

Raised \$825.50  
Donated \$752.25  
Total to the Arts Program  
\$1578

► GIVING THANKS  
CELEBRATION

December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012

► READING TREE



► GEOLOGY SERIES



# Muddy Creek Charter School

VISION:

*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.*

## “Our bus route is unique.” –Dan Hays

Our bus route is unique as a bus route. In town a school bus route travels within walking distance of most students' homes. On the other hand, our bus route is often letting children off a long way from the child's home. This puts a unique responsibility upon all of us. Through the efforts of parents, we do have pretty good system for safety and getting children home.

However, we are experiencing some serious challenges that alarm a large number of people. This week an adult was not present to pick up a student from the drop-off point. If the bus driver knows it, he is to drive the student back to the school for safety reasons.

However, in our system, there is a parent at each bus stop making sure children are connecting with the responsible adult. The bus driver assumes the right child and adult have connected. I'm asking all adults and

children to help us in this matter.

In the eventuality a child is left with an adult not there to pick the child up, these are the steps I would like parents to know AND ASK PARENTS TO HELP THEIR CHILDREN KNOW:

- 1) No adult there
  - i) Notify our parent on duty at the stop and the bus driver.
  - ii) The bus driver and the on-duty parent decide what is to be done.
  - iii) The parent takes the child, or the bus driver returns the child to school.
- 2) ANOTHER CRITICAL POINT - PHONE CALLS MUST BE MADE BACK TO SCHOOL( 541.752.0377), TO THE CHILD'S PARENT, DAN HAYS, AND MELISSA HARRIS (541.602.4865)

### Lost and Found

Please check the lost and found rack regularly for your child's belongings. Labeling the items is also a great way to help a wandering jacket or lunch box get back to its home. Thanks.



ABOVE, Library Reading Tree design by Chris Neely, papier-mâché by our Kindergarteners

Visit our new ART BLOG

<http://mccsartblog.wordpress.com/>



## Ms. Melissa's Class

New class blog, <http://missmelissaclassblog.wordpress.com/> Please check regularly for curriculum outlines and events.

Visiting artist Carol Soth (Freya) worked with students from room 1 this week, to create a multi-medium accordion book that includes components of a hero's journey, relating to the journey of a migratory animal.

LEFT, Finn Osborne-Gowev. Peterson Butte Fossil Bed, Lebanon, Oregon



# 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Read-A-Thon

*"Adult will read a winter/holiday book to the group of students, and then do an art project or activity based on the book."*

(Continued from Dan)

We are in the midst of a "child identification" project: putting a tag on the backpack of every bus-riding student with name, phone number, and back up phone number for each student.

This step is not one I like to do, but worse is a child with no adult to be sure they are safe and no way to reach someone for help and notification.

Our intent with these steps is to get several adults involved in securing the safety of the child. This gets a network going that stretches to the Corvallis School District. In the most recent incident, too much time went by before I knew about it. Please do not hesitate - ever - to call me. I have a number of tools at my disposal to get right on the matter.

Thank you for your help and cooperation in this matter.

## Giving Thanks Celebration

Reminder: Pie donations can be paid at the front office at anytime.

Hans Neucomm, from Neucomm Rock and Gem Shop on 9<sup>th</sup> street in Corvallis, visited our 1,2,3 classrooms today. He brought an abundance of rocks and minerals to show us, most of which, can be found, right here in Oregon including: Sunstones, Geodes, Thunder Eggs, Carnelian, Holly Blue, Pitcher Jasper, (which is petrified mud), Peacock Rock, Amethyst, and Quartz Crystals. Hans was thoroughly impressed with, not only, the behavior of our students, but with their knowledge!

Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 to 9:45 AM will be the 5th Annual Winter Read-a-Thon. The whole school will be breaking into small groups, each group led by a staff member, Board member, parent, or volunteer. The adult will read a winter/holiday book to the group of students, and then do an art project or activity based on the book. In the past, groups have done games, cookie decorating, and crafts. These groups will last about 45 minutes. Please let me know if you are interested in being a guest reader by sending an email to [leah\\_gorman@mail.com](mailto:leah_gorman@mail.com) by Friday, December 14! Group leaders plan activities and bring their own books and materials, but the teachers are happy to help you with ideas! The groups are usually less than 10 students, and often as few as 6 students. I will email all of the

## Movin' Muskrats

*"Let's celebrate with. Arden L., Mira B., Nora B., Liam G., Atira F., and Annalee H., finishing their first 5 miles. Trevin D. completed 15 miles and Gradin F. 20 miles. I look forward to seeing our Muskrats finish out 2012 strong - keep it up!"*  
—Elisa Fairbanks

group leaders with their room assignments and age groups by Monday, December 16. Please join us in celebrating the winter season and the joy of literacy!

## PTO

### T-shirts

Don't worry! Not all the t-shirts were sold at last Friday's event. We still have plenty of styles, colors and sizes available in the front office. T-shirts will also be available at the Friday Farm Table

### Giving Thanks Celebration

The Muddy Creek PTO gives thanks to all the people involved in helping make our Giving Thanks Celebration a successful fundraiser for the school art program.

**Thank you to TURN-KEY MARKETING & PROMOTIONS, INC** for your generous donation

A last note, if you left your pot luck dish please feel free to pick it up in the school kitchen.

### Scrip

One more order before holiday break due by Dec. 13th! Any new order placed by then eligible to win a \$25 gift card! See the website for details!

### Hot Lunch Program

Can you help with prepping, serving, and/or clean-up? If you can't stay the whole time, we could still use your help! Contact [Kristina.rosenbaum@gmail.com](mailto:Kristina.rosenbaum@gmail.com).

### Arc Consignment Update

Gently used items will be accepted at any time throughout the year. Labels are available on the hallway bulletin board for everyone to self-label their items. The labels assure that MCCS is credited for the donations when you drop them off at the Arc. Please contact [lceagles\\_smith@yahoo.com](mailto:lceagles_smith@yahoo.com) for further information.

## Toy Drive for Vina Moses

Your donation will benefit children in Benton Co. Toys need to be delivered to Muddy Creek by December 14<sup>th</sup>. Toys must be new. If you have questions email Mary Gunn [mrgunn33@gmail.com](mailto:mrgunn33@gmail.com)

## December

**December 7<sup>th</sup>**  
Scratch Club

**December 13<sup>th</sup>**  
ICP Board Meeting

**December 14<sup>th</sup>**  
10:00am  
Ms. Gorman Field Trip  
Chintimini Wildlife  
Rehabilitation Center

**December 14<sup>th</sup>**  
Scratch Club

**December 18<sup>th</sup>**  
8:45-10:15am  
Kindergarten Field Trip  
Winter singing at The Regent

**December 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Arts and Crafts Day  
Volunteers contact Chris Neely

**December 21<sup>st</sup>**  
Read-a-thon  
Volunteers contact Leah Gorman

**December 21<sup>st</sup> – January 7<sup>th</sup>**  
Winter Break

**PTO Meeting**  
January 8<sup>th</sup> 8:35am in Gym

Scratch Club 3pm  
DECEMBER: 7th and 14th  
JANUARY: 11th and 25th  
FEBRUARY: 8th and 22nd  
MARCH: 8th and 22nd  
APRIL: 5th and 19th  
MAY: 3rd, 17th, and 31st

Garden Club  
Second Thursday of each month  
@ 2PM in Room 3

Muddy Creek is  
celebrating

12-12-12

with a party at Papa's  
Pizza! 50% of proceeds  
go to our school.

