



Vernon IB World School

IBelieve. IBelong. IBecome.
Come grow with us.



The Owl Post

Vernon's Weekly Newsletter

Friday, October 4, 2019



Upcoming Events and Important Dates

Monday, October 7: Fall SUN Classes Begin ~ 5:00-7:00pm
World Day to Wear Blue for Bullying Prevention
Emergency Preparedness Presentation ~ 6:00-8:00 ~ MPR

Wednesday, October 9: No PTA Meeting Date Changed! See below!

Thursday, October 10: RUN FOR THE OWLS!

Friday, October 11: Statewide Inservice Day – NO SCHOOL

Saturday, October 12: Garden Work Party – 9:00-12:00

Monday, October 14: Familias of Hispanic Students ~ 5:45 – 7:00pm - Rm 107
Families of Black Students ~ 5:45 – 7:00pm – MPR

Tuesday, October 15: Meeting for Caregivers of NeuroDiverse Students and Students with Diverse Abilities ~ 6:00-7:30pm - Gym

Wednesday, October 16: PTA Meeting ~ 5:45-7:30pm

Thursday, October 17: Picture Re-Take Day
Great Oregon Shake-Out! Earthquake Drill ~ 10:17am

Run for the Owls – October 10th!

RUN FOR THE OWLS is this THURSDAY! We hope everyone will participate by helping students get pledges. Don't forget, you can sponsor your own student! You can also gather pledges and run, too. If you need additional pledge forms, they are on the [PTA website](#).

We need lots of volunteers before the race and on race day. Please click [here](#) to see the volunteer options.

Here is the Race Schedule

- 4th - 5th: 9:00 - 9:45
- K - 1st: 9:45 - 10:30
- 2nd - 3rd: 12:45 - 1:30
- 6th - 8th: 1:45 - 2:30

Go Vernon Running Owls!

VERNON PROUD



OUR VOICES WILL
MAKE BULLYING HISTORY
#BlueUp with STOMP Out Bullying on
10.7.19
WEAR BLUE
WORLD DAY OF BULLYING PREVENTION™

Standing Up Against Hate, Racism And Discrimination.

Changing The Culture With Inclusion, Equality, Civility And Unity Becomes Our Destiny. **STOMP Out Bullying™** is the leading national nonprofit dedicated to changing the culture for all students. It works to reduce and prevent bullying, cyberbullying and other digital abuse, educates against homophobia, LGBTQ discrimination, racism and hatred, and deters violence in schools, online and in communities across the country. In this diverse world, STOMP Out Bullying promotes civility, inclusion and equality. It teaches effective solutions on how to respond to all forms of bullying, as well as educating kids and teens in school and online. It provides help for those in need and at risk of suicide, and raises awareness through peer mentoring programs in schools, public service announcements by noted celebrities, and social media campaigns.

Save the Leap Date!

Night Out for the Owls, our Annual Spring Fundraising Dinner, will be held on **Saturday, February 29, 2020**. *That's right. it's a Leap Day! Let's use the extra day to ensure our kids get a giant leap forward in their education.* This is Vernon's highest fundraising event and is critical to maintaining our current programs for music, arts and enrichment. **Night Out for Owls** is an inclusive, pay what you can, come as you are and support in many ways, event that brings our community together to enrich the experience of all Vernon children.

The evening consists of a happy hour, silent bid, games of chance, sign-up events, raffles, class art, dinner, live bidding and a special appeal. It's a wonderful night for the Vernon Community to come together to celebrate and support our amazing school.

Volunteers are needed on the event team - [Sign up here.](#) Whether you have 1 hour or 10 hours to give, we need your involvement for a variety of fun roles and tasks. It's an awesome way to make new friends and support our school. All skills and abilities are welcome. Check the PTA website for more information and stay tuned for tickets sales to go live in November.



Be Prepared

SMALL steps toward preparedness can have a BIG impact on *resiliency* and *recovery* after a disaster! [Join Vernon parents to learn things you can do NOW to prepare your family](#) for a disaster like a major earthquake.

Getting Ready to Rumble

A Mercy Corp presentation

Presented by Amy Gard, NET leader for Concordia Vernon and Woodlawn

Monday, October 7th from 6:00-8:00

Vernon MPR

Dinner and Childcare provided

Interpreter services available if needed.

Please RSVP here so we have enough Owl Sitters on hand.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054FADA628A2FC1-mercy>

Getting Ready to Rumble covers:

- What we can expect here in NE Portland when a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake hits.
- Actions we all can take to prepare our families.
- Why you and your neighbors may be first responders to help those in greatest need following a major disaster.

*This is the first of multiple events that will support the Vernon community in being prepared for major disasters. Keep your eyes out for upcoming opportunities!

This event is sponsored by the Vernon PTA



Greeting Owls!

An important announcement about our October PTA meeting:

Please note that our **October PTA meeting**, originally scheduled for Wednesday, October 9, **has been moved to Wednesday, October 16**. This is a very important meeting, and we are encouraging everyone to attend as we will be holding a community discussion on equity. Don't worry if you tend to shy away from public speaking, you will be able to write down your thoughts! As always, our meeting will feature a family friendly community dinner and outstanding childcare provided by our very own Owl Sitters! We can't wait to see you and speak with you all again on **October 16!!**

RUN FOR THE OWLS is next week on **Thursday, October 10**, which means you still have time to collect more pledges to help us reach our goal of \$45K! Our Run for the Owls fundraiser helps to support Vernon's Art program, STEAM, class field trips and much more! If you are running out of pledge ideas, you can always post a pledge request for your kids right on your favorite social media platform (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc).

