



<i>Date</i>	<i>Upcoming Event</i>
<b>Thur., 1/12</b>	<b>PTA Meeting, 6:30 PM, Library</b>
<b>Mon., 1/16</b>	<b>No School, MLK Jr Day</b>
<b>Wed., 1/18</b>	<b>Late opening, 10:35</b>
<b>Fri., 1/27</b>	<b>Health Screening</b>

Check dates for all Rieke events on the web anytime at <http://www.pps.k12.or.us/schools/rieke>

### From the Principal

Happy New Year!

I hope that you had time to enjoy family, loved ones and friends over the winter vacation. It's hard to believe the New Year has arrived—it feels like the school year started just a few weeks ago.

Our 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders have begun taking the state assessments in Math, Reading, and for 5<sup>th</sup> graders, Science. Each class is scheduled for multiple assessment days across two weeks. This is the "first round" of attempts for this school year.

We are approaching a three-day weekend on which we celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday. Rieke teachers will be sharing information with their students in a variety of ways. If you are interested in sharing Dr. King's story or contributions with your children you may find something interesting on one of the following sites:

<http://mlkday.gov/>

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/lesson-plan/how-do-you-celebrate-martin-luther-king-jr-day>

<http://www.racebridgesforschools.com/wp/>

*Andrea*

### Notes From The Office

**Birthday Celebrations in the classroom are food-free.** Please check with the classroom teacher before sending or bringing non-food items or activities in for a birthday celebration.

**It's not too early to be thinking about Valentine's Day.** As with other celebrations at school, please check with the classroom teacher before preparing items to send to class. Please consider a way to celebrate that is both kind to the earth and uses candy-free cards if you'll be sharing items with the class.

**Parking Lot Etiquette:** Please park in marked parking spaces. The turnaround is not a designated parking space.

**Over the counter Medication:** Cough drop and other OTCM are on the rise due to the common cold and flu symptoms. Please remember these are considered medication and must be tuned in to the office, in the original packaging along with a signed medical release form.

### Notes From The Classroom

**Class News from both 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes rooms 17-18; as told by the entire class:**

In Mr. Herder, Ms. Walker, and Ms. Austin's 5<sup>th</sup> grade, we are making Ming trees. What we do is cut wire into 18 inch pieces, and then fold them in half. There is a little loop on top and once you have the loop you pinch the end of the loop, and twist the loop and the wire. It turns into a coiled wire. Once you have made 5 coiled wires you twist them altogether with the loops sticking out, and when you're done with that you make a branch. Then when you have made more branches, you form the branches together and get a Ming Tree!!!!

**Class News from Mr. Sturges's grade 4 class, room 20; as told by Jacob Roth:**

This week in Mr. Sturges class we started finishing up our imaginative writing, and we also are going to the Charley and the Chocolate Factory.

**Class News from Mr. Swehla's grade 1 class, room 11; as told by Nicole Prall and Olivia Birchman:**

We did computers, we did Library, we did Music, we did lots of science, we did word work, we had an assemble.

**Class News from Ms. Smith's grade 1 class, room 12; as told by Julia Kristen Wells recorded by Margot Elena Pullen:**

We had a first Friday assembly and we sang the Mary Rieke song. We are reading Mr. Poppers Penguins for our chapter book. We did science about balls and ramps.

### Kindergarten Round-Up

Do you have a child who will be in Kindergarten next fall? If so, please contact the school office to pre-register your child and mark your calendar for **Rieke's Kindergarten Round-Up** Wednesday evening **February 8**. Come learn what's new in Kindergarten at

Rieke. Meet other neighborhood families who will be entering Kindergarten. Collect a registration packet and get your child signed up for Kindergarten 2012. Round-Up is an especially important event for Rieke. Ms. Porter, our Principal, determines teacher placement and classroom assignments once she learns how many children will be attending Kindergarten in the fall. Come join us from 7:00–8:30 PM in the gym, then a tour of the classrooms. Childcare will be provided on the Rieke premises. Please tell your friends and neighbors who live in the Rieke community. All are invited to join us for this informational and social evening.

If you are interested in volunteering to assist with Kindergarten Round-Up, please contact Wendy Slocum (503) 816-5981 or [wlslocum@mac.com](mailto:wlslocum@mac.com). There are several promotional opportunities available, including passing out flyers at the Farmers' Markets in January.

### EcoThink Late Start Lounge: Growing Up Wild!

EcoThink Late Start Lounge will be holding its first meeting on Wednesday January 18 from 9:30–10:35. These sessions are designed for students K–5 who are interested in environmental topics. The theme of our first session will be Growing Up Wild. We will be learning about local wild animals and ways to sharpen your senses to track these creatures. The students will then be able to test their new skills in observation games in the classroom and around the school playground and by creating their own animal tracks to tell a story. To register, please complete the attached permission form and drop it off in the office's EcoThink box near the volunteer computer by Friday, January 13 (drop-in sign up is not allowed). For more information, please contact [jamie.repasky@gmail.com](mailto:jamie.repasky@gmail.com).

