



Richmond Shinbun

リッチモンド新聞

Bev Pruitt, Principal

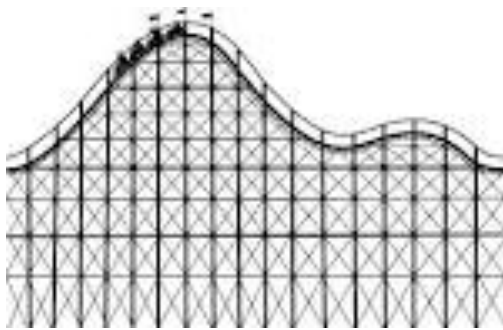
Matt Goldstein, Assistant Principal

February 2013

Lottery & School Choice Transfer

That time of year has returned again when we need to think about the upcoming school year. As Richmond is a lottery-only school, those interested in applying for our various openings must attend **ONE** mandatory meeting. The mandatory meetings will be held February 20th and again on March 12th. Each meeting will be in the Cafeteria and run from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The lottery season opens February 8th and closes March 15th at 5:00 pm. All paperwork must be in by the closing date. For additional information, please refer to the Enrollment and Transfer website <http://www.pps.k12.or.us/departments/enrollment-transfer/schoolchoice.htm>. If you are not finding an answer to your question, please contact Enrollment and Transfer directly at 503.916.3205. For **SIBLING** information, see page 4 of this newsletter.

Message from Mr. Goldstein



As we reach the mid-way point of the year, it is fun to reflect back and celebrate our successes this fall, and also to look ahead to all the excitement that occurs during the spring. This is my 16th year in public education and, without a doubt, each year seems to travel by just a bit faster than the previous year.

Not only have the teachers been orchestrating days filled with learning, they have been busy integrating the new math curriculum into our immersion program, meeting as language teams to discuss curriculum alignment (and “can-do” statements for the Japanese team), and preparing the second quarter progress reports.

On Friday, February 8th your child will bring home the report card marking the end of the second quarter. While the progress report only represents a snap-shot, we hope that you find the information helpful and that it gives you a better sense of the progress your child is making in both English and Japanese. Please feel free to contact your child’s teacher if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

The next couple of months are always very busy and this year will be no exception. There are lots of fun field trips planned, as well as more fascinating assemblies, exciting work in the classrooms, state assessments, and community events. We will do our best to keep you connected to the goings-on at Richmond. If you have not joined Big Tent (which we use as our Listserv) you should take a few minutes to join. To sign up, follow this link: <https://www.bigtent.com/groups/richmondjmp>



Important Dates!

- Feb. 08: Sumaura Students arrive at 2:30 pm, Richmond Gym
- Feb. 11: Welcome assembly for Sumaura School at 8:30 am
- Feb. 18: No School, Presidents Day
- Feb. 20: 2-Hour Late Opening: First Bell is at 10:00 AM
- Feb. 22: Oya No Kai Annual Auction
- Mar. 01: Principal’s Coffee 8:15 in the Cafeteria
- Mar. 01: Science Fair, 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Richmond Cafeteria
- Mar. 04 – 08: Scholastic Book Fair
- Mar. 11: OMSI Family Night, 6:00 to 8:00 pm, FREE OF CHARGE!
- Mar. 11 – 15: Richmond School Foundation Spring Pledge Drive.
- Mar. 20: 2-Hour Late Opening: First Bell is at 10:00 AM
- Mar. 25 – 29: SPRING BREAK!!!

Sumaura Elementary School

Our friends from Kobe are set to arrive after school on Friday, February 8. They will be visiting Portland through Thursday, February 14. They will be spending time at Richmond, taking a downtown tour organized and facilitated by Matt Bacon-Brenes and some of his middle school students (A BIG THANK YOU TO THEM!), visiting OMSI, and enjoying some Valentine fun on February 14. Thank you to the many families who are hosting students from Sumaura and thanks to Yoko Breyfogle and ONK for organizing this very important cultural exchange.

We also want to thank our 3rd – 5th grade Japanese teachers for opening their classrooms to our guests. Additional thanks to Elizabeth Van Engel who is graciously allowing our school community to “take over” her room for a couple days as our ceremonial tea house comes to life.



