



Lincoln Options Opus

*A community dedicated to
learning, kindness, and
celebration!*



January 2015

Calendar

January

5 - School resumes
5 - OSD Meeting @ 6:30 pm
7 - District Late Start, no AM bus
13 - OCC Meeting @ 6:30 pm
15 - Books, Bears, & Blankets, Family Literacy Night, 6:30-8 pm
16 - Early Release (12:32 dismissal)
19 - MLK Jr Holiday
20 - OSD Board Mtg @ 6:30 pm
21 - District Late Start, no AM bus
26-30 - Washington Children's Choice
27 - OCC Meeting @ 6:30 pm
27 - OSD & Griffin SD joint mtg
30 - Early Release (12:32 dismissal)

February

2 - OSD Meeting @ 6:30 pm
2-6 - Washington Children's Choice
4 - District Late Start, no AM bus
10 - OCC Meeting @ 6:30 pm
12 - Lincoln Science Fair @ 6:30 pm
16-17 - No school, mid-winter break
20 - Winter Dance
23 - OSD Board Mtg @ 6:30 pm
24 - OCC Meeting @ 6:30 pm
25 - District Late Start, no AM bus
25 - Enrollment Info Night
27 - Early Release (12:32 dismissal)

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From the Health Room *By Dale Rayburn*

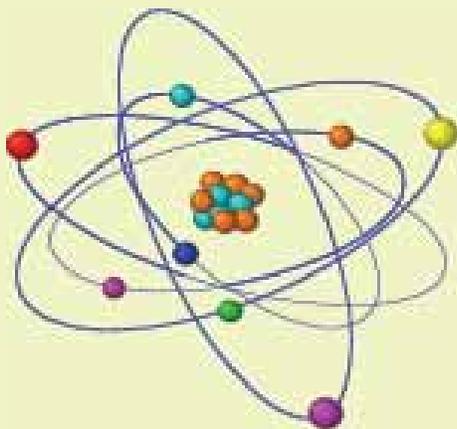
The Lions Club Vision and Hearing screenings for Lincoln will be on **Tuesday, January 20th from 9am to 11:30 am**. Grades involved in this screening are 1st - 3rd, and 5th grades. The school nurse, Cate will be screening the kindergarten children separately.

Please have your children bring or wear their glasses to school on the 20th, if they have them. And be sure those ears are cleaned out with warm water. If parents have any special concerns about their child's vision or hearing please alert the health room so we can be sure those issues are being checked out at this screening.

After the screenings any children who had any notable vision or hearing loss, a note will be sent home with your child requesting that you follow up with a vision or hearing check to be sure that your child is able to see and/or hear well. If the cost is an issue there are a few places that will help families with these costs or services for their children, please ask so we can help you find services.

We will need about 4 - 6 adult volunteers to pass out and record the results on the day of the screenings. So if you are available please leave your name and phone number with Dale or Cate in the Health Room so we can remind everyone by phone ahead of time.

After the Jan. 20th screening those children that were either absent or their vision or hearing levels had some questions will be rechecked in 2 weeks by the school nurse Cate, to see if it was possible their tests were inaccurate. Then the children that still show a need to be rechecked will have letters sent home identifying the needs found by the school, so parents can then have their children checked out as needed.



Lincoln Science Fair Thursday, February 12

6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
Lincoln School Gym

This year students should drop off projects before school on 2/12, if it is convenient for families. They will be on display for classes to see during the day.

Entry forms are available in the office

Scenes from Last Year's Science Fair



From The Library *By Teacher-Librarian Donna Dannenmiller*

On Thursday, January 15, a guest author, Deborah Hopkinson, will come to Lincoln and give four writing workshops to all students during the school day. In the evening, she will inspire us at the annual Family Literacy Night...Books, Bears, and Blankets in the library. She will speak from 6:30-6:50 pm. Be on time to hear her words of wisdom. Donna has read *Apples to Oregon*, by Deborah Hopkinson, to all the classes. Ask your child if they can tell the story of how, in 1847, apples came to Oregon, for the first time!

Meet Deborah Hopkinson

Deborah Hopkinson is the author of more than 45 books for young readers including picture books, short fiction, and nonfiction. Her historical fiction picture books often illuminate the lives of ordinary people or forgotten figures in history. She has won the SCBWI Golden Kite Award for picture book text twice, and in 2013 received both a YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction honor and a Robert F. Sibert Honor for *Titanic, Voices from the Disaster*. A frequent speaker in schools and conferences, her books help bring history alive and encourage young readers to practice critical thinking and historical thinking skills.

Deborah's award-winning works include **Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt**, winner of the 1994 International Reading Association Award; **A Band of Angels**, an ALA Notable title which also won the Golden Kite Award and was a Jane Addams award honor book; **Under the Quilt of Night**, winner of the Washington State Book Award, *Bluebird Summer*, a Golden Kite Award Honor Book, and **Girl Wonder**, winner of the Great Lakes Book Award and a 2004 Jane Addams Award honor book.

