



WILLIAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

20691 Williams Highway ~ Williams, OR 97544 ~ (541) 846-7224 ~ FAX (541) 846-7225

TO: Three Rivers School District Board of Directors
FROM: Williams Elementary School
Principal, Mrs. Renee Hults
RE: Second Trimester Board Brief
DATE: February 27, 2013

ENROLLMENT

K	-	18
1	-	7
2	-	11
3	-	9
4	-	10
5	-	6
Total Current Enrollment	-	61

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

Students and staff at Williams Elementary had the opportunity to have Artist in Residence Jill Fjeldheim return on January 25th through 31st. Jill has performed internationally and conducted workshops in mime and physical comedy for children of all abilities. She has performed with The American Mime Theatre in New York City, Ringling Bros. Circus, and Barnum & Bailey Circus. Jill uses techniques including: Characterization, pantomime, playwriting, slapstick, and improvisation to engage students to blossom and perform for their peers. Student also learn teamwork as they are encouraged to work together to create their final show as a class unit. We have enjoyed having Jill work with our students to create performances that use creative movement and circus arts. Students, along with Jill entertained staff, visiting parents, and community members on January 31st for a final "Showcase Performance".

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS-21st CENTURY GRANT

Williams Elementary School is a part of the 21st Century Grant that provides an afterschool academic and enrichment program. We are now at the end of our winter session which ran from January 14 through February 28, 2013. The winter session was also designed to focus on building good homework habits and teaching students strategies to help them complete and turn in assignments. After homework is complete students will have a time to participate in a daily fun activity ranging from arts and crafts, computer time, PE activities, and board games. During this term, with the help of a parent volunteer, students focused on the art of drawing with charcoal. Students in the afterschool class also got a chance to help plan and prepare the meal for our Family Reading Night on February 28th.

FAMILY READING NIGHT

During the week of February 25th through March 1st, Williams had our annual Scholastic Book Fair to raise money for new books in our Library. Along with the Book Fair, in celebration of Dr. Suess' birthday, during the week students participated in PBIS activities at school. On the evening of February 28th students and families participated in our PBIS Family Reading night. Students and families spent a fun evening listening to stories from story tellers from the Williams Branch Library, singing songs with the "Wacky Dogs of Williams", creating arts and crafts, and writing on the graffiti wall. Families were also treated to a wonderful spaghetti dinner cooked by members of the Williams School staff.

HOLIDAY PROGRAM

December marked another success in the history of the Williams Elementary Holiday Program. This year our school musical entitled “The Littlest Reindeer” started out on a bumpy road as we had to replace two of our main characters twice! As always our students stepped up to the plate and succeeded in delivering another stellar performance.

MUSIC PROGRAM

The sweet sound of blue grass mixed with a little bit of rock and roll hum through the hallways as our violin and guitar classes taught by local artist Warren Whistler and his assistant Alison Huber are in full swing. Students in 2nd through 5th grade have the opportunity to take lessons that help them learn and appreciate the art of music. These classes are available through community and business donations, a small one time student tuition, grants, and our annual spring concert.

SAFETY

Improving the security and overall education of safety preparedness on campus has been on the fore front of our safety and staff meetings since the tragic events at Sandy Hook Elementary School. We have made substantial changes to our emergency procedures. We have badges and sign in sheets for all visitors, subs, and volunteers. We are educating and practicing with staff, students, and volunteers on our emergency and lockdown procedures. We are notifying parents, families, and community volunteers of our visitor check in policies via our newsletters, synrevoice, and website.

NEWS FROM MRS. AGNIFILI’S KINDERGARTEN FIRST GRADE CLASS

In my class room, the Kindergarteners are reading up a storm. A good portion of them are able to read 21 sight words! Pretty awesome!! They might not DIBEL so well, but they sure can read!!! The First Graders are doing well reading the new Reading Street series which is CCS based. 5/7 and are able to read the material. The First Graders learned how to create acrostic poems and wrote good ones for Classified Week. All students are doing a family project that requires them to use at least one simple machine to make a trap to catch Harry, a two-foot disaster who wreaks havoc every March. Students also learn about famous artists in our classroom such as Vincent Van Gogh, Pablo Picasso, Jackson Pollack, and this month, Georgia O’Keefe.

NEWS FROM MRS BINGHAM’S FOURTH AND FIFTH GRADE CLASS

Our class has taken many exciting field trips so far this year, including Crater Lake (twice), OMSI, Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument, ScienceWorks Museum, Oregon Caves, and White Oak Farm. We also had ScienceWorks in the classroom for Science Inquiry projects for 4 days. As a school, we had Jill Fjeldheim, a clown, for a week working with the kids to design their own mime play. She focused on movement, expression, humor, and acting skills. We have had some fun assemblies for the whole school from Rogue Valley Kennel Club (dog safety) and Rogue Valley Symphony. We have a Rogue Valley Harmonizer once a week teaching traditional songs to 4th and 5th graders.