

Beverly Cleary K-8 Family Newsletter

Academic Excellence in a Caring Community

December 17, 2010

Beverly Cleary School Website: pps.k12.or.us/schools/beverlycleary www.beverlyclearyschool.org

Principal's Email: tgeist@pps.k12.or.us

Assistant Principals' Email: mdragich@pps.k12.or.us atabshy@pps.k12.or.us

Secretaries' Email: kepley@pps.k12.or.us rmalmstrom@pps.k12.or.us

Fernwood Phone: (503) 916-6480 Fax: (503) 916-2626

Hollywood Phone: (503) 916-6766 Voice Mail/Messages: (503) 916-3638 Fax: (503) 916-2635

IN THIS ISSUE:

- A Message from Our Principal
- Beverly Cleary School News
- PTA News
- Foundation News
- Community Events
- Beverly Cleary Calendar

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

By Principal Teri Geist

As I write this last article of 2010, I do so with amazement that, for one, we've already finished one third of our school year, but also because we're within "minutes" of embarking on a two week break that will be filled, for most of us, with thankful celebrations and special time with friends and family.

We ended this year with an eventful week in which our fourth graders performed with Ralph Nelson in, "My Oregon Report" and then today with an all-school celebration to recognize the support we've given these last few months to several agencies that support children, as well as the chance to hear our third, fourth and fifth grade choir, again under the direction of Ralph Nelson. We finished this afternoon with a "Happy Holidays" wish from each other in picture and song.

I want to bring several items to your attention before we break. First of all, we are in the process of placing our orders for the technology because our families "banished our dinosaurs" in October. We will be ordering several interactive white boards and amplification systems as well as a mobile lab of netbooks that will give students classroom access to the updated technology we hoped for as our campaign began. The ordering process through the District takes about six weeks, so, hopefully, by mid-February we will be "in business."

Speaking of new technology, the person I had with me in October as Principal For A Day was from Intel. When I told her about our successful fund-raising campaign for technology she asked me to remind any parent, who is an Intel employee, that Intel has a matching grant program. If any of you contributed to our Dinosaur campaign, if you let Intel know, the company will match your grant (up to a designated amount). Nike does the same thing through their Global Giving program, so if you are a employee of Nike and did not notify your employer of your contribution, it isn't too late for that now either, especially since we all look for "last minute" tax deductions before December 31st.

Parent Art Krug, who is a local comedian, is staging a performance for us, which will benefit our technology fund. He and two other local comedians will be performing at McMenamins Mission Street Theater on January 8th. I hope you will join us for a laugh-filled evening.

A parent brought me some information last week about an incentive Target stores have that benefits the school of your choice. If you have a Target credit or debit card, each time you use it Target will make a donation to us if we are the designated school of your choice. For more information on this program see www.target.com.

At this time of year when we stop to reflect on the passing of one year and the beginning of a new one, may you and your family experience good health and happiness in 2011.

With unending thankfulness for all that you do to support us,

Teri Geist

BEVERLY CLEARY SCHOOL NEWS

O Come all Ye Forks....Yes we are still in need of your extra metal forks for our cafeteria at Fernwood. Ask your neighbors, pick up a few at Goodwill or get rid of the "orphans" in your silverware drawer. Please drop them at the Fernwood office or with Kay in the cafeteria. Thank you!!

Alert

Parents are encouraged to be alert to the correct use of silly bands. One of our third grade teachers heard a news story about children winding them tightly around their wrists, causing serious injury, including one child whose circulation had been cut off long enough to require amputation of his hand. Coincidentally, one of her students wound six silly bands tightly around his wrist and fell asleep. The bands left a deep impression in his skin that was still evident as late as the next afternoon.

The news story indicated children are experimenting to see how tightly they have to wind the bands in order to see an impact on their circulation. As parents and educators, we are all concerned about this alarming trend and felt it was important to bring to your attention, as well.

Beverly Cleary School Traffic & Parking

We have heard from many of you that the traffic flow around both the campuses is very slow and parking spaces are limited. To help increase traffic flow, we are asking that you do not wait in front of the school in your idling car, while picking up your student(s). Do not leave your car idling while you bring your child into the building. Instead, allow enough time to park away from the school and walk. Please do not park in the Auction Winners' spots. The auction winners bid on the parking spots at both campuses. They have paid for the privilege to use the spots at all times. Also, never park in the handi-capped spot unless you have a permit. As a last request, please do not park in the Principals' or bus spots while waiting for your students. Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation.

Safe Routes to School

In 1969, 42 percent of students walked or biked to school, today less than 16 percent of students between the ages of 5 and 15 walk to school. At Safe Routes to School, we are working to increase the number of children walking and biking to school. Some of the benefits for walking and biking are increased heart-healthy fitness, better student school performance, a reduction in school traffic congestion and improvement of air and environmental quality.

By improving safety conditions and educating children on bicycle and pedestrian safety, we can create the best conditions for children to make healthier decisions. Safe Routes provides trainings, incentives and other resources to get students walking and biking to school. For

more information, check out our website at www.saferoutesportland.org or call Carolina at 503.823.1189.

PTA NEWS

Holiday purchasing

The holiday shopping season is here, and this is a gentle reminder that your online shopping can do double-duty, making it an effortless way to help your PTA raise classroom funds. On the left side of beverlyclearyschool.org, you'll find a section containing our four ongoing PTA fundraisers: Amazon, Powell's Books, magazine subscriptions and scrip sales.

