



The Lion's Roarrrrr

A monthly newsletter from Mabel Rush Elementary

April, 2015

Issue 8

Principal's Notes

Dear Mabel Rush Families,

It was great to see all those smiling faces after Spring Break and to hear about all the fun our families had during the break! It does look like we're in for some chilly April showers. Please remind your child to bring a coat to school each day.

This year students in grades 3-5 will take the new Smarter Balanced Assessments. Unlike the former state tests (OAKS), students will only take the test once this spring rather than two or three times. Classroom teachers will send home reminders of when their class will be taking the test so parents can help their children get a good night's sleep and big breakfast in preparation of those test days. 5th grade students will also take the OAKS science test since there is no Smarter Balanced science test at this time.

Later this month I will find out the number of teachers we will have next year, assign teachers to grade levels and send home a list of predicted grade level teachers with a copy of the parent input form so parents will have the most current information I can provide. We will hire additional staff so some positions may say "To Be Determined".

Conferences April 2014



Teachers have been very busy this week preparing for conferences next week! There will be NO SCHOOL due to conferences on April 6th and 7th. We will also hold our book fair from April 6-9.

Principal's Notes cont...

I will be asking for parents to sit in on our hiring committees this spring. If you are interested in doing that, please be sure to attend our next PIE meeting to let our PIE leaders know of your interest in doing that.

Sincerely,
Lisa Callahan,
Principal

Thank You Volunteers!

At Mabel Rush we have an amazing volunteer work force that supports us! In fact, we owe our Parents In Education (PIE) group a debt of gratitude for all their hard work this year! We will be celebrating our volunteers during the last week in April. Invitations for our Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast will be going out mid April. We will hold the breakfast on Wednesday, April 29 in our school library.

Field Trips

ALL parent volunteers are required to have and wear district photo identification badges. Parents will not be allowed to chaperone or volunteer without wearing this badge. Please allow about two weeks to complete the application process.

Parent Engagement & Satisfaction Survey

Please help us continuously improve our school by completing our Parent Engagement and Satisfaction Survey.

Your involvement in your student's education is vital and we want to ensure that we are doing what we can to help you be involved in his or her education. Here is the address to access the survey. Thank you for your time!

<http://www.newberg.k12.or.us/district/parent-survey-2015>

News in Brief

Pokémon Cards

Pokémon cards though popular need to stay home. Please remind your child that Pokémon Cards are toys and as such, are not allowed to be brought to school. We're seeing some squabbles over the cards again and who traded or sold what to who.

The Mountain of Lost and Found

We have 13 TRASHBAGS FULL of lost and forgotten items and we're still seeing more each day. This is too much to continue to store in our building and we really hope these items will be rescued by their owners. To help with that rescue, we're going to set out the lost and found items for parents and students to look through on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday (April 6-9). **On Thursday, April 9, any remaining items will be donated to charity.**



Order Your 2014-2015 Yearbook

Yearbooks cost \$15 each. Cash or check only. Forms will be sent home with students soon!



National Broadcast From Mabel Rush School

Way to go Andrea Nicol's class! This past month, Mrs. Nicol and her students embarked on an adventure with Discovery Education to provide a live broadcast from Mrs. Nicol's classroom to schools nationwide to show them just how fun science can be. Nice job Mrs. Nicol's class!



Engineering

2nd grade students practiced their sketching and engineering skills with our fabulous 2nd grade teachers and guest Andy Byerly! It's great to see more and more of these hands-on projects which give students opportunities to grapple with problem solving and develop creative solutions.



Safety Drills

We will again be practicing safety drills this month as we build good habits in what to do when emergency situations occur.

Math Fact Fluency

We believe it is very important for students to know their math facts. We strive to motivate students to want to memorize their facts, and parent support is welcome! Not only will a student go further faster if they know their math facts, they will also enjoy math more. Please consider working with your child for a few minutes on their math facts each day. We hope to have our biggest group of Math Fact Masters yet!



Techno Sleepover!

Last year, many students participated in our Techno Sleepover and had a blast so we're doing it again! Friday, April 10 is the date. Students have their permission and information slips including the order forms for the fabulous Krispy Kreme donuts that families can pick up at 7 AM on Saturday, April 11. Money raised through this event will be spent on repairing technology and playground equipment for our school. Thank you in advance to the staff and parent volunteers who will be joining me to make this event GREAT! **Permission slips are due by Tuesday, April 7.** Last year we built roller coasters...Wait 'til you see what we'll be building this time!

Mark Your Calendar.....

April

- 3 Parent Coffee 9:00am
- 6-7 NO SCHOOL- Parent Teacher Conferences
- 6-9 Book Fair
- 10 Techno Sleepover
- 14 Parent Group Meeting 7 pm
- 16 Music Program 3rd grade 2:15 PM
- 17 PIE Family Bingo Night
- 23 Ready for Kindergarten Parent Workshop #3
- 29 Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast