

September News

South Columbia Family School

Volume 8, Issue 1



School Back in Full Swing

Welcome back to another year with the South Columbia Family School's Orcas. The school is full, with waiting lists for many grades. This is positive for the school's budget.

The summer was not uneventful, with both tutoring and summer camps being very positive. Both were well-attended by our students.

The only negative aspect of the summer was the necessity to replace our HVAC system on the north side of the building at a cost of \$17,000. However, the job was completed just prior to the opening of school, so we should be thankful for that.

The campus of Warren Elementary is different this year, with the elementary school switching to just a kindergarten and pre-school, along with Head Start. This gives us a lot of "little ones" on the campus which changes both the atmosphere and the availability of certain areas. Plus, Warren will soon begin (late October or early November) their after-school program which will run from 3:00—6:00.

Parking and release times seem to be working efficiently at this time, so the start and stop times for SCFS will remain the same.

Principal Brown presented to the Scappoose School Board with the yearly up-

date on September 9. The Scappoose District continues to support our charter school.

During this year, the five-year contract with the school district must be renewed which requires some adjustments due to changes in the law or situations specific to the district and school. However, those changes will be minimal so the process should be easy.

The Integrated Plan (Student Investment Account, Early Literacy, and other grants) must be renewed this year. This is a long process, so we may have some meetings or surveys from parents on certain areas.

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Special points of interest:

- October 16 Pumpkin Patch
- November 6 Reptile Man at SCFS
- November 12 Picture Day
- November 14 Game Night
- December 12 Picture Make-Up Day

Upcoming Events

Along with our popular ice cream social, we will be offering some wonderful future events, provided both by the school and the Parent-Teacher Organization.

In October, families are invited to the Pumpkin Patch on Sauvie Island. There, each SCFS student will receive a pumpkin from the school. You will receive a flyer on the specifics.

Also, in October, the staff will be

going to Powell's Books to purchase books for our students. If your child has a specific book he/she would like to read, let the teacher know.

In November, we will host the Reptile Man at SCFS. This is strictly for SCFS students due to lack of space at our school.

Picture days will be in November and December.

See "Points of Interest"



The ice cream social was held at Miller Park on September 11.

Ongoing Health Issues

As we approach the fall and winter seasons, it is always important to remind us that there are bacteria and viruses out there, waiting to harm us.

Measles continues to be of a concern in education since the vaccination rates are low (our school has a full vaccination rate of less than 70%).

Of course, COVID still raises its ugly head with a threat of new variances and their impacts. We have already had staff and students impacted during this school year. Free COVID tests may be requested at:

<https://covidtests.gov/>

One of the most intriguing new challenge in the medical field has been a resurgence of whooping cough in the state. Portland State University actually had to cancel a football game due to an outbreak. Whooping cough (pertussis) can have a large impact on younger children as can measles.

So, this is just a reminder to keep your children home when they do not feel well. Otherwise, we will have to send them home.

Keep well.

Measles IT ISN'T JUST A LITTLE RASH

MEASLES SYMPTOMS TYPICALLY INCLUDE

- High fever (may spike to more than 104° F)
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red, watery eyes
- Rash breaks out 3-5 days after symptoms begin

Measles can be dangerous, especially for babies and young children.

Measles Can Be Serious

- About 1 out of 4 people who get measles will be hospitalized.
- 1 out of every 1,000 people with measles will develop brain swelling due to infection (encephalitis), which may lead to brain damage.
- 1 or 2 out of 1,000 people with measles will die, even with the best care.

You have the power to protect your child. Provide your children with safe and long-lasting protection against measles by making sure they get the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine according to CDC's recommended immunization schedule.

[WWW.CDC.GOV/MEASLES](http://www.cdc.gov/measles)

CDC American Academy of Pediatrics AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

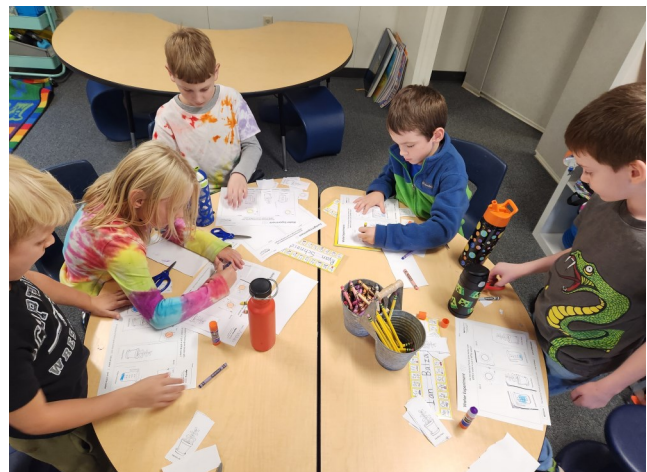
Kindergarten

In kindergarten, we have been getting to know each other, working on a name art project and fall leaves.



Grades 1-2

In First and Second grade, students have been experimenting with plant needs for sunlight and water. They also did a name art project.



Grades 3-5

Grades Three, Four, and Five we have been working on CK sound in words and whether to use CK or K in writing.

In science, we are working on whether seeds can grow without soil, specifically in a baggie with moisture. Time will tell.

Students have been working on what they are thankful for in their self-awareness.



Grades 6-8

In class we have been working on cellular respiration, prefixes and suffixes, as well as team building. We are about to transition into our bridge building unit.



SCFS Successes

SCFS continued to do well on state tests and other measures of school success. Since our school retains its small population, it is easier to provide individualized education for more.

Our English/Language Arts scores have always exceeded state average by a significant amount. The same is true of our math scores, but not as high of a difference as Language Arts.

Attendance at our school continues to exceed state averages. More details will be forthcoming when we can give specifics to families.

Students of the Month



Grades 3-5 —**Danielle Jesse** for being such a serious student and a good friend to others. She is also a peace-keeper and has a calming influence on classmates.

Students of the Month are chosen by the individual teachers in their cohorts.

They may be awarded on the basis of academic achievement, behavior, improvement, or being a good friend to others.

Kindergarten: **Ingrid Jensen** is so eager to come to school and complete her schoolwork at home.

Grades 6-8: **Zoey Ogburn** has come out from summer “swinging for the fences.” She has grown so much over the summer.

No student can repeat being the Student of the Month during the calendar year.

Grade 1-2: **Sidney Ladbury** has been thoughtful and puts in lots of effort in all things she is doing.



Ice Cream Social was well attended. 9-Square was a big success.