

Spring Valley Times

EDUCATING CHILDREN SINCE 1951 • TRAINING TEACHERS SINCE 1962

Message from the Directors

Dear Parents:

We want to welcome all of our new students and give a warm welcome back to all of our returning students. We saw many of you at our Grill and Games event in August, which—in spite of the rain—was a great success. All of the children had great fun dancing to the music. We're glad that so many of you braved the threatening clouds to come and join us for a fun afternoon of friendship.

We have some exciting news. Mrs. Justus (our school's founder) is being honored by two different organizations.

- On Monday, September 24th, the YWCA and ACT Theatre had a reception at the ACT Theatre in Seattle. Mrs. Justus was honored as a "Woman to Celebrate" in our community.

- On Saturday, October 13th, the American Montessori Society (AMS) will be honoring Mrs. Justus "to acknowledge the significant role she has played in the Pacific Northwest to bring Montessori education to so many children and teachers."

We are so lucky to still have Mrs. Justus as part of our school, and still be able to draw upon her immense wisdom.

A visitor to our school (Dr. Daniel Justus, who is a Montessori Educator from Canada) commented "Mrs. Justus is the closest thing to Maria Montessori that we have on Earth today." We completely agree!

Parent Nights were well attended and successful. Parent representatives from the Parent Association came and talked to the parents and were well received.

On Friday and Saturday, September 14th and 15th, Spring Valley Montessori School had a booth at the Puyallup Fair in the Education Building. Mrs. Foldi and Mrs. Kayihan did the setup on Friday from 7am to 9am and then staff took 2-hour shifts to tend the booth and give information about the school. This year, 4 members from the Parent Association (Bailey, Benedetti, Nester, and Garrett) also helped tending shifts. We really appreciate the Parent Association's dedicated and supportive members!

We know this will be another great year for our staff and students, and we are looking forward to watching your children learn and grow!

—Gulsevin Kayihan
Academic Director

—Marta Justus Foldi
Development Director

—Susan Hancock
Assistant Director



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Academic Director



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Sept/Oct/Nov 2007

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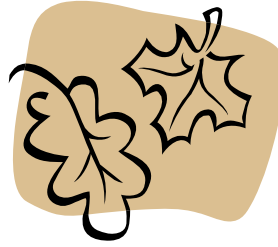


Susan Hancock
Editor

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Calendar



SEPTEMBER 2007

September 4 - First Day of School

Thank you Spring Valley Parent Association! We all had such a wonderful time at the ice cream social! Everybody felt so welcomed. It was a great way to start the new school year! The next day, the students coming out of the classrooms at 3 o'clock were still asking about the ice cream table!

Parent Nights - Thank you to all of the parents who attended. We had great attendance. These nights really help the teachers explain how the classes function, and set a positive tone for the rest of the year! And, a special thank you to the Parent Association for providing child care during the parent nights!

Spring Valley Family Night at the Browns Point Pizzeria

This event is the 3rd Tuesday of every month. Come join other Spring Valley Families for a fun night of pizza and camaraderie. When you order a medium or large pizza with the coupon on the flyer you received (posted on the sign-in book), the Pizzeria will make a \$3 donation to our school! The \$2 coupon works all month, and they will make a \$2 donation to our school! Browns Point Pizzeria • 6620 Eastside Drive NE • Browns Point, WA 98422 • 253-942-8656

We would like to extend a HUGE THANK YOU to Blake & Brea's Mom: Jennifer, for organizing this event last year, during the summer, and this year. It is such a fun and nice way for our families to get together. THANKS JENNIFER!

September 29 (2:30 - 5:00) - SV Parent Association Skating Party at Pattison's West in Federal Way. Admission is paid for all SV skaters, compliments of the Parent Association! Come skate with your new classmates for a fun Saturday afternoon! Plus, it's a great way for Parents to meet other SV Parents!

Pattison's West Skating Center •
34222 Pacific Highway South •
Federal Way, WA • 253-838-5788

OCTOBER 2007

October 1 (Monday) - Tuition Due

October 2 - Mrs. Justus (our school's founder) turns 91 years old. We are extremely lucky that she is still an integral part of our school!

October 5 (Friday) - Lee National Denim Day - Your child can wear jeans for the Breast Cancer cause, simply drop off a \$5 contribution.

October 12 - In-Service Day for Teachers - No School, Only Extended Care. Classes will not be in session. Extended Care only for regularly scheduled extended day students.

October 16 (Tuesday), 3:30pm - Parent Association Meeting @ the new McDonald's at the Crossings (the kids can play in the McD's PlayPlace while the adults meet)

October 16 - Spring Valley Family Night at the Browns Point Pizzeria Come join other Spring Valley Families for a fun night of pizza and camaraderie. Bring your flyer!

October 19 (Friday), 9:00am - Makeup Pictures - If your student was sick on the original Picture Day, or the photographer didn't get your child's best side.

