



Morrison Bridge Shines Vernon Purple!

The Third Graders of Vernon School are studying Portland's bridges this year. A proud parent of one of our third grade students, Mandy Davis, helped sponsor the lighting of the Morrison bridge for her class and in celebration of our first black President, Barack Obama. Also, thanks to Vernon parent, Jim Barry, for the beautiful photo. Keep an eye out for this one framed in the Office soon!

STEAM Olympics in Full Swing @ Vernon

Every class in grades K through 5 is participating in the STEAM Olympics: a series of one hour sessions, sponsored by the PTA STEAM Committee, and facilitated by Ashley Black with help from classroom teachers, parents and MYP students. Students are tasked with a problem, and are given the materials to build a solution. The goal is to introduce students to engineering design challenges, with the hope of inspiring ideas for the upcoming STEAM Fair. Steam Olympics will continue through next Friday, March 24. If you're interested in helping, there is a sign-up sheet outside the Office, or check in with Ashley Black. Here are Ms. Gina's wonderful 4th graders designing, building, and testing a marshmallow launcher!



Join Us at the Vernon Auction!

Join us at the Vernon Auction, our annual gathering of our school families, friends, and community members to raise money for supplies and the programs our children need! The auction is one of our school's most cherished events with silent auction, games of chance, live music, dinner and live auction. Bid on items donated by Portland businesses, local artists and our own students. Past proceeds have paid for our Music program, new technology, supplies, and student field trips. The PTA also has a new feature this year where you can sponsor a ticket for a staff or community member if you'd like. Grab your tickets here:

https://vernonschool.schoolauction.net/auction2017/tickets/ticket_sales



VERNON AUCTION 2017



Talent Show and Bagels with Ben and Brad – Next Friday, 3/24

Join us next Friday for a great send off to Spring Break @ Vernon! From 8:45-9:45 in the MPR, Bagels with Ben and Brad will welcome Sidney Morgan, our amazing Restorative Justice coach. Also, the Talent Show is scheduled for 12:15-1:30pm (K-2) and 1:45-3:00pm (3-8) in the MPR! The performances are amazing and all families are invited!



MYP Glassblowing!

Brad Johnson took sixth graders to the Aquila Glass Studio to explore both the chemistry and art of fusing glass. Students learned how to cut glass and design their own sun catcher or bowl, as well as how to use a 2000° torch to shape glass into small marbles.

Lost and Found Clothing

Lost & Found clothing is no longer being stored at the back of the Cafeteria. It's now in the alcove near the playground door (SE side). Unclaimed clothing will be sent to the PTA Clothing Center just before the start of Spring Break, so come soon and look for that missing coat!



It's important to write your child's name in the clothing. Cathy Huck diligently checks clothing for identification, and there's a high success rate when the name is inside. Be sure to check with Specials teachers to locate clothing: Gym, Art, Music, Spanish, Mandarin. Many thanks go to Pam Snortum, who washes many loads of clothing before we send to the PTA Clothing Center. If you'd like to help launder Lost & Found clothes occasionally, please contact Connie in the Office.

"Wings of Freedom" Making a Difference

The Vernon MYP student-group was founded as Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) and the students have defined the mission of our group as such - Wings of Freedom aims to bring peace and equality to Vernon School and to stand up for the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered students at our school. Our group meets every Friday in Room 116 during MYP recess and lunch. All MYP students are welcome to join our group.

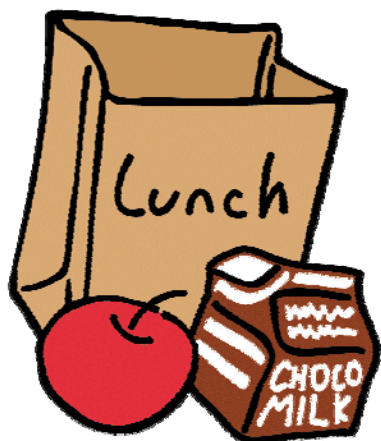


Helping Your Students Learn Their ID Number

Spring break is around the corner! This is a good opportunity to work with your child on learning their student ID number. This 6-digit number is the same number from Kindergarten through 12th grade and is used by the District and students in a number of ways including grading, library check-outs, and meal accounts. Students need to know this 6-digit number to purchase lunch in the Cafeteria. Please work with your students to help them learn their number over spring break. Helpful hints:

- Use a 10-key calculator to practice how the numbers are laid out.
- Make up a little tune or rhythm to help remember the numbers.
- Give pop quizzes when driving around town or doing errands.