Parking Sign Changes to be Implemented

After considerable delay, the city of Portland will be coming out in the next few weeks to install some new parking signs/restrictions surrounding the school. The goal will be to create a greater number of short-term parking/drop-off spots for families to use rather than the parking lot or directly in front of the school. The plan calls for these 15-minute zones on SE 41st between SE Sherman and SE Caruthers, on the east side of the street and on SE 42nd Avenue, south of SE Sherman on the west side of the street. In addition, new NO PARKING ZONES will be created near the crosswalk at the intersection of SE 42nd and Sherman.



We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and hope that these changes will increase safety and improve the flow of traffic during the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. Please contact Matt Goldstein (mgoldste@pps.net) in the office if you have any questions.

Battle of the Books!

The "The Mustache Narwhals," "Bibliophiles," "Warriors of the Words..."

Over the last two weeks, more than 60 students, organized in 15 teams, have been participating in a state-wide reading competition called Battle of the Books (or "BOB" as it is often called). During a "battle," two teams are given questions that relate to one of 16 books. The event is sponsored by the Oregon Association of School Libraries



(<http://obobista.pbworks.com/w/page/5653620/FrontPage>).

Teams earn points based on correct answers to comprehension questions (in some cases excruciatingly minute details) based on the books. This year's competition is incredibly good. Clearly, there has been a lot of reading going on. As I watch some of the battles, it is amazing to see how well prepared and excited our students are to participate.

This event would not be possible without the help of numerous people. A huge thank you to Sue Baer who has spent so much time organizing this year's event. In addition, thank you to Library Assistant Marni Fuller, Student Support extraordinaire Kari Shawen, PTA President Amy Star Thomas, and PTA Past-President Mary Klinger, for their time keeping, question reading, scoring, and officiating. BOB would be impossible without their support! The team that comes out on top at Richmond will move on to compete in a regional event in March, followed, we hope, by a trip to the state finals in April! We look forward to lending all our support and good wishes to the team that advances to the regional final.



Counselor's Corner

We ended the month with our successful spirit day activity, Japanese Day. The children looked wonderful in their traditional clothing, martial arts uniforms or Oya No Kai T-shirts. Our next spirit day will be crazy hair/hat day in March. More details about that to come later!



Our new peer mediation program, called Bulldog Brigade, was implemented this month after student volunteers received training in December. We now have 4th and 5th graders on the playground during every recess to assist students with conflicts and clarification of game rules. So far many students have reported finding success when they seek out a peer helper.

The counseling classroom lessons in January focused on conflict resolution and conflict management. The students were taught a variety of skills and tools to use to solve their own problems. Books were shared and songs were sung to promote kindness and friendship, especially at the primary level.



In February our focus will be anti-bullying. Lessons will focus on identifying bullying behavior, especially the more subtle forms of bullying such as gossip, rumors and exclusion. The students will learn to defend themselves against bullying as well as be encouraged not to be a bystander, but instead to take a stand against this hurtful behavior.





Gratitude Grove



Lots of Reasons to be Thankful: A true Community Effort

Each and every day we have tremendous support throughout the Richmond community. Parents helping out in classrooms, chaperoning field trips, and so much more. In addition to all this day-to-day support, the PTA, Oya No Kai (ONK), and the Richmond Foundation provide consistent and stable support throughout the entire year.

At the most recent PTA general meeting, we heard some exciting news about the formation of a new committee that will be looking into ways to improve our school grounds. We look forward to hearing more about this work in March.



ONK has been working very hard to gear up for the 2013 Auction, scheduled to take place on February 22nd. Our program would not be nearly as successful without ONK's support of our intern program and the cultural exchanges.

The Richmond Foundation is beginning to gear up for the spring pledge drive. With the funding uncertainties that exist, we know that the money raised by those who contribute to the Foundation will be put to good and immediate use.



Our community goes beyond the walls of Richmond, spreading throughout the city and globe. Recently, The Portland Chapter of Rotary International donated dictionaries to ALL of our third graders. We thank Rotary for their thoughtful and very practical donation.

I am sure the dictionaries have already been put to great use in our classrooms and at home.



We are really proud of all our **Richmond Bulldog Brigadiers** that have taken on the tasks, rain or shine, mediating with the various difficulties of playground dynamics and conflicts. These 4th and 5th grade students help other Richmond students with such difficult resolutions as rules of "Wall Ball" and which direction in which to use the slides!



Camp Westwind Lottery Registration



Oya No Kai Camp Westwind 2013 lottery registration is now open!

