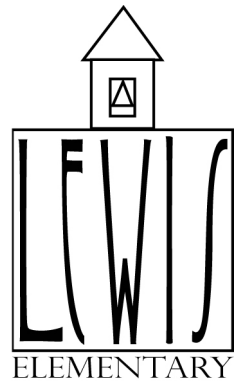


# Meriwether Lewis Elementary School

## Weekly Letter

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

October 15, 2008



### Principal Notes From Mr. Lauer

#### Free and Reduced School Meals Program Is Used to Help Provide Additional Academic Support For Lewis

**Important Reminder**  
Lewis receives funding based on a number of factors but one important factor is the percentage of students in our school who qualify for free and reduced meals. This percentage has historically been around 42%. If we fall below 40% we are in danger of losing a significant amount of funding which translates directly into cuts to our program. Each fall the school district looks at this percentage to make funding decisions for the following year. It is important that families who may qualify for free and reduced meals apply so that that we receive adequate funding to continue to do our work. Even if your child brings his or her lunch to school, if you believe you qualify for free and reduced meals please complete an application. Forms are available in the school office.

### Drama Productions

This year we are fortunate to have Tori Padellford lead our Drama program. This is the third year that we have offered all of our students a drama experience. The productions this year have a literacy focus and we are taking advantage of a technique called Reader's Theater. In Reader's Theater, the focus is on dramatic presentation and character development. Props and sets are minimal. Last Thursday evening students from Mrs. Keefer and Ms. Jen's classrooms performed for family and friends. In addition, Mr. Jamesbarry worked with the students to provide musical interludes between the scenes. The students and staff did an outstanding job. This week Tori began work with students in Mrs. Bennett and Mrs. Gould's classrooms. Their performance will take place on Thursday, November 20, 2008.

Ms. Tori is requesting donations or loans of black pants and black shirt or tops in various children's sizes for our reader's theater presentations. Donations will be used throughout the school year. Items on loan will be laundered and returned.



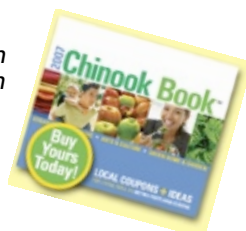
Drama Performance: Ms. Jen's students

### SMART Reading Program Begins This Week

Again this year Lewis is fortunate to have the SMART Reading program. Our 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.

### Chinook Books Sale...

Chinook Books are on sale in the school office. Cost is \$20. These community coupon books, are filled with amazing coupons from OMSI, Burgerville, Portland Nursery, local bike shops, coffee shops, New Season's, and so much more! The savings are incredible and it's a great way to support Lewis PTA. Books cost \$20.00, 10.00 of which goes directly to PTA.



### 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.

### Lewis T-Shirt Sale

The deadline for orders is Thursday, October 23. Order forms are available in the school office.

### Lewis Family Directory: Last Call

Friday is the deadline for families to be included in the Lewis Family Directory. Directory forms are available in the school office.

### Yoga Club

Yoga is a practice that invites creativity, calmness, strength, and flexibility. This year yoga club will be split into two sessions.

The first 12 week session will be for Grades 3-5. This session will be held on Wednesday mornings from 8:00a.m.-8:40a.m. beginning October 29th and ending February 4th. Class will be limited to 15 students.

The second 12 week session will be open to grades k-2. This session will also be held on Wednesday mornings from 8:00a.m.-8:40a.m. beginning March 4th and ending May 27th. Class will be limited to 15 students.

Forms will be available in the office. If you have questions please contact Kathy Bartlett at [kathy.bartlett@comcast.net](mailto:kathy.bartlett@comcast.net) or 503-775-4842. Namaste

### 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).



### PTA FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

This Friday, Oct. 17th at 6:30pm in cafeteria  
Doors open at 6pm. Free admission  
Featured Movie: THE MUPPET MOVIE  
Children must be accompanied by an adult.

### PTA Fall Family Dance - October 23, 2008

Join the Lewis community for Space Jam! (a family dance) on Thursday, October 23rd from 6-8pm. Come dressed as your favorite futuristic character for out-of-this-world fun and help raise money for the 5th grade OMSI camp scholarship fund. There will be pizza, lemonade, and snacks for sale. Appropriate costumes welcomed, no masks/props please. Parent/chaperone required. Students can not attend unless accompanied by an adult. Please call Sarah Kohn at 503-232-9494 if you'd like to help volunteer for this fun event!

Dance Admission: \$1/child - \$2/adult - \$5/family

### Lewis PTA Holiday Bazaar: Update

The Lewis Holiday Bazaar is just 3 weeks away . . . postcards are going home this week about the bazaar. If you have friends and family that would be interested in coming to the bazaar there are extra postcards available in the office. If you would like to help with postcard distribution for the neighborhood grab a stack and take them to your work, neighbors or any place else you can think of.

### Bazaar Magnet Project

The school wide magnet project has begun. This year, in conjunction with the holiday bazaar every Lewis student will be making mini-collage magnets that will be for sale at the holiday bazaar for \$3 each. This is a creative and safe way to get the children involved with raising money for Lewis School. Please plan on coming to the Lewis Holiday Bazaar to see all of the handmade treasures, created by local artists, parents, teachers and students of Lewis School!

### Upcoming Events

★October 17 - PTA Movie Night 6:00 pm

★October 20 - Site Council Meeting 3:15 pm

★October 23 - PTA Family Dance

★October 24 - Teacher Professional Day, no school