated pages read. Beverly Cleary students can join Reading Challenge at any time. Tally sheets are located in the library at both Hollyrood and Fernwood sites. If your child hasn't done the Reading Challenge, it might be fun for them to check it out!

Reading Challenge had 42 participants this December! Dylan Audley was awarded a Reading Challenge Trophy for reading 20,000 total pages! Ruby Cooper-Karl will soon have "lunch with the principal" because she read 10,000 pages total! Mason Waller, Deaven Edmonson, Connor Kolze, Gabe Edger, Eleanor Wardlaw, and Max Linssen all received a medal for reading a total of 5,000 pages for the Reading Challenge! Many others participated and we are glad to have "first timers" Gavin Swartley and Lila Fenner on board!

We also have Reading Challenge for grades 5-8 at Beverly Cleary. Helena Klein, Sophia Hatzikos, Brennan Noailles, and Eliana Meyer have all completed a "Challenge" and they will win a prize such as a movie ticket, Jamba Juice gift card, or a bookstore gift card. Prizes depend on what "Challenge" they select to complete. The "Challenges" are a great way to encourage reading different genres and they are located in the library at the Fernwood site.

If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to contact Patricia Furrer-Hatzikos [Hatzikos@comcast.net](mailto:Hatzikos@comcast.net)

### **8th Grade Shadow Opportunity at Grant**

The date for your students to participate in shadowing a Grant student is Tuesday, February 9, 2010. Permission forms must be returned to Grant by January 29th.

Shadow Opportunity days at Grant High School are restricted to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students interested in attending Grant High School as freshmen next year who have completed all appropriate paperwork by the deadline. Current 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be matched with a 9<sup>th</sup> grader. If you would like to request a 9<sup>th</sup> grade host, you may do so; however the 9<sup>th</sup> grader must be a student in good standing for both academics and citizenship.

Students must report to the Library on the main floor of Grant H.S. at 7:45am to sign in and meet their 9<sup>th</sup> Grade host student. Parents must check their students in; please allow up to an hour for check-in. Students will not be allowed to shadow if we have not received the appropriate paperwork. Parents/Guardians will receive an email confirming receipt of paperwork by the Friday preceding their student's scheduled visit.

Please remind your 8<sup>th</sup> grader to bring a brown bag lunch or money for the cafeteria. 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their 9<sup>th</sup> grade hosts will be encouraged to remain on campus for lunch.

Options to turn in the form:

- 1) Turn in to the Beverly Cleary School office
- 2) Fax 503-916-2695 Attn: Kelley
- 3) Mail to 2245 NE 36<sup>th</sup> Ave. Portland, OR 97212
- 4) Or drop by Grant

8th Grade Information Night is February 10, 2010 @ 6:00PM in the Auditorium.

### **Beverly Cleary School PTA News**

Tuesday, January 26th is **Pizzicato Dough 4 Dollars Day**. Pizzicato on 42nd Ave and Fremont is generously donating 20% of its sales to Beverly Cleary on this day. You can help earn money for our school just by ordering a pizza!

Here's how:

**-Pre-order your meal** by Friday, January 22  
Forms will be sent home with your child. Just return the form and a check made out to BEVERLY CLEARLY PTA to the Pizzicato pizza box in either school's office. Then pick up your pizza dinner at the office at child pick-up time on Tuesday, January 26th. –OR–  
**-Go to Pizzicato directly** to pick up dinner on January 26th. If you're not up for pizza that night, buy a gift certificate to use later and that 20% still goes toward our PTA funds. – OR –  
**-Plan a Pizza Party!** If you're planning a work lunch or meeting on January 26th, call Pizzicato 48 hours in advance and they will deliver to you if the total is over \$50.

Tell friends, family and neighbors - ALL SALES AT PIZZICATO on 42nd and Fremont on January 26th will help support our school!

## **Beverly Cleary School Foundation News**

### **Beverly Benefit Invites You To... DONATE TO THE AUCTION!**

Come celebrate our school and benefit our children! Join friends and neighbors for Beverly Cleary School Foundation's annual fundraising auction on March 5th 2010 from 6-10pm, at the Bison Building in Northeast Portland at 419 NE 10th Avenue. We invite you to "Dream Big" for your neighborhood school and your kids' future. What will our school look like next year and the next? What do our children dream of for themselves? What do you dream of for your kids?

Beverly Cleary School Foundation's annual auction is the primary fundraiser for the Foundation, which raises money to fund extra teachers at Beverly Cleary School. Faced with ever-shrinking budgets, the Foundation funds allow our school to maintain a full range of specialist teachers, giving our children a richer school experience. Your support of the auction will directly benefit our school and our children's education and give us an opportunity to Dream Big together. We hope to see you there!

Beverly Benefit is looking at donations like:

- Art or craft items...work from local artists/artisans for our first annual "Silent Auction Art Gallery and Market"
- Veggies...do you have a summer garden? We need a few families to contribute a few items each week to a basket of home grown flowers, herbs or veggies in August/September.
- Tickets...tickets to shows...sports events...or ?
- Restaurant Gift Certificates...do you know or have connections to any local restaurant?
  - What can you do? Hang Christmas lights?
  - Chauffeur wine tasting? Host a wine tasting evening?
  - Bottles of wine for the WINE WALL?
  - Host a themed Birthday party? Bake a cake?
  - Consult a garden renovation?

Please contact the Beverly Benefit Procurement Chair if you have potential donations or ideas...and/or need a donation

request letter and donation form: Amy Hekker at (503) 740-0778 or [aahekker@aol.com](mailto:aahekker@aol.com).

### **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](mailto: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.beverlyclearschool.org/>), coming soon!

## **Beverly Cleary School TAG News**

### **Important Dates for TAG**

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

## Beverly Cleary School Calendar

Mon. January, 18	Martin Luther King Day-NO SCHOOL
Wed. January, 20	Late Opening 7:00 PM Parent Information Night (4 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> grade)
Tues. January, 26	PTA Pizzicato Night
Tues. February, 10	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Information Night 6:00pm @ Grant
Mon. February, 15	President's Day - NO SCHOOL
Wed. February, 17	Late Opening
Thurs. February, 18	Kindergarten Round-Up 9:00am-10:00am <b>or</b> 6:30pm-7:30pm
Fri. March, 5	BCS Foundation Auction
Mon. March, 15	Teacher Planning Day - NO SCHOOL
Wed. March, 17	Late Opening
Mon. March, 22-26	Spring Break – NO SCHOOL
Tues. April, 6	Run for the Arts

### **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)