

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- On-line survey for Gilham Families this February
- No School Monday, February 20th, President's Day
- Remember to save your Box Tops to help Gilham fund-raising
- Check out the Gilham Website

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Gilham Family Survey



Dear Gilham Families,

Each year we at Gilham like to measure the satisfaction of parents and families with students attending Gilham. This year we are offering an on-line survey for families to complete. The survey is brief, taking only a few minutes to complete for each child. For families with access to the Internet, and an email account on file, we will be sending a link to the survey via email. There will also be a computer in the library specifically for parents and families to complete the survey. For the month of February we are asking families to complete this brief survey regarding your child's educational experience at Gilham. This will help Gilham to measure the quality of your child's education. When we can emphasize what is working well, and adjust when there is room for improvement, we can become a better school for everyone! The link to the survey is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GilhamSurvey>

If you have more than one child at Gilham, we ask that you complete a separate survey for each child. You need only take the survey once for each child. Thank you in advance for your participation!



Healthy Kids provides no-cost and low-cost health coverage for Oregon children and teens up to 19 years of age. Coverage lasts for one full year and covers all health needs, including doctor visits, dental care, vision, mental and behavioral health services, and prescriptions. Children will not be turned away due to preexisting conditions or be put on a waiting list.

Families with uninsured kids and teens should apply for Healthy Kids today by calling 1-877-314-5678 or online at www.OregonHealthyKids.gov.

No family makes too much money for Healthy Kids. Parent's income will determine whether a child is eligible for the no-cost or low-cost coverage option. For example, a family of four that earns as much as \$66,000 a year may qualify for low-cost coverage.

To find community partners who can help families with the application or for more information, visit Healthy Kids online at www.OregonHealthyKids.gov.

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Vanessa Vasquez

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Sara Merwin
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Laurie McCaskill
Bill Hamann
Alice Williamson

Parents
Lori Durling
Jill Pintens

Classified
Patti Gehlhaar

Administrative
Gig Nelson

Upcoming PTO Events:

February 1-13 – Otis Spunkmeyer Cooke Dough Fundraiser

February 9 – PTO Meeting. 7-8pm in the school library

February 10 – Movie Night 6:30 – 8:00pm



March 8 – Cookie Dough Delivery

March 8 – PTO Meeting. 7-8pm in the school library

March 9 – Family Activity Night 6:30-8:00pm



April 6 – Gilham Carnival *see below

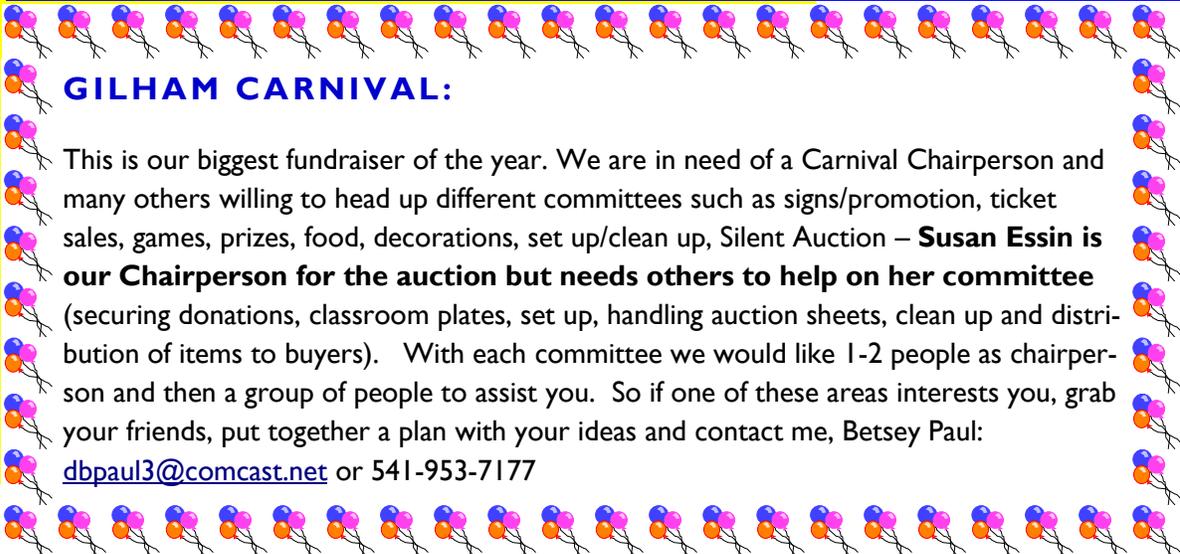


April 19 - PTO Meeting. 7-8pm in the school library

May 1 – PTO Fund Proposals Due

May 17 – General PTO Meeting to vote on fund distribution and the new board. 6:30 – 8:30pm in the school library

June 14 – Last PTO Meeting with passing of the torch to the new board



GILHAM CARNIVAL:

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. We are in need of a Carnival Chairperson and many others willing to head up different committees such as signs/promotion, ticket sales, games, prizes, food, decorations, set up/clean up, Silent Auction – **Susan Essin is our Chairperson for the auction but needs others to help on her committee** (securing donations, classroom plates, set up, handling auction sheets, clean up and distribution of items to buyers). With each committee we would like 1-2 people as chairperson and then a group of people to assist you. So if one of these areas interests you, grab your friends, put together a plan with your ideas and contact me, Betsey Paul: dbpaul3@comcast.net or 541-953-7177

Information for Child Safety



While abductions by strangers are extremely rare (most offenses against children, including abduction and sexual offenses, are committed by people that they know), Eugene Police and Eugene School District 4J want to remind all families that because such crimes do rarely occur, it is important to teach children about personal safety. Crime prevention specialist offer the following tips:

1. Explain the danger. Parents often tell children, "Don't go with strangers." This is vague and doesn't help children protect themselves — most abductions are by relatives anyway! Better advice would be, "If you are lost or need help, sometimes it's okay to ask strangers for assistance — but strangers shouldn't be asking you for help or to go with them. You should not go somewhere with strangers unless you need their help in an emergency."
2. Who is a stranger? A stranger is anyone you don't know. Make an agreement regarding who is safe to go with, and that they must say "NO!" to anyone else, no matter what! Teach your child to stay at least arms' length away from a stranger who approaches them.
3. Don't be polite! Parents teach children to be "polite"; they should also teach that it's OK to be assertive and not talk to strangers. Adults should ask adults for help, not children!
4. Home and phone safety. Teach your child not to open the door to strangers except in a real emergency. Explain what an emergency might be, such as a medical problem or a fire. Tell them not to answer probing questions from strangers. Tell them to come get you, or to call you instead. Make sure they know how to reach you wherever you might be. Teach them how and when to call 9-1-1.
5. Make a code word. Teach the child a code word. If a visitor comes to get them. The visitor must know the code word, or the child should not go with them.
6. Pick their routes. Avoid alleys, wooded areas, parking lots and spontaneous short-cuts. Choose areas where anything out of the ordinary would be noticed by neighbors, business owners, pedestrians, etc. Most importantly, help them avoid isolation. Arrange for them to walk with trusted friends. Consider providing them with a cell phone so that they can call for help.
7. Identify trusted adults. Pick stores, schools, churches, and homes of safe neighbors. Make sure your child knows these "safe places" that they should go if they need help. Remember, it's generally safer if the child picks the adult!
8. NO-GO-TELL. If approached by somebody who is scary, or who asks them to do something that seems wrong, a child should yell "NO!" then GO immediately to a trusted adult and TELL what happened.
9. Teach what to do in an actual kidnap attempt. If a child is screaming, a passerby may think it's a child having a tantrum, and

fail to recognize an actual abduction. Children who are victims of attempted abduction should repeatedly yell "HELP! I DON'T KNOW THIS PERSON. I'M BEING KIDNAPPED!" Children have been saved by doing this! Be sure your child knows that resistance — yelling, kicking, scratching, biting — is acceptable under these circumstances. Depending on the age of your child, encourage them to remember details: vehicle description or model, appearance of the person involved, what was said, etc. Call the police immediately.

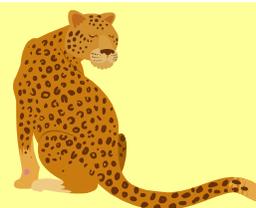
10. Practice with role-plays. Have a friend participate, and have your child GO and TELL. Reward and coach your child.

Additionally, parents interested in learning about convicted sex offenders in our community who may be a danger to children can call the Oregon State Police Sex Offender Unit at (503) 378-3725X 4429 to request a list of all registered sex offenders living in their zip code, or go to <http://sexoffenders.oregon.gov> for information about area residents designated as "Predatory" sex offenders.



Get Involved!!

GILHAM DEPENDS ON VOLUNTEERS OF ALL TALENTS!



There are many exciting opportunities to get involved and make a difference for our students. Don't know where to start?? Call or email Betsy Paul, our PTO President today!

dbpaul3@comcast.net

or 541-953-7177

Reminders and Procedures



REUSABLE CLOTHES NEEDED

We'd love to have sweatpants in good condition (size 6-12) that your children may have outgrown. It's so helpful when accidents occur and students need a change of clothing during the school day.



HOURS OF SUPERVISION

It is important for you to be aware of the hours when no supervision is provided in the building or on the grounds at Gilham Elementary School. The school provides supervision only between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. and during official school events and programs that occur before and after regular school hours.

BIRTHDAYS AT GILHAM

Birthdays may be celebrated at school. Please check with your child's teacher in advance to see how they prefer to celebrate birthdays, and plans can be made to allow time in the day for the celebration. To prevent hurt feelings, invitations to home parties should not be given out at school unless all classmates are invited to the party.

It is our school policy that no home-made food items be shared. Foods must be commercially prepared and wrapped. It is also acceptable to provide whole, washed fruit, such as oranges, bananas or apples. This restriction is necessary to protect our students with life-threatening food allergies and also to reduce the chances of inadvertently spreading illness such as Hepatitis A, Norwalk Virus, Salmonella, or E-coli. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.



Please remember to use the
**24-HOUR
 ATTENDANCE
 LINE**
 To call in all absences and
 late arrivals!
541-790-6225



Check Out Gilham's Online Calendar!!

Go to Gilham's Home Page at <http://schools.4j.lane.edu/gilham> and click on the Calendar link. The Gilham Web site also offers classroom information, access to library resources, Jaguar Jive archives and more!!

**GILHAM'S
 JANUARY
 VOLUNTEER HOURS:**

361

**THANKS TO ALL OUR
 VOLUNTEERS!!**



Jaguar Jive

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Deadline for Next Issue
February 20, 2012

Calendar of Events
For a complete list of upcoming
Gilham Elementary School im-
portant dates and events, visit
the school web site at
<http://schools.4j.lane.edu/gilham>



Fill out your Gilham Family parent satisfaction survey
this month! Go to

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GilhamSurvey>