It is time to register for Oya No Kai's two weekend retreats to Camp Westwind. There are again TWO weekend retreats this year at Camp Westwind. The first retreat is May 24 – 27 beginning Friday and wrapping up on Monday. The next retreat will be May 31 – June 2 beginning on Friday and ending on Sunday. The Memorial Day weekend retreat is \$90 per person, and the following weekend (May 31 – June) is \$60 per person.

To register for this unique event, checkout the following link!

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dFVIOVZuckFGS1J4Q0F0RnRGTUdRYkE6MA#gid=0>

If you have any additional questions, you can contact Rich Burt at Richard.a.Burt@gmail.com or you can call Rich at (503) 539-2171.

Fourteen Japanese Interns slated to arrive at Richmond this spring

Teachers recently met to begin the process of assigning interns to the Japanese classrooms. We are incredibly fortunate to have 14 interns scheduled to arrive this spring. This will allow one intern for every Japanese classroom (K-5) and one intern in each of our Pre-K classrooms. We are very excited to welcome this group in the coming months.

As we prepare for the arrival of our interns, we need your help! Each intern needs two host families (six months for each family). This is a great opportunity for Richmond families to support our program. If you are interested in hosting an intern, please contact Yoko Breyfogle at ynbreyfogle@gmail.com. On March 1st, at 8:15 am during our Principal's coffee we will have more information to share for those of you who might be interested.

We hope you consider opening your home to this amazing opportunity!





OMSI NIGHT...March 11th, 2013

We hope you all can take advantage of a wonderful opportunity for Richmond families. On March 11th, between 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM, OMSI will be open and **FREE** for all Richmond families. This OMSI night is made possible by proceeds from the PTA's Run for Richmond. Thanks to all of you who participated in the run last year. The 2013 Run for Richmond is coming up, so mark your calendars! We always need volunteers for this super fun event which is scheduled for April 19th. More details to follow, so watch your Big Tent messages!

Updates from Richmond Foundation

The Spring Pledge drive will run March 11 through March 15. The theme will again be teacher and staff appreciation. We will be doing FISH certificates in various brackets to show our appreciation. Fish certificates will be \$10. Whale certificates will be \$350, and one additional price point. For this, we need your help. Please think about a good sea creature for the certificate, and send your suggestions to Allison O'Brien at allisonland@yahoo.com.

Upcoming restaurant fundraisers for your calendar!

Pastini Pasteria is opening their doors to support Richmond on March 18 and 19 at their Broadway and Division locations.



Oya No Kai Annual Auction - The auction is just a few weeks away! If you plan to attend, please buy your tickets now! We have less than 100 tickets available. For more information about tickets, sponsorship, and items to bid on, visit our blog <http://oyanokaiauction2013.wordpress.com/>. Like us on Facebook/Oya No Kai Auction.

Thank you to our auction sponsors: The Law Office of Joseph A. Tripi, P.C., Aimee Virnig at Windermere Real Estate, Doug Smith, and Dai Ichi International Travel! If you would like to become a sponsor, there's still time. Contact Maya Mori, mavaginmori@gmail.com.

Intern Farewell Party - It's hard to believe, but our wonderful interns will be leaving at Spring Break. Oya No Kai will be hosting a farewell ceremony for them in early March. The JMP community is invited to say goodbye at this special event. More details to come.

Host an Intern! - The Japanese Immersion Program will be welcoming 19 new interns beginning in late March. We are in need of host families to open their homes to these young men and women. If you've ever thought about the idea of hosting, please contact Home Stay Coordinator, Yoko Niki-Breyfogle, ynbreyfogle@gmail.com. There will also be a Home Stay Informational Night in late February (TBD) to answer all your questions, and learn more about this program and the incoming interns.

Siblings Entering the Lottery

If you have a child currently attending Richmond and have a sibling at home, please complete the following steps to ensure your entry into the lottery. As you know, siblings of current Richmond students who currently live within the PPS boundaries receive Step 1 preference for entrance into Richmond (this means you are ahead of the pack)!

1. Go online to schoolchoice@pps.net and fill out a lottery transfer application. Please do this between February 8 and March 15!
2. Come into the office to pick up the Richmond Statement of Understanding beginning February 8. The form is DUE BY March 15!
3. Return the form (and the envelope it came in so we can use it over and over again for your child) to the office by Friday, March 15.

Once you have completed all these steps, you just need to wait for your letter from the Enrollment and Transfer Center which will come approximately the first week of May.

Thanks for choosing Richmond for your educational needs, and we can't wait to welcome your new little ones into our community!!!

Kristina Kallen
Principal's Secretary



Farewell

