

# FORT VANNOY NOBLE NEWS

We are a responsible and caring community of learners.

Alicia Timbs, Principal

February 2018

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2<sup>nd</sup>- Groundhogs Day



Clerical Day-No School for Students



5<sup>th</sup>- Vision Screening-



8<sup>th</sup>- 3<sup>rd</sup> gr Tree Planting Fieldtrip 8:00 to 11:30 am

5<sup>th</sup> gr Movin' On Meeting 2:00 pm

Mrs. Anderson's room

4<sup>th</sup>- Valentine's Day -Class Parties



Happy 159<sup>th</sup> Birthday Oregon



16<sup>th</sup>- Chinese New Year-The Year of the Dog



19<sup>th</sup>- Presidents' Day-No School



21<sup>st</sup>- Immunization Exclusion Day



26<sup>th</sup>- Battle of the Books Competition—



3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grades



## A Note from the Principal . . . Alicia Timbs



We have made it through the holiday season and it seems that Spring is right around the corner. I thought I would take a minute to fill you in on a few things around the school!

Some families have been receiving "Letters of Concern" or "Excessive Absence" letters. These letters are meant to communicate with you the total number of days your child has missed school. While we always appreciate you calling the school to let us know your child will be absent, these letters keep track of the total number of days your child has missed, regardless of the reason. If you ever have any questions or concerns about a letter you have received, please do not hesitate to give me a call or stop by my office.

You hopefully saw the note in your student's backpack regarding the drop off area in the morning. We appreciate your help in keeping all of our students safe. We ask that you only drop off your student at the drop off location and not allow your student to walk across the parking lot alone or cut in between the busses.

You may have noticed that our school could use a little TLC. Keep your eye out for a beautiful new mural and sign coming soon. Also, our PTO has a Spring Clean-up date scheduled for March 3. We could use your help as well. More information will be coming soon.

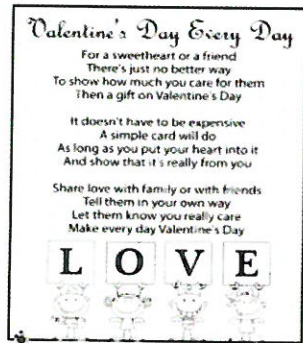
As always, if I can do anything to support your student or family, don't hesitate to let me know!



Mrs. Timbs



From the Desk of . . .  
 . . . Dawn Roeske, First Grade Teacher



Did you know . . .

Americans probably began exchanging hand-made valentines in the early 1700s. In the 1840s, Esther A. Howland began selling the first mass-produced valentines in America. Howland, known as the "Mother of the Valentine," made elaborate creations with real lace, ribbons and colorful pictures known as "scrap." Today, according to the Greeting Card Association, an estimated 1 billion Valentine's Day cards are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year. (An estimated 2.6 billion cards are sent for Christmas.) Women purchase approximately 85 percent of all valentines.



### Happy 159<sup>th</sup> Birthday Oregon

Come and celebrate the 159th birthday of Oregon's Statehood at the Oregon State Capitol on Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oregon became a state on February 14, 1859, but to celebrate in style the capital will be opened on a Saturday and hosting costumed interpreters, giving away cupcakes (first-come, first-served), playing period music, and having a bevy of activities that are fun for the entire family. For more information, go to the event page at [www.oregoncapitol.com](http://www.oregoncapitol.com) or call Visitor Services at: 503-986-1388.

## CHINESE NEW YEAR



## YEAR OF THE DOG

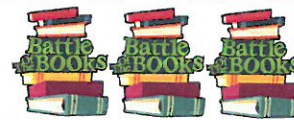


JANUARY 16<sup>TH</sup>

Ranking as the eleventh animal in Chinese zodiac, **Dog** is the symbol of loyalty and honesty. People born in the **Year of the Dog, 1922, 1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982, 1994, 2006 and 2018**, possess the best traits of human nature. They are honest, friendly, faithful, loyal, smart, straightforward, venerable and have a strong sense of responsibility.



## BATTLE OF THE BOOKS



The "Battle" will begin on the 26<sup>th</sup> of February in the gym. Third, fourth and fifth graders will be competing in this exciting event. Each team has been reading several books, such as; Blast-off, Esperanza Rising, Wild Life, The Red Pencil, The Door by the Staircase, Mystery on the Museum Mile, in order to do their very best. The winning team will represent "The Fort" at the regional competition on March 17<sup>th</sup>, in Medford. Look for results in next month's Noble News. Thank you Mr. Kriz for heading up this exciting event.





