



RICHMOND SHINBUN

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BEV PRUITT, PRINCIPAL

DAVE ALLEN, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

April Events

APRIL 10 – No School for Students
(Teacher Planning Day)

APRIL 13 – Switch Day

APRIL 15 – Late Opening

May Events

MAY 20 – Late Opening

MAY 25 – No School (Memorial Day)

Summary Reports – A summary of your child's 3rd quarter progress will be sent home on Friday, April 17th.

Safety Meeting – Our next safety meeting is Tuesday, May 5th at 7:30 a.m.

Class Placement Form – As you look ahead to the next school year, please use the attached Class Placement Form to inform us of unique information only you as their parent would know. Please return to office by May 1st.

TAG Parent Meeting – There will be a TAG parent meeting on April 22nd in the Richmond Library from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. We will have a guest speaker, Anne Matschiner, who will be talking about the intensities and supersensitivities, perfectionism, and underachievement of gifted students.

Rummage Sale for Mt. Tabor MS

Saturday, April 25th

9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Mt. Tabor Middle School Cafeteria

NEW INTERNS

The cherry blossoms have bloomed early this year but bloomed just in time for the arrival of our new interns. Below are the names and grade levels:

Nami Yamada – Kindergarten (Amy Sensei)

Yumi Unemoto – Kindergarten (Yoshida Sensei)

Sakiko Nishizawa – 1st Grade (Uchida Sensei)

Mai Okada – 1st Grade (Rivera Sensei)

Osamu Seto – 2nd Grade (Mogi Sensei & Scheiman Sensei)

Mayu Yamada – 3rd Grade (Hirahara Sensei)

Eri Shimizu – 4th Grade (Kamata Sensei)

Serina Takagi – 4th Grade (Kitazawa Sensei)

Izumi Kato – 5th Grade (Ando Sensei)

Miyako Ichikawa – 5th Grade (Tomita Sensei)



SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENT

Smarter Balanced testing in reading and math for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades is beginning at Richmond. Fifth graders will also take the OAKS science test. The testing window is from April 16th to June 5th. Please contact your child's teacher for specific dates.

Glossary of Terms Related to Smarter Balanced Assessment and OAKS

College & Career Readiness: The knowledge and skills needed to qualify for and succeed in post secondary job training and/or education necessary for a student's chosen career (i.e., university, community college, technical/vocational program, apprenticeship, or significant on-the-job training).

Computer Adaptive Test: Based on student response, the computer program adjusts the difficulty of questions throughout the assessment, which provides more accurate information about which skills students have mastered.

Performance Task: Collections of questions and activities that require students to apply knowledge and skills to real-world problems.

Smarter Balanced Assessment: The new state assessment that will replace OAKS in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math in 2014-2015.

OAKS: Oregon Assessment of Knowledge and Skills.

2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

The first day of the 2015-16 school year is Thursday, August 27th, for students in 1st through 12th grade. For kindergarteners, the first full day is Tuesday, September 1st.

The PPS school year calendar is determined with direction from the school board. A calendar committee, composed of program administrators, principals, teachers, staff and parents, recommends a calendar to the school board. The school board then discusses and votes on the calendar. The 2014-15 and the 2015-16 calendars were set in spring 2014.

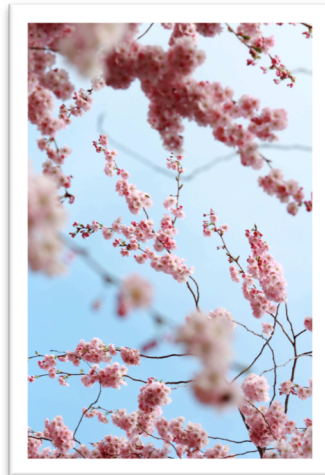
School begins Thursday, August 27th, for 1st-12th grades because: Labor Day falls late this year - September 7th - too late to begin school after the holiday.

The school board and the calendar committee prioritized more instructional days at the start – rather than at the end - of the year. The reason was to provide as much instruction before seniors take IB and AP exams (advanced coursework exams for college credit) and prior to annual spring testing for grades 3-8 and 11.

Other considerations included: 1) Two days added: The new contract agreement between PPS and the Portland Association of Teachers (the teachers' union) added two more instructional days to the school year.

2) Kindergarten assessment: Three days are needed for kindergarten assessments before kindergartners start school. The committee wanted kindergartners to have a solid first week of school prior to the three-day Labor Day weekend.

