



THE EAGLE EXTRA

James Milliken, Principal

503-663-4818

Every Student Prepared for Success

January 13, 2015

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 14

Kindergarten Attends
PTC Carnival Planning
Mtg EOES Library
6:00pm

January 19

MLK, Jr. Day
No School

January 20

PTC Meeting @ EOES
6:30pm

January 21

No Kindergarten

January 28

Kindergarten Attends

January 30

C & I Day
No School

East Orient continues
on the PE rotation
through Friday,
January 23rd.

Dear East Orient Parents, Guardians and Friends,

Our hope is that you had a wonderful Christmas break and had lots of opportunities to be with your family and friends during this season. After a two-week break, we have a little adjustment to our wake up schedule and the regular parts of our day.

One of the exciting parts of school life is being a part of what academic enrichment opportunities might be available, either before or after school. One of the avenues we will continue to explore at East Orient is how we can provide enrichment opportunities to our students. All of our students are very different, they look different, they learn different and they need different challenges and areas of exploration, whether it is the arts, language or sports. As we move through the rest of the year we will capture any opportunity to provide these to our students. If you have any interest in supporting a language club, chess club or any other type of enrichment group please let me know.

If you are a parent of a student that you feel is an intellectually Talented and Gifted child, we are currently completing our annual referral list to East Orient's TAG committee. Please look to our website for the forms which include an inventory of behaviors and explanations. All referrals need to be completed by Monday, January 19, 2015.

At our January Parent Teacher Club meeting I will be presenting a short presentation on our state's new assessment for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. The current assessment has many similar features as the assessments in the past, however there are a few new components that might be helpful to share with parents. I will also be handing out some practice tests for parents to take home and work through with their child/children.

Sincerely,

James Milliken, Principal

New state tests do a better job of measuring what students know and can do

This spring students will take Oregon's new state test for math and English, known as the Smarter Balanced Assessment. This test is different in that it goes beyond multiple-choice questions to include math exercises, short answer, and essay questions. The tests are more interactive and engaging! The tests measure how well students are mastering the state's new learning standards. Lower test scores should be expected in this early phase of implementation because with any new system there is always a period of adjustment as teachers and students get used to the new standards and tests. Learn why Oregon is moving to these new tests and what to expect during the transition at our upcoming parent PTC Meeting. The meeting is January 20, 2015 at 6:30pm. Please come!

Volunteers needed to help students become better readers

Do you or someone you know want to become more involved with your neighborhood school? The Gresham-Barlow School District's Oasis Volunteer Program is looking for parents, grandparents, neighbors, and friends to work with young children who are struggling to learn to read. We are seeking adult volunteers who can spend one hour a week, during the school day, working one-on-one with a child in grades 1-5 to build reading and language skills, self-esteem, and positive attitudes toward learning. The Oasis Program provides volunteers specialized training, materials, and on-going support.

Mid-year training will take place in two three-hour sessions, for a total of six hours. The training dates are Tuesday, January 27 from 9 am to 12 pm and Wednesday, January 28 from 9 am to 12 pm. Tutors are encouraged to attend a monthly support meeting to share experiences with other tutors, receive additional training, and materials.

No teaching experience is required. The role of an Oasis Tutor is that of a friend, offering experience, patience, encouragement, caring, and time.

If you, or someone you know is interested in learning more about becoming an Oasis Tutor, please call Oasis Volunteer Program Coordinator Marilyn Shephard at [503-665-3544](tel:503-665-3544) or email her at msshphard@frontier.com.

This week's "Life skill" is:

Initiative: To do something, of one's own free will, because it needs to be done.

By Oregon State law all schools are required to formally identify all students who are "intellectually" or "academically" gifted. By state definition, "talented and gifted children" means "those children who require special educational programs or services, or both, beyond those normally provided by the regular school program in order to realize their contribution to self or society and who demonstrate outstanding ability or potential..." This includes those students who rank in the top 3% on nationally standardized tests of mental ability or achievement in reading and/or math.

Characteristics of intellectually gifted students include:

- o Advanced vocabulary, ease of communication
- o Interest in solving problems
- o Asking many complex questions
- o Learning/remembering information easily
- o A keen sense of observation
- o Curiosity and interest in many things

Teachers will soon be screening to identify a group of students who will receive further testing for possible TAG identification. If you believe that your child is in the top 3% of his/her class in mental ability, reading, or math, a good first step is to talk with his/her teacher and review any testing data available. If after talking to the teacher, you would like to refer your child for the testing pool, contact your building Principal **by January 16, 2014** to request a parent checklist.

Students who qualify are served in the regular classroom through modifications to the curriculum, which are designed to meet the child's assessed level and rate of learning.

Order Your Yearbook Early!

Presale orders for the 2014-15

East Orient Elementary School yearbook will begin on February 2nd. Order your yearbook early at the special price of \$15.00! All yearbook orders received after March 20th will be sold for \$17.00.

Order forms will be going home soon!



A great BIG "Thank you" to all for turning in box tops.

East Orient School received a check in the amount of \$887.80 from BOXTOPS for Education!

This money goes right back to the Teachers and their classrooms! Please keep collecting!!