## EXCLUSION IMMUNIZATION NOTIFICATION

If you received a notice by mail stating that your child is lacking certain shots, please remember that all updates must be on file in the office before **February 21, 2018**. If not, your child will be excluded from school until all shots are updated.



## Box Tops for Education



**EVERY LABEL COUNTS!  
SAVE-SAVE-SAVE!**

Please remember to turn in your Box Tops for Education labels with your child's teacher's name on the envelope. Mrs. Devore's class had an outstanding lead—but—they can be caught! Check out the Box Tops App for more ways to earn Box Tops. A full blown ICE CREAM SUNDAE bar will be the prize at the end of the year!



### BREAKFAST/SNACK/LUNCH PROGRAM

Just a reminder—HEALTHY, NUTRITIONAL BREAKFAST, SNACK and LUNCH are available, no charge, for all students.

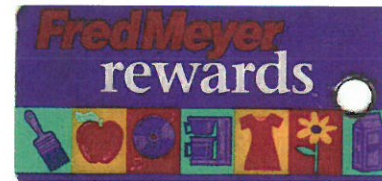


## CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Fort Vannoy encourages all parents, grandparents and community members to volunteer at our school. Please go to the district website:

[www.threerivers.k12.or.us](http://www.threerivers.k12.or.us)

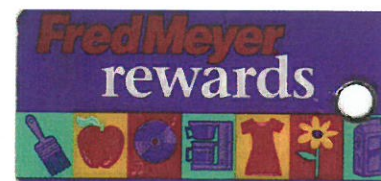
Go to the District drop down tab and select Volunteer Information and complete the form. After you are approved to be a volunteer, which could take up to two weeks, please come to the office and sign in on the laptop computer located on Mrs. Verser's counter



Shopping at Fred Meyer really pays off! Community Rewards where shopping and giving unite. Earn Donations just by shopping and using your Fred Meyer Rewards Card. Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to:

FORT VANNOY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
AT

[www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards)  
You can search for us by name or by non-profit number---90758



Tell us where  
to give!



*Where shopping & giving unite*

Link your Rewards Card to your favorite nonprofit, and you'll help decide who we support through your shopping! Fred Meyer will donate \$2.5 million annually through this new program.

Learn more and sign up at  
[fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://fredmeyer.com/communityrewards)



# Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION®

February 2018

Fort Vannoy Elementary School



## SHORT NOTES

### I love you because...

Family members can share what they love about each other with this writing activity. Have your youngster cut out paper hearts. Write love notes on them and hide for others to find. For example, maybe your child will put one under her sister's placemat that says, "I love you because you make me laugh."

### On the road again

Carpooling with other parents is a great way to save time and money—and to get to know your youngster's classmates. When you drive, you'll probably hear them discuss school, sports, and friends. *Note:* Ask parents about booster seats—if a child uses one in his parents' car, he'll need one in yours, too.

### Indoor "recess"—at home

When winter weather keeps your family inside, ask your child to show you what she does during indoor recess at school. She could teach you games, crafts, or songs she enjoys. Then, encourage her to come up with new ideas to try at home or in class.

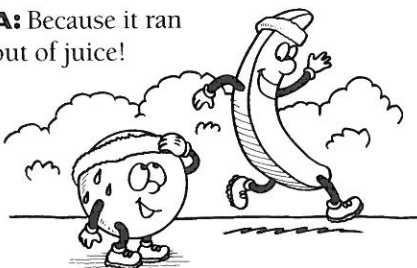
### Worth quoting

"Life itself is the most wonderful fairy tale." *Hans Christian Andersen*

## JUST FOR FUN

**Q:** Why did the orange lose the race?

**A:** Because it ran out of juice!



## Olympic-sized learning

While the 2018 Winter Olympic Games are taking place thousands of miles away, your child can earn a "medal" in learning at home. Turn Olympic magic into educational gold with these suggestions.

### Reading

Speed skating, ski jumping, luge...which Winter Olympics sports does your youngster enjoy watching? Head to the library together to pick out books about their history, the rules, and how the athletes train. *Idea:* Hold a "reading Olympics." Let family members count the books they read in February. At the end of the month, everyone can award medals to their three favorites.

### Math

Your child will practice gathering, recording, and calculating data to find out which of his favorite countries wins the most medals. Encourage him to divide poster board into four columns: "Country," "Gold," "Silver," "Bronze." In column one, he can list teams he'd like



to follow. Every day, have him check a newspaper or [olympic.org](http://olympic.org) and add tally marks for each country's medals. After the Olympics end, he can total them up to see who got the most in each category.

### Social studies

Where in the world do the Olympic athletes come from? To explore geography, help your youngster use a map to find countries represented in the Olympics. He might put star stickers on the countries on a wall map. Or let him print out a world map and make a dot on each competing country.♥

## Decisions, decisions

Learning to make smaller decisions now will prepare your youngster to make bigger ones later. Here are ways to build her decision-making skills:

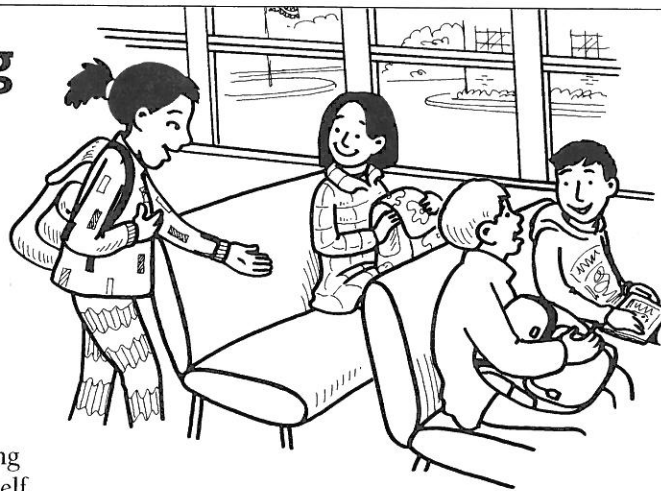
- Hearing you think through your choices gives your child an example to follow. You might say, "I'd like to visit Aunt Sue tonight, but then I might not finish this proposal for work. I'll go Saturday instead."
- When possible, give your youngster two to three specific options. That way, she can make a decision without feeling overwhelmed. *Example:* "Do you want to sweep or dust?" rather than "Which chore would you prefer to do?"♥



# An anti-bullying attitude

Having a positive attitude toward others can help to keep your youngster from participating in bullying. With these ideas, she'll be more apt to be kind to others and want them to feel included.

**1. Watch your words.** Let your youngster know you expect her to speak kindly. Before she says something she's unsure about, she could ask herself if she would want *you* to hear it. If she overhears another

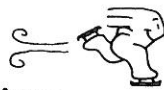


student calling a classmate names or gossiping, she could counter the unkind words with nice ones. ("I hear you're really good at gymnastics.")

**2. Accept everyone.**

Leaving people out on purpose is a form of bullying. Suggest that your child look for chances to make others feel that they belong. For example, she might ask to

join someone who normally sits alone on the bus. Or she could invite a new student to her birthday party. She'll see how good it feels to make someone's day—and perhaps she'll even gain a friend!♥



**ACTIVITY CORNER**

**Inspired by art**

Art unleashes your child's imagination and lets him practice fine-motor skills. Try these tips to encourage him to experiment.



**Use natural supplies**

Challenge your youngster to find free art materials right in your backyard! For instance, he might use sticks or feathers as paintbrushes. Or he could draw on rocks with colored chalk.

**Try new formats**

Suggest that your child arrange objects (toys, fruits) on a table and sketch a *still life*. Or go outdoors where he can paint a *landscape* of natural scenery like trees or a pond. If he wants to draw a *portrait*, he could ask a family member to pose—or look in a mirror and create a self-portrait.♥

**PARENT TO PARENT**

**Safe to make mistakes**

My third grader, Mark, gets discouraged when he can't do something correctly right away. While he was practicing his typing skills, he said, "Forget it, I'm no good at this," and walked away from the computer.



I told Mark that mistakes are part of learning. I admitted that when I was his age, I wanted to quit the violin because I couldn't get the notes right on my favorite piece. Luckily, the school music teacher encouraged me to continue, and Mark knows that I enjoy playing the violin to this day.

To show Mark his mistakes were "stepping-stones," I drew circles across a sheet of paper. Each time he made a mistake while typing, I suggested he cross out a stepping-stone and start the sentence again. I knew that if he kept trying, he'd type an error-free sentence before he got to the last stone—and I was right.

Now Mark has a way to track his progress with typing and other things that require persistence.♥

**Q & A**

**Study with a pencil in hand**

**Q:** When my daughter studies for a test, she simply reads through her notes or textbook chapter once and announces she's finished. How can I help her study more effectively?

**A:** Reading is an important part of studying. But writing and drawing can help cement the information in her mind—in fun and interesting ways.

For example, if she's studying a textbook chapter, she could write answers to

the end-of-chapter questions or even design her own quiz. When she studies with a classmate, they might write questions on index cards and play "quiz show."

Sketching pictures is another good study strategy. To prepare for a test on planets, she can draw and label the solar system. Or she could draw pizzas and write fractions on the slices while studying for a math test.♥



**OUR PURPOSE**

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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