



Woodlawn School Newsletter November 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 PTA Cookie Monies Due	2	3	4	5 Teachers' Planning Day No School	6
7 Fall Back 1 Hour	8 Site Council/ Committee Meetings 3:30 PM Scholastic Book Fair Begins	9	10 Cookie Dough Delivery Fall Picture Retake Art Show/Family Literacy Night 6:00-8:00 PM	11 Veteran's Day No School	12 Vorberg, Brown, Howard, Field Trip Downtown Bridges 9:30- 2:30 PM Scholastic Book Fair Ends	13
14	15	16 Eid al Adha	17	18 PTA Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM	19 Author Charlotte Blake Alston Assembly 12:40-1:25 PM 3 rd , 4 th , 5 th 1:50-2:35 PM 6 th , 7 th , 8 th	20
21	22 AM/PM/Evening Conferences No School	23 AM/PM/Evening Conferences No School	24 No School Building Closed	25 Thanksgiving No School Building Closed	26 No School Building Closed	27

December 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29 TAG Nominations Due to Mrs. Howard Round 1 OAKS Testing Begins	30	1	2 PTA Family Movie Night 7:00-9:30 PM Grading Period Ends Hanukkah Begins	3 Teacher Planning Day No School	4

REMEMBER TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2010. PACIFIC STANDARD TIME BEGINS SUNDAY MORNING.

Principal's Corner:

Over the last several months, I had the honor of working and collaborating with Ms. Hall, a dedicated, caring, and loyal administrator. Her knowledge of Woodlawn School and community helped make my transition to a new position a smooth one. Ms. Hall's commitment to educating all of our students and supporting classroom teachers is admirable. I know over the last several years, she established close bonds with students, families, teachers, and community members.

Two weeks ago, after much deliberation, Ms. Hall decided to take a family leave of absence to deal with an unexpected-acute medical situation with her daughter's father. Although, his condition has improved enough for his medical needs to be addressed away from the hospital, he continues to need Ms. Hall's support during this critical time period. This has been a difficult decision because of her commitment to the Woodlawn students, teachers, and community. Ms. Hall's leave of absence began on Monday, October 18, 2010 and she plans to return to work on January 3, 2011.

Since Monday, October 18th, Jenni Villano agreed to substitute for Ms. Hall. She will be with us until Monday, October 25th. Then Greg Jones will substitute for four days. Both Mrs. Villano and Mr. Jones are experienced, retired PPS administrators.

Beginning Monday, November 1, 2010, Mrs. Chris Bogdanow will step into the role of Woodlawn's Assistant Principal for the remainder of Ms. Hall's leave of absence. Mrs. Bogdanow worked for Portland Public Schools for thirty years before retiring. She was the principal of Jason Lee for twelve of those thirty years. Currently, she is a supervisor for Lewis and Clark College teachers and mentors new PPS principals in addition to substituting for PPS administrators. Mrs. Bogdanow is very knowledgeable of the PPS policies and practices and is looking forward to being part of the Woodlawn Community.

I know you share our best wishes for Ms. Hall and her family. I am pleased to have found such experienced people to help support our school during her absence. If you have questions please feel free to call me at 503-916-6282. - Principal Morrison

Grandparents/Special Friends Day: On Tuesday, October 26, 2010 Woodlawn School celebrated Grandparents. Grandparents and Special Friends were invited to visit their grandchildren's classrooms. The morning began with a meet and greet in the auditorium before grandparents joined their grandchildren in classrooms. Over 60 guests participated in this family event.

Math Harvest Family Night: Thursday, October 28, 2010 the Woodlawn Math Harvest Family Night took place from 6:00- 7:30 PM. There were fun fall math games and activities for the entire family. It was exhilarating watching the community come together and explore mathematical concepts.

Scholastic Book Fair: The annual Woodlawn Scholastic Book Fair is coming up Monday, November 8th through Friday, November 12th. The Book Fair theme this fall is Fiesta and is open before school, after school, and on the evening of Family Literacy Night. This fundraiser benefits the library, so please come out and support the event. If you are willing to volunteer to help support this event please contact Mrs. Reitmeyer, our school librarian. Thanks and we'll see you there!

