

# Mrs. Crueger's Corner

We can only be said to be alive in those moments when our hearts are conscious of our treasures. ~Thornton Wilder

Welcome to November! The first two months of school have passed so quickly and this month also promises to be a very busy time for all of us. There have been many wonderful things going on in our school:

Jog-A-Thon, Portland General Electric Assemblies, Parent-Teacher Conferences, and our newest technology, iPod Touches beginning to be incorporated into our classrooms to support and enrich our student in reading and mathematics.

So as the winter weather begins to take hold, a quick note about Lost and Found. We are seeing an increase in lost and found, especially coats and sweaters. To support us in locating what item belongs to whom, please put your student's name on the label of all clothing items.

As this Thanksgiving holiday approaches, it is a time when we give thanks for our families and friends. At Dundee Elementary, we consider our school and community to be a part of our special family too. We are thankful for the dedicated and caring staff members that work with your child every day. We are thankful for the countless volunteers and the generosity of the DPC. We are thankful for the students who are so eager to learn and bring smiles to our faces and we are especially thankful for the parents and families that support their child in his/her learning.

#### ONE CALL NOW MESSAGES

The One Call Now message system is an automated calling system we use to get important information to families in a timely manner. It could be information about weather related closures, after school or classroom activities, etc.

If you receive a call from us, please check your voicemail before calling the school office. All relevant information is included in the message

## November

- Nov. 16 23: "Civil War" Canned Food Drive
- Nov. 18: Canned Food Drive Hat Day

Nov. 24 & 25: HAPPY THANKSGIVING

NO SCHOOL



Nov. 29: Family Movie Night

December

Dec. 6: Dundee Parent Club 7pm in the library

Dec. 16: WinterFest

Dec. 19 - Jan. 2: WINTER BREAK - NO SCHOOL

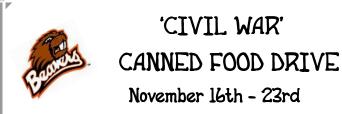


#### Inclement Weather-Are You Ready?

It's soon to be that snowy, blowing, flooding time of year. Are you prepared for a school closure? Delay in opening? Or early release? After 5:45 am, watch for TV/radio reports, call the First Student Snow Line at 503-538-5897, the District Closure Information Line (Spanish and English) at 503-554-5001, or check the website at www.newberg.k12.or.us. We will also use the One Call phone system to contact parents again this year.

- $\cdot$  Has your family made alternative destination plans?
- $\cdot$  Does your child understand what he/she is supposed to do?
  - $\cdot$  Are your plans reflected on the annual student review?
- $\cdot$  Does your child's teacher (s) know of your preferences?





Are you a Beaver or a Duck? In honor of the OSU vs. U of O Civil War game, we invite you to vote for your favorite Oregon team through cans! Each morning cans will be collected in Mr. Langdon's classroom (room 22), and sorted and counted by fourth grade students (assuring that Mr. Langdon can't cheat). Bring your canned food November  $16^{th}$  - 23rd and place your nonperishables (canned goods, flour, cereal, boxed meals) on the side of your choice. Food will be donated to YCAP for holiday baskets. Friday, Nov. 18th is HAT

DAY, when students can "purchase" the privilege of wearing a school appropriate hat with 3 cans of food or \$1.00!





#### IMMUNIZATION CLINIC



#### FOR ALL SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN

Yamhill County Public Health is holding an immunization clinic on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at the Edwards Elementary School Cafeteria from 3:00 - 6:30 p.m. Please call the Yamhill County Public Health Department at (503) 434-7525 for more information.

#### STUDENTS ARRIVING TOO EARLY

Students are arriving to school too early. Our building does not open until 8:10am. The ideal time to arrive would be after 8:10am and before 8:25am. Instruction begins promptly at 8:30am.

# Counselor's Corner Learning to Listen



Some research came out a few months ago suggesting that anywhere from 50-75% of a student's time in elementary school is spent listening: to teachers, to other students, and to various media. That should make us wonder: Do we teach our children to listen?

Growing up I remember being told (frequently) to listen, but as I look back I am not certain that anyone directly taught me how to do what was asked of me. If that is true, how did I learn to listen? How did you learn the listening skills you have? How do our children learn this vital skill?

Listening skills are seldom taught in school. There are exceptions, but in general there is no listening curriculum and no state test to score a child on their listening skills. So how do they learn? The answer probably comes as no surprise. They tend to learn from their parents.

Through the years the writing about children and how they learn to listen has come through loud and clear. Children learn to listen by the modeling of their parents. We tend to pass along our listening skills be they good or not so good.

Good listening takes time, attention, time, patience, time, interest, time, effort, and time. It is never too late to improve our own skills in an effort to improve the listening skills of our children.

I am grateful to my mom for taking the time to listen even when the time was hard to come by. Though I did not know it at the time, when she was telling me to listen she was often also showing me how by the way she listened to my brother and me.

The answer to the question in the first paragraph is clear. Yes, we do teach our children to listen. Please consider how you listen to your children. Then ask yourself what skills you want to model to strengthen their listening skills.

### TALENTED AND GIFTED SCREENING

The Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test (NNAT) is the universal screening tool used by Newberg School District for all third grade students in the fall of each year. The assessment requires the student to rely on reasoning and problem-solving skills rather than word knowledge, mathematics or reading. Each student's ability is measured using a set of items sometimes referred to as a figural matrix which contains pictures that form patterns. The test items do not require verbal or written answers. The Naglieri assessment is fair and unbiased for minority students and for students with color vision or hearing impairments and takes a total of 30 minutes. Tests will be sent out of the district to be scored in early November. The Naglieri is one screening tool to help determine whether a student is a TAG candidate. Other screening tools shall include teacher checklists, parent surveys, and the Oregon Assessment of Knowledge and Skills.