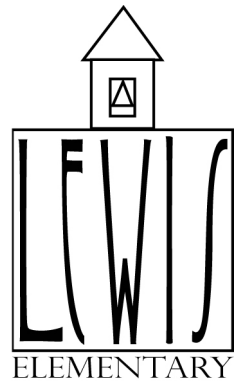


# Meriwether Lewis Elementary School

## Weekly Letter

503 916 6360 - <http://lewiselementary.org>

October 1, 2008



### Principal Notes From Mr. Lauer



#### Walk and Bike Update

**Lewis Walk + Bike To School Week**  
Next Wednesday, October 8, we will be celebrating **International Walk+ Bike to School Day**. At Lewis we always try to make things interesting so we're also holding a "Lewis Walk & Bike to School Week" from Monday, Oct. 6 to Thursday, Oct. 9 (no school on Friday). We will be giving away prizes to participants, and to keep track we are introducing the new Lewis Walk & Bike Punch Card. For Lewis Walk & Bike Week we will send home a special 4-punch card that walkers and bikers can get punched all week long (locations/times to be announced). Students will need to turn the cards in at the end of the week to earn rewards and be included in raffles.

The following week we will issue 10-punch cards that students can use throughout the school year to earn rewards. Of course, the biggest prize of all is the exercise, quality family time, and safer roads that we experience each time we walk our kids to school. Let's keep Lewis the best walking/biking school in all of Portland! Special thanks to our parent volunteers for their work in this effort and to Art Burden for leading our efforts.

#### SMART Reading Program to Begin Oct 13

Again this year Lewis is fortunate to have the SMART (Start Making a Reader Today) Program provides adult volunteers to read one-on-one every week with K-3 children for a half hour each. Along with the OASIS volunteer program SMART provides us with caring adults who help to instill a love of reading and literacy in our students. Our SMART Program is lead by Darby Walker and Sally Allen. Both of them have volunteered their time this year to make sure that SMART continues at Lewis and we thank them for their work. If you are interested in volunteering with the program please contact Darby or Sally through the school office.



#### Talented and Gifted Student Parent Meeting

A TAG parent meeting will be held on October 7, 2008. The meeting will be held at the Franklin High School Cafeteria from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. 5405 S.E. Woodward.

#### Free and Reduced Meals Applications: IMPORTANT NOTICE!!!

The deadline for carry over of Free and Reduced Lunch status is drawing near. After October 15th students who qualified last year for free or reduced meals, but whose families have not yet applied for the current school year will be denied Free and Reduced Meals status and will be required to pay the full amount.

If your family qualified last year, or may qualify this year, please submit a new Free and Reduced Meals application. PLEASE do so as soon as possible. Additional copies of the form are available in the school office. Note: be sure to factor in all siblings in the home, not just those that attend Lewis.

Even if your child does not eat the school lunch and breakfast, Free and Reduced status directly effects our school funding and staffing and in addition, enables families to qualify for reduced fees on other school activities and services such as band instrument rental and participation fees for school clubs.

#### Registration Materials Reminders

If you have not yet done so, please return the forms as soon as possible. Without completed registration forms and the medical statement, students can not be allowed to participate in field trips...



#### Safer Routes to School Update

- ★Please do not park in the fire lane.
- ★Please respect the driveway spaces of our neighbors.
- ★Please do not idle your engine while waiting to pick up your child.
- ★Please consider parking on 45th and walking in to pick up your child.



★ WALK AND BIKE DAY - OCTOBER 8

#### Arrival and Dismissal Times

Please note that students should not be coming to school before 8:30. We do not have any supervision on the playground until that time. Breakfast is served in the cafeteria beginning at 8:20 am. Dismissal is at 3:00 pm. Students who ride their bikes or skateboard to school should not be riding those on the playground before or after school. Also those students are required to wear helmets.

#### Saturday Academy Classes

Saturday Academy offers enrichment classes for students in grades 2 - 12. Information is available in the school office or on their web page at <http://saturdayacademy.org>



#### Lewis PTA Auction News

It is Auction Time again! We need Volunteers to help with procurement, planning, and marketing. If any of these sound interesting, please come to our first auction meeting on October 3, 2008 at 9:00 am in the school library. We look forward to your help and support. Angie Toops, Auction Chair.



#### PTA Meeting:

State of the School Report from Mr. Lauer  
Thursday, October 2, 2008 - 6:30 pm  
Child care provided

#### Join the Lewis PTA

Applications are available in the office. We hope you will consider becoming a part of our PTA. The PTA provides our school with additional resources and activities that help to enrich the educational experience at Lewis. In addition the PTA puts on many family events such as movie nights, family dances, and school carnivals. We greatly appreciate the work and dedication of our PTA officers and members and hope that you will consider joining them.

#### Lewis Events Web Site

Lewis has an events website! This is a website devoted to updating you about events at Lewis School. Currently, the information on this site is about the upcoming Lewis Holiday Bazaar and as new events come up they will be added to this site - [lewisevents.org](http://lewisevents.org).

#### Holiday Bazaar: Deadline Extended

The Holiday Bazaar committee has been so impressed with the vendors who have applied for the November 8th Holiday Bazaar. You can find the current list of vendors at the [lewisevents.org](http://lewisevents.org) web site - click on the 'vendor' tab. We have extended our deadline for the Lewis Holiday Sale to October 3rd. We really would love to see some child art in our school's Holiday Bazaar. See child application sheet or ask for one at the office



Ms. Swan's Second Grade

#### Upcoming Events

- ★October 2 - PTA Meeting
- ★October 7 - TAG Parent Meeting at Franklin High
- ★October 8 - Walk & Bike to School Day
- ★October 9 - Jen & Keefer Drama Performances 6:30
- ★October 10 - Teacher Professional Day  
no school for students