Notes from the Office

Spring has surely arrived at Willow Wind! The campus looks lush and green. Many of the fruit trees are blossoming, bulbs are sprouting up and the garden looks neat and full of tiny spring plants. We can always use garden help this time of year, so if you feel like getting your hands in the dirt, please contact Andy and he can direct you to a job.

By the time you receive this newsletter, it will almost be time for our annual May Day Celebration. This is always a wonderful event, and I hope to see you all there. Our final community event of the year, The Passport to Learning, will be coming up at the end of the month. This will be an exciting culmination of our efforts. It is our new end of the year celebration and will be held here at Willow Wind—family picnic, presentations, displays of work and performances. We will also get our first look at the new yearbook. Join us for this wonderful evening on our beautiful campus.

It is hard to believe that summer is almost here. Both the fall and spring sessions went by quickly, and here we are again getting ready for next year. I would like to thank everyone who has helped make this year a wonderful experience for children and adults alike.

Debbie

Calendar of Events
April 29-May 3
Express Interest in Fall Classes

May 1
May Day Celebration 11:45-2:15
Fun Run—2:15-2:45

May 6-10
June Workshop Arena Registration

May 14
Parent Council 2:30-3:45pm

May 17
Pizza Friday

May 21
Spring Concert
7:30 at Mountain Ave. Theater

May 24
District Track Meet
4th & 5th Graders

May 27
NO CLASSES—Memorial Day

May 30
Passport to Learning Celebration
MAY DAY CELEBRATION AND FIELD DAY FUN

May 1, 2013—11:45-2:15pm
May Day Fun Run—2:15pm

MAY CROWNS, PICNIC, MAYPOLE DANCING, GAMES, AND CRAFTS. Join us on the back porch and lawn as we gather to picnic and make May crowns at 11:45. At 12:30pm, the May Dance will begin and when it is over, we will have crafts, face painting and games. New this year, a May Day Fun Run will begin at 2:15. Plan to join us for this wonderful community event.

All Wednesday afternoon classes will be cancelled, so everyone can participate in the celebration. Volunteers are still needed for the field day games, craft booths, May crowns, and clean up crew. Please call Debbie if you can help. This counts toward family service hours.

We also need FLOWERS! Please bring flowers from your yard and extras to share! Don’t forget to bring a picnic lunch plates, napkins, utensils, and water bottles.

FAMILY SERVICE

Please remember that family service hours need to be completed for fall registration. Volunteers are needed for May Day. Please contact the office for more information or to check the hours you currently have on file.

JUNE WORKSHOP ARENA REGISTRATION

May 6—10

Willow Wind will be offering five days of fun workshops beginning on Monday, June 3 and continuing through Friday, June 7. Descriptions of the workshops are included in this newsletter. Please remember that workshops are a required part of our curriculum for full-time students. All Debut students will be registered in the Summer Fun workshop. Kinder families do not need to come to registration.

Sign-ups will begin on Monday, May 6 at 8:30am in the Administrative Office/Resource Room. Registration forms will not be mailed. Families will receive a mailed confirmation for the classes selected at registration.

IMPORTANT NOTES: Sign-ups are on a first-come, first-served basis. There will be no waiting lists for workshops. Please make sure scheduling overlaps do not occur. Students must meet the age requirement for the workshops they are requesting.

LOST & FOUND

The Lost & Found has reached maximum capacity! Coats, clothes, hats, water bottles, books, and many other abandoned items from the classrooms and the playground are piling up.

Take the time to visit the Lost & Found, located on the back porch, to claim lost or forgotten items that belong to your child. Any unclaimed items will be removed and donated at the end of the term.
FALL 2013 COURSES
We need your help!

Tell us which of the proposed classes you’d like to see offered for the Fall 2013 semester. Come to the office April 29—May 3, read over the proposals and sign each of your students’ names on the back of 10 proposals you are interested in. This information is passed on to the Course Selection Committee so they know how much interest there is for each proposal.

This process is designed to find out what you, the community, want. Without your involvement in the process, we don’t have clear priorities. Willow Wind is here to serve your needs and interests as much as possible, but first, we need to hear from you!

APRIL 29-MAY 3: Families express interest in proposals
MAY 23: Mail Fall Schedules (We hope!)
JUNE 4: Fall Registrations Due

PASSPORT TO LEARNING CELEBRATION
May 30—5:00pm—Willow Wind

Let’s Celebrate! Our final community event of this year will be an exciting culmination of our efforts. We will gather to celebrate the completion of another year. Bring a picnic dinner and plan to visit classroom displays, attend performances and hear presentations. Our students moving on to high school will be honored and you will have a chance to say good-bye to them as they get ready to continue their education at the high school. Yearbooks will be distributed at this event. Please let the office know if you are able to help with set up or clean up.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION EVENING SYMPOSIUM:
Tuesday, June 4—6:30pm—WW Barn

Please join us for an evening with Lorraine Cook, educator, OHSU Nursing Counselor and facilitator of the Awakening the Dreamer: Changing the Dream Symposium. Lorraine offers a multimedia interactive presentation which looks at the possibility of bringing forth an environmentally sustainable, and socially just human presence on Earth. During the evening we will explore: Where are we now? How did we get here? What is possible? Where do we go from here? Videos, storytelling, interactive processes, and discussion will be followed by an opportunity to talk with Lorraine and each other about how we can inspire our community and in particular, our children, to engage in conversations and actions that initiate meaningful change in our world.

Willow Wind uses the tenets of education for sustainability as a lens for all of our educational activities. This is a chance for parents and community members to come together and learn more about how to have a positive impact on the world.

