



Forest Park Press

March 2010

A Publication of the Forest Park PTA

Coming Soon: 5th Grade Legacy Used Book Fair

Great things happen at the Used Book Fair:

- #1 You get to clean off your bookshelves by donating gently used books
- #2 You get to shop for some great books that are “new to you”
- #3 You help raise money for the 5th Grade Legacy Audubon project

Book donations will be taken from March 29—April 14: Please bring in your used book donations to the school lobby anytime between March 29 and April 14. We'll be collecting books in the turn-around on Monday, April 12; Tuesday, April 13; and Wednesday, April 14.

The Used Book Fair is April 14 — 16: Shop the fair in the Forest Park Elementary School Gym:
Wednesday, April 14, 2-4 pm
Thursday, April 15, 10am-noon and 2-4pm
Friday, April 16, 10am-noon and 2-4pm



The Forest Park Press is a “green” Publication. Paper copies are available in the classrooms and the school office for those who want or need them. Thank you!

Mark your calendars!

IN THIS ISSUE:

- From the Principal's Desk— Page 2
- PTA News — Pages 3
- FPE News — Pages 4-6
- Counseling Center — Page 4
- School Nurse —Page 5
- Community News—Page 6
- Student Gallery—Pages 7-11

Monday	3/15	Planning Day —NO SCHOOL for Students
Wednesday	3/17	2 hour late opening, 10 a.m.
Wednesday	3/17	Waste Free Lunch Day
Mon-Fri	3/22-3/26	Spring Break—NO SCHOOL

Comments or suggestions about the FP Press are welcome: Sue Anne Bravo, susanbravo@yahoo.com or 503-880-1390

From the Principal's Desk



Last Saturday night, we held a very successful 2009/10 Forest Park Foundation Auction. It was a fantastic night of community coming together, enjoying our neighbors, sharing stories of our children, and supporting the Forest Park Foundation.

I want to personally thank Laura Croll for her leadership as Chair of the Auction! Special thanks as well to Brad McMahon and the Forest Park Foundation Board. For the organization of the amazing classroom art projects, thank you to Jennifer Mills and Aimee Watkins Litch. The fifth grade art auction project was coordinated by Malia Premi and special thanks go out to her. Thank you for the continued support from our Auction Chair veterans and alumni Amy McMahon and Anne Brandenburger; your support and guidance are priceless.

To so many other volunteers, classroom basket coordinators, cashiers the night of the auction, and those who showed up at 7 am Saturday to begin the long day of setting up for the evening: Thank you very much for your care, time, and gifts.

The Forest Park Auction is the single largest fundraising event of the school year. It is a gift from the community to the children of Forest Park in the form of dollars that pay for additional teachers and staff. The children, staff, and I cannot possibly thank you enough for your care and generosity. From all of us to you, thank you for your time, your love and focus on the children. Your donations support every aspect of the education and growth of more than 500 Forest Park children.

Kevin Crotchett
Principal, Forest Park Elementary
9935 NW Durrett, Portland, OR 97229
Ph: 503.916.5400 Fax: 503.916.2730
<http://forestpark.pps.k12.or.us>

From the PTA President's Desk and PTA News



Now that we have passed the 100th day of school mark, it is time to start planning for next year.

What was that? Did I just say "next year"?

In the world of PTA, the calendar suggests that it is time to consider new board members for the 2010-2011 school year. Please consider joining the PTA Board and becoming part of an organization that enriches our children's school experience. The only job qualification required is desire; desire to become involved and to give your time and energy.

There are many opportunities, so please contact me at lauraklambert@comcast.net and we will find the best place to make use of your talents.

About this time of the year, Mr. C also begins planning for the next school year. He puts together a staffing plan based on budget requirements and expected student enrollment. At the PTA General Meeting in April, Mr. C will address the process he goes through to arrive at a preliminary staffing plan.

