

We are a responsible and caring community of learners.

Kirk Baumann, Principal

October 2014

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**





Good News Begins



 $13^{\rm th} \text{--}\, 3^{\rm rd}\, Grade\, visit\, Green\, Ridge\, Farm\text{--}7:50 am to 1:00 pm$ 

14th\_S.M.A.R.T. Reading Program—Begins 1101

PTA Meeting-2:15pm-Library





28th - Lifetouch Picture Retake Day
Site Council Meeting-2:15 pm-Library

31st\_ Clerical Day—No School for students



Want to know what's happening in your school district?
Check out the NEW monthly Three Rivers School District
newsletter--The Three Rivers Tiding-- at
three rivers.k12.or.us.

Find it under "Quick Links" then "District News."

For news at Fort Vannoy go to: threerivers.k12.or.us

Go to Schools-click on-Fort Vannoy

### BREAKFAST/LUNCH PROGRAM

Things are going great in the cafeteria this year with lots of healthy food choices being made. Just a reminder—BREAKFAST and LUNCH are FREE to all students.

Milk however, is still 50 cents if you wish your child to purchase one with their cold lunch.

## From the Desk of ... ...Kari O'Brien, Third Grade Teacher







Autumn in Southern Oregon is a beautiful time of year to explore the great outdoors with your children. Kids have an innate sense of curiosity. This time of year with leaves changing colors, leave falling from the trees, animals gathering food and flying overhead, and weather changing is no exception to the questions that come to mind for a child.

Use the senses to help children explore. Walk outside at a park, on a trail, in your back yard or down your street, visit a local farm or the Grower's Market on Saturdays. You can involve your child with questions or comments or stories that will also pique their interest:

What is something that is crunchy outside?
Where are the animals going?
Why are the geese flying?
Can you tell me what season or what month it is?
What do you like best about Fall?
Do you have a favorite flavor at this time of year?
I spy something smoky...I spy something orange and round...I
spy something fluffy!
When I was your age, we would...

The best part of walking with your children is sharing the experience together and even sharing what you remember as a child at their age. Maybe you lived in the same town or maybe you lived on the other side of the United States. Sharing also promotes curiosity.

Don't worry if the weather has turned cold, just bundle up as part of the fun! Be sure to warm up inside with a cozy drink of cinnamon apple cider, apple pie or freshly baked pumpkin bread that you have made together.

Most importantly, encourage your children to get outside as often as possible and promote their sense of wonder. Enjoy the beauty of autumn together.



# PTA NEWS Hero Run!

The 2014 Fort Vannoy Jog-a-Thon is scheduled for the morning of Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> (Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, for Tu/Th Kinders). Jog-a-Thon is the biggest fundraiser of the year and with your help, funds the music program at Fort Vannoy. Please send your students to school in layers and with good running shoes for our Hero Run. Work together to find friends and family members who want to support your student's efforts by making a tax-deductible donation to Fort Vannoy PTA. Remember all pledges must be returned to school by 8:00 am, Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> to be counted toward Jog-a-Thon prizes.

Each student who participates in the Jog-A-Thon receives an Otter Pop the day of the Jog-A-Thon and a coupon for a Dutch Bros. Not So Hot!

\$25.00 - Mini backpack/money holder \$50.00 - Ice Cream Sundae Party--plus above prize \$75.00 - Hero Run T-shirt-plus above prizes \$100.00 - Limo ride to DQ for a treat-plus above prizes \$150.00 -Fort Vannoy sweat pants-plus above prizes \$200.00 Bowling Party w/pizza & games-plus above prizes --2<sup>nd</sup> most amount of money —

Power Wing Scoot-plus above prizes

--1<sup>st</sup> highest amount of money-Craig 7" tablet w/keyboard and case-plus above prizes

#### Find us on Facebook!

If you use Facebook, search for Fort Vannoy Parents Connect. This is a group of parents and friends of Fort Vannoy and useful information is often posted there.

#### **Volunteers and PTA Members Wanted!!**

The Fort Vannoy PTA is a group of parents, teachers, and community members who work to support the students, teachers, and staff at Fort Vannoy Elementary School every day. We find volunteers for different events and activities, organize fundraisers to support music education, sponsor family events such as Movie Night and the Spring Carnival, and try to provide the little extras that make school a fun place to be for everyone.

#### Why join PTA?

Your \$10 membership fee is tax deductible and allows you to help decide what activities PTA will focus on this year. Be involved in decision making at Fort Vannoy - only PTA members can vote at PTA meetings.

#### Can I attend a meeting if I'm not a member?

Yes! Please! We would love to see you at a meeting. We would love to see you at every meeting! Our next meeting will be at 2:15 on Tuesday, October 14.

#### Can I volunteer if I'm not a member?

Of course! If you haven't had a chance to fill out the orange Volunteers Wanted sheet that came home with your student, please complete it and return it to the school. If you did not receive this form and would like to, please email <a href="fortvannoypta@gmail.com">fortvannoypta@gmail.com</a> or call Jessica at 541.441.7632. Volunteer opportunities of all sorts are available - volunteer at home, volunteer at the school, one hour a month, two hours a week... Tell us how you would like to be involved and we will do our best to help you find a spot!

# What if I have questions about or a great idea for PTA or Fort Vannoy?

Feel free to email <u>fortvannoypta@gmail.com</u> or call or text Jessica at 541.441.7632 with your questions. We would love to help you feel connected and informed.

#### **Upcoming Events**

Oct 1st - Jog-a-Thon-All School Oct 2nd - Tues/Thurs Kinder Jog-a-Thon Oct 24th - Fort Vannoy Night at KidZone Oct 24th - Movie Night

#### FUN FOOD FACTOIDS



- Pumpkins are usually orange but can sometimes be yellow, white, green or red.
- The name pumpkin comes from the Greek word 'pepon', meaning 'large melon'.
- Pumpkins have thick shells which contain pulp and seeds.
- Scientifically speaking, pumpkins are a fruit (they contain seeds) but when it comes to cooking, they are often referred to as vegetables.
- Pumpkins are usually shaped like a sphere (ball).
- They vary in weight but an average sized pumpkin might weigh around 13 pounds (6 kilograms).
- Giant pumpkins can be grown for competitions, with some weighing over 1000 pounds! (450 kilograms). In 2010, the world record was 1810 pounds! That's huge!!
- Over 1 billion pounds of pumpkin are produced in the United States every year.
- As a food, pumpkin can be baked, roasted, steamed or boiled. The seeds can be roasted.
- Pumpkin pie is a sweet dessert that originates in North America and is traditionally eaten during harvest time and holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas.
- Pumpkins are popular decorations during Halloween. A carved pumpkin illuminated by candles is known as a 'jack-o-lantern'. The tradition is believed to have come from Ireland, where they used to carve faces into turnips, beet and other root vegetables as part of the Gaelic festival of Samhain.