October 24 - 26 - Parent-Teacher Conferences - (This does not include Pre-school.) Classes will be dismissed at 11:50am. Watch for the signup sheet outside your child's classroom. Extended day available to regularly scheduled extended day students.

October 26 - Pumpkin Patch - PA volunteers line up sugar pumpkins in the field behind Mrs. Justus' house. Each class rotates through the field and each child gets to pick their own pumpkin.

Note: Sterino's Pumpkin Farm went out of business. We need help finding a new pumpkin farm! If you have a pumpkin connection, please email us: SpringValleyPA@yahoo.com.

NOVEMBER 2007

November 1 (Thursday) - Tuition Due

November 4 - Daylight Savings ends - We "Fall Back."

November 12 - Veterans' Day (No School, No extended care) On Veterans' Day, we salute America's 26 million living Veterans. We remember their sacrifice. We thank them for their service to our country.

November 16 - Northwest Harvest "Kids for Cans" Food Drive. Please collect non-perishable food donations, such as dry cereal, canned fruit/vegetables/soups, peanut butter, tuna fish, and baby food. (Please do not solicit door-to-door.) Bring your donations to the school by Friday, November 16th.

November 20 - Spring Valley Family Night at the Browns Point Pizzeria Come join other Spring Valley Families for a fun night of pizza and camaraderie. Bring your flyer!

November 22 & 23 - Thanksgiving (No School, No extended care) We wish you and your family a wonderful holiday filled with good memories and enjoyable traditions to pass down from generation to generation!



**COMPLETE
CALENDAR**

www.springvalley.org



Tuition

We don't send home tuition bills, so please remember that payments are due on or before the 1st of the month to avoid a \$40 late fee.

AM Daycare for Younger Siblings

If your family has...

- A student in Middle School or Upper Elementary (both of which start at 8:30am), and
- A younger student in a lower grade

...then, you are welcome to drop off your younger student at 8:30am, and receive that half hour of morning daycare free. We don't want you to have to make two trips to school every morning!

Staying Home When Sick

As soon as the weather turns rainy, somehow the viruses find us. If your child has a cold or is not feeling well, please be respectful of the other children and the teachers. Keep your child home. The other children and their families will thank you.

DSHS (Department of Social and Health Services) requires that your child cannot come to school with any of these symptoms:

- Fever 99°F or above within 24 hours.
- Any discharge from eyes, nose, ears, vomiting, or diarrhea.
- Lice or scabies.
- Rash.
- Any other contagious disease.

Note: If your child is going to be absent (because of illness or any other reason), you must notify the office: (253) 927-2557.

From the Office

Unknown People Picking Up Your Child

From time to time it happens that a parent wants an aunt, uncle, grandmother, a friend, or another parent to pick up their child. If the child's paperwork does not list that person, we will not release your child to that person without written authorization. And, we do check ID, so please make sure that person brings ID with them. It's for your child's safety.

What should you do? If you are the one dropping off your child, simply stop by the office, write a quick note including with the following information:

- Your name
- Your child's name
- The person picking up your child.
- The date of pickup.
- Sign it.

If you are not the one to drop off your child, you can send an email with the same list of information. Since you can't sign it, we can verify it is you, by looking at the email address that you have provided to us on your form. If you haven't provided us with your email address or you've changed email addresses, then this won't work and you will have to provide us with a hand-written note.

We're not trying to make this difficult. You have entrusted us with your most valuable possession, and we intend to keep your child safe!

Lost and Found

If you are missing any clothing, lunchboxes, and so on. Check the Lost and Found box, located by Building 1, next to the PrePrimary A classroom door. Please label everything. Children wear the same type of clothing, and may have the same type of backpacks or lunchboxes.

Water Bottles

DSHS has said that water bottles aren't sanitary. When people reuse them, it's hard to get them clean inside, and all kids want to sip out of everyone else's water bottles—they look so inviting.

So, if you want to send a bottle of water to school with your child, please also send along a cup. Your child can pour his or her water into a cup and drink out of that. DSHS doesn't want children drinking directly out of the water bottles. Thanks for your help in this matter; it's important to stay in compliance and protect the children from the spread of germs.

Emergency Drills

We do practice these emergency drills throughout the year:

- Fire Drills—Monthly
- Lockdown Drills—Twice Yearly
- Earthquake Drills—Every-other Month

Children find these drills fun, and they enjoy learning the reasons behind the drills. Knowledge is power. One of our teachers noted that during the February 28, 2001 earthquake, all of the children in her Preschool class calmly did follow exactly the correct and safe procedure. We don't want these emergencies to happen, but it's good to know that practicing works!

Our Emergency Plan is posted in the office, and if you ever want to see it, and we always keep a supply of food and water for emergencies.