We all dedicate so much of our time to our children, the school and the community. The students of Forest Park Elementary have picked up on our example. Our children decided that they needed to make a difference in the lives of the people of earthquake-stricken Haiti and approached Mr. C about holding a fundraiser. They came up with the idea of donating their used toys for a special sale, with the proceeds going to Mercy Corps. My children came home excitedly demanding to go through their toys so they could make a donation -- a win for them and for me!

No matter how much is raised, the sale is already a success because our children have learned what it means to give willingly.

Laura Lambert

lauraklambert@comcast.net

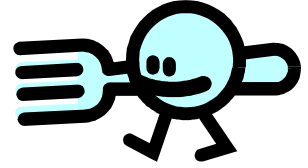
HELP WANTED

Be part of the PTA's largest fundraiser, the Innisbrook sale. Tammy Wilhoite, the current committee chair, is looking for a co-chair to work with and train next year. This co-chair would become the new chairperson in the 2011-2012 school year.

For more information contact Tammy Wilhoite at 503.203.8469 or tammywilhoite@comcast.net.

FPE News

Got Silverware?



Kim Camara, who makes sure everything runs smoothly in our cafeteria each school day, is putting out a plea for silverware. Apparently, many eating utensils are inadvertently thrown into the trash at lunch time. Kim is looking for donations of silverware -- spoons and forks only, please -- which can be washed and reused. If you have any you can part with, please contact Kim in the cafeteria, or at ns152@pps.k12.or.us.

From Sara Johnson in the Counseling Center



Project Second Wind is here! The week of March 8th – 12th is the week that Forest Park families come together to donate food and money to the Oregon Food Bank. This year we are trying to raise 17,000 pounds of food. We will be able to reach that goal if each student brings either \$7 or 35 pounds of food. If your family is able, please help out the Oregon Food Bank by making a donation next week.

Being inside the classrooms is one of my favorite parts of my day. The younger students continue to work on understanding their personal space, as well as what steps to take when they accidentally hurt someone or someone's feelings. As a part of that, the students are learning the four parts to an apology. The second and third grade students are starting their Kelso's Choice lessons. By the end of the unit, the students will have up to nine different ways to solve small problems on their own. The fourth and fifth grades are getting deeper into their communication lessons by working on proper distances to be for different types of conversations. They have also set goals on how to become better listeners.

On Friday, we celebrated both Dr. Seuss' birthday and Pajama Day. It was great to watch so many kids come in their PJs to celebrate their love for Forest Park and Dr. Seuss. Next month we will be honoring our school with Career Day. More information to come as the day gets closer.

If you have any questions or concerns, I am at Forest Park all day Monday, Wednesday, Thursday as well as Friday mornings. Please feel free to email, call, or stop by. My email is sjohnso1@pps.k12.or.us.

~Sara Johnson



Notes from Nurse Tori

Spring is here, early though it seems. I'm very glad and enjoying the sunshine, and hopeful that our winter "season" of head lice will be short!

If head lice have come to visit, know that they do not cause or carry disease and are not considered a threat to health. They are, however, a nuisance and can be tough to eradicate.

It is a good idea to check your student's head weekly as a matter of routine.

Consider that the risk of contracting head lice may be higher if:

- 1) You have a daughter;
- 2) She participates in a dance academy, a gymnastics program, or any other activity involving direct head-to-head contact with other children;
- 3) She has recently participated in a sleepover.

While these activities do not presuppose a head lice infestation, they are often a source.

Be assured that the school does not encourage or provide opportunities for direct head-to-head contact between or among students. We are actively educating students on prevention strategies, such as avoiding close contact with each other; not sharing personal items (clothing, combs, hats, barrettes, etc.); and informing a parent if they experience scalp irritation (itching, etc.).

