

# Westside Village Magnet School

"A Fun and Innovative Place to Learn"

## News

### Upcoming Events

March 20th	Middle School Parent Information Meeting for Lottery - 6:00pm
March 21st	Spring Picture Day
March 22nd	Full Day of School (3:35pm) – No Early Release
March 23rd	Community Celebration - 5:00pm - 7:00pm
March 24th	Fourth Six-Week Session Ends
March 24th	Lottery Applications Due by 4:00pm
March 27th - 31st	Spring Break
April 14th	No School
April 19th	Kindergarten Registration Day
April 29th	Village Rhythm & Blues 5:30pm - 10:00pm

### WVMS Lottery Information for the 2017-18 School Year

Do you know any kindergarten families? It's lottery time for the 2017-18 school year! Students who already attend WVMS do not need to reapply for the following school year. If your child has a sibling that will be attending WVMS next year, please stop by the office to pick up a lottery application. Anne can also e-mail you one.

Also, please encourage your friends and family to come check us out! Family recommendations are hugely appreciated! Some of the most involved families that we have had came from word-of-mouth recommendations. If you have friends or family that would like to learn more about WVMS, please encourage them to call for a tour or to come to a parent information meeting. We are scheduling tours and having Parent Information Meetings on Monday, March 6th at 6:00pm, and Wednesday, March 8th at 12:00pm. There will be a middle school information meeting on Monday, March 20th at 6:00pm. People can call the office at 541.355.2000 to schedule a tour. All lottery applications are due by Friday, March 24th at 4:00pm.

Thanks for helping to spread the word about WVMS!

### Books

Books for adult patients at St. Charles are being collected by Girl Scout Troop 50703 for a new book cart service project. PLEASE DONATE before Spring Break into the silver box in the office.

### Curriculum

Students are having a lot of fun on their winter adventure field trips! Rain or shine, they've kept smiles on their faces and had wonderful, growth mindsets.

Students are working hard on fulfilling their "Use Your Brain to Have a Heart" projects. Centers and Youngers have been to three assisted living homes to sing songs to residents, and deliver notes of kindness. Some Elder students are learning about Coffee 4 Kids and the orphanage in El Salvador it supports. Designs are underway for a Lending Library and an "Adrenaline Activator" skate ramp.

In engineering this week, Centers and Youngers are working on a engineering project called "The Big Bad Blowdryer." They are working in small groups to construct a "house" out of gummy bears, marshmallows, and toothpicks that will withstand the blast of a hair dryer from 6 inches away.

Olders and Elders have also been working on engineering challenges. They were challenged to create a design that would allow a balloon to travel across the room on along a fishing line with 50 grams of weight attached. They have also were challenged to make "Scribble Bots" - robots that draw and use small motors. Students designed, collaborated, conferenced with each other, and recorded data in an effort to have the Scribble Bot that would draw the longest line.

All students are in the process of selecting their long-term research topics. They have been looking at a variety of books and videos on the topics of ancient life, ancient civilizations, geology, and space to determine what most sparks their interest. We're very excited to start learning about these mysteries.

## Smarter Balanced Testing

Smarter Balanced is our standardized test that all 3rd through 8th graders are asked to take every year. Although this is not our favorite thing to do with students due to the amount of instructional hours it takes, we are still required to do it. The results are based on student growth. Each year, the state uses a formula to determine how much a student has grown academically. A drawback to this is that many of our children excelled, which makes it hard to show growth. We will be taking this test in the early part of May. If you would like to opt your child out of the test, please sign the opt out form (available in the office or by e-mail), and return it to the office.

If you would like to look at your child's results from last year, please see their portfolio or ask Anne to email you last year's Smarter Balanced results. If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail Wendy at

## Village Rhythm and Blues

Mark your calendar for April 29th for Village Rhythm and Blues! This super-fun event is our yearly fundraiser, and helps us fund artists in residence, adventure learning opportunities, service learning opportunities, and all of the special extra things we do here at WVMS. It's a night out for parents with dinner, music, silent and live auctions, raffles, and more! The bonus? Free babysitting at WVMS! Save the date and come have some fun!

We have just received a generous \$2000 sponsorship from **The Brace Place** for our Village Rhythm and Blues Event on April 29th. Thank you! **Wheel Fun Rentals** and **Prime Lending** have also recently become sponsors. We are so grateful for your support! If you have a business or know of one that would like to be a sponsor of our event, there is still time! Please contact Julie Norfleet at gratefuljulie@gmail.com for information and options.

## Before & After School Clubs

We are in need of a volunteer to help facilitate our Older and Elder Robotics Club on Thursdays after school. Also, if you have a talent or passion that you would like to share with kids in a club, we'd love to have you facilitate! If you are able to help in either way, please contact Rob at rob.edde@gmail.com. Thank you!

## Did You Know?

Each of our students will be going skiing three times this season! The funding for this amazing outdoor opportunity comes from monies raised by Friends of WVMS, from VRB and other fundraisers. Thank you for your support of Friends!

## Use Your Brain to Have a Heart - by Marissa Adams, Student

Students at WVMS are starting a project called the "Use Your Brain To Have A Heart Project." This project involves kids choosing from a 'Service' such as volunteering, a 'Teaching' such as a presentation, and a 'Build' such as a little free library. When we were told to come up with a project, we also had to come up with a question. My friend and I decided to work together, and our question was "How does interaction with animals affect the human brain?" So, I called the Humane Society and asked a couple of questions. The main question I asked was, "Can we interact with the animals?" Sadly, the answer was no. We were given another suggestion from the woman on the phone. She said, "How about you guys do a craft or supply drive? Both templates are on our site." We finally decided that we were going to do a supply drive, or a wish list drive, but this meant we had to change our question. Our new question was "How does charitable giving affect your brain?" So this is where you guys come in. Being that we are doing a drive, we will be setting up a big box in the front office for your donations. Along with our big box for donations, we will also have a Q&A to go towards the conclusion of our project. You can view the Humane Society's Wish List here: <https://www.hsco.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/HSCO-Wish-List-4-2015.pdf>. If you have any questions, please call Anne in the office at 541.355.2000.

## Volunteers

Mr. Bluhm will be taking a group of Elder students to gather auction items for VRB from 3:30-4:30 p.m. on Thursday and Friday this week (March 16 and 17), as well as Monday and Tuesday next week (March 20 and 21). If you are available to help chaperone a small group of students as they ask businesses for donations, please email him at patrick.bluhm@bend.k12.or.us. Thank you!

Our Center team is in need of volunteers to help sort students' work into their portfolios. A great time to work on this is when students are at fitness, around 3 pm. If you are able to help, please let Ms. Julie, Ms. Jill, or Ms. Meredith know. This project needs to be completed before our community celebration next Thursday. Thank you!

We are looking for 1-2 volunteers to help out with Spring picture day, on Tuesday, March 21st, from approximately 9-12. As a special incentive, LifeTouch offers a free photo package to volunteers. If you are able to help, please contact Anne in the office.