Music 2007-2008

We are pleased to have Mr. Joseph Weisnewski back this year! He is a very talented composer and enthusiastic Montessori music teacher, and the children really respond to him. He visits the PrePrimary through 8th Grade classrooms on Fridays. This year's focus is famous guitar players and musical instrument classification.

From the Office (continued)

Healthy Snacks

Some classrooms may ask you to bring in healthy snacks from time to time, or on a rotating basis.

What is a “healthy snack?”

- Fresh fruits and vegetables
- Dried fruits, like raisins, apricots, dates, or cranberries
- Cheeses
- Muffins, breads, or crackers that contain whole grains

If you haven’t provided snack before, this list might seem restrictive, or it might make you feel like you have to do a lot of cooking. However, a great a yummy snack that most children love is Hummus with Whole Wheat Pita Bread, which can be found in most grocery stores, and is always available at Trader Joes.

It’s almost easier to describe a healthy snack by what it is NOT. A healthy snack does NOT include any of the following:

- Chips
- Candy or Gum (gum is NEVER allowed at Spring Valley, even during parties)
- Cupcakes
- Cookies
- Pop or Soda
- Hydrogenated Oils
- High fructose corn syrup in the 1st 3 ingredients

Notes:

- Most of the previous items can be in your child’s lunch box within moderation, however we encourage you to pack as healthy a lunch as possible, because studies are showing a high correlation between nutrition and learning.
- Candy, gum, and soda CANNOT be in your child’s lunch, as stated in the Parent-Student Handbook, page 8.

Lunch - Eating Order

As the previous section clearly shows, we emphasize healthy eating, so we encourage the students to eat their lunch in a certain order:

- First their sandwich or other main item and vegetables.
- Next, yogurt or fruits
- After that is eaten, if they are still hungry and there is still time, they can eat anything else in their lunch.

Pick Your Brain?

Many parents have asked about local horseback riding lessons, 4-H Clubs, Girl/Boy Scouts, tumbling, chess, etc. If you know of after-school activities or clubs, send me an email, and I’ll compile a list for the next newsletter. Thanks! susan@familyhancock.net

Birthday Party Invitations & the Sign-In Book

Everyone of us had an experience growing up where we felt left out or unliked—whether we were the only one not invited to a birthday party, or the last one picked for dodge ball.

At our school we are concerned with how it feels to hear that 8 of 10 girls in a class were invited to a party—the two girls left out feel really awful. And, some of the boys (in younger classes) don’t discriminate between their friends that are girls versus boys, and wonder why they weren’t invited.

So, to keep hurt feels out of the classroom, our Birthday Party Invitation Policy is this:

- If you invite everyone in the classroom, you can attach the Birthday Party Invitations to the sign-in book.
- If you are inviting anything less than everyone, then you need to mail the Birthday Party Invitations, or catch the parents in the parking lot.

The same applies to Valentine’s Day cards, or any other invitations.

Cultural Events 2007-08

We will continue to bring musicals, plays, and operas to our students, to enrich their school experiences. Looks like another fun year!

- Treasure Island
Hampstead Players
December 11, 1 pm
- Daughter of the Regiment
NW Opera in Schools
Jan 22, 9:30am
- The Fattest Kitty on Earth
The Zambini Brothers (Puppet Show)
Feb 22, 9:30am
- Fire & Ice
Irish Dancers
March 17, time to be announced
Featuring one of our own students!
- Northwest Bookshelf 2
5th Avenue Theatre
April 25, 10am

All of these events are held in the Justus Building on what was previously called “Campus II.” The address is: 37515 8th Avenue South. (It’s just a few blocks SE on Pacific Hwy South.)

Note: Preschoolers may attend these events, if accompanied by a parent. There is a small fee of \$5/person. This is also true of younger siblings, grandparents, and so on. Anyone is welcome to attend for a small fee of \$5/person.

On out-of-campus Field Trips, younger siblings may **not** accompany the group. Parent Driving Volunteers are responsible for the children in their car.

Justus Building For Rent

If you need to host a large function, such as a wedding reception, 40th birthday party, family reunion, or Bar Mitzvah, the Justus Building is available for rent.

It is only available to individuals, non-profits, and a limited number of “for profit” companies.

If interested, contact:

Marta Justus Foldi 253•927•2557

Spring Valley Fashion: Dos & Don'ts

Hair and Face

- Nice, conservative hair cut.
- Hair ornaments simple and school colors.
- Post-style earrings for girls-only.
- No highlights/coloring/bleached or teased hair.
- No make-up.
- No dangling earrings.
- No chokers.
- No earrings for boys.

(picture removed to protect privacy)

Shirt

- Do wear White or Navy Blue.
- Do wear polos, turtlenecks, or blouses.
- No cartoons, designs, or logos other than ours.
- No bare midriff or low cut.

Hands and Nails

- Clean, well kept hands and nails.
- No long nails.
- No nail polish-If your child comes to school with painted nails, the teacher will send your child to the office to use the nail polish remover.

