



Liberty Elementary

Dec./Jan. 2019-20 Newsletter

From the Principal...

We are nearing the winter solstice, with chilly starts to our school days. Luckily we have been able to get out for recess and even see some sun in the afternoons. Will we have snow in December or January? Who knows. Let's just enjoy the holiday season! Whether you are staying close to home or traveling to visit friends and family during winter break, the Liberty staff wishes you the merriest of times.

Thank you for your support of the Scholastic book fair this fall and to our anonymous benefactor who donated \$250.00 toward books for students. Students purchased good reads for winter break, and our school gained books for the library and individual classrooms! Thank you, also, to our tireless volunteers who came early in the morning and late in the afternoon to be cashiers and book straighteners.

As we near the end of the semester, January 23rd, I want to stress the importance of regular attendance, including getting to school on time. For the primary grades, most reading instruction takes place first thing, so when students are late to school they miss some instruction and peer discussion time, which is so important for early literacy development. Additionally, missed days add up: When a student misses as few as two days a month, that's 10% of the school year. This increases the risk of academic and social-emotional struggles. (*learn more at Every-Day-Matters.org*) Of course, viruses are going around, students get sick and need to stay home, but if you are planning a vacation, please take care to do so during long weekends, winter/spring breaks, or the summer. Thank you for being a partner in your child's school success!

Thanks to volunteer Amy Huskey, Liberty PTC will continue the Wellness Presentation series January 9th and February 6th. Doctor Michelle Eckroth, a pediatrician at Heartsprings Wellness Center in North Albany, will share information about nutrition and its effect on learning and health. This is a two part series, so please join us both days for an hour of information, discussion, and delicious snacks. Children are welcome as well!

Thank you, families, for your generous support of the food and coin drive in November. Eleven of our Liberty families and FISH of Albany benefited, with a Thanksgiving dinner and extra food to last for a month or so. We had a record coin donation this year, with the Beavers surpassing the Ducks by \$175.00, for a total collection of \$512.00! We were able to buy ten pound turkeys, stuffing, rolls, and much more to support eleven food baskets.

Winter break lends itself well to spending quality time with friends and families. The days off also allows time to get some extra reading done. Whether it's a magazine, comic or picture book, time on text makes a difference in reading acquisition and literacy!

Happy holidays and we'll see you "next year", Monday, January 6th!

-Tracy

Liberty Elementary

2345 Liberty St. SW
Albany, OR 97321
541-967-4578

December

- 2-6 -Scholastic Book Fair
- 4 -**Early Release—2:25pm**
- 5 -Boys & Girl's Club CLOSED
-Liberty Singers performance—6:30pm
- 6 -Picture Retakes
- 7 -Nature Club—10am at William L. Finley
-Lego Tourney - at OSU
- 10 -Mattingly class field trip to Monteith Park—1-2pm
- 9-20 -Water Awareness for 3rd-5th grades
- 11 -**Early Release—2:25pm**
- 13 -Kindergarten field trip to Storybook Land—9-11am
- 16 -Character Awards for Responsibility—8:45am
- 18 -**Early Release—2:25pm**
- 20 -Holiday parties and Dress-up day (Assembly at 2:25)
- 23-Jan. 3 -**NO SCHOOL/Winter Break**

January

- 8 -**Early Release—2:25pm**
- 9 -PTC Wellness Presentation (Nutrition) - 6pm
- 11 -Nature Club—10am at TBA
- 14 -PTC Meeting—6:30pm
- 15 -**Early Release—2:25pm**
- 20 -**NO SCHOOL/MLK Jr. Day**
- 22 -**Early Release—2:25pm**
- 23 -End of Semester
-AR Deadline
-3-5th Music Performance
- 24 -**NO SCHOOL/Grading**
- 27 -**NO SCHOOL/Grading**
- 29 -**Early Release—2:25pm**

Liberty Web Page

<http://www.albany.k12.or.us/>

Liberty/

Staff e-mail:

first.lastname@albany.k12.or.us

Office Hours School Hours

8:10-4:00 pm 8:50-3:25pm

Grades K-5

WEDNESDAY EARLY RELEASE—2:25 PM

Supervision begins at 8:35am

A message from our District Office about transfers:

2019-20 second semester transfer window opened Nov. 15th and closes at 12:00 pm on Dec. 31st. They will be processed by the district office January 6-17th. If you are interested please go to <http://albany.k12.or.us>, click on the "Parents tab" and look for "Transfer Requests" under the "Information" column. This is where you will find the online application and a timeline of the approval process. If you have questions you are welcome to call the district office at [541-967-4515](tel:541-967-4515).