BE PREPARED: Disaster Plan Event – Monday, October 7 (6-8:00pm, MPR): Is your family prepared in case of disaster? Do you need a refresher on the current best practices to promote safety for your students in all types of disaster situations? Vernon's Safety and Wellness Committee will be presenting guest speakers from Mercy Corp who will be sharing, **Getting Ready to Rumble**, a presentation on disaster preparedness. This will be the first in a series of presentations on what to expect and do in an emergency. Pizza and childcare will be provided. Please RSVP below so we know how many Owl Sitters we need. Thank-you!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054FADA628A2FC1-mercy>

UPCOMING AFFINITY GROUP MEETINGS: When we attend a monthly affinity group meeting, we get to know one another, share resources, and most importantly, build an inclusive, supportive community for our children!

Families of Black Students - Monday, October 14 (5:45-7:00pm) This will be a wonderful time for parents to come together, share resources, and/ or bring up issues or concerns regarding our children. Dinner will be provided.

Las Familias - Monday, October 14 (5:45-7:00pm, RM 107): After an exciting first meeting, we are looking forward to a wonderful time of food, fellowship, and discussion at our meeting celebrating our National Hispanic Heritage Month!

Caregivers of Neurodiverse Students and Student with Diverse Abilities at Vernon – Tuesday, October 15, (6-7:30pm, GYM): We are excited to present our inaugural meeting to gather together students, families and teachers of Neuro Diverse and Diverse Abilities students. Our students have unique sets of needs and are up against different barriers than many of our other students & families. This group will not only provide collective support, but also serve as a resource for our Vernon community so we can all become more inclusive and celebratory of the diversity of abilities these students have.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Owl Proud,

Tiffany Pitre
Vernon PTA Communications



"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members".
Coretta Scott King

STEAM at Vernon

(Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math)

October 4, 2019

STEAM Night

The PTA STEAM Committee hosted a very successful STEAM Night on Thursday, September 26 from 5:30 - 7:30. Students and their families wove their way through the Gym, the MPR, the garden and the halls of Vernon, participating in a variety of hands on activities and investigations led by experts in a variety of STEAM fields. We would like to offer a BIG THANK YOU to the following presenters and volunteers:

Staff

Brenda Gutierrez
Ben White
Ben Keefer
Jane Harold
Brad Johnson
Tarehna Wicker
Teresa Walworth
Connie Schwendemann



Presenters

Zoe Dawson (Vernon Garden Coordinator)
Brice Ott, parent and NIKE employee
OMSI
Will Groulx, Paralympic Gold Medal athlete and Mechanical Engineer
James Sterett from Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership (our partner in the schoolyard bio-swale and outdoor classroom project)
Steve Lattanzi, Creature Feature Reptiles
Anna Mafchir and the Vernon Art Committee
Anne Bower, Physical Therapist



Parent Volunteers

Todd Greene
Chanin Huston
Dan Langlie
Anne Skinner
Turner Odell
Heather Dillon
Andre Burgoyne
Vernon PTA Board Members (Barbara Gamez, Lisa Hatten, Jess Byers, Tiffany Pitre, Maya Pueo Von Geldern)

Student Volunteers

Ava Reese
Simon Reynolds
Quin Mafchir
Tori Langlie
Aidan Langlie
Fla Odell



STEAM in the Classroom

Ms. Wicker's Design Class and Guest Expert and Vernon Parent, Michael Fetters of Fortitude

From Ms. Wicker: "In Design Class, middle school students get hands on experience planning, prototyping, and building on a wide range of products. The primary focus of our work is on understanding our clients' and users' needs and wants to create something that will not only meet their needs, but will make them feel amazing. We use the Stanford D-School model, which emphasizes building empathy, having a bias towards action and learning through iteration."

Over the past week, Vernon parent Michael Fetters has been volunteering by working with the class. Michael is a Project Manager at Fortitude <https://www.madewithfortitude.com/>, which is an independent project management firm that connects the designer and the fabricator to execute a wide range of design projects. Michael connected the students' classroom education with real life employment opportunities and projects.

From Michael: "I took the kids through two different build processes, from creative decks that we receive from our client to the build process and obstacles we had to overcome concerning time and budget constraints. I explained to them how these constraints informed our execution and choice of materials for the project. One was for the shipping container build for UW/Adidas and the other was for a seeding kit for Adidas Boost. I showed them a video of the final project (<https://twitter.com/UWAthletics/status/1148955037227290624?s=20>) I then took them through some of the bigger steps along the way using slides and video. For the boost project, I brought in a prototype of the box we were given and the prototypes we built for the final product."

Thank you Michael!

There is a lot of STEAM going on at Vernon. If you have any STEAM happenings that you would like to be shared in the Owl Post, please send it to STEAM Committee Chair Jen Hulford Odell at jhodell2@yahoo.com