Family Literacy Night: Woodlawn's first family literacy night is scheduled for Wednesday, November 10th. The event begins at 6:00 PM and ends at 8:00 PM. This family event celebrates importance of literacy. All family members are invited to this evening event.

Message from Mrs. Simpson, Woodlawn's Art Teacher: This year K-5th grade students will be learning about the Elements of Art (line, shape, color, value form, texture and space). We will devote 2-3 weeks on each element. The art room is always in need of volunteers and donations. I currently am in need of magazines, shoeboxes, newspaper, and large quantities of clean recyclable objects (think S.C.R.A.P on MLK) for upcoming projects.

Safety: It is extremely important for parents to clearly communicate to their child(ren) who is picking up students at the end of day and where the student should be waiting. After school traffic continues to be an issue around our school. Please remember at the start and end of the day to abide by the no parking or stopping in front of the school; please don't drop or pick up students in the crosswalk zone or in the middle of the street. All adults are encouraged to model using the crosswalks. By following these guidelines we can better ensure the safety of all of our students. At times the school police will monitor these guidelines and give warnings out to drivers.

Box Tops Program: Mrs. Brown, the 6th, 7th, 8th grade math teacher, and a group of students is organizing the Box Tops Program at Woodlawn. The money raised will support the eighth grade promotion and end of the year field trip. It is easy to sign up for Box Tops. This can help our children by earning money for the eighth grade class. Once you sign up on the website you should be able to see Woodlawn School's goal and the total earnings so far. Additionally, you can shop and earn money for our students! While you are logged on be sure to check out your teacher's "My Class Essentials". It is as easy as this:

- Log on to <http://www.boxtops4education.com/>
- Under "Make a difference for your school!" put in the school zip: "97211"
- Scroll down and choose "Woodlawn Elementary School - Portland"
- Fill out the information and create a password you can remember
- Choose if you want information sent to you

Woodlawn SUN News: All students who participate in SUN attend homework/tutorial class the first hour of programming. The second hour students engage in an exposure class of their choice such as: A.K.A Science, Lego Robotics, Playworks, Clay & Sculpture, Bike Club, Hip Hop Dance, Ethos Band, Performing Arts, Leadership and a lot more exciting classes. Remember students who participate in SUN are required to attend regularly. Two or more unexcused absences may result in the student being dropped from his/her class. Students will not be allowed to leave class early unless prior arrangements have been made by the student's parents or guardians with SUN manager Brandon Hopson. Children are expected to be picked up **promptly** after SUN classes end at 4:30 and 5:30. The SUN staff encourages and welcomes parent volunteers.

Message From Playworks: Coach Matt is beginning to recruit students for the Playworks Girls Basketball Night League. The basketball league is open to all 4th and 5th grade girls. Sign-ups start Nov. 1st, but please let Coach Matt know right away if you are interested. Practices will be held during recess and after school as well. Games will be held once per week in the early evening. Coach Matt will have more information regarding dates, time, and location soon. Thanks, and play on! -Coach Matt

Lifetouch Fall Individual Pictures: Reminder fall individual pictures retakes will happen Tuesday, November 10th. Families may choose not to have students wear the Woodlawn School colors/uniform for the fall pictures. This allows students to dress in their very best. Lifetouch is the official photographer for Woodlawn School.

Woodlawn's School Improvement Plan: The 2010-2011 Woodlawn School Improvement Plan focus is to improve student writing by 20% based on the State Direct Writing Assessment given at fourth and seventh grade. The Woodlawn staff is collaborating to develop common instructional practices across the grade levels to student writing achievement.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES: Parent Conferences will occur all day Monday, November 22nd and Tuesday, November 23rd. Additionally, conferences will be held during the evenings on those days. If you haven't signed up for a conference with your child's teacher please contact them this week. It is important for parents to take this opportunity to communicate with classroom teachers about their child's progress.

