



Muddy Creek Charter School is a rural public school dedicated to the integration of an outstanding academic program with its community – the land and its people. We offer a joyful and creative educational experience where engaged students practice the skills they will need to be effective citizens and stewards in the future. Muddy Creek Charter School will serve as a model for preserving schools in rural communities

April 19, 2013

Upcoming Events

April 23rd

Mr. Day's Class trip to Library

April 24th

All School Meeting

April 25th

Scrip Table, 2:45 pm

April 26th

Last day to Drop-off Rummage Sale donations.

Scrip Table & Farm Stand

April 27th

Rummage Sale

May 1st

All School Meeting

May 3rd

Scrip Table & Farm Stand

May 6-10th

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week

May 7th

PTO Meeting, 8:30am in Gym

May 9th

4H Wildlife Stewards Summit

Garden Committee, 2pm

ICP Board Meeting, 7pm

May 17-19th

Footwise donations to Corvallis schools

June 12th

5th Grade Graduation

Last Day of School

Muddy Creek's enrollment will stay about the same next year, but the classroom configuration will look different from previous years. We will have one Kindergarten class, two 1/2 classes, one 3/4 class, and one 4/5 class. We are happy to announce that a decision has been made about staffing. Next year, Ms. Michelle will teach Kindergarten, Ms. Melissa will teach 1/2, Ms. Gorman will teach 3/4, Mr. Day will teach 4/5 and a new teacher will be hired for the other 1/2 class. Ms. Gorman is excited about all of the project opportunities at 3/4 but will miss her first graders next year. She is excited to teach them again in 3rd grade.

We know that these changes open up some questions. We will work hard to ensure that 3rd graders have leadership opportunities around the school, since they will not have the experience of being the oldest in a 1/2/3 classroom. 4th graders will be placed in one of the two classes in August. Ms. Gorman and Mr. Day will do joint planning around the 4th grade curriculum to create exiting and meaningful opportunities for 4th graders in both classes. The rotation of curriculum topics will be redesigned this summer to accommodate the change in configuration. The class placements will be done in August to ensure the classes are balanced with respect to factors such as gender, grade level, academics, and special needs. (Because this would be the 4th year in Ms. Gorman's class for some, we are not assuming that children who have been in Ms. Gorman's class for 3 years would continue in her class.) We all look forward to an exciting, enriching year next year!

Parents, if you have any special needs or requests for next year, please let [Jennine](#) know what they are. Our process for placing students in classrooms next year begins and ends with the teachers. Mr. Hays will work with the teachers during this process and will share his knowledge of your preferences with them so that we can create healthy and balanced classes.

We are currently working on selecting math materials for next year. We will select a common math program for all teachers to use next year. We are considering utilizing some web-based programs that allow parents to track their child's work and scores. Let your child's teacher know if this is something that interests you or not.

Thank you!

The staff of Muddy Creek would like to thank the parents and grandparents who came in last week to celebrate the growth our students have accomplished this year. It is very rewarding to watch adults marvel over the growth students demonstrated. The pride students feel after the student-led conferences is readily apparent.

DINE OUT NIGHT

On Tuesday, May 14th, dine at Evergreen Indian Restaurant between 5-9:30 pm and raise money for MCCS!

Lost and Found

Please keep checking the Lost & Found for missing belongings.

Classroom News

Kindergarten

We are continuing our study of Cycles in Nature. We have moved from the water cycle to life cycles. Today, we went on a field trip to the Westhills Veterinary Hospital. We would like to say a special thanks to Courtney Marchesi for setting up this trip.

Room 1

Please check out Ms. Melissa's blog: <http://missmelissaclassblog.wordpress.com/>

Room 2

We have been busy getting ready for the Wildlife Stewards Conference on May 9. We are also doing a broader study of plant and animal life cycles. Our class butterflies have formed chrysalises (Thanks, Regina!!). Yesterday, we "candled" our duck eggs in the incubator to see if there were healthy veins. There were—in all 5 eggs! Ms. Ellen continues to teach botany to us on Fridays. We are learning about other kinds of dicots; this week we are learning about flowers with mirror symmetry. We are also learning about mushrooms and their life cycles.

Room 4

Mr. Day's class has started to work on their projects for the 4-H Wildlife Stewards Summit. The nicer weather has brought the class back outside to pull weeds for the Upkeep piece. The 5th graders have been working on their graduation stories (Thank you, Regina for all of your help!).

PTO News

Last Minute Rummage Sale Needs and Information

Thank you to those who have donated and helped out so far. We are rapidly approaching the April 27th MCCS Rummage Sale and are still in need of the following:

- Volunteers (sorting/pricing, signage, sale set up, sales staff, clean up)
- Garment racks
- Clothing hangers
- Paper bags with handles
- Boxes and plastic bins
- Baked goods for bake sale (Sign up sheet can be found on the PTO board. Goods can be dropped off on Friday afternoon.)
- Advertising (please post the attached flyer on a community board or two)

We will be sorting and organizing all week leading up to the event and set up will begin after school on Friday the 26th. We will also be available to take baked goods and larger items such as furniture and bicycles at that time. Please contact Leann Eagles-Smith at iceagles_smith@yahoo.com if you can help or if you have any questions.

Teacher/staff appreciation

Teacher/staff appreciation week is May 6-10. Contact Mary Gunn mrsgunn33@gmail.com or your room parent for more information.

SCRIP—Volunteer Position Available

Carla is stepping down from Scrip Coordinator after this year. If you are interested in this great opportunity, contact [Mary Gunn](#).

PTO Meeting May 7th @ 8:30 am in the Gym

Everyone is welcome! Please join us as we discuss opportunities to help the PTO and Muddy Creek this year and next.



Movin' Muskrat News

Movin' Muskrats: Lots of activity out on the track this week after a 2 week break. The Kinders were out in force racking up the laps and Lennon L., Olivia B., Jessica M., and Anders J. all accomplished 5 miles. Kosette S. (4th), Kendel G. (5th), and Trent O. (5th) also finished 5 miles while classmate Hailey D. (4th) completed 10 miles. It was great to see Trevin's mom and little brother participating

along with Mrs. Stevenson and Mr. Day. Next Thursday is the final round (out of 4) to see which class has the most laps on average. GO GO GO!

ETCETERA

Get ready for summer and support your school!

May 17- 19: Corvallis Public Schools Foundation is partnering with Footwise in downtown Corvallis. Buy a pair of Keens and earn \$20 for your school! For every pair of Keens sold, Footwise will donate \$20 (\$10 donation with kids' Keens and Keen flip-flop purchases) to the Corvallis public school of your choice. Mark your calendar!