Taken together, these considerations meant starting school Thursday, August 27th (1st-12th grades). Kindergarten assessments will be held August 27th, 28th and 31st. Kindergartners start school September 1st.



Staffing for 2015-2016

The Oregon legislature is still in the process of voting on the education budget. Although the House recently approved next year's education budget which is a 9% increase from the current education budget, the 9% increase largely covers the cost of full-day kindergarten. We are waiting to see how that will impact staffing at Richmond. In May, we will have a better idea of how staffing will be at Richmond. Our goal is to maintain our two-teacher model (four teachers at each grade level) and current specialists.

Student Recognition

The following primary grade students were recognized this month at our student recognition assembly for being creative:

Kindergarten

Amy Sensei/Jill Sensei

Nico Salmon • Dylan Elliot • Wyatt Kory • Cyrus Hammer • Georgia Livny • Ila Reynolds-Kienbaum

Yoshida Sensei/Kelly Sensei

Astraea Quisenberry • Taran Manley • Vivian Harris • Anya Ramage • Emmett Dacey • Matilda McEwen

First Grade

Uchida Sensei/Ms. Meier

Quinn Thompson • Owen Lanier • Peter Collins • Sydney Collins • Liv Fraser • Hajime Cancro • Verity Winterbower

Rivera Sensei/Mrs. Gaynor

Sophie Durocher • Kikuto Ma • Madeline Hickey • Alaire Marquis • DJ English • Hugh Perdue

Second Grade

Scheiman Sensei/Ms. Welle

Nicholas Ogawa • Hana Ashmore • Braedyn Stenberg • Larue Brown

Mogi Sensei/Mr. Denlinger

Clara Dorsey • Dylan Nakaji • Henry Till • Finn Leggatt • Yoshi Barber

Class Awards

Art

Amy Sensei

Music

Kelly Sensei

Library

Yoshida Sensei

PE

Kelly Sensei

Counseling

Mrs. Meier

FOUNDATION

The Foundation's next restaurant drive is a two-night event scheduled for April 13th & 14th with Pastini Pastaria. Also, the Spring Pledge Drive is from May 4th through the 15th. The Foundation will be staffing tables next to the Main Office and in the Cafeteria to receive your generous tax-deductible donations that go directly to supporting the teachers and staff at Richmond School. We will be sending a letter and contribution form home with your child next week. To learn more about this important event, please stop by our tables during the campaign. Any contribution is welcomed, so please donate what you can. Domo arigato gozaimasu!

UPCOMING PTA EVENTS

April 9, Spring Plant Sale Orders Due

Order your spring garden starts and support the PTA's Super Green Team and sustainability efforts at Richmond. Plants will be delivered Tuesday, May 5, just in time for Mother's Day. Look for fliers and order forms in back packs this week.

April 14, Science Fair, 6:30 p.m., Richmond Cafeteria

PTA is excited to be hosting another year of the fabulous Richmond Science Fair. Please bring all of your scientific creative energy to the Richmond Cafeteria on April 14, 2015, from 6:30-8:00 pm (check in for participants starts at 6:10 pm). For more information and sign-up forms, please visit the PTA website at richmondptapdx.com.

April 18, Breakfast in the Garden, 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Get ready for May flowers by weeding, planting and caring for Richmond's garden spaces while enjoying coffee and pastries with friends. A great chance for kids to help out, too.

April 24, Run for Richmond (funds Cultural and Science Enrichment and Classroom Technology)

Support our amazing kids as they collect pledges and run their hearts out for their school and a chance to financially support our classrooms. Thanks to our young runners and this event, Richmond students enjoy all sorts of assemblies, arts, science, and music experiences they otherwise would not. Look for fliers going home in backpacks this week with pledge forms and run times.

May 4-8, Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week

For everything they do for our kids every day, this is our opportunity to shower our amazing teachers and awesome staff with appreciation. In the past, the week has included speciality coffee delivered to classrooms, on-site massages, flowers, a potluck lunch and treasures from the kids. Stay tuned for opportunities for you and your children to participate.

May 11-16, Scholastic Spring Book Fair

Save the dates! Stock up on reading materials for the summer and support our Japanese library collection. Proceeds from the Spring Book Fair go to funding our on-site Japanese library materials.

May 16, Spring Festival

The crown jewel of Richmond events, Haru Matsuri, is a Richmond cultural tradition. Big bouncy houses in the Richmond field, classroom "booth" games/activities, and Japanese and other cultural culinary delights. We will be featuring student performances in the Cafeteria in English and Japanese. Mark your calendar - specific grade level times to come!



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