

THE EAGLE EXPRESS

PARK ACADEMY

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Paula Kinney

Dear Families,
It's so good to see everyone back to school safe and healthy. It was a little lonely working over the holiday without hearing the "sounds" of talking and laughter coming from the voices of our students. Now I realize why I came out of retirement. Every day

with students is a holiday for me!

I want to personally welcome our two new students Lucas Williams and Helena Hill and their families to Park Academy as well as welcome our returning student, Joslin Weathers. Lucas is coming to us from St. Anthony's and Helena is coming to us from Metropolitan Learning Center. Joslin and her family are a real asset to our school and we are honored that she has returned.

We know how busy parents are with their jobs and families; however, we would welcome ideas on how we can build parent momentum around supporting the school, not only with raising funds but also in ways for families to make connections with each other. In addition, we would like to start thinking about providing after school opportunities for our students and would love to receive ideas from all regarding areas that may be of interest to students. I feel that young

people make a real connection to school when they can also become involved in school "outside" of the classroom. Please contact me if you have ideas or suggestions.

We are so grateful for the wonderful responses that we have been receiving from our donation letters that were sent out prior to the holiday. It is heartwarming to know that people in our community, who do not have students at our school, are supporting us by making financial donations. Thank you to all who sent out donation letters to friends and families. We want to be able to serve students, who would benefit from our program, meet our criteria, and are in need of financial support. These donations will go directly into our scholarship fund.

Lastly, I am pleased to report that we received the highest rating of "Approved" by the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools. We are committed to continue to improve and serve students at the highest level by preparing them to excel and be prepared for postsecondary education, while at the same time instill in each student a love of learning. Please know that I appreciate your recommendations and feedback in helping us attain our goal.

Sincerely,

Paula Kinney, Director



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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Jan 7th Students return to school
- Jan 9th Lunch orders due
- Jan 11th Scrip due
- Jan. 21st Holiday MLK Jr. Day
- Jan. 22nd Professional Development No School for Students

WINTER WEATHER REMINDER

If we are having inclement weather Park Academy will follow the Lake Oswego School District's decision on late starts or closures. **Please check your local news stations about school closures on any morning we have ice or snow. Stay warm and safe.**

WELCOME CHRIS MORRISON

Mr. Morrison is teaching High School Language Arts and Middle and High School Social Science. We are all very happy to welcome Mr. Morrison to Park Academy!

PA PERFORMING ARTS NIGHT

On January 31st Park Academy will hold a Performing Arts Night!

Mark your calendars, more information to follow.

REMINDERS TO STUDENTS

- Jan. 7th Classes resume
- Jan 9th Lunch orders due
- Jan. 21st Holiday MLK Jr. Day
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PARENT TOURS

Word of mouth has been our most powerful method for recruiting new students. We welcome referrals and applications are being accepted at all grade levels. If you have relatives, neighbors, or friends from sports clubs, camps, work, activities, temple, or church who might be interested in attending Park Academy please direct them to the Park Academy website www.parkacademy.org or have them call Hannah Fener at 503-697-6213.

Park Academy will be hosting tours for new families interested in our program.

Dates for Parent Tours are:

Jan 9th & 23rd, Feb 6th & 27th and March 12th. New families will have an opportunity to hear about the program, and visit classrooms. Tours will start at 9:00am and end at 10:00am.

NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOM

Elementary students have been designing geometric paper houses, buildings and trees for a winter village. Our sleigh has an electronic detector that identifies "good" children for a Santa visit. Our work with cubes, rectangular prisms and pyramids is part of our math curriculum.

Our big project has been a group story told with five distinct characters ranging from a boy who lives underground, a man who is always grumpy, a dog who uses a wheelchair, a boy who likes to eat worms, and an inventor. Their first meeting is in a city park. ... to be continued....

The elementary and middle school classes are beginning instruction with a rhythm band. So, parents if you see your student tapping on things that could mean he/she is practicing!

Middle School is working on "outlines" for notes, stories and speeches. Middle School Math: Now introducing Geometry! Science: Atoms, molecules, matter! The way the world works and how to intuitively understand it.

High School Math: Algebra all across the board, basic computations to more difficult challenges... Science: Now discovering the human body! Anatomy, Human Physiology... how we work!

Music: The Dyslexics of Roll and Rock have now started the official band and are in the process of gaining skills and writing songs.

PARENTS RESOURCES

The **OR**egon **B**ranch of the International **D**yslexia **A**ssociation (**ORBIDA**) focuses on increasing public awareness of how dyslexia affects both children and adults.

<http://www.orbida.org/>

Oregon PTI is the statewide parent training and information center serving parents of children with disabilities. Our goal is to educate and support parents, families and professionals in building partnerships that meet the needs of children and youth with the full range of disabilities ages birth to 26. We are a regionalized model with staff living in the area that they serve.

<http://www.orpti.org/index.htm>

CONGRATULATIONS

Mrs. O'Connar received a grant from the Toshiba America Foundation for the implementation of the "World Weather Watchers" project. Great job, congratulations Mrs. O'Connar!

FUNDRAISERS

Plan ahead for **SCRIP!**

Grocery shopping, gifts, or home improvements. All money goes toward Park Academy field trips!

The middle school class collected \$50.00 in pennies. This was matched by an anonymous donor so we were able to help towards the purchase of a farm that was at the end of the Children's Eternal Rainforest in Monteverde, Costa Rica. We want to thank all of you who contributed.

CHECK OUT NPR

Cut/copy and paste/insert the address below to listen to.

"Does Dyslexia Translate to Business Success?"

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=17611066&sc=emaf>