Skirts, skorts, jumpers

- Do wear the plaid or solid navy.
- Many plaid uniforms are available on the used uniform rack for \$5/uniform.
- New plaid uniforms are only available from the Dennis Uniform Store.

Shoes

- Do wear Navy Blue, Brown, Black, or White.
- Do wear leather or tennis shoes.
- Do wear sandals ONLY with white socks.
- No flashing lights (because of seizures).
- No Heeleys or Skate shoes.
- No High Heels or Platforms.
- No Flip Flops or open toed shoes.
- No sandals without white socks.
- No cowboy boots.
- No "mules"

Hats or Caps

- Do wear only outdoors.
- Not allowed inside.

Sweater/Vest

- Do wear Navy Blue cardigan or fleece.
- No color other than Navy Blue.

Sweatshirt

- Do wear Navy Blue, Royal Blue, or White.
- Do wear plain or with the school's logo.
- No other colors, no other logos.

Pants

- Do wear Navy Blue.
- Do wear cotton, twill, or corduroy.
- No jeans, cargo pants, capri, baggy, spandex, tights, leggings, pajamas, overalls.
- No low-rise pants (no bare midriff).
- No color other than Navy Blue.

Shorts

- Do wear Navy Blue
- Do wear 1 inch above the knee (no shorter).
- No tight, oversized or baggy, spandex.
- No color other than Navy Blue.

Leggings

- Only allowed under a skirt, skort, or dress.
- Only allowed in Navy Blue or White.

Socks

- Do wear anklets, knee highs, or tights in Navy Blue, Dark Green, or White.
- No Nylon stockings.
- No leg warmers.
- No other colors.

TIP: We have a new Spring Valley Montessori patch that will be available to sew on your polo shirts, turtleneck shirts, sweaters, vests, and plain sweatshirts. (As of this printing, it is almost available.) It will be \$2.50/patch. It will look SO collegiate!

Notes:

- Preschool students are not required to wear a uniform, but many of the previous categories apply to Preschoolers, such as: Hair and Face, Hand and Nails, Shoes (just the Nos), and Hats or Caps.
- Spare clothing should match the uniform guidelines.
- For additional information about the Spring Valley Uniform Policy, see the Parent-Student Handbook, p. 7.

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Welcome Interns!

We would like you all to give a warm welcome to our four interns:

- **Ms. Pullen**, who is working with Mrs. Williams in Preschool A. Ms. Pullen has a background in environmental science and bread making.
- **Ms. Michalski**, who is working with Ms. Coad in Preschool B. Ms. Michalski loves art and music.
- **Ms. Whitman**, who is working with Ms. Possinger in Primary A, has Washington State Teaching Certification.
- **Mrs. Olney**, who will be working with Mrs. Clark in PrePrimary A, has a background in nursing and has 2 children at Spring Valley.

As many of you know, Spring Valley has MACTE accredited Teacher Training Program training teachers in Montessori Early Childhood and Elementary Education.

We are very pleased to have these four enthusiastic interns for the classes. We know your children will benefit from their training and the special talents that they have to offer. Also, the teachers they are placed with are highly experienced and excellent mentors.

Teacher Training Program

Age: Adults

Instructors: Mrs. Justus, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Kayihan, Ms. Possinger

Our Montessori Early Childhood Education Course started on Tuesday, September 11th. We are training teachers for 10 other Montessori schools besides Spring Valley. Teachers trained through our Teacher Education Program are in demand all around the country. We are very pleased to be working with a group of teachers who are very interested in the Montessori Method.

Preschool A

Ages: 2½ - 5

Teachers: Mrs. Williams & Ms. Pullen

Sept, Oct, & Nov '07

Preschool A's weekly schedule will include math, language, zoology, botany, and plenty of practical life exercises.

We focus on 1 letter sound each week and share an item with the class on Friday. We have French on Tuesdays, and we reinforce it on a daily basis. We would like to cook two or three times a month and have many art projects.

The month of September we will focus on personal hygiene, taking care of ourselves, our school friends, and greeting people.

Preschool B

Ages: 2½ - 5

Teachers: Ms. Coad & Ms. Michalski

Sept, Oct, & Nov '07

This school year we will be doing a lot of practical life work, learning letters, and math skills. We will also be focused on the seasons, trees, and leaves this year. We will begin with botany and zoology, and with understanding living and non-living.

This month, we will be focused on the letters: c, a, d, and g. We will talk about washing our hands and classroom cleanliness.

On Fridays, we would like children to bring in a picture that begins with our sound of the week.