You can find your student ID number on a report card or speak with your child's teacher, the school Office, or the kitchen.





Vernon Career Day: April 6

This year, Vernon’s Career Day will be on April 6. We are looking for a diverse group of volunteers from various cultural backgrounds, career fields, and education levels and those who enjoy working with kids! If you are interested or know of someone who would be interested, please fill out the google form or contact April Mears at amears@pps.net. Thank you.

Form: <https://goo.gl/forms/3H8rNR7PkMzvNOef1>

Garden Work Party: Saturday, March 11 (9am-12pm)



Hope you can make it to our March Garden Work Party – “Spring Garden Wakeup” on Saturday, March 11 from 9am - 12pm!

Our goals for the work party are:

- * Moving 5 yards of compost from the parking lot to the garden beds
- * Weeding the garden beds and spreading mulch on the pathways!
- * Removing blackberries from behind the portables
- * Seeding demonstration - learn how to broadcast seed lettuce and plant lettuce starts

Free seeds early spring seeds available to take home! Bring a few 5 gallon buckets and go home with compost! And as always - tools, gloves, and donut holes are provided!

2017 Vernon Auction! Save the Date: April 22



Early bird tickets for our April 22nd Auction are now available. This is Vernon's biggest fundraiser of the year, so please help us celebrate and raise funds that benefit all Vernon students, for things like our music program, technology, field trips, and so much more by buying your tickets today!

https://vernonschool.schoolauction.net/auction2017/tickets/ticket_sales



4 th grade field trip-Art Museum & Hist. Soc.	Tuesday, March 21	9:30-2:45pm – via TriMet
7 th grade Maker Experience	March 21, 22, 23	10:00-1:30pm – via school bus
5 th grade field trip – JA Biztown	March 21	9:00-2:30pm – via school bus
3 rd grade field trip – Oregon Zoo	March 22	9:00-2:45pm – via TriMet
East Portland Rotary – annual Luncheon	March 23	11:00-2:00pm - MPR
8 th grade FT – Columbia Wastewater Treatment	March 23	8:45–12:00pm – via TriMet
Bagels with Ben & Brad	March 24	8:45–9:45am - MPR
Talent Show	March 24	12:15-1:30pm (K-2) and 1:45-3:00- MPR

Vernon IB World School
Second Annual

Career Day 2017

April 6th
9AM to 11:30PM
12:40PM to 2:30pm

This year, Vernon's Career Day will be on April 6. We are looking for a diverse group of volunteers from various cultural backgrounds, career fields, and education levels and those who enjoy working with kids! If you are interested or know of someone who would be interested, please fill out the google form or contact April Mears at amears@pps.net
Thank you!

Want to
volunteer
?

Contact April Mears
amears@pps.net
or fill out this form:
<https://goo.gl/forms/pGZJDTck4eHBGR6S2>

Vernon IB World School

STEAM

Fair

APRIL 18 6 to 8 PM

*Tuesday
Night!*

Presented by:

Vernon's
STEAM & Art
Committees

**PYP AND MYP STEAM
FAIR PROJECTS
JUDGED, AWARDED
& ON DISPLAY**

**HANDS-ON
INQUIRY-BASED
ACTIVITIES**

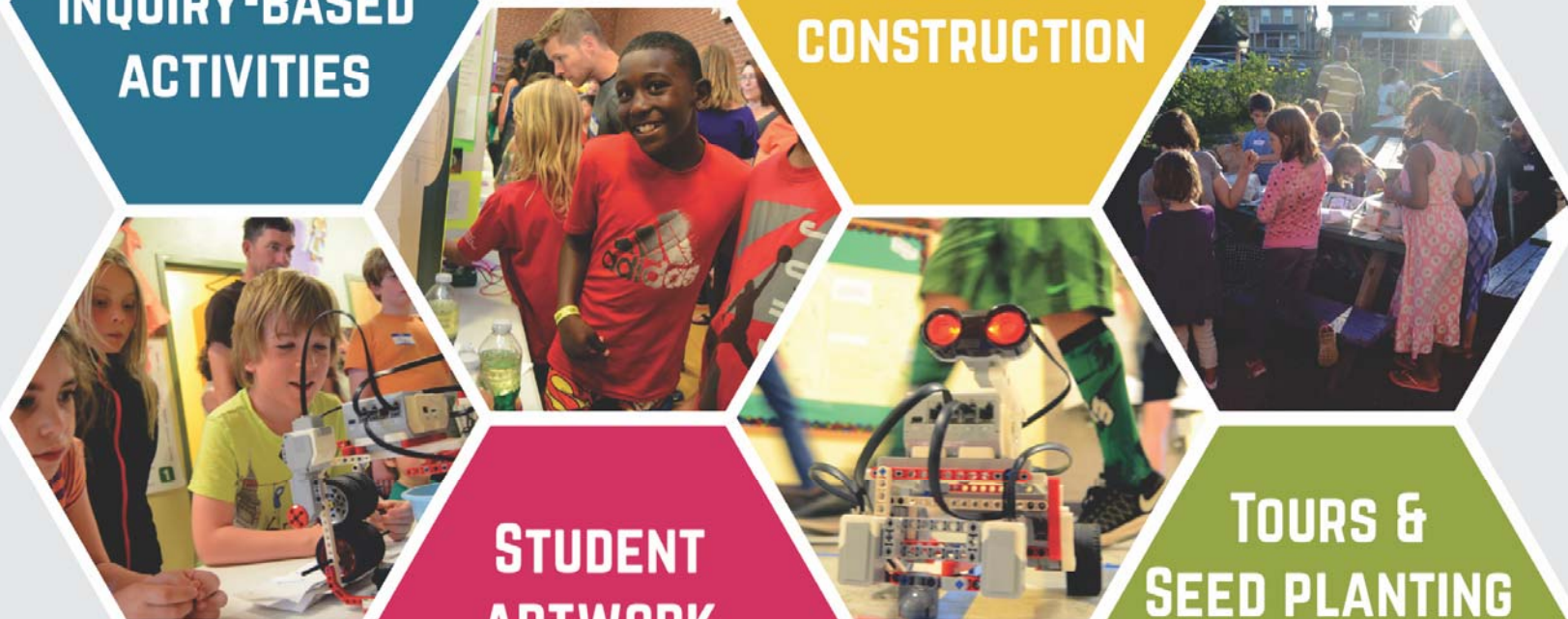
**ROBOT
CONSTRUCTION**

**STUDENT
ARTWORK
ON DISPLAY**

**TOURS &
SEED PLANTING
IN THE
GARDENS**

**ART
ACTIVITIES**

And More!





Healthy Travel Options to School Community Walks!

Aimed at removing barriers to walking and biking for Portland Public Schools students by closing infrastructure equity gaps, reducing necessity for driving, and increasing safety within the PPS active transportation network. Oregon Walks will lead community walks to get input directly from students, parents and school staff on the needs in their school community around safe and healthy transportation options.



Photo courtesy of Safe Routes to School

Join Oregon Walks to explore conditions on your walk to school and...

- Map how your kids travel to and from school
- Provide feedback on where improvements are needed to make walking to school safer
- Learn to use a web application to report concerns to PPS & The City of Portland

For more information, please contact Inna Levin, Oregon Walks Volunteer Coordinator: inna@oregonwalks.org, 503-223-1597



This project is made possible with support from Metro and the Federal Transit Administration.

Vernon Elementary Walk

Wed., March 22nd
3:15 – 4:15pm
Meet in front of the school!

Oregon Walks

•••
The state's pedestrian advocacy organization, working to ensure walking is safe, accessible and fun for all Oregon families. Find more info at: oregonwalks.org

Fixing our Streets Portland

•••
As a result of Measure 26-173, the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) will invest over eight million dollars to make routes to schools safer. Healthy Travel Options to School is a part of the larger effort, focused on PPS district, and will help inform the infrastructure projects.

Snacks and Interpretation Provided!