### February Styrofoam Drive–Feb 5, 10–2

Let's keep styrofoam out of our landfills! The Rieke and Maplewood Green Teams together with Hillsdale Main Street and SW Watershed Resource Center will be organizing a block styrofoam collection drive on February 5 from 10–2pm. Bring styrofoam to the empty lot across from Food Front, next to the Baskin Robins in Hillsdale. They will be collecting white block styrofoam (EPS, may be labelled #6) only, food or medical containers. Suggested donation fees are \$5 for a trash bag, \$10 for a car, \$15 - \$25 for larger truckloads (to cover transportation and processing). Additional donations to help the green teams are welcome. We welcome anyone who would like to help volunteer for an hour or two on the day of the drive. For more information contact Cindy Eldkrona from Rieke [eldkrona@yahoo.com](mailto:eldkrona@yahoo.com) or SW Watershed Resource Center, (503) 823-2862, [watershed@swni.org](mailto:watershed@swni.org)

### Rieke PTA – Save the Dates

**PTA Meeting Agenda:** Membership update, Finance Report, Chinook Book, SCRIP, Auction Report, Technology Support, and the Principal's Report. Come hear what our kids are learning in technology class with instructor Mrs. C and hear a safety update from Principal Porter.

**Thursday, Jan. 12, 6:30 pm, Library**

Everyone is invited!

Free childcare provided.

### Stop Bullying: Parent Education Series

**Tuesday Jan. 31, 6:30 PM, Library**

Trudy Ludwig, award-winning children's book author and expert on the use of relationships to hurt others, shares her expertise.

### Rieke Science Fair Update

**When:** Thursday, February 16, 6:30–8:00 PM; doors open at 5:00 to set up your display

This year, the Reptile Man is coming back to teach us all about his collection of amazing animals!

**We need volunteers!** If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Kim Meyers or Katie Unflat at [pdxkim214@gmail.com](mailto:pdxkim214@gmail.com) or Katie Unflat at [katie@unflat.com](mailto:katie@unflat.com).

We can't wait to see you there!

### First Grade Movie Night

The Rieke foundation will be holding a movie watching fundraiser on January 20 from 6:30 to 8:30. See the attached flyer for more details, contact information, and movie options to vote for.

### Family Matinee – Thank You!

Thanks to all the families who bought movie tickets for the Family Matinee series this fall at the Valley Cinema. Together, you helped raise more than \$470 for the Rieke PTA!

We'll be selling tickets again in the New Year, so watch for announcements about sale dates and the movie schedule. Thanks to Sherry Bonekat for helping sell tickets after school and helping with marketing efforts. We hope to continue to see you at the movies! If you have questions, message me, Joann Ng, at [jgekko1@aol.com](mailto:jgekko1@aol.com); please put Rieke in the subject line.

### Rieke Family Holiday Drive–Thank you!

Thanks to everyone for a fantastic holiday drive for Rieke families! Student Council, Service Club, and the entire Rieke community collected 2,127 cans of food, over 150 presents, and loads of essentials such as socks, cleaning supplies, and toiletries. The December Holiday Sorting Party was very busy and a huge success! We had many eager students packing boxes of food and wonderful parent helpers managing the gift organizing, food sorting and general chaos!

Families picked up donations before winter break. Thanks so much to all of you for helping make the holidays special for these nine Rieke families. A huge thanks to Rachell for coordinating family wish lists.

Special thanks also to Lisa Nelson and Stacy Hergenhan for lots of help along the way.

**Free Beginning Ballet for Boys**

The Portland Ballet Academy, located in front of Wilson High School on Capitol Hwy is offering a month of free lessons for boys of all ages. For more information, contact the registrar of the Portland Ballet Company, Michelle Davis, at (503) 452-8448, or email her at [michelle@theportlandballet.org](mailto:michelle@theportlandballet.org).

**Yearbook Photos Wanted**

Submit your pictures now!!! Pages are coming together for the first half of the year, and we want to make sure your children's special snap shots are included. Any winter/spring events that you're planning on attending, please send them to me as well....

Email to Jenn Van Vleet [goodgirlcef@yahoo.com](mailto:goodgirlcef@yahoo.com) or burn a disk and put in the PTA box in the office.

**Safe Routes 2 School**

**Caring for Your Bike During Winter Months**

In rainy cold weather, water seeping into bike cables and shifters can freeze up as soon as the temperature dips to 32 degrees. You don't want to come out of your warm house or school, jump on your bike, and pedal off, only to find that when you try to shift or squeeze your brakes, nothing happens. You may want to cover hand brakes and shifters with plastic bags when it's rainy and the temperatures can dip to freezing. You might also ask mom or dad if they have any WD-40. It's good at pushing out the water that creeps inside most shifters and cable housings. If used often, it can reduce freezing and rusting. Something on your bike not working: remember there is free bike repair at the City of Portland Fix-It Fairs. Dates are below.