PrePrimary A

Grades: Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten

Ages: 4½ - 6

Teachers: Mrs. Clark & Mrs. Knighten

Sept '07

After the first week of getting settled in, our weekly routine will include:

- **French**—Mon, Tues, Wed 9:00am
- **Music**—Friday 12:50 to 1:20
- **Reciting the poem**—Thursdays
- **Sharing**—Fridays (Sound of the Week)

In September, we will learn about the concept of living and non-living things, land and water, and float and sink. We will also work on geometric shapes, the oceans, and clouds. We began the sound of the week on September 17th.

Oct '07

In October, we will learn about vertebrates and invertebrates, land and water forms, the water cycle, and leaves. We will visit the pumpkin patch here at school and do pumpkin carving in our classroom on Wednesday, October 31st. We need parent volunteers for the activity (about 9:00 to noon). It is lots of fun, so watch for the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board outside our classroom (first part of October).

Sounds:

- Oct. 1 – d
- Oct 8 – g
- Oct. 15 – o
- Oct. 22 – q
- Oct 29 – s
- Nov 5 – r
- Nov 12 – n
- Nov 19 – m
- Nov 26 – h

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

PrePrimary B

Grades: Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten

Ages: 4½ - 6

Teachers: Mrs. Sauer & Miss Leah

Sept, Oct, & Nov '07

This year, in addition to our typical Montessori work, we will study various animals, plants, and Earth science.

Art in written form (poems) and traditional forms (paintings) will be a focus this year.

- Every week the children will learn and write poems.
- For Geography, we'll study the land and water forms.
- For Botany, we'll study the leaf.
- Children will learn and practice how to take care of themselves by starting hand-washing and greetings.

Primary A

Grades: 1st & 2nd Grades

Ages: 6 - 8

Teachers: Ms. Possinger & Ms. Whitman

This school year sharing will be on Fridays. Live pets can be brought in [by appointment only](#).

Homework (spelling) will start the 2nd week of school.

In September and October we will be studying:

- Land and water forms
- Botany—leaves
- States of matter
- Farm animals (to tie in with the Puyallup Fair)
- Arts and Handcrafts
- Cooking

Primary B

Grades: 1st & 2nd Grades

Ages: 6 - 8

Teachers: Mrs. Meier & Ms. Lawson

The year, sharing will be every Friday.

- For 1st year students, sharing is the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month.
- For 2nd year students, sharing is the 2nd and 4th Friday of the Month.

Here are some fun events we have planned for the year.

- 100th day celebration.
- Fish hatchery field trip
- Nutcracker Ballet field trip
- Asian New Year restaurant field trip for the study of Asia and Asian new year.
- Cooking project—Thanksgiving feast for the students
- Individual student country reports for the open house
- February is Black History month
- March is Women's History month

Sept, Oct, & Nov '07

These are the areas we will be focusing on for the month of September:

- The Salmon—Parts of the salmon, Life cycle, and art project
- Geography—Land and water forms
- Cooking
- Art—concentric circles with watercolors

Upper Elementary

Grades: 3rd through 5th

Ages: 8 - 11

Teachers: Mrs. Jones & Mrs. Johnson

Sept, Oct, & Nov '07

Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Johnson join forces with 3 other teachers:

- **Mrs. Kayihan** is teaching Science to the 5th Graders studying Astronomy. The 3rd and 4th Graders are studying Botany this year.

- **Mrs. Sweeney** is jumping into the Physical Education slot on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Note: Please make sure your students bring good, proper tennis shoes on these days, so that their ankles and feet have proper support.

- **Madame Baslé** continues to provide us with excellence in French grammar each afternoon.

This is a recipe for a fantastic year.

Middle School

Grades: 6th through 8th

Ages: 11 - 14

Teachers: Mrs. Johnson & Mrs. Jones

Sept, Oct, & Nov '07

This school year we are studying:

- History (Explorations and American)
- Language, journaling, creative writing, and grammar
- Math and algebra
- Geography
- Arts & Crafts

- **Mrs. Kayihan** is teaching Astronomy and Environmental Sciences on Tues, Wed, and Thurs. We started the year with an Eco-dig to learn about our environment and teamwork. This month, we are studying the Moon and Space Explorations. We already had a yummy edible experiment about the phases of the moon, and we ate the moon! Parents, please remind your students to study well. They have homework and tests every week.

- **Mrs. Sweeney** is teaching Physical Education on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Note: Please make sure your students bring good, proper tennis shoes on these days, so that their ankles and feet have proper support.

- **Madame Baslé** is teaching French.

Updates

Update: Track and Covered Play Area

We haven't forgotten about it! Where are we with this project?

- We've purchased a steel covered play area building.
- We have finally found a contractor that understands the complexities of our land. (We're surrounded by water—the Hylebos Creek, the lake, and an underground water source.)
- Our contractor is working to get us the permits we need. As we've learned from other recent projects, this step can take a long time. Let's hope it doesn't this time!
- In addition, our contractor is the one who is designing the track. Because we may need flexibility about where we place the asphalt pad (based on what the city says), we don't want to leap into the track until we get a little further with the permits.

