



# WILLIAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

20691 Williams Highway ~ Williams, OR 97544 ~ (541) 846-7224 ~ FAX (541) 846-7225

**TO:** Three Rivers School District Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Williams Elementary School  
Principal, Ms. Michelle Sesock  
**RE:** First Trimester Board Briefing  
**DATE:** November 26, 2008

## ENROLLMENT

K	-	9
1	-	17
2	-	25
3	-	13
4	-	18
5	-	12
Part time students	-	4
Total Current Enrollment	-	98

## WILLIAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

Since this summer our community and staff members have been working on implementing the school improvements designated by the district. We have also completed additional projects to enhance the beauty of our school. Listed below are projects that have been completed as of this date:

- Handicap signs installed on rear of building.
- Handicap ramps repaired.
- Power washed, caulked and painted exterior field side of cafeteria and Mrs. Agnifili's 1/2 grade exterior wall white.
- Cleared, raked, and added bark between modulars and field side of cafeteria.
- Added railroad ties to barked area beside cafeteria.
- Added additional bark fiber to playground.
- Painted and sanded picnic tables around school.
- Posted PBS signs on playground and in various areas of the school
- Power washed front steps.
- Scoured front door with cleaner to prepare for painting.
- Painted front steps, all doors, and railings red.
- Painted front foundations and gym door.
- Extended rock flower beds by three feet. Trimmed shrubbery, added bark and top soil in beds. Added a timed sprinkler system, and planted various varieties of plants native to the local area.
- Moved railroad ties in front of building one foot and added topsoil and plants.
- Painted landings into classrooms red.
- Painted playground blacktop enclosure white.
- Cleaned and painted all skirting to modulars gray.
- Installed soccer nets donated by the Grants Pass Soccer Club.

## **PBS SCHOOLWIDE FIRE PROTECTION PLAN**

We are currently developing a school wide fire prevention plan using the framework of PBS. In December teachers will create lesson plans to teach and prepare students for proper fire safety at school and at home. On December 15<sup>th</sup> a fire fighter from the Williams Fire Department will be visiting each classroom fully dressed in standard fire fighting gear, including tanks and standard breathing apparatus. He will teach them the reasons why a fire fighter may come into their home or school dressed in total gear, and prepare them for what they will do when this occurs. We will then conduct a school wide fire drill involving the dispatch of a fire engine with local fire fighters. Students will practice appropriate building evacuation, meet with fire fighters, participate in a fire safety lesson presented by the Fire Chief, and have hands on experience involving the features of the fire truck. Our mission is to help our students be safe, be respectful, and responsible in the event of a real emergency situation.

## **JOG-A-THON**

We have had another very successful Jog-A-Thon this year thanks to the many family and community members who have continued to help support this annual fund raiser. To date our students have raised approximately \$7,500.00. The money from the jog-a-thon is used to raise funds for classroom field trips and enrichment programs including our annual holiday program.

## **HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

You are cordially invited to our annual Holiday Program entitled “The Littlest Reindeer.” Join our whole school for a fun filled musical evening on December 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the school gym. All students K-5<sup>th</sup> including an all star cast of 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will sing, dance, and perform their way into the hearts of family and community members. You won’t leave without the feeling of Christmas in the air.

## **MUSIC PROGRAM**

Guitar and Violin classes taught by Warren Whistler are underway with 43 students participating in beginning and intermediate lessons. This program is being funded with the money raised during our annual Spring Concert and with generous donations from our local Community organizations.

## **SMART**

The SMART reading began in October and is a rewarding experience for both the students and the volunteers. Students are excited to read with their SMART volunteers and look forward to their weekly visits.

## **ACTIVITIES FROM SEPTEMBER THROUGH NOVEMBER**

- ❖ All of our classrooms have already participated in field trips. The Kindergarten and 1/2 grade classes have visited White’s Country Farm in Medford. The 2/3 and 4/5 classes have visited ScienceWorks in Ashland, and the 4/5 class has visited the Oregon Caves and Crater Lake. 2/3 grade has also visited the Williams Creek to watch for Salmon and Herb Pharm to study plants.
- ❖ Kindergarten class has been working on patterns, numbers, and counting skills. They are beginning to learn about the first Thanksgiving and making some neat art projects to go along with it. They are continuing to learn the letter sounds and are now blending sounds to make some words such as see, me, and we. They are also identifying rhyming words.

- ❖ Students in Mrs. Angifili's room stayed very busy reading and writing about things they were thankful for in November. Students learned about turkeys, the Pilgrims, or "First Comers", and Plymouth Rock - as well as Thanksgiving in general. The class continued to work on beginning sentences with capital letters and putting ending punctuation marks at the end of sentences. Students utilized the person they sit next to and began peer editing before showing work to the teacher. Students interacted with each other and used partners to work on spelling, story writing and math facts. First graders learned about geometry while still working on addition as well as number sense. Second graders worked on money skills. All students finished our study about leaves and seeds.
- ❖ Second and third grade wrote about what they are thankful for in November. Many of the stories are very creative. You can read some of their stories in our December News Letter. December marks the beginning of our journal writing. We will be copying quotes and discussing them, then writing our own version. They have been studying lifecycles and plants.
- ❖ In fourth and fifth grade math they are learning multiplication and division. They are studying lifecycles and the food chain. They visited the Herb Pharm on November 24<sup>th</sup> to study plants and herbs. Students in Mrs. Bingham's 4/5 class wrote essays for the Mail Tribune and drew advertisements for local businesses also. Sofi Hart won first place for her written submission of "Why Kids Shouldn't Watch too Much TV." She won a \$100.00 savings bond. Also student Keli St. Germain won second place for her advertisement drawing for Hertz Car Sales in Medford. She won a \$75.00 savings bond. In November students elected 2008-2009 student council members. Members have already begun to plan student activities and open the student store.

## **SCHOOL SAFETY INFORMATION**

Our school is proud to have had another accident free month. We strive to maintain this accident free record by continuing to hold monthly safety meetings to discuss any safety issues. We also regularly conduct a walk-through to visually inspect our site.