



Willow Wind Community Learning Center

February 2018 Newsletter

Calendar of Events

Monday January 29
Talent Show Audition
Sign Ups

February 6. 7. 8
Talent Show Auditions
4:00 pm
In the Barn

Tuesday, February 13
Parent Council
1:15-2:30 pm

Friday, February 16
Pizza Friday

Monday, February 19
NO CLASSES
President's Day

Friday, February 23
WWCA meeting
8:30 am

February 28,
March 1 & 2
NO CLASSES
Parent Partner
Conferences

Notes from the Office

Happy New Year to you all! We are now four weeks into the New Year and the children are all excited to be back at Willow Wind with their friends and teachers.

The words "Spring Semester" bring thoughts of daffodils, sunshine and green hills, but wintry weather will be around for a while longer. Please make sure your children come with boots, warm jackets, hats, and gloves. Most Willow Wind students like to be outside even in the winter and we want to make sure they stay dry and warm.

The new semester began on Tuesday, January 16. The first days of a new term are always exciting and busy. Many of our spring classes are full, but we will continue to post the short list of available classes in the office.

January Focus was lots of fun. Many Willow Wind students took the opportunity to try out new activities and learn new skills. We will be looking forward to the next series of workshops in June—if you have ideas for workshops, please let us know.

Welcome back! *Debbie*



Follow Willow Wind on Facebook! "Like" our page at
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Willow-Wind-Community-Learning-Center/399419993464732>

Events and Announcements

10th ANNUAL WILLOW WIND TALENT SHOW



Willow Wind's 10th Annual Talent Show is in the works! All students welcome! Auditions (a chance to meet the kids and see what's up) will be held in the barn after 4pm on February 6, 7 and 8.

The sign up sheet will be available in the office beginning January 29. Please pick up a list of guidelines and permission slips in the office and bring them with you. The dress rehearsal is at AMS on March 15, and the show is at AMS on March 16. So much fun to support our kids in their talents, let's do it!

2018-2019 INQUIRY FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

If you know of families who are interested in attending Willow Wind for the 2018- 2019 school year, please encourage them to contact the office or fill out an Inquiry Form. Inquiry Forms are in the office or on the Willow Wind website at

[http:// www.ashland.k12.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=1702](http://www.ashland.k12.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=1702)

We will be accepting inquiry forms until April 6th. Lottery will be held on April 20, 2018.

Do You Have an Incoming Kindergartener?

We are beginning to compile a list of siblings who are planning to join Willow Wind in the fall. Please complete an Inquiry Form if you will have an incoming kindergartener. In early March, we will send official Intent to Return Forms that will need to be returned before spring break.

RAISING CULTURE CONSCIOUS KIDS Monday, February 5 at 6:30pm in the Willow Wind Barn

Please join us for the next parent meeting of Raising Culturally Conscious Kids. On February 5th from 6:30 to 8 pm at Willow Wind, we will be meeting to discuss the culture of Growth and Fixed Mindset. This is work that our students have been discussing in classes and now it is our turn to discuss how our family culture encourages a growth mindset or a fixed mindset. We will start by figuring out what these terms mean and what they mean for our parenting styles. We will explore what these mindsets mean for motivation, goal setting and the joy of learning. There will be childcare provided. Please contact Moneeka Settles at sneekam@yahoo.com if you need the childcare or have questions.

MATERIALS FEE

Material fees for each student are due the first day of class. Please make every effort to stop by the office and remit payment. If you are unable to make payment at this time, please contact the office to make alternative arrangements.

SPRING FAMILY SERVICE UPDATE

This spring semester is almost a month longer than the fall semester. Although it may seem like a lot of time to fulfill your family service obligations, PLEASE do not wait to get started. It is not possible to provide hours of jobs during the last week of classes. There are many opportunities available now. Please note: Volunteering in your child's class does not count toward service hours. Family Service Record sheets are located in the office lobby.

SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENTS UPDATE

In 2010, Oregon adopted higher K-12 standards in English Language Arts and Math to ensure all students move from grade to grade with the academic knowledge and skills necessary for success beyond high school. Because we raised the bar for what we expect students to know and be able to do, we have also changed the way we measure student progress through our state tests, known as Smarter Balanced.

Smarter Balanced is a set of summative assessments in English Language Arts and Math. The assessments are in a format that asks students to explain their reasoning and write out their answers. The assessments are not timed so each student can take as long as he or she needs to fully demonstrate what he or she knows and can do. The measures include complex, real-world skills such as critical-thinking, writing, and problem solving so that your child can successfully transition from grade to grade and be prepared for his or her next steps after high school.

We know that an end-of-the-year assessment cannot possibly tell us everything about a child's academic progress. However, the results do act as a snapshot of each child's strengths and areas for improvement and can be used as a way to ensure he or she is getting the supports he or she needs. Additionally, the assessments help Ashland School District's efforts to equitably distribute resources and support student learning. When fewer students take the assessment, we are left with an incomplete and inaccurate picture of how our students are performing, and this limits our ability to address issues, better serve students, and continue to improve our educational system.

House Bill 2655 permits parents and adult students to annually opt-out of Oregon's statewide assessments by submitting an annual form to the school the student attends. If you are considering opting out, please print the form located on the District website: <http://www.ashland.k12.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=2683> and bring it to your school's principal. Discuss opting out with your child's building principal so you can make an informed decision.

Completed forms should be initialed by a building administrator and returned to Student Services at 885 Siskiyou Blvd. More information on parent rights is located on the District website and here: [Http://tinyurl.com/OR-HB2655](http://tinyurl.com/OR-HB2655)

Our school's assessment windows will be:

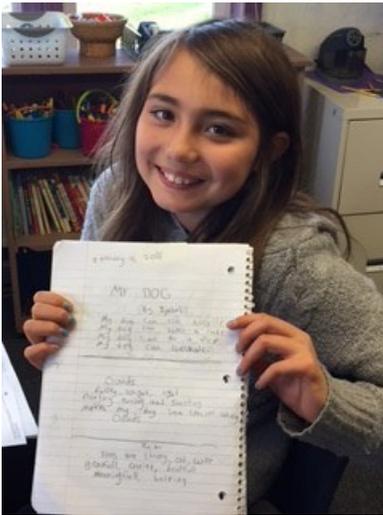
April 9, 2018– May 28, 2018

In Ashland School District, we are deeply committed to ensuring each and every student in our schools has the supports he or she needs to achieve at high levels and graduate prepared for his or her next steps. Our ultimate goal is to make sure that all students are set up to be successful from grade to grade and that will remain the focus of our district throughout the rest of the school year.

News from the Classroom

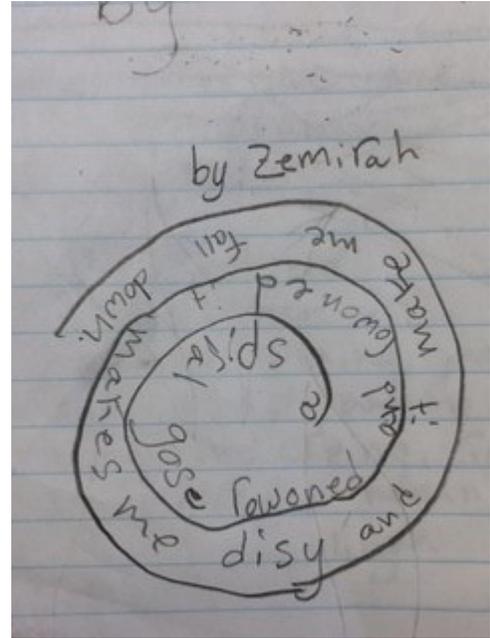
By Sophia A.

MLK, a civil rights hero,
He fought for equality and justice,
A brave and strong leader,
He is an inspiration to all,
This man will not be forgotten.



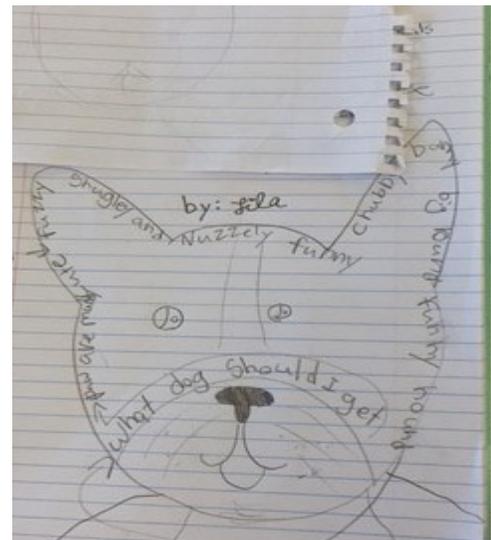
By Sophia D.

You created peace between others,
By just one speech,
You led many crowds,
Who fought for civil rights,
Because of what you did,
We now celebrate you,
On a day called Martin Luther King.



By Leila

“I have a dream...”
That all people are fair,
No matter what they look like or what color they are,
And to be together.





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Find Willow Wind on the Web at:
www.ashland.k12.or.us/willowwind

SUPPORT WILLOW WIND BY BUYING SCRIP

WWCA offers scrip for sale most mornings at the school's hug-n-go and at our events. Regularly available selections include \$50 scrip cards from Ashland Food Co-op and \$10 scrip certificates from Shop-N-Kart. 5% of each purchase is donated back to Willow Wind.

Don't forget to "Perk Up" on the first Friday of each month at participating local coffee shops!



10% of all purchases made on Perk Up Fridays will be donated to the Ashland Schools Foundation to support school projects!

FEBRUARY DATES TO REMEMBER:

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|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
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