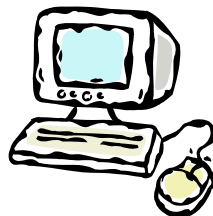
We will give you more details as we know more.

Update: Computers for Upper Elementary & Middle School

You may remember a previous Parent Association Auction, where generous parents paid for a computer lab at Campus II. The computers have been moved to the Upper Elementary and Middle School classroom, and the server has been moved to our conference room. It's poised and ready to be set up. We're just waiting for Qwest to come and do their side of the project, wiring and configuring the classroom building's and the conference room's DSL.

As soon as Qwest does their thing, then Kelly Haggett (who is now a Manager at Honest John at the Crossings) and her people will get everything up and running on the following Saturday.

It shouldn't be long!



We Support Our Troops!

Welcome Home SFC Hale and the Entire Stryker Brigade!

While you have been in Iraq, you have been in the thoughts and prayers of many of us. We absolutely adore your wife and daughter, and we are so glad that you're home with your family!



Hannah's Dad is Heading to Korea

While we have one Dad coming home, we have another Dad deploying. He's on his way to Korea. Those of you who are parents in Hannah's classroom will understand if she needs extra love and hugs for a while. It's really hard to have your Dad gone!

Advertising

We would like to offer our parents and outside businesses the opportunity to advertise in our monthly newsletter.

- **If you are a parent** and you have a business, you can reach people just like yourselves through an ad in our newsletter. For parents, the cost per issue is **\$25**.
- **If you are a sole proprietor** or home business like Pampered Chef, Tupperware, Avon, and so on, the cost per issue is **\$35**.
- **If you are a larger business**, the cost per issue like Office Depot, Starbucks, or Costco, the cost per issue is **\$50**.

Donations (Auction or School)

If a company donates an item to the auction or the school, they automatically get free advertising in our next newsletter. Please get a business card from the business, and ask for it to go in Mrs. Hancock's mailbox with a note about what has been donated. She will place it in the next newsletter. This is something new we're doing this year.

If your company donated something to the school or auction last year, just give your business card to Mrs. Hancock with a note about what and when it was donated, and she'll put it in the next issue. And, thank you!

Advertising Proceeds for Tuition Assistance

All proceeds from advertising in our newsletter go directly to the Spring Valley Tuition Assistance Fund (described on the back page). So you can feel twice as good about your advertising dollars, because not only will you be getting customers for your business, but you will also be helping children and their families who are having financial hardships

French Program: Bonjour! Parlez-vous Français?

Dear Parents:

Bonjour! Welcome! Our French teacher is Madame Baslé. She teaches all students in the school, from Pre-school through 8th grade (ages 2½ - 14). Here is a brief overview of our French Program.

Preschool French Program

Ages: 2½ - 5

Madame Baslé visits each Preschool class once a week. The children absorb the following information audio-visually:

- Numbers from 0 to 30
- Days of the week
- Body parts
- Food
- Songs
- Colors
- Little poems

PrePrimary French Program

Grades: Pre-K & Kindergarten

Ages: 4½ - 6

Madame Baslé visits each PrePrimary class 3 days a week. Students learn the same information as the Preschool classes, plus:

- Vocabulary covering everyday living
- Songs
- Poems
- Plays

PrePrimary French Program

1st and 2nd Grade

Ages: 6 - 8

PrePrimary classes have French 4 days a week. Just as the students are progressing in English, they are progressing in French:

- Start reading French
- Conversational French
- Numbers up to 100 and above
- Poems
- Plays

2nd graders have:

- Additional reading
- Conversational French
- Enlarging vocabulary
- Homework

3rd & 4th Grade French Program

Ages: 8 - 10

Students at this level have French class 4 days a week. We continue with the same program with the addition of:

- Grammar
- Studying conjugation of the verb "to be" and "to have." These are very important verbs because they are employed as auxiliary verbs in the past tense.
- Additional vocabulary
- Conversation
- French culture, geography, and history of France

5th Grade French Program

Ages: 10 - 11

Students at this level have French class 4 days a week, with the addition of:

- Reading
- Conversations
- More homework expected

Middle School French Program

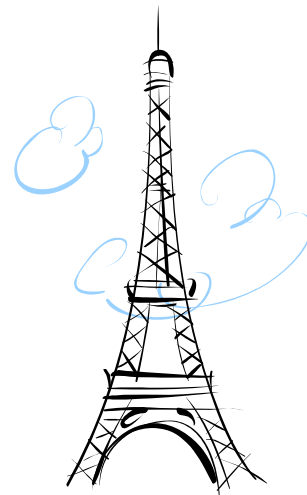
6th - 8th Grade

Ages: 11 - 14

At this level, students must be able to read, write, and understand French. And, of course, there will be more daily homework and study of art, history, culture, and drama.

