



## PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FOREST PARK ELEMENTARY

9935 NW Durrett

Portland, Oregon 97229

(503) 916-5400 / Fax: (503) 916-2730

Email: kevinc@pps.k12.or.us

**Kevin Crotchett**  
Office of the Principal

March 31, 2010

Dear Parents,

Next week we will begin state testing for 5<sup>th</sup> graders. The state of Oregon tests children in reading and math at every grade level 3<sup>rd</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>. Students are also tested in writing at 4<sup>th</sup> grade and science at 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Standardized tests are cumulative tests aimed at measuring a child's progress against the state benchmark for that testing level. We can help our children prepare by reassuring them that this is about their best work at this point in time. It is not about comparing one's progress with anyone else's.

As parents, please ensure that students get a good night's sleep and have a balanced breakfast and lunch; rest and proper nutrition are extremely helpful in focusing kids during test taking. We teachers, meanwhile, will not be assigning homework during this time! We hope our students will get plenty of fresh air and be reading and relaxing instead.

Test scores are released to parents in sealed envelopes approximately two weeks after all tests at that grade level are completed. We expect this to be approximately the first week in May.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Your Fifth Grade Team,

Elizabeth Gardner  
Susan Greb Morris  
Amy Robbins