

March, 2011



Howard Elementary

www.howardelementary.org

Volume 2 Issue 6

“An Apple Distinguished School”

“We seek to maintain a spirit of joy in learning, cooperation in doing, and optimism for success and the future. Our goal is to have every student exceed state standards in all academic areas.”

Principally Speaking.....by Suzanne Price

Road Runner

The staff at Howard continues to be impressed by the caliber of students we have at our school. Our school rules are not just words written on a hallway banner, they are “words we live by”. Our students consistently show kindness and responsibility through their treatment of others and their genuine efforts to make positive choices. This warm and welcoming environment doesn’t happen by accident. It is through the collective belief and commitment that we recognize and celebrate success, while at the same time deliver clear expectations, guidance and re-teaching when necessary.... all in the spirit of building strength of character and a love for learning. Your support, as parents and guardians, is equally important to the success of any student. WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND WISDOM as we work with your children; our partnership is making a difference!

Since our last school-wide reward activity, on January 21, we have only received five level III office referrals and ten level II, minor referrals. This represents only 4% of our student body! Our next school-wide reward activity is scheduled for March 18, with the eligibility window running from 2/22-3/18. Weather permitting, we are planning for “student choice” outdoor games. At this rate, we are expecting a full playground!!



Words of Praise

Everyone needs praise, now and again. Especially during these difficult and challenging times of budget reductions and uncertainty, our staff would welcome words of appreciation and praise. If you are so inclined, there are blank "Words of Praise" cards located in the main lobby. Simply complete a card and give it to an office staff member. We will ensure it gets to your intended recipient!

Have a Change in Contact Information?? If so, for safety reasons, please be sure and notify the office.

Caring Majority

At Howard it is important for us to recognize students who show extreme acts of kindness, helping us to stamp out bully-type behaviors and ensure everyone feels welcome and safe at school. Staff members report these acts to the principal, who in turn, takes the child's picture for display and sends home a letter of recognition and appreciation. We are proud to recognize the following students to our Caring Majority bulletin board: Ben, Antonio, Maddy, and Justin (room 18); David, Kara, and Luis (room 17); Niyah, MaKenzy, and Austin (room 16), Caleb (room 7); and Delanie (room 3). Thank you!



Are you looking for a great way to be involved with your child and their school? The Howard Elementary **Family Carnival** is a wonderful way to do just that! We are looking for parent volunteers for this year's Carnival. We have jobs that can be done right from your home!! Please drop us a note in our PTO mailbox (located in the front office) or contact a PTO Board member at howardelementarypto@gmail.com or 541-933-5336. The school Carnival is scheduled for June 9.

Carnival Isn't for You?? How about volunteering for the **Garage Sale** or **Car Show!** Contact PTO to find out more!

Be Good for a Sub

Substitute teachers are on the look-out for students exhibiting respectful and courteous behavior during their teacher's absence. The guest teacher is asked to record the names of those students who were especially helpful and responsible throughout the day. From this list of terrific students, one name is drawn to receive a free **mini pizza from Abby's, located on River Road**. Following are our most recent recipients of a Subway coupon: Antonia; room 13, Tegan and Brandon; room 3.

Daylight Savings Time

This year, daylight savings time starts on March 13. Remember to "spring forward" one hour on this date!



Handicap Parking ~ As you know, these spots are reserved for those visitors who have a handicapped parking designation. Even pulling in these spaces, for a quick turn around, has hindered our guests who really need them. Thank you for your continued consideration of others by not utilizing these specially marked parking spaces.



Second Annual Culinary Competition

On February 12, 4th and 5th graders from around the district judges during Eugene 4j's first annual Elementary Culinary Competition Adriana and Kara, both 5th graders from Howard, entered the competition. Both students presented healthy selections that included a Greek salad and ceviche. We are proud of Adriana and Kara and hope they continue sharing their culinary creativity with others! You can view some great pictures by visiting www.groshong.blogspot.com/.

Classroom WEBSITES: At Howard, every teacher hosts a classroom website chock full of information, updates, photos, resources, and more! By visiting our school's website (www.howardelementary.org) and going to staff directory, you can click on whichever site you'd like. Check it out!

Kindergarten Orientation ~ Tell Your Neighbors & Friends



Howard Elementary will be hosting its annual Kindergarten Orientation for all 2011-2012 kindergarten age children on Wednesday, April 27 from 9:30-10:45. If you have a kindergarten age child (5 by September 1, 2011) please join us for more information about our kindergarten program. Please share this invitation with a friend or neighbor who has a kindergarten age child and encourage them to attend. Exciting things are happening at Howard and it all starts in kindergarten.

Girls Rule

The 4th Annual **Girls Rule! Fair** happens March 12th from 9:00 – 3:00 at Lane Community College. **Girls Rule** is a great opportunity for girls ages 9- to 14 and a parent or caring adult to laugh, play and learn together. This year's theme is **Stronger Than You Know**. The event features a broad variety of workshop topics including crafts, self-defense, science & nature, relationships, dance and movement, body image, baking and many more. Entertainment including the SubPilots, an all-young girl rock band, lunch, and prizes are all part of the day. Free lunch and prizes! For more information go to <http://www.opheliasplace.net> or call [541-284-4335](tel:541-284-4335).



www.tracktownusayouth.com

School District 4J is among the 23 local partners making up the Youth Track Network. We will be providing information about free opportunities for 4J kids, including clinics and activities like these coming up soon:

RUN, JUMP, THROW CLINIC

March 19th @ Hayward Field for Ages 5-12
Registration: 10:15-10:45; Gate 8-9
Clinic: 11:00-12:30

Join professional Track and Field athletes & coaches from the Oregon Track Club Elite as well as UO athletes will conduct the clinic.

Snack, ribbons, athletic bib provided FREE!!

DATES TO REMEMBER

March

- 5 District School choice parent information meeting (9:00 district office)
- 8 PTO meeting (6:00)
- 9 Early dismissal (11:35KG/1:05)
- 11 NO SCHOOL: Howard Professional Development
- 14-18 OAKS Testing (Reading/Math Round 2)
- 14-18 School choice visitation week for families considering Howard next year
- 16 Early dismissal (11:35KG/1:05)
- 17 School choice presentation for **Howard Elementary** (6:30)
- 18 Student birthday lunches with Mrs. Price
- 21-27 NO SCHOOL: SPRING BREAK
- 28 NO SCHOOL: District professional development
- 29 Classes resume
- 29 Site council (2:30)

April

- 2 District School choice parent information meeting (9:00 district office)
- 4 Parent laptop training (8:15 Rm.12)
- 4 Lottery conducted
- 5 Lottery results to schools
- 6 Early dismissal (11:35KG/1:05)
- 8 Schools notify parents with lottery results
- 8-14 ELPA testing
- 12 PTO meeting (6:00)
- 13 Early dismissal (11:35KG/1:05)
- 14 Papa's Pizza Day @ Coburg Rd.
- 15 NO SCHOOL: Howard Professional Development
- 18 NO SCHOOL: Furlough day
- 20 Early dismissal (11:35KG/1:05)
- 22 Roadrunner assembly (8:15-8:45)
- 22 Deadline for school choice applications
- 25-29 Kindergarten registration week
- 25-29 Staff appreciation week
- 26 Site council (2:30)
- 27 Kindergarten Orientation (9:30-10:45)
- 27 Early dismissal (11:35KG/1:05)
- 29 Student birthday lunches with Mrs. Price