School Supply Stock-Up

Sometimes at the midway point of the school year a student's school supplies can run low. Now is a good time to check in with your child and see if there are any supplies needed to get them through the rest of the year. It's also a great idea to check in with the teacher to ask about classroom supplies needed as well.

Second Semester

January 23rd marks the end of the first semester and the start of the second. Report cards will be sent home with students by January 31st.

All kids will participate in mandatory reading testing (DIBELS) from January 13-17th. Please schedule appointments and vacations accordingly to help all kids get tested.

Winter Music Program

Mr. Herb will be leading the 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students in a winter music program on January 23rd. Students should be dropped off at 6:15pm with the performance starting at 6:30pm. Look for a PeachJar flyer the week of the performance for more information.

PTC Wellness Presentation

Liberty PTC will continue the Wellness Presentation series January 9th and February 6th. Doctor Michelle Eckroth will share information about nutrition and its effect on learning and health. This is a two part series. Children welcome and snacks provided. Starts at 6pm.

From PTC

Coin Drive

Our Holiday Civil War Coin Drive was a huge success in November (Beavers "won")! **The students raised \$512.19 and 11 Liberty families received Thanksgiving meals.** Thank you all for your generosity and support!

Canned Food Drive

November was also the annual canned food drive. **699 items were donated!** Mrs. Pierce's class brought in the most amount of food at 102 items. The food was boxed up by volunteers and were donated to families during Thanksgiving break.

Thank you! We appreciate all of the donations that made these purchases possible.

No PTC Meeting in December

The next meeting will be **Tuesday, January 14th at 6:30 p.m.** We hope to see you there!

Liberty PTC Leadership

President, Jenissa Phillips
jenissa.phillips@yahoo.com

Vice-President, Tichelle Staten

Treasurer, Jana Pierce
janapierce@gmail.com

Secretary, Stephani Simon
chrisandstephani@comcast.net

PTC Meetings every second Tuesday at 6:30pm in the Cafeteria:

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| January 14th | March 10th |
| February 11th | April 14th |

SAVE THE DATE

December 2-6th in North End of Gym

Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Liberty

All students & teachers can create "Wish Lists" on Monday, December 2nd when classes visit the Book Fair. "Wish Lists" can be viewed by parents for possible gift purchases. All online orders will be shipped to the school for free.

The Book Fair will be open to students and families purchasing items:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday—8:15-8:45am and 3:20-3:50pm

Wednesday 8:15-8:45am and 2:20-2:50pm

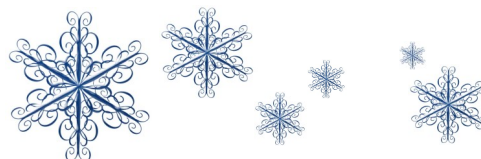
Friday-8:15-8:45am only

Special hours on Thursday, December 5th from 6:00pm until 1/2 hour after Liberty Singers performance ends.

Encourage & support literacy with the gift of a book!
All books purchased = **NEW** classroom materials supporting the C.C.S.S (Common Core State Standard) of increasing the amount of informational text students read K-12 to better prepare them to read college and career-ready texts.

Liberty Elementary School

541-967-4878
2349 Liberty St SW
<http://www.albany.k12.or.us/liberty/>



Lost & Found

Our lost and found is getting very full. Please be sure to have your student check items in the lost and found located in the cafeteria. We also have a lost and found in the office for small items like glasses and jewelry.

All unclaimed items will be donated to charity during the winter break!

Keeping Warm and Dry

Liberty kids play outside for recess, even in the cold weather. Please make sure your child has a warm winter coat as well as gloves and hat on especially blustery days. Please let the office know if this is a hardship and we will do our best to help. Another thing to consider is having an extra set of clothes in their backpack in case of falling in the mud/water.