**Tips to Staying Healthy and Alert**

During the winter months, the weather can turn from dull to dreary. Sometimes the Sun barely shines through the clouds. It gets so cold that we spend more time indoors. In the winter, you must avoid the urge to hibernate (become inactive), because it often leads to putting off important things to do and weight gain. (1) Limit the amount of television, video games and snaking. (2) Eat well-balanced meals to keep up your energy level. (3) Wash your hands with very warm soapy water every time you use the rest room and before every meal. (4) Wake up in the morning and open the blinds or turn on some lights to brighten the room. (5) Boost your energy level and alertness by taking a vigorous Walk or Bike to School.

**Cartoon Contest Winner**

Thanks to all students that submitted walk and bike cartoons. Our winner is **Mirabelle Limon** in second grade at Rieke School. She will receive the Safe Routes to School Backpack Bonanza including the backpack,

bandana, reflector light, reflector zip pull, shoe laces, tattoos and spoke reflectors. All student finalists receive a Safe Routes to School Bandana. Look for Mirabelle's cartoon in the spring issue of Safe Routes News.

**Ponchos for Students Who Need Them**

We have free ponchos to help students stay dry on the trip to and from school. Please get in touch with us: (503) 823-4998 or [SafeRoutes@PortlandOregon.gov](mailto:SafeRoutes@PortlandOregon.gov), if you know a student who would benefit from a free poncho. It is bound to start raining sometime, this is Portland after all!

**Events Calendar**

**Fix-It Fair – Free Bike Repair for Students and Families.** Saturday, January 21, 8:30 AM–2:00 PM Rosa Parks Elementary School, 8960 N. Woolsey Ave, Portland

**Explore Successful Walk to School Programs.** January 26 (Thursday), 1:00–2:00 PM, Belmont Library (1038 SE Belmont)

Contact John Chism, for more information (503-) 823-5246, [John.Chism@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:John.Chism@portlandoregon.gov)

**Robert Gray Middle School Tours**

Gray has set up tours beginning at 9:30 AM for about an hour for parent/student tours on the listed dates: 2/10, 2/17, 2/24, 3/2, 3/9.

**Wilson Youth Lacrosse Registration is Open**

Wilson Youth Lacrosse registration is now open. The general information meeting is Thursday, February 2 in the Jackson MS Library at 7 PM. Practices begin in early March. For more information, see the attached flyer.

**2011 STUDENT DIRECTORY ADDENDUM**

Please make the following changes to your 2011 Student Directory.

**PULLEN**

Page 32: Last 4 digits incorrect  
(503) 348-9451

**BURKET**

Page 18: Incorrect street  
8900 SW 21st Ave., 97219

**KUHN**

Pages 10, 11 and 26: Change phone number  
(503) 246-0680

**ERVIN**

Page 7: Incorrect area code  
(208) 819-7144

**SENGSTAKE**

Pages 5, 9, 13 and 54: Change phone number  
(503) 504-6225

**RIEKE RAPPER/SHAWN MERSHON**

Page 6: Change email  
[rapper.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:rapper.newsletter@gmail.com)

Thanks,  
Kim Meyers  
[pdxkim214@gmail.com](mailto:pdxkim214@gmail.com)

**Girls Inc is Back**

Girls Inc. of NW Oregon works to inspire all girls to be strong, smart and bold.

Girls Inc. is back at the Southwest Community Center this winter! Girls Inc. Girls Groups offer fun, empowering, proven programming with professionally trained facilitators. This winter, Girls Inc. will offer a session of Media Smarts curriculum for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade girls. Media Smarts focuses on what's real, what's not, and who is making the messages in media. Then, the girls will work with their group and a strong, smart, bold media mentor to create their own messages. At the end of the school year the group will be invited to share its project at the Girls Inc. Media Showcase.

The group will meet on Thursdays, January 19-March 8 from 3:30-5:00 at the Southwest Community Center.

To sign up, click on the "Enroll in Girls Group" link on the right side bar of the Girls Inc. website, [www.girlsincnworegon.org](http://www.girlsincnworegon.org) and select the desired group.

Cost is \$125 for winter term. Space is limited to 15 girls per group. Please register at the above link. For questions please contact Jessica at [Jessica@girlsincnworegon.org](mailto:Jessica@girlsincnworegon.org) or (503) 230-0054 x5.

**PPS Nondiscrimination Policy**

It is the policy of the Portland School Board that no discrimination or harassment of individuals or groups on the grounds of age, color, creed, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation will occur in any educational program, activity or employment. Persons with questions about this policy should contact Carolyn Leonard, Director of Compliance, and Portland Public Schools at (503) 916-2000.

**Got something for the Rapper?**

Please email your content to the *Rieke Rapper* editor Shawn Mershon, [rapper.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:rapper.newsletter@gmail.com). The *Rapper* is published each Monday. Submissions are due by Wednesday in order to be included in the upcoming Monday's edition.