Art Cards

Each year the PTA offers art cards. These are sets of note cards with a reproduced image of your child's artwork on the front and their name, age, title of work, and school on the back. Normally we hold this fundraiser in the fall, but this year, due to scheduling issues with the art card team, we will be offering them in the spring. This will have the added benefit of allowing more time for your young artists to create, giving you more artwork to choose from for your art cards. Keep an eye out for order forms in 20011. Contact Cynthia Mosby with any questions at cynthiamosby@comcast.net.

Invitation to Parents from the Portland Eco-School Network

What: Portland Eco-School Network Informational Meeting

When: Tuesday, January 25, 2010, 7:00pm – 8:30pm

Topic: Eco-School Network parents will describe how they work within their schools and how interested parents and teachers can get involved.

The mission of the Eco-School Network is to introduce sustainable practices and increase eco-awareness to enrich the lives of children at school.

The Network includes parents from over 30 schools who come together in person and online to share ideas, experiences, and project how-tos, as well as offer each other motivation and inspiration.

For location, directions, and general information please call Emily Klavins at 503-227-2315 or emily@earthleaders.org. The sponsor of the Eco-School Network is the Center for Earth Leadership, www.earthleaders.org.

Practice Yoga & Raise Money for the PTA

Get your yoga on every Tuesday morning from 9 - 10 AM and help the PTA. We meet in the Fernwood Band Room; fees are \$80/eight-class card or \$12/drop in. Bring yourself, your friends and your mat (or rent a mat for \$1) Up to 50% of the proceeds go to the PTA Technology Fund. For more info visit yogawithelona.com

PTA Clothing Closet

Beverly Cleary School is signed up to staff the PTA Clothing Closet at Marshall High School for four days this year, and we need your help! This is a great chance to directly impact our district's kids in a

positive way, and a lot of fun. The Clothing Closet allows kids in need to come "shop" for new or gently used clothes, and provides a tremendous service - about 30-45 kids have come in on the days it's open. Over 650 kids have been helped this year!

We have these dates to volunteer: 2/17, and 4/21.

The Clothing Closet is out of boys and girls' jeans in sizes 4-12, and warm winter coats! If you can donate new or gently used items (there are bins at both campuses), they would go out to the kids right away. You can also make cash donations for new underwear or socks, and I'm happy to get you a donation receipt - just email me. Thank you for your time. Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions!

Christine Jeschke

Co-Volunteer Coordinator christine@puckydog.com

BCS FOUNDATION

Get your tickets and Scrip for Comedy Night!

Yeah, our school budget woes are bad, but we'll have the last laugh. Buy your tickets now for an adult evening of comedy with funny pros Dave Anderson, Susan Rice and Art Krug [read more](#)

For a double whammy, purchase McMenamins scrip in advance. Our school gets 12% back on scrip alone. But it gets better: wine and dine at the show and every dollar you spend on food and drinks knocks a dollar off the cost of the venue! So feel free to eat your weight in McMenamins fare- it'll mean more \$\$ for our school! [Insert maniacal last laugh here.]

The Beverly Matching Funds Challenge

The BCS Foundation matching funds challenge continues. Thank you to those who have donated! We are more than half-way there. But, we won't reach our goal without your support [read more](#)

The Beverly Benefit: Advertising, Sponsorship Opportunity!

As you'd all agree, the greatest asset in our community is our children! Are you a business owner or decision maker at your company? To help make this year's Beverly Benefit Auction (March 4, 2011) even more successful than the last, please consider having your business sponsor the Beverly Benefit or advertise in the catalog [read more](#)

COMMUNITY EVENTS

We are frequently approached with flyers, messages, and announcements from and about sports clubs, neighborhood events, community centers, etc. Because these things are not affiliated with PPS or the Beverly Cleary PTA, they are not included in the newsletter. In order to keep families well informed about events happening in our community, we will be putting information about these items on the Community Events Page of our website www.pps.k12.or.us/schools/beverlycleary. More information about events such as these can also be found in the racks in the lobby of the two schools.

Grant Jr. Generals Hoop Camp

For more information click [here](#)

Hop on the Bike Train

Every Thursday morning, there's a bike train headed toward the Fernwood campus, and you're welcome to hop on!
The train rolls rain or shine. View the complete route map here: <http://www.biketrainpdx.org/beverly-clearly-2/> . More info is available on the website [biketrainpdx.org](http://www.biketrainpdx.org) . You can also email parent Brock Lower (bklower@comcast.net)

BEVERLY CLEARLY SCHOOL CALENDAR

Mon., December 20-31	No School Holiday Break
Mon., January 3	Students return from Holiday Break
Wed., January 12	Late Opening
Thurs., January 13	PTA Meeting @ BCF Library 6pm – 9pm
Mon., January 17	No School - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Fri., January 14	Hats on for Charity
Wed., January 19	Coffee Chat @ BCF Library 8:45am
	Middle School Planning Meeting @ BCF 6:30pm - 9pm
Thurs., February 3	Bullying 101 for Parents Meeting 6:30pm – 7:30pm
Wed., February 9	Late Opening & Family Arts Night - Performance by Obo Addy
Fri., February 11	Hats on for Charity
Wed., February 16	BCH Coffee Chat 8:35am
Thurs., February 17	Kindergarten Round-Up 9-10am <u>or</u> 6:30-7:30pm
Fri., March 4	BCS Benefit Auction at the Melody Ballroom
Tue., March 8	PTA meeting @ BCF Library 6pm – 9pm
Wed., March 9	Late Opening
Fri., March 11	Hats on for Charity
Wed., March 16	BCF Science Fair Grades 3-8
Thurs., March 17	BCF Dance Grades 6-8 1:30pm
Fri., March 18	No School Teacher Planning Day
March 21-25	SPRING BREAK

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)