



GRANT STREET PRIMARY PRESS

JUNE 10, 2011

Enhancing the Life and Spirit of Young People

**At Grant Street School we are powerful learners.
We are kind and responsible. We keep everyone safe.**

Farewell to Two Retiring Teachers

Two Grant Street teachers with a combined 54 years of service to the school district retire at the end of this year. **Cleone Telling**, currently teaching 3rd grade, and school counselor **Jeanie Glaspell** have both decided to move on to a new stage in their lives. Each has a spouse at home, and two grown children for their class of 2011-12. We are very grateful to Cleone and Jeanie for all they have given our students and our community, and they will be missed everyday here. If you would like to send greetings, thanks, or wishes for the future, please send them to the school office and we will pass them on.

Summer Library

Students entering kindergarten and first grade, along with their parents or care givers, are invited to join Eagle Room Reading teacher Mary Sepler, and PT Public Library's Jean-Marie Tarascio Mondays from June 27 through August 22 at the Port Townsend Public Library from 10:30-11:30 AM for the "Just Right for You" Summer Reading Program. Mary and Jean will help kids and their adults learn how to find "Just Right" books for students' reading levels, listen to read-aloud stories, and join in book discussions groups. Parents and caregivers will get ideas and insights into how to best support and assist young, growing readers. For more information, please contact Jean at the PT Public Library at 383-3181,

SPRING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TUE., 6/14 GS PTA MTG. 6:30 PM

WED., 6/15 12:40 DISMISSAL

THUR., 6/16 BBQ LUNCH AND FIELD DAY

FRI., 6/17 LAST DAY OF KINDERGARTEN

**MON., 6/20 KINDERGARTEN GRADUATIONS AT
FORT WORDEN**

12:40 DISMISSAL

TUE., 6/21 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL,

10:40 DISMISSAL

Tuesday Library/Garden Work

Grant Street PTA is funding a summer reading program for all students in the Grant Street Library this summer, beginning July 5, every Tuesday. Grant Street's library assistant, Teri Freitas, will open our school library for visiting and checking out books on Tuesdays from 1:30-5:30 PM. At 3:30 each Tuesday, a special guest teacher will have a Read Aloud for those students and families who are there. Students who check out and read 10 books over the summer will get a free one to take home!

And, if you want fill your Tuesday afternoons a little more, we need volunteers to help in the Grant Street Garden with watering and weeding and caring for our plants. If you would like to get on a schedule to work in the garden with your student on Tuesdays over the summer, please contact school secretary Jill Phillips at 379-4535, and we will get your name on a list to have Candice, our garden coordinator, contact you.

Growing you child's mind in the library and growing food in the garden on Tuesdays – what a great way to engage your child over the summer!

Getting Ready for 2011-12

The school district is still sorting out the complex funding changes that just came out of the legislature. What we do know is that the district will receive less money per student next year than this year, and that class sizes will increase. Current projections show class sizes of 26-30 in first through third grades, compared with 20-25 this year. Although tentative teaching assignments have been made for the fall, those assignments are likely to change with further information out of Olympia, and when actual enrollment comes in late August and early September. We have 55 kindergarten registrations for the fall, and will likely wind up with between 75 and 95 by September.

Changes are coming in terms of which programs are where in September. Our preschool will share space with Head Start on the north side of the Mary Tudor Early Learning Campus, and the ICE Program will move two classrooms – one from on the south end of the Grant Street campus and one from the Gael Stuart Building – into the former preschool. The OPEPO Program is also moving from Blue Heron Middle School to a pair of classroom in the main Grant Street building.

If you would like to help with packing up classrooms and/or moving boxes and chairs and desks during the three days after school gets out – June 22-24 – please contact the school office to volunteer!

FALL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MON., 8/22 GS OFFICE RE-OPENS

WED., 8/23 KINDERGARTEN SCREENING

THUR., 9/1 CLASS LISTS POSTED - 4 PM

TUES., 9/6 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL GRADES 1-5

THUR. 9/8 ALL-DAY K BEGINS - DISMISS AT 11:50

SAT.,9/10 FAMILY FUN RUN AND BARBECUE

Volunteer Math Tutors Needed for Fall!

This fall, Grant Street will begin a third grade math partnership with Port Townsend's chapter of AAUW (American Association of University Women). In this project, third grade students will get math tutoring twice week (Tuesday and Thursday afternoons) in small groups, and in individual computer work. This program was piloted in Chimacum this spring, and an article was written in the LEADER about it last week. The goal of the project is to help all third grade students excel in mathematical skills.

We are looking for volunteers to work with third grade students in 2 or 3-month commitments for those two days each week. All volunteers will be trained by AAUW and directly supported both by AAUW and the third grade teachers. If you would like to consider volunteering for about an hour and a half Tuesdays and Thursdays in the afternoon – either supporting individual students at the computer, or tutoring small groups of 4 students, please contact Grant Street School.

Sept. 10 Family Fun Run & Barbecue

On Saturday, September 10, Grant Street will combine two events into one day – A Family Fun Run and the Back-to-School Barbecue.

The Family Fun Run will be for kids and adults on the upper field. We will have a number of heats by different grades, from preschool through 5th grade, with distance from 100 yards to a mile. The Fun Run will begin at 10:00 and will be followed by the third annual Back-to-School Barbecue at about noon.

Mark your calendar now for the first Saturday of the new school year. We will send home more information at the beginning of the new school year.
2011

Have a wonderful summer! READ EVERY DAY!!