If treatment is necessary, carefully follow the recommendations that come with the product used. If a follow-up treatment is recommended, do it. The best way (and only way I know of) to ensure complete eradication is to check the scalp/hair daily and remove any and all visible nits. Use a nit comb and follow with a 10-minute application of a hot blow dryer to the scalp; the application of heat has been shown to kill nits or damage the sacs so they do not hatch. This process must be followed daily for at least two weeks; once a week thereafter should be sufficient. The nits must be thoroughly and physically removed by hand (there is no product proven to be an adequate substitute for this) to prevent a re-infestation.

I am available at school on Mondays to demonstrate this process to parents. I am also very willing to make a home visit to do the same. We realize at school that strong feelings accompany this issue; head lice have been around for millennia and are very successful at adaptive survival. As with anything, however, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!" We are doing our best at school to prevent and educate; we want to collaborate with you and the wider community in doing the same.

What questions can I answer? Please feel free to contact me. Mr. C has distributed information about head lice; if you would like more detailed information please let me know. An excellent resource is:

<http://www.mesd.k12.or.us/shs/hss/Head%20Lice%20Resources/headliceresourcesindex.shtml>

Enjoy the sunshine, and think spring!

Victoria (Tori) Wilson RN, NCSN, MPH
Forest Park School Nurse

Nurse Tori is at Forest Park on Mondays from 8 am to 3:30 pm. You can reach her at school that day by calling the main office phone number. You can also leave a voicemail for her at 503/257-1638 x 2573 or email her at vwilson@mesd.k12.or.us.

More FPE News

WRITE HERE

WRITE NOW

There is no other place
I'd rather be

Please save the date:
Family Writing Night
Forest Park Elementary School
Tuesday, April 20, 2010

With special guest Jon Bernstein

Students, Families and Staff are all invited to attend this special writing celebration.
Have you written in your journal today?



Community News

It's that time of year again! The days are getting longer, the bulbs are sprouting, and the green, green grass seems, well, greener. Come celebrate the new season with the Forest Heights Homeowners Association. We're looking for parent volunteers to assist during our annual spring event (30 minute commitment at most) on April 3rd, 2010.

If you take delight in the peals of laughter from little ones, and have half an hour to share, join us in making the first community event of 2010 one to remember. Contact Kimberly Monaco at kmonaco@fhhoa.com or by phone: 503.297.9400.



Mrs. Fink's First Graders' "Small Moments"

The Museum By Angelo

I went to the museum. I saw a real T. Rex's bones and teeth. We saw a real action movie about dinosaurs.

My Dog By Anne-Marie

I went to the pet shop and I bought a puppy named Abby. She had one eye and brown and white spots. She likes to hop.

The Snowstorm By Calvin

We were blocked by a tow truck last December. We had to wait for five hours to go home. When we were stuck in the snow we ate crackers. I slept in the car when we were stuck in the snow. And we s-l-o-w-l-y went home.

Soccer By Chloe

I go to soccer. I like to work hard. I score goals. My Grandma comes to my soccer games. I love soccer. We play soccer at the school every Wednesday.

Soccer By Claire

One time I was playing soccer and I went all around the field and got the ball right in the goal. One time I got the ball between a girl's legs, and it landed in the goal. My parents were cheering for me. So was my sister.

Soccer By Cole

I play on a soccer team. One game we had no subs. One scrimmage was not my favorite scrimmage because the points were 11 against 1. At the last game for a celebration we had pizza at Pizzicato.

My Cousin, Ava By Evan

One day Ava came over to our house. We could be very funny. We slept in a tent. In the morning we watched a lot of movies. We ate together. After awhile Ava went home.

Mrs. Fink's First Graders' "Small Moments"

Soccer By Hailey

I play on Forest Heights' soccer team. I like defending against the other teams. I have lots of teammates. They are from my class. They are very, very nice. We use teamwork to score goals.

Soccer By Jamie

I love soccer because my best friend named Quinn plays on my team. Soccer is all about fun. You have to concentrate on the ball. First we have to warm up. The coaches put yellow shirts on some people and then we play against them. You have to work hard. Soccer is so fun. We wear blue. We play at Forest Park.