Grading for 5th through 8th grades:

- 40% Test
- 30% Homework
- 15% Quiz
- 15% Participation



Thank you!

Thank you, Nygren Family, for the scanner and color printer! The office will put these to **great** use. They have been **much** needed, and they are **greatly** appreciated. They are **SO NEW!** We rarely get such new equipment! Awesome!

Thank you, Olney Family, for the moving boxes this summer, while we moved Campus II to Campus I. It really helped **so much!**
THANK YOU!

Thank you, Parent Association, for the neck and shoulder massages for the teachers and staff. Ahhh!
Wonderful! You're the **BEST!**

SHELLEY GOLEEKE
MESSAGE THERAPIST

PREMIER

3161 Elliott Avenue
Suite 102
Seattle, WA 98121
Office: 206-282-6700
Appts/Cell: 253-334-4918

MESSAGE & BEAUTY

Your Parent Association

By now, you've probably already met at least one person from the Parent Association, they are hard to miss!

- They were that great group of parents scooping ice cream on the first day of school. THANKS!
- They were the wonderful people who provided childcare, so that everyone could easily go to the Parent Nights.
- And, they were the folks that talked at the Parent Nights about the Parent Association.

This is a GREAT group of parents, and they need your support, so please attend their parent meetings. If you can't because of work or other conflicts, please let them know and volunteer to do something that they need done. (They'll be able to find a job that will fit any amount of time you have available.)

Who are they?

Parent Association Officers - 2007-2008

POSITION	PARENT
President	Kari Overson
1 st Vice President	Courtney Nester
2 nd Vice President	Colette Bailey
Treasurer	Sherry Locke
Secretary	Joyce Garrett
Members at Large	Victor & Julianna Benedetti

How can you contact them?

If you have a question, suggestions, ideas, want to volunteer, have an agenda item for the next meeting, and so on, you can send an email to the Parent Association.

SpringValleyPA@yahoo.com

Please include this information:

- Your full name
- Your child's name
(If you have more than one child at Spring Valley, please give us a list.)
- Your child's classroom(s)

Meetings and Other Events

These are the upcoming meetings and a few of the planned events. This is a very active Parent Association, and many of you will enjoy helping plan events!

The first meeting was held on:
September 25 (Tuesday), 3:30pm - Parent Association Meeting @ the new McDonald's at the Crossings



September 29, Saturday (2:30 - 5:00) SV Parent Association Skating Party at Pattison's West in Federal Way. Admission is paid for all SV skaters, compliments of the Parent Association! Come skate with your new classmates for a fun Saturday afternoon! Plus, it's a great way for Parents to meet other SV Parents! Pattison's West Skating Center • 34222 Pacific Highway South • Federal Way, WA • 253-838-5788

October 16 (Tuesday), 3:30pm - Parent Association Meeting @ the new McDonald's at the Crossings (the kids can play in the McD's PlayPlace while the adults meet)

October 26 - Pumpkin Patch - PA volunteers line up sugar pumpkins in the field behind Mrs. Justus' house. Each class rotates through the field and each child gets to pick their own pumpkin.

Note: Sterino's Pumpkin Farm went out of business. We need help finding a new pumpkin farm! If you have a pumpkin connection, please email us: SpringValleyPA@yahoo.com.

April 26 - PA Auction - (Date is TBD)

Auction Donations

If a company donates an item to the auction, they automatically get free advertising in our newsletter. Please get a business card from the business, and Mrs. Hancock will put their business card in the next newsletter.

Wishlist

The following is a list of items that we would love to have to help in the classroom and around our campus. If you have an old one, or are thinking about upgrading, we love "hand-me-downs!"

General list

- **Sewing Serger machine**
- **Folding ladder** Extend to ~30' but fold up to ~5'.
- Anything else you would like to donate. Check with us first.

Computer list

We would love the following computer donations. However, donations must be in good working order—we don't have the money to troubleshoot hardware that is on death's door.

- Computer projectors
- Digital cameras

- Color printer(s) - 2 years old or newer
- Scanners that work with Windows XP
- Flat panel monitor(s)
- Old laptops
- Flash drives
- "Optical" 3-wheel mouse(s)...mice(?)
- PC speakers (none that require batteries)

Latest Update: Spring Valley Track Team!

Although Spring Valley does not have a formal cross country program, the Spring Valley Track team (and coach) participate in local cross country races. Since school just started, we did not formally ask for students to sign up. However, Spring Valley students who ran track last year are active in the local running community and in school sponsored cross country races.

This past weekend, September 8th, Spring Valley students participated in the Bellarmine Invitational. Bellarmine offers a High School Invitational, and as part of that meet offers a:

- Middle School (6-8) race and an
- Elementary School Race (K-5).

