

Sellwood Principal's Newsletter – September 27, 2019

Greetings Sellwood Community,

It's hard to believe we are already headed into October. Listening to the notes of Marimba floating up through my floorboards this morning, I realized I know all of the songs. We are getting into the regular rhythm of the school year, and I am so grateful for every day I get to spend here with the wonderful students, staff, and families.

Have a lovely weekend,

Jeandré Carbone
Sellwood MS Principal

Important Dates to Remember

October 11: School Closed
October 16: Site Council 4:00-5:00 PM
October 16: Foundation 6:30-7:00 PM
October 16: PTA Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM
October 17: Grandparent/Special Friend Day Day
October 23: Jesse LeBeau Assembly
October 31: End of 1st Quarter
November 1: No School for Students
November 8: 1st Quarter Awards Assembly
November 11: School Closed
November 20: Cleveland Band Assembly
November 20: Site Council 4:00-5:00 PM
November 20: Foundation 6:30-7:00 PM
November 20: PTA Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM
November 25 & 26: Conferences, Day and Evening (no school for students)
November 27, 28, & 29: School Closed
December 4: Band Winter Concert
December 11: Marimba & Band Assembly
December 11: Marimba Winter Concert
December 23 to January 3: Winter Break

Guatemalan Marimba Exchange Cancelled

Unfortunately, the Guatemalan marimba group will NOT be visiting in October as planned because they were denied visas. We are still attempting to get further support from political figures that may aid in their case and/or send Sellwood students to visit the group in Guatemala next summer.

Lockdown Drill

Today we completed our first Lockdown Drill of the year. Two are required each year, one in September and another in March. In order to alleviate stress that students might experience during the drill, teachers discussed with students that there would be a drill, and that although there is only a small chance of ever experiencing a real Lockdown, it is still necessary to practice. The drill lasted 10 minutes from start to finish. I did not hear reports of any students upset by the drill; however, I wanted to make you aware so that you have the opportunity

to provide familial support, if needed. The prospect of gun violence is frightening for all of us, and children may need the opportunity to process with trusted adults.

PTA NEWS

Autumn is here! That means Grandparent/Special Friend Day at Sellwood Middle School is just around the corner. Please ask grandparents or a special friend to save the date of Thursday, October 17th at 10am. More information to follow soon.

We are in need of three volunteers to help set up and serve at this fun event. If you are Interested, please contact Dawn Johnston at dawnj@apslp.com or 503.730.6329

The next PTA meeting is Wednesday, October 16th at 7pm in the library!

New to PEAK!

GEOGRAPHY CLUB

Are you curious about the world we live in? Want to climb the highest mountain (Mt Everest at 29,029 ft. above sea level) or dive to the deepest part of the ocean (Challenger Deep in the Marianas trench, 36,079 ft. below sea level)?

The Sellwood Middle School Geography Club will meet Mondays through the Fall, 4 – 5 pm. AND all students will be registered to compete in the annual National Geographic GeoBee! The school championship will take place in Jan 2020, with the winner qualifying for regionals and potentially the Oregon State Geography Bee in March 2020. The Oregon champion will then participate in the National Geography Bee held each May at the National Geographic headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Club meetings will focus on US and world geography. We will learn together and try to stump one another with our amazing knowledge in mini-competitions, following the GeoBee outlines.

Mondays, 4pm to 5 pm in room 225, first class 9/30/19

Class size is limited to 20.

Register through PEAK programs at <https://sites.google.com/view/sellwoodpta>

Fees: \$10, paid to Caroleigh Elliot in class. Fee covers registration with National Geographic for use of program and competition.

Apples and Pears Fundraiser

It's not too late to get your apples and pears! Consider sharing a box with a friend! We also have added a late pick-up option, you can pick up Friday until 6:30. Ordering online is easy at <https://www.schoolpay.com/link/sellwoodfruit> or grab an order form from the office.

10/11 Deadline to submit orders

Volunteers needed! A sign-up genius coming soon!

Questions? email Kate at katemhouston@gmail.com

Thank you for your support!

SHOP and SMILE with AMAZON!

Amazon Smile donates to Sellwood Middle School! Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases when you shop AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com). Select Sellwood Middle School PTA (make sure it is Portland, OR) to ensure donations go to Sellwood Middle School.

Volunteers during Lunch/Recess

We are still in need of parents to volunteer during lunch/recess, from 12:05 to 12:50 PM. Mondays and Fridays are particularly high needs. Come experience a slice of middle school and better understand your child's life here at school!

Sign up for any dates you are available on our volunteer calendar: <https://signup.com/go/RkzGZUt>