Soccer By Kevin

Defending is a good way to block your opponent from scoring goals. Offense is when you have the ball and when you're trying to score a goal. One way to score a goal by defending is blocking your opponent. Then you take the ball and you are the offense and your opponent is on defense. Soccer is a good way to learn kick ball.

My Stuffed Bunny By Lillian

I have a stuffed animal bunny. I sleep with her a lot. She is so soft. I watch movies with her. We saw a spider and it was a little big. I killed it. I like her so much. She colors with me a lot. I wash her sometimes. She is light pink. I read books with her. I eat with her sometimes. Sometimes she eats by herself.

Lake George By Lizzy

When we go to Lake George I get changed. Then I run downstairs and jump in the lake. It is very cold but it is very fun. I look behind me and my dad is jumping in. Then I get out. We spend probably about the whole day in the lake. Then we go to bed. The next day our friends come.

My Accident By Madeline

When I lived in Dallas we were going to move to Portland. We had our carpet rolled up. I was in the closet. The carpet was against the door of the closet. I tripped on the carpet. My chin hit the corner of the chest. It cracked open! I screamed. My mommy put a big Band-Aid on my chin. I had to wear a Band-Aid every day to preschool.

Mrs. Fink's First Graders' "Small Moments"

My Dog Hailey By Madi

I used to have a good dog named Hailey. She was a very sweet dog. Hailey was black and orange. We did not have to put her on her leash when other dogs were around. She thought she was supposed to go play with them. She was wrong. She lived to be 13 years old. She followed us everywhere in the house, upstairs and down. She was not very good at hide and go seek, but she could sure make my heart happy. I will always remember her.

The Snowstorm By Maya

My Mommy got stuck in the snow. My Daddy and I had to rescue her. There were lots of car accidents and traffic. My mom left her car at her work. We went to a restaurant. I ate steak. I got tired. My mom put me to bed.

Soccer By Morgan

I love soccer because all of my friends are there. Our jerseys are blue and they are Forest Park jerseys. Our team name is the Ravens. We have played against the Crystals before. We have also played against the Flying Eagles. After the soccer game we had a pizza party. The pizza was good. There was a game room there. It was fun.

My Broken Wrist By Olivier

BAM! I tripped and broke my wrist! I had to go to the hospital. I sat in a wheelchair at the hospital. Before I had a cast the doctor put my arm in a sling. Then I went back to the hospital and got a green cast. The doctor fixed my wrist. We went back home.

The Bridge Pedal By Owen

I do the Bridge Pedal. My family goes, too. We cycle over 14 bridges. When we go over the last bridge we get food. The bridges are big. Lots of people ride their bikes. I have lots of fun. When we first found out about the bridge pedal we got T-shirts.

Guppies By Rachel

We have guppies. We got them at Petsmart. Boy guppies have lots of colors and girl guppies do not have many colors. Mommy guppy had ten babies. It was cute. We have to break the fish food and clean the tank.

Mrs. Fink's First Graders' "Small Moments"

Disneyland

By Riley

My family went to Disneyland. I was there for three days. We went to a lot of rides. I went on Indiana Jones. I love that ride. I got a hat at Disneyland and I got a light saber.

Basketball

By Sean

Once I went to a basketball court. I shot a three pointer. I made it. I swooshed it. I love playing basketball.

My Brother

By Shriya

I have a brother named Krishna. My brother is three. My brother has a lot of toys. My brother has a nice sister.

My Airplane

By Tyge

I made a paper airplane with some left over cardboard, and some tape, a knife, and some fabric. It took me a week to build it. I shouted, "10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. Go!"

My Dog Shimmer

By Vivian

My dog Shimmer looks like a rat with lot of fur. She also likes to play outside. I love my dog because she is playful. She likes to lie on my legs. She's very sweet and fussy and cuddly. I got Shimmer at Petsmart. I'm really glad I got Shimmer.