DISTRICT TRACK MEET FOR 4th & 5th GRADE
May 24—AHS Track

All Willow Wind students in the 4th or 5th grade are invited to participate in the all district track meet on May 24. We will be holding several practices at Helman School and at Lunch Bunch at Willow Wind. Details will be provided to all students in this age group. We also need some parents to come, cheer the kids on, and provide snacks, drinks, shade, and support. Please contact Sue or Robin if you can help!!
Willow Wind Families,

Eliza and Yuki are doing a school project for Head Start kids who need young children’s books and school supplies. The donation box will be in the lobby outside of the office. Please donate by May 8th.

Thank you!
Eliza and Yuki, Robin’s Class

Garbage Bags Needed for Bear Creek Cleanup

Please donate in the Willow Wind office.

Your garbage bags will help cleanup bear creek!
This project is organized by 4th grader Chiron Martini.
Donations will be collected on 4/30
The Honeybees and Firecracker core classes have come together to create a service project to benefit homeless youth in Ashland. Some of the students shared their thoughts about the service project:

Help the People in Need by Mazzy
Some people are losing their jobs. Some people don’t even have jobs. If you care about people, then give them food. This is a first and second grader project. Help the people in need. Please, some people need your help. We are depending on you. Please buy things for them, do anything for these people. This is good for everybody. Follow your heart. These people need you. If you don’t help, these people will get poorer and poorer. We need non-perishable foods and hygiene items and boxes of food, toothpaste, and shampoo. Help these homeless people in Ashland Schools.

Help Our School by Daisy and Harmony
Homeless children need your help, can you bring in these items:
- Canned Food
- Toothbrushes
- Large bottles of shampoo
- Peanut Butter

We need your help to help our school community. First and second graders will be doing this project. Please give us food to help our friends! We need you to help us. People need your help! Please do this for our hearts, parents. We depend on you! Thank you for your help, Willow Wind.

Save the Families by Kai and Leo
Me and my best friend’s class are trying to help save Ashland families in need. We are collecting non-perishable foods. We also would appreciate soap, toothpaste, lotion, etc. If you donate you get the gift of knowing that you helped Ashland families in need in the Ashland School District.
MAY PERFORMANCES

WILLOW WIND SPRING CONCERT!
Presents - AROUND THE WORLD WITH WILLOW WIND
Tuesday, May 21 at 7:30 pm—Mountain Ave. Theater (located at Ashland High School)
Donation—$5.00 (Family Rate Available) - Tickets sold at the door.
Refreshments sold during intermission.
We are gearing up for our annual BIG performing arts production. Over 100 talented Willow Wind students from dance, singing and drumming classes will perform with costumes and lights on the big stage. Don’t miss this entertaining and amazing show.

Parent volunteers needed to sell refreshments and take tickets at the door for the spring concert at the high school. Please let Christine know if you want to help.

WILLOW WIND MIDDLE SCHOOL PLAY
The middle school Ensemble acting class presents
ALICE – A creative adaptation of Alice in Wonderland.
Monday, May 13 at 7:00 pm—Willow Wind Barn
Tuesday, May 14 at 7:00 pm—Willow Wind Barn
Donation—$3.00—Tickets at the door. (The play lasts just under an hour)
Come and see The Mad Hatter, The Queen of Hearts, The White Rabbit and all the other characters you know from the classic tale of Alice in Wonderland. And we will have new stage lights in the barn!

READER’S THEATRE - presents five short plays!
Click, Clack, Moo, Piggie Pie, The Fish Tank, A Bad Case of the Stripes, and Duck for President
Monday, May 13 at 2:00pm in the Family Room

OUT OF THE BOX (A Story of Pandora)
Two performances: Thursdays, May 23 and 30 at 11:00am in The Barn

THE ANANSI STORIES (Spider Tales)
Two performances: Tuesdays May 21 and 28, at 2:00pm in The Barn

IMPROV FOR TEENS: Come see some great improv!
Thursday, May 23 at 9:30am (BYOC = bring your own coffee)

CREATIVE IMPROV
Thursday, May 23 at 12:45pm in the Barn
Singing Station Performance
May 15 in the Red Barn at Willow Wind.
The talented voices and songwriting skills of Singing Station will be featured in a concert on campus in the Red Barn on Wednesday, May 15 at 7:00pm.

Doors open at 6:30pm for general seating.

Come support your fellow students who put the BLING in SING!!!

You will hear tunes ranging in style and staging, including "Touch the Sky" from the film Brave, "Singing Station" by Tish McFadden, the "Solfége Song" in 3-parts, "All I Want Is You" from the film Juno, "Fly Like An Eagle" by Steve Miller, and much more. A highlight of this evening is the original songs you will hear, penned by singers in this class.

Please bring non-perishable food items in lieu of a ticket, which will be collected at the door for the Ashland Food Project.

Catch the Singing Station again on Tuesday, May 21st in the Spring Concert at Mountain Avenue Theater.

Notes from the Garden and Farm Stand

Spring is here (at least the calendar says so). The Willow Wind garden is in full swing with spring veggies spreading their leaves and promising salads and snacks galore. We have enjoyed bountiful spring, summer, and fall harvests the past couple of years. This year is shaping up to be another boomer year of production.

In order to make the most of our school garden, we have begun selling some of our produce, flowers, and crafts through our small school business known as “Farm Stand.” Farm Stand has allowed us to look at gardening practices not only through the eyes of gardeners but also as business people. Each year this class grows in both numbers of students and how we approach our small farm stand business. As we continue to grow and market the bounty from our garden, a goal is to actually build a Farm Stand booth. Look for it in the Fall.

Please stop and visit Farm Stand this spring. Our hours of business will be every Monday beginning April 22nd through June 3rd, 1:00-2:30. We look forward to seeing you.
COMMUNITY DAY!