Health Considerations:

Children who have a fever or who are not feeling well should remain at home. Students who have a temperature of 100.5 degrees or higher, and/or vomiting, and/or diarrhea should stay home and will be sent home. They should remain home for at least 24 hours past the last occurrence of vomiting, diarrhea, or fever without the use of fever reducing medicine. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping Liberty healthy!



Water Awareness

3rd, 4th and 5th grade students will get to participate in free swimming/water awareness lessons December 9th-20th. On your child's water awareness day please send them with their swimsuit, a towel and a plastic/waterproof bag.

The schedule will be as following:

9:30-11am—4th grade

10:30-12pm—5th grade

12:45-2:15pm—3rd grade

Please keep these times in mind when making appointments. No water awareness Dec. 11th and 18th.

Holiday Classroom Celebrations

The last day of school before winter break is December 21st. Each teacher will hold a class celebration that week, and will send information, with specifics, home with students within the next couple of weeks. Teachers/room parent will contact volunteers, so please do not send any treats if you did not receive a message. Be sure to check with the classroom teacher to see if there are any food allergies to consider before bringing treats. Food must be store bought. Thank you so much for your generosity and willingness to help!



Dress Like an Elf/Santa/Reindeer or Holiday Attire Day December 20th

Liberty students, let's celebrate the holidays! This is your chance to dress like your favorite elf, Santa, reindeer or dress in holiday attire. Liberty will have a holiday assembly in the cafeteria on December 20th at 2:25pm. Parents are welcome to attend the assembly, but please be sure to check in at the table in front hall before going into the cafeteria. Seating is very limited. Classroom parties will be before the assembly. Times for parties will vary, but will be after lunch. Because class parties will be earlier in the day, parents will need to wait in the lobby until the start of the party. Teachers will give the office lists of parents that can come in earlier for set-up.





GREATER ALBANY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



November 27, 2019

Dear Parents:

Sometimes we have to close school, delay the start of school, or release early because of bad weather. This is the annual reminder of procedures for school closures or schedule changes due to inclement weather.

When the decision has been made to close school or delay the start, we rely on local radio and television stations for notifications. Closure and delayed start information will ordinarily be broadcast by 6:30 a.m. Closure information will also be posted on the district website at www.albany.k12.or.us.

Our district subscribes to FlashAlert. This service forwards school closure information to local radio and television stations. Staff, parents, or community members wishing to receive these notices directly can register at <http://www.flashalert.net/news.html?id=879>. Notifications will be sent to you via email. For those of you with tablets or smart phones, you can receive messages by downloading the FlashAlert Messenger app. This app is available on Google Play or the iTunes app store. There are no costs to the recipients for using the email or app notifications. You may want to login to your FlashAlert account now to make sure your contact information is up to date.

All addresses registered on FlashAlert will remain confidential. Subscribers should be aware that some email spam filters can prevent messages from being received.

Below are some of the radio and television stations who will be notified of school closures:

Radio Stations

KFLY FM 101.5
KGAL AM 1580
KLOO AM 1340, KLOO FM 106.3
KOOL FM 99.1
KRKT FM 99.9
KSND FM 95.1 (Español) KWBY
AM 940 (Español)

TV Stations

KATU Chan 2
KEZI Chan 9
KGW Chan 8
KLSR Chan 34 Emergency
KMTR Chan 16
KOIN Chan 6
KVAL Chan 13

FM Radio Stations:

KEHK FM 102.3
KFLY FM 101.5
KKNU FM 93.3
KLOO FM 106.3
KOOL FM 99.1
KRKT FM 99.9
KSND FM 95.1 (Spanish)

AM Radio Stations:

KFIR AM 720
KGAL AM 1580
KLOO AM 1340
KSHO AM 920
KWBY AM 940 (Spanish)

Television Stations:

KATU Chan 2
KEZI Chan 9
KGW Chan 8
KLSR Chan 34
KMTR Chan 16
KOIN Chan 6
KVAL Chan 13

**The television channel may vary according to listening area.*

If inclement days are needed, Presidents' Day in February and the week after school is out in June are usually designated inclement weather make-up days.

If you have questions about the procedures summarized above, please contact the school or contact the District Office at 541-967-4501.