



Richmond Newsletter

www.richmondjmp.org

Letter from our Interim Principal

Dear Richmond Families,

Applications for Richmond kindergarten and pre-school in 2006-07 continue to roll into our district's Enrollment & Transfer Office. As of today, we have applications recorded for 45 children for kindergarten and 6 children for full-day preschool. We have space for 30 more kindergarten students and 18 preschoolers, so let your neighbors, family and friends know that we haven't hit the waiting list point. There are 28 days remaining before the March 24th deadline for applications to be recorded.

What are we doing to attract prospective parents? We've had a prominent presence at local festivals and celebrations to display pictures, student work and information

packets. I attended the Japan-America Society of Oregon Bilingual Education Open House on Tuesday night where I had a chance to share information about our school with more than 70 interested parents. I have received calls and emails from dozens of these parents since this gathering on Tuesday night and look for many of them to join us on our weekly Wednesday school tours.

Most importantly, our district is very committed to Richmond's expansion. Please let prospective parents know that the future for Richmond's Japanese immersion program is one of growth and academic excellence.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Anderson, Interim Principal

TENTATIVE VACATION DATES 2006-07



Many of you are thinking ahead for vacation reservations and have asked about vacation schedules for the 2006-07 school year. Here are the **tentative** dates:

Winter vacation is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, December 16, 2006 to Monday, January 2, 2007.

Spring vacation is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 24 to Sunday, April 1, 2007.

Portland Public Schools

Volume 2, Issue 8

Friday, February 24, 2006

Thanks for sending your survey back to Richmond!

Number of surveys sent to Richmond families —252

Number of surveys returned—111, for a 44% return rate.

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BUY COFFEE TO SUPPORT RICHMOND'S ELM TREES

Richmond School is lucky to have 18 mature Elm trees on the school grounds. Richmond's *Save Our Elms* affiliate, a non-profit 501(c) 3 group, raises money to inoculate the trees against Dutch Elm Disease (DED) by selling coffee. Richmond's *Save Our Elms* has also paid some of the cost to prune trees to keep them healthy.

DED is a fungus that kills the trees, once infected, within 2-3 weeks. An infected tree can quickly infect adjacent trees. The fungus is spread by a beetle attracted to dead wood. Good tree pruning and regular inoculation prevent the spread of DED which has ravaged Elm trees in communities throughout the United States. According to the City of Portland Urban Forestry Department, Portland has about 3,000 Elm trees and approximately 35-55 confirmed cases of DED each year. About half of the Elm trees in the Richmond Neighborhood are at Richmond School. *Save Our Elms - Richmond Affiliate* has \$390 in the bank right now; it costs about \$150 to inoculate each tree using volunteers.

Please consider purchasing coffee offered through Portland Roasting. The cost is \$10/lb. with 50% going to *Save Our Elms*. This year, we will offer three kinds of coffee:

- **Santa Leticia** is a medium-dark roasted, Farm-Friendly Direct™ coffee. For every bag of coffee sold, Portland Roasting plants a fruit-bearing shade tree.
- **French Organic** is dark-roasted, certified organic coffee.
- **Swiss Water Process (SWP) Cascadia Decaf** is medium-roasted, certified organic, fair trade, shade grown coffee.

Please email Paul Gilles at Paul@portlandroasting.com or fill out the order form below and place in the office. Orders placed by Thursday at noon will be available for pick-up on Fridays after school in the cafeteria. Please write checks to *Save Our Elms* and place payment in the office, too.



Sip our coffee—save an elm!

Coffee Order Form to Support Richmond's Elm Trees

Save Our Elms Coffee Order Form

Date _____

Name _____ Phone _____ email _____

Coffee	Ground	Whole Bean	Totals at \$10/lb.
Santa Leticia			
French Organic			
SWP Decaf			
Totals			

SCRIP NEWS!

Don't forget Scrip Order days have moved to Mondays! The next order day is this Monday, February 27. Please have orders turned in by 8:45 a.m., either to the Richmond Office, via email (onkscrip@comcast.net), or to the Scrip Volunteer in the Richmond Cafeteria on Monday morning.

