



1315 ASPEN STREET, SPRINGFIELD, OR 97477

CENTENNIAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

541-744-6383

September 2015

Visit our website - <http://blog.sps.lane.edu/centennial>

Great First Week Back

What a great start we've had! Our staff is feeling really energized and our students are excited to be back. After just a few days of school, the routines of school are feeling familiar to many of our students, staff, and families. We are paying attention to aspects of the daily schedule and procedures that we can tweak in order to make the day as conducive to learning and achieving as possible. Our goal is to make Centennial a place where personal and academic achievement happen every day for every student in a safe, respectful, and responsible environment.

We welcome new students and their families! We will do everything possible to make the transition to Centennial a smooth one for you. One thing I've learned since joining the Centennial staff this summer is that this community has many, many devoted, caring staff members, parents, and volunteers who will go to any lengths to support all of our students.

Please welcome our *new* staff members. I've mentioned a number of them in my August letter, and I am including all of them below:

- Tiffany Asumendi (3rd grade)
- Amy Donaldson (Kindergarten)
- Phuong Kelley (Kindergarten)
- Justine Lee (Kindergarten)
- Crystal Mason (Family Center)
- Melissa Newbery (1st grade)
- Becky Springer (Learning Specialist)
- Holly Stamper (Educational Aide)
- Jennifer Valle (English Language Development)

I hope that you will attend our PTA's September meeting on Monday, September 21st, starting at 6:00 p.m. Members are welcoming and the atmosphere is very inviting. Moreover, everything the PTA does is designed to support Centennial's students and staff. During the past couple of weeks, the staff has been provided with an amazing array of treats and coffee for our beginning in-service meetings. We are so grateful for the appreciation and love that the PTA has shown teachers and support staff!

There will be a principal's coffee on Friday, September 25th in the Family Center. Please join me at 8:45 am if you can! I am looking forward to this informal event, where we can discuss anything of interest to you about Centennial, including our direction for this year and your hopes and aspirations for Centennial going in the future.

Please contact us with any questions, concerns, and positive ideas for improving our school. I feel very fortunate to be principal of this amazing school. I look forward to many good and great moments in 2015-16! With some of the greatest kids and staff on planet earth, Centennial is poised to have a great year!

Dan Sterling, Principal

Helpful School Reminders:

- Please help our students arrive on time. Breakfast doors open at 8:00 am, at **8:25 am students enter classrooms and the school day begins at 8:35 am** with morning announcements.
- Please keep our upper driveway bus zone free for buss access between 8:00-8:30 am and at dismissal from 2:15-3:00pm until buses have left school.
- Students and parents are asked to **please use our crosswalks and the crosswalk at Aspen**, and follow the guidance of our Safety Patrol students.
- We do appreciate a call to the school office (541-744-6383) **before 9:00 am** when your child will miss school due to illness, medical appointments or other events. Our home calling system begins soon after 10:00 am.
- Visitors and volunteers should check-in at the office upon entering the building and will be provided an identification badge to be worn while here at Centennial. Please remember that younger children are always welcome to come with you into the Family Center but we encourage you to please not bring them into the classrooms.
- Parents coming in to school to pick up their children are asked to wait in the courtyard or in front of the office area and **not outside classrooms or in hallways**. This will help relieve crowding and confusion in the hallways at dismissal. If you'd like to check-in with a teacher, please wait a few minutes until the hallways have cleared; this provides a less hectic opportunity.
- Joining your student at lunchtime is a special event. We ask that you call ahead if planning to purchase a school lunch so that our kitchen staff can prepare enough lunches. When sitting at the table with your student and their classmates you offer a model of good manners and conversation skills that help build a positive environment for all.

Important upcoming dates and events

Hearing Screening for Kindergarteners and 1st Graders

Over the next several weeks, we will be screening the hearing of all Kinders and 1st Graders. It is important that our students are hearing clearly so that they understand their teachers and can interact socially with their peers. Following the screening, parents will be informed if their student failed the screening and then will be rescreened in a few weeks. If you do not receive a letter home or a phone call, then your student's hearing fell within the normal range. If you do not wish to have your child screened for any reasons, there are opt-out forms available in the office.

Coffee with the Principal

Friday, September 25th

8:45 am

Centennial family Center, Room 1

Join us in The Family Center as Mr. Sterling invites parent input and involvement on the goals of Centennial this school year. Refreshments will be served and younger children are always welcome to come with you to the Family Center

September 2015

18th Early Release 12:30 pm
21st Vision Screening
21st PTA Meeting 6-7:30 pm
24th Open house 6-7:00 pm
25th Coffee with Principal 8:45 am

October 2015

2nd Early Release 12:30 pm
8th Picture Day
9th No School
23rd Early Release

Early Release Information

- All elementary students will be served lunch just as a regular day of school.
- Students will be release at 12:30 pm
- Please make sure to plan ahead.
Thank you

Welcome to the Family Center

What is the Family Center and where is it located?

The Family Center is a large inviting space in our school where students and parents can come to enjoy a quiet and safe space. Here they can learn about volunteer opportunities, access the Internet, research or obtain information for available resources in our community and discuss other concerns or interests that I may be able to assist with. This room is intended to be a welcoming and positive environment for children and families. The Family Center has found a new home this year in room 1, located in the primary hallway near the front office. This space is shared with the PTA as well so there is almost always fun things to do and great people to meet.

New to our Family Center

Hello everyone! My name is Crystal Mason and I am your new Family Center Coordinator at Centennial Elementary. I am really excited about joining the fantastic Bluejay team this school year. I am also the PTA Volunteer Coordinator, a substitute educational assistant here at Centennial and I have a fifth grade son this year.

The Family Center will be open Monday -Friday 8:30am-12:15 pm. The Family Center is always open to families and younger children are always welcome as well.

Please feel free to email me or drop by and say hi anytime!

Sincerely,

Crystal Mason
crystal.mason@springfield.k12.or.us

Collect those Box Tops & Soup Can Labels

At Centennial Elementary, we participate in the General Mills Box Tops for Education program and Campbell's Labels for Education. Last year we earned over \$2000 for our school! Please double-check your throw a ways and recyclables. Collection bins are located in each classroom so please clip them out and send them to school with your child(ren). The classroom that brings in the most Box Tops will win a party! Thank you for supporting our school by taking the time to clip and turn in those Box Tops and Labels!