Spring Valley students participated in the Elementary School races. The Elementary School course had been modified to about 1100-1200M (coaches estimate), an unusual distance. Here are the results:

Elementary School Girls

Zabrina

Zabrina (5th grade) started out hard and quickly opened distance on the field of 15-20 girls. Zabrina has been running this summer and her hard work showed. When Zabrina made her first loop (about 1000M), the question was not whether she would win but by how much would she win? Zabrina finished strong to complete the course in 5:00.63 (a new course record).

Unofficial Match

Prior to the Elementary School boys race, as coach, I challenged a Charles Wright parent/coach to a cross country race scoring our top 3 runners (official scoring is 5 runners, but we had 3), and they agreed to the unofficial match. In cross country places are counted and the lowest score wins!

Elementary School Boys

Jesse

Jesse (3rd grade) had won the elementary race last year. This year was another matter. There were 28 boys starting, and several had been training. Charles Wright brought about 10 boys, and they had one they said was phenomenal. Jesse chased this one (probably 4th or 5th grade student) around the course and missed the win by 1.35 seconds. Jesse finished second (2 points) in 4:35.7. Jesse felt a longer race would have favored him.

Sami

Sami (5th grade) had an excellent outing. Sami has been running frequently, over the summer, and that work came in handy as Sami worked his way up through the pack and eventually finished fourth (4 points) in 4:58.6.

Nicolas

Nicolas (3rd grade) has been running at Five Mile Lake Park over the summer, in training for the cross country season. Nicolas had a great effort and finished eleventh (11 points).

Race Results

All three boys had solid first outings—especially considering the 28 race competitors. In total, Spring Valley had 17 points (2+4+11); Charles Wright's first three runners (out of 10, or so) finished first, sixth, and seventh (1+6+7), totaling 14 points. So, we had some great performances, and we have a strong team, but not a win in our first informal meet.

The Spring Valley Track Team has been meeting informally, as time allows, over this past summer and into the fall.

What's Next for the Current Team?

Starting September 17th, the current Track Team students will workout with Federal Way Track Club (FWTC) and participate in the local USA Track & Field Cross Country races leading up to the Junior Olympic cross country series. The above students have expressed the desire to keep running and see how far they can go. This year the Western Washington Championship will be in Seattle, the Regional Championship (WA, OR, ID, AK) will be in Sandy, OR; and the USA Junior Olympic Cross Country National Championship will be held, on December 8th, in Lawrence, KS.

Spring Valley has had several students participate in the National Championships. Two finished as age group All Americans (top 25 Nationally). Many of the Spring Valley Track Team students have the goal of going all the way to Lawrence, KS.

Who knows, if we work hard, perhaps we'll have the chance to bring home another All American?

How to join the next regular track season

Students/parents interested in running please contact:

Coach John Goldstone

(phone number removed to protect privacy)

We will be starting cross country training with FWTC soon. Our regular track season will start training in **February**. Our season usually consists of a:

- Practice Meet in **April**
- Qualifying Meet in **April/May**
- Federal Way School District Championship Meet in **May**

THANK YOU COACH GOLDSTONE!

Spring Valley Montessori School

36605 Pacific Highway South
Federal Way, WA 98003

Phone: (253) 927-2557

Fax: (253) 838-5193

E-mail: justus@springvalley.org

Voted Best School
—Federal Way Mirror
Newspaper, 2006

“The most important motive for work in school and in life is:
Pleasure in work, pleasure in its result, and the knowledge of
the value of the result to the community.” —Albert Einstein

Tuition Assistance Fund...any amount helps!

We are very proud of the fact that we are educating Spring Valley students using the proven Montessori method for **less money** than any district in Washington State using a “per student cost” comparison! And, we are one of the most affordable private schools in Washington.

But, that’s not enough for us! We want to expand our enrollment to students who can’t afford the full tuition – we want to include kids that would never have the opportunity to go to Spring Valley. We want to create a tuition assistance fund.

If you can find it in your heart to help, please make out a check and drop it in the office (or mail it to the school) payable to **Spring Valley Montessori Tuition Assistance Fund**. Any amount will help.

If you know an organization who can sponsor a student, that would be **AMAZING!**

If you can only afford a small amount monthly, when you combine that with other people’s contributions, we’ll give another student a chance!

This fund will also offer help to our present students, if a family is having a financial hardship, and needs tuition assistance to keep their child in the school.

Remember that all donations are **tax-deductible**. AND, if you work for a company that matches charitable contributions (like Microsoft or Boeing), remember that your contribution may count **twice!**

We are a licensed non-profit 501(c)3 company. Our Tax ID # is: 91-1524441

We are also registered with the United Way Giving programs: Boeing, King County, and Pierce County.

Confidentiality

We want to let you know that we will **not** disclose the names of the Tuition Assistance recipients. At Spring Valley, our uniform policy eliminates comparisons and competition. No one can tell who has the most money based on designer labels. Personal information is never disclosed to other parents.