Scrip is an easy way to raise money for your child's class fund, Oya No Kai, and the Richmond Foundation. Check out www.oyanokai.org/fundRaising for the latest order form - we have added several new merchants this year. Also - for a short time you can order Chinook Coupon Books through Scrip. Chinook Books are \$20, and \$10 from each book goes to Oya No Kai & the eighth grade cultural exchange



Scrip order day is Monday!

to Japan. Using the 6 all day Tri-Met tickets in the book alone will save you the cost of the book, and there are many more savings. Please indicate how many Chinook Books you'd like on your order form or in your email, and please make a separate check to Oya No Kai for the Book - we cannot use credit cards to pay for the Chinook Books.

Any questions? Please contact Leslie Kowash at onkscrip@comcast.net or 503-235-5513.

DO YOU HAVE YOUR AUCTION TICKETS???

The evening of Friday, March 10th is the night for Richmond's annual auction "Our Dreams Take Flight" to raise money for our 5th grade trip to Japan, Oya No Kai and the Richmond Foundation. This party is going to be great fun, so please make sure you have:

- Reserved your sitter for the night (5:30-11:00 PM).
- Purchased your tickets. Tickets are \$45 and guarantee you to a wonderful evening with friends at the

Multnomah Athletic Club. Lost your invitation? Patsy has extras in the office. You can drop your ticket order and invitation in the Oya No Kai-Auction box in the office.

HOW DOES BENTO SOUND FOR LUNCH?

Tuesday's Portland Tribune had a wonderful article about a new school lunch program in the test stage at nearby Abernethy Elementary School. Students at Abernethy are enjoying homemade school lunches prepared in the school's kitchen by local chefs with local ingredients. Chefs serve more than 50 breakfasts and 200 lunches each day with healthy, fresh ingredients. The new "scratch kitchen" has been a huge hit with students and parents because the nutritious meals are kid and parent friendly and cost the same as the regular district fare.

So...how does bento sound for lunch at Richmond? Would-

n't a Japanese inspired breakfast and lunch make sense for our immersion program, using local chefs and fresh, local ingredients? Kathryn Anderson has sent an email to Kristy Obbink, Portland Public Schools nutrition director, to see if this is a possibility. You can contact Kristy Obbink at 503-916-3393 or via email at kobbinkApps.k12.or.us if you wish to help persuade PPS to add Richmond to this pilot program.



Let's have bento for lunch!

Portland Public Schools

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Japanese Magnet Program



Portland Public Schools

Calendar for February 27-March

- Mon. Feb. 27 Portland Taiko works with grade 3 classes all day
Scrip order day
- Wed. Mar. 1 Coffee/tea with principal at 8:50-9:30 AM
Mandatory meeting for prospective pre-school & kindergarten parents 2:00 or 7:00 PM
Trip performance rehearsal 3:00-4:00 PM
- Fri. Mar. 3 Hina Matari (Doll's Festival/Girls' Festival in Japan)
Coffee/tea with principal at 8:50-9:30 AM
Run for the Arts sponsor sheets go home
- Wed. Mar. 8 Coffee/tea with principal at 8:50-9:30 AM
Trip performance rehearsal 3:00-4:00 PM
- Fri. Mar. 10 RICHMOND AUCTION AT MAC!!! 5:30-11:30 pm

PROJECT 2ND WIND STARTS MARCH 6-10

Student Council is proud to announce that they will be sponsoring a service project through the Oregon Food Bank called Project Second Wind. The food drive will take place from March 6th to March 10th. The purpose of the project is for the school to collect food and monies that will be given to the Oregon Food Bank. The Student Council will provide an ice cream party for all classes, if the school reaches its goal of 1,900 lbs.

Richmond students and their families can drop off donations of food during the week of March 6-10, 2006 in large boxes in our cafeteria. The next issues of our newsletter will give readers more specific ideas about the best kind of food donations to bring for Project Second Wind. In the meantime, we've included a quick list for you to keep in mind when you head to Costco or spot grocery sales. Many thanks in advance for your generosity!

OREGON FOOD BANK'S MOST WANTED FOODS

- Canned meats (tuna, chicken, salmon, etc.)
- Canned & boxed meals (soup, chili, stew, mac & cheese)
- Peanut butter
- Canned beans & peas (black, pinto, lentils, etc.)
- Pasta, rice, cereal
- Canned fruits
- 100% fruit juice (canned, plastic or boxed container)

PRODUCTS THE FOOD BANK CAN'T USE

- Anything in glass containers
- Rusty or unlabeled cans
- Perishable items
- Homemade items
- Non-commercially canned/packaged items
- Alcoholic beverages, mixes or soda