A Note from the Nurse

Dear Parent/Guardian

Currently there is a high rate of colds, flu, and other common illnesses being reported in our community. These seasonal viruses can effect both children and adults.

Please take a few moments to go over the following information with your child:

- Do not share food , drinks, or personal items.
- Cover your cough, wash your hands.
- Cough or sneeze into the elbow bend of the arm or into a tissue then wash your hands.
- Wash your hands after recess or gym, before eating or preparing food, after using the restroom, blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

Hand washing is the most effective way to keep germs from entering our bodies. To wash your hands effectively use plenty of soap and water; scrub the palms of hands, fingernails, around wrists, between fingers, and under rings for 30 seconds. Rinse well and dry hands after washing.

You will be asked to take your child home if there is:

- A new or sudden onset of a rash, or unusual marks on the skin, with or without fever.
- Skin lesions or sores that are “weepy” or draining, and cannot be covered with a bandage.
- A fever of 100.5 degrees or higher.
- Vomiting.
- Diarrhea.

Most illnesses are short lived without complications. However more serious conditions may develop. If you have any concerns about your child’s health please contact your health care provider.

If you need information about health insurance please contact your school nurse or call 503-257-1732.

Students may return to school after they have been without fever or vomiting or diarrhea for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever reducing, or other medication to relieve symptoms.



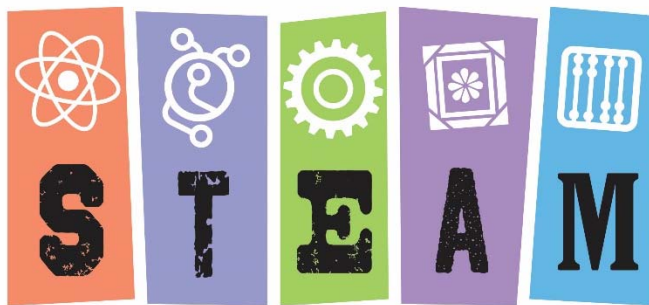
The Vernon Visual and Performing Arts Department (Ms. Anna and Ms. Bryan) are putting on the musical ~~display~~ **Annie** this spring!

We finally have the dates!

Thursday, April 27th from 6:30-8:30pm

Friday, April 28th from 6:30-8:30pm

We can't wait to share our enthusiastic and talented cast! More details to come and if you have any questions please feel free to contact Ms. Anna or Ms. Bryan.



**SCIENCE • TECHNOLOGY
ENGINEERING • ART • MATHEMATICS**

Dear Parents,

The Vernon STEAM Fair is coming! Students will be presenting their inquiry projects on Tuesday, April 18th from 6-8 PM in the Vernon Gym.

To prepare for the Vernon STEAM fair, your child will be participating in a Science Inquiry project or Engineer Design project

- K-2 Students will be investigating a science question with their classes. Any K-2 student who wants to conduct their own investigation is welcome to do this as well.
- 3-8 Students will be investigating a science question in small groups, pairs, or on their own. **Students in grades 3-5 who plan on being considered for the District Science Showcase are required to submit individual projects. *This showcase will take place on Saturday May 20th. More information will be sent home after the Vernon STEAM fair winners are announced.***

As a parent, your role is one of guidance, support and encouragement with minimal intervention. You should:

- Help your child make a list of interesting topics.
- Consult with your child's teacher when doubtful of the appropriateness of the child's topic.
- Help your child pace the work on the project to meet deadlines.
- Talk with your child to determine his/her understanding of the project and to help him/her discuss findings.
- Help your child overcome minor problems with the project. Communicate with child's teacher if necessary.
- Encourage your child to do his/her best.

**** Parents should remember that a science fair project is a child's opportunity for positive independent achievement.****

Over the next few weeks, teachers will be introducing the Science Project in their classrooms, starting with the selection of a topic. Each phase of the project will be discussed in class and some class time will be devoted to working on the project. All investigations will be carried out at home.

The included resource guide and timeline will help you and your child understand the scientific process and the Vernon STEAM Fair expectations. It may seem overwhelming at first, but help your child to concentrate on small sections at a time. All projects will be due on April 17th. We look forward to working with your students and making this a very positive learning experience.

Sincerely,