



Bridger News



January 7, 2009



From the Principal

Dear Bridger Families,

We are glad to have all our students back at school after December's bout of snow kept many families home for an extended period of time. Now it is time to get back to work on the business of educating our children. This month, Bridger staff will be pursuing strategies for English Language Learners (ELL). The Oregon Department of Education will be conducting a district-wide audit of ELL programs. At Bridger we will look at how English Language Learners are taught and examine data that will help them improve their literacy skills.

A second important project on my calendar for January is to work on "a day in the life of a Kindergartener," in preparation for February's Kindergarten Roundup. I will be taking pictures in the Kindergarten classrooms and talking with students about their "day." I'll be gathering important information to share with families of incoming students as they make their decisions about schools for their children. I'm looking forward to getting to know our youngest students much better as part of this process.

Best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.

Tina Daily
Principal

Important Dates to Remember in January:

- **Jan. 13—PTA Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Library**
- **Jan. 16—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Assembly, 9:00 a.m.**
- **Jan. 19—NO SCHOOL, Martin Luther King, Jr., Day**
- **Jan. 22—Bring Dad to School Night, sponsored by PTA, 6:30 p.m.**
- **Jan. 23—Lottery process begins for High School students for 2009-2010.**
- **Jan. 24—Water Garden work party, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**
- **Jan 27—Site Council, 3:15 p.m.**
- **Jan. 27—Med-Term Progress Reports for middle school**
- **Jan. 28—MESD vision, hearing and dental screening for Grades K, 1, 3, 5, 7.**
- **Jan. 29—K-2 Literacy Night, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Library**
- **Jan. 30—Lottery process begins for Elementary and Middle School students**
- **Jan. 30—NO SCHOOL, Professional Development Day**

K-2 Literacy Night!



Join Bridger families for another in the series of Literacy Nights on Thursday, January 29th, in the Bridger Library. Learn Make and Take activities you can do with your child to help him or her improve literacy skills. Please bring your children! This is a family event for students in Kindergarten, First and Second grades. Childcare will be provided for siblings. Dinner will be provided for all! Call the Bridger Office for more information.



Families are welcome at Bridger's Martin Luther King Jr. Assembly!

Friday, Jan. 16, 9 a.m.
Bridger Cafeteria

What is the PTA Cookin' Up Now?



A Bridger School International Cookbook is in the works by the Bridger PTA. The PTA hopes Bridger families will send in their traditional family recipes for publication in the cookbook later this spring. The PTA would like families to include a short paragraph about why the recipe is special. And don't forget to include your child's name and their

teacher's name.

Please send your recipe to bridgerpta@gmail.com or call Romanna Flores at 503-740-3712 or Kris Calvert at 503-287-5730. You may also submit the recipe to your child's teacher. The new deadline for submitting a recipe is January 16th.

Kindergarten Roundup Immersion Info Nights Coming in February

Do you have an incoming Kindergartener? Do you know someone who is interested in Bridger's Spanish Immersion Program. Please let your friends know that Kindergarten Roundup and Spanish Immersion Information Nights are coming up soon. The schedule follows:

February 12—Kindergarten Roundup, 6:30 p.m., Library

February 19—Spanish Immersion Information Night,
6:30 p.m., Library

February 26, March 5, March 12—Immersion Program Tours,
Please contact school for times.

March 19—Last Spanish Immersion Information Night,
6:30 p.m. Library

School Choice Information Available on PPS Website

Families in the Portland Public School District will soon begin the process of choosing a school for their students in 2009-2010. Information about schools is available on the PPS website as follows: From the main District page (www.pps.k12.or.us), click "Schools" on the left hand menu and you will find a redesigned gateway page with general school information and address look-up features. From that page, families can also click on a new page called "Explore", that offers an introduction and links to numerous services and school options. The transfer and registration pages have been updated to match this new look and feel. The main content on all these pages has been translated into Spanish, Russian and Chinese, with Vietnamese coming soon. See the table below for important dates.

Key Dates	Times	School Choice Transfer Cycle for 2009-10
1-23-09	8:00 am	High School application window opens
1-30-09	8:00 am	Elementary/Middle School application window opens
2-27-09	5:00 pm	High School application window closes
3-13-09	5:00 pm	Elementary/Middle School application closes

Drive east on Market Street



Due to traffic congestion at the end of the school day, drivers are requested to drive EAST ONLY on SE Market Street between the hours of 2:45 p.m. and 3:15 p.m.

NO SCHOOL!

Monday, Jan. 19

(Martin Luther King Jr. Day)

Friday, Jan. 30

(Professional Development Day)

Game Night with Dad January 22 at 6:30 p.m.

What games do you and your dad like to play? Monopoly, Sorry, Dominoes, *Mah Jong*, Battleship? Or do you prefer cards – Uno, Speed, Go Fish? Maybe you shoot hoops together. Come back to Bridger School on January 22nd and meet other cool dads for a night of math games, board games and more. Show off your dad and have fun doing it!

Students must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian for this event. Refreshments will be sold by Student Council.



Notes from the
Music Room

Happy New Year!! And best wishes for a harmonious 2009.

While the weather conspired against our evening performance of our Winter Concert, we did manage to have a wonderful afternoon program for the students themselves. I believe that it is especially important for young musicians to see and hear each other as a source of inspiration. And a very special thank you to all the parents who managed to get to our afternoon show. Your support is amazing.

Next up for our music program is an assembly honoring Martin Luther King Jr. on January 16th at 9:00 a.m. Students in kindergarten through grade 5, plus Vocal Project will be performing a selection of pieces highlighting the importance of the contributions of this very special man. We would love it if you could join us.

Erica Lindgren
Music Specialist