During conferences parents might want to ask:

What was used to determine my child's rate and level of learning?

How did my child demonstrate that they learned what was expected?

What happens if you discover that my child already knows the material you're teaching?

Will my child be given opportunities to learn with other students who have similar rates and levels of learning?

TAG Corner: As part of the district's and Woodlawn School's professional development, the Woodlawn staff recently focused specifically on better understanding the characteristics of the talented and gifted, establishing a systematic process of identifying TAG students, and exploring effective strategies to support TAG students within classrooms. Please be aware that parents may nominate their child for TAG. Nomination forms are available on the TAG bulletin board in front of the office. Completed nominations are due to Mrs. Howard by Monday, November 29th.

Lost and Found: The lost and found in the main hallway is building up and it's time to clean it out. Please have your child check the rack. The lost and found will be packed up on Monday, November 29th for the PTA Clothes Closet.

FTE (Full Time Employee) Increase: Based on the number of students served by the Special Education Learning Center, Woodlawn earned an additional .5 certified teacher to provide services to students. Regina Sackrinder was placed in the .5 position two weeks ago. Mrs. Sackrinder will work with students in grades 5 through 8. Mrs. Sackrinder is a native Oregonian, who earned her undergraduate degree at the University of Pacific. She received her Master at George Washington University in Washington DC. Mrs. Sackrinder recently completed graduate work to earn her administrative degree at Portland State University. For the last thirteen years, she worked at Cleveland High School as a Learning Center Teacher. Mrs. Sackrinder began working with students last week.

FTE Decrease: With the increase of the .5 certified staff in the Learning Center, came a decrease in paraeducator support. Woodlawn's .875 paraeducator, Amy Ransom, was unassigned in the process. At the same time, there was an increase in paraeducator support for the 3-5 Communication Behavior classroom. Mrs. Ransom was offered the vacancy and accepted the position.

Newsletter Name: There was a tie between two of the potential names of the newsletter. Come to the office and vote on your favorite name. Voting closes November 23rd.

New Math Adoption Feedback Wanted: Feed back on proposed K-5 math programs November offers two opportunities for families to comment on which new K-5 math program Portland Public Schools should adopt. The two math programs, comprising books, supporting supplies and computer software, will be on display 3:45 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 10, in the foyer of the school district's headquarters, 501 N. Dixon St. Another viewing and comment session will run from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 22, at Chief Joseph, Forest Park, Glencoe, Maplewood and Woodmere elementary schools. (Note that Nov. 22 is during family-teacher conferences.)

Walking School Bus/ Bike Train—Get one going at your School! "A Walking School Bus is just like a regular school bus, but without the walls and seats, and instead of wheels, we use our feet"

LeeAnne Ferguson, Bicycle Transportation Alliance

A simple and fun way to get more students walking/biking at your school is to organize a Walking School Bus or Bike Train. All you need is group of children walking or biking to school with one or more adults. It can be as informal as two families taking turns leading students to schools, or as structured as a planned route with meeting points, a timetable and a schedule with multiple volunteers. There are Walking School Buses and Bike Trains taking place all over Portland! Want to get one going at your school--Safe Routes can help! We offer workshops, promotional materials, and other resources to help you organize a Walking School Bus or Bike Train at your school. Have questions, call Carolina at 503.823.1189.

SAFE ROUTES HAIKU CHALLENGE:

Sidewalks, puddles, splash!
Write a winter walk haiku
Send by the New Year

A haiku is a non-rhymed verse genre of Japanese origin and means "playful verse". Write your own haiku in the English form of 3 lines, with a rhythm of 5, 7, and 5 syllables.

Mail to:

Safe Routes Haiku Contest
Attn: Taylor Sutton
1120 SW 5th Ave, Ste 800
Portland OR 97204

Or email to:

Taylor.sutton@portlandoregon.gov

Please include:

Name, age and school

Deadline:

January 1, 2011