Her 2006 book, **Sky Boys, How They Built the Empire State Building**, was an ALA Notable and a Boston Globe-Horn Book Honor book, while **Up Before Daybreak, Cotton and People in America**, won a Carter G. Woodson Award and an ALA Notable book. **Shutting out the Sky, Life in the Tenements of 1880-1924 New York**, was an NCTE Orbis Pictus award honor book, a Jane Addams Award honor book, an IRA Teachers' Choice, and a James Madison Award Honor Book. **Apples to Oregon** won the Golden Kite Award and Spur Storytelling Award. **Sweet Land of**

Liberty was named an IRA Teachers Choice and a Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People 2008. **Abe Lincoln Crosses a Creek**, was an ALA Notable book and was named winner of the Comstock Award. A four-time Oregon Book Award finalist, she won in 2009, receiving the Eloise Jarvis McGraw Award in 2009 for *Keep On! The Story of Matthew Henson, Co-Discoverer of the North Pole*.

In 2013, Deborah published **Knit Your Bit**, a World War I Story, and **The Great Trouble, A Mystery of London, the Blue Death, and a Boy Called Eel**, both Junior Library Guild selections. Her 2006 historical fiction novel, **Into the Firestorm**, is on the 2013-14 Oregon Battle of the Books list.

Deborah received a bachelor's degree in English at the University of Massachusetts and holds a master's degree in Asian Studies from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. She lives near Portland, Oregon, where she serves as Vice President for College Advancement for Pacific Northwest College of Art.

Save the Date:
Thursday, January 15th,
is our Family Literacy
Night, known as "*Books,
Bears, and Blankets*" from
6:30-8:00 pm in the
library.



Lincoln School 2015 Science Fair
Thursday, February 12, 2014
ENTRY DEADLINE: Monday, February 2, 2015

Instructions:

- One form per student! Tell us your name, your teacher's name!
- Please tell us if you have one or more partners; provide his/her name.
- Provide a title and brief description of your project!
- Give us your phone number and/or email address so we can contact you if we have questions!
- Have a parent/guardian sign the form so they know you are doing a project!
- **Return completed form to the office by February 2!**

Questions: email Paul at procks@osd.wednet.edu or 596-6458

Lincoln School Science Fair Entry Form

Team Name: _____

Student Name: _____ Phone: _____

Teacher: _____

Partner: _____ Phone: _____

Project Question: _____

Project Title: _____

Please no volcanoes

Brief Description: _____

Support Needed: Yes No Electrical Outlet

(Circle "Yes" if you need this extra accommodation in order to display your project)

Yes No Larger Display Space Dimensions: _____

(Standard Display Space is 42" wide by 18" deep)

Yes No Floor Space Dimensions: _____

Adult's Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____

I would like to volunteer to help organize the Science Fair.

How to get started?

1. Start with a question, problem, or something you are curious about.
2. Decide how you are going to answer that question (observation, scientific method, or models).
3. How are you going to communicate your learning (poster, graphs, demonstrations)?
4. See Paul for more resources or stop by the library.



Our Map and a Sense of Place

By Paul Rocks

I wanted to send a big thank you to Sayre Hodgson, Jasper's mom, for reviving our map of the United States; she volunteered to do this even though she hails from the country to the north! The map was originally painted on the bus loop as a fifth grade project some eight years ago. After years of weathering and erosion there was little left to look at. Sayre started this project as an Earth Day activity with Kari's class, and continued to work on it during the spring of 2014.

Maps are an important part of understanding our sense of place. A good home learning project is to do something I call "Map Talks." When you get ready for a road trip, when walking at Nisqually, spend time looking at a map and encourage the kids discuss where they are, the route, and landmarks.

I often see people of all ages looking at our map in the bus loop, looking at Puget Sound, trying to find Olympia; discussing places they've been, talking about maps.

Thanks again Sayre for working on this project!



See you there!
January 15
6:30 – 8 pm



Books, Bears, and Blankets Night

By Teacher-Librarian Donna Dannenmiller

Thursday evening, January 15th, is Lincoln's annual family literacy event!

Books Bears and Blanket Night, starting with guest author, Deborah Hopkinson, sharing her wisdom about reading and writing from **6:30-6:50 pm**. **BE ON TIME TO NOT MISS DEBORAH!!**

Families bring a blanket and/or soft cushions for relaxed reading from the inviting books displayed around the library. Kids wear their "jammies" and cuddle a soft toy. This year, award-winning author **Deborah Hopkinson** will kick off the evening by sharing her wisdom about reading and writing. As always, kids go home with a **FREE BOOK!** At the end of the evening, if there are books leftover, parents can choose a **FAMILY READ ALOUD BOOK** to take home.

DONNA NEEDS VOLUNTEER PARENTS TO STAY AFTER THE EVENT TO MOVE THE LIBRARY FURNITURE BACK INTO THE LIBRARY! THE MORE HELP...THE SOONER WE ARE DONE!!

Camp Elderberry News

By
Jill Lieseke



We know, we know, Camp Elderberry is, like, five months away, what could we possibly be wanting from you now. Well, there are 3 of us who have been taking on and having fun with a large part of the responsibilities of Camp Elderberry for the past three years. However, we are now parents of fifth graders. We are looking for new recruits to shadow our responsibilities and also relieve us a little on the day of Camp Elderberry, since our kiddos are graduating from Lincoln.

Camp Elderberry is a gift we give to our children at the end of the school year. This day is for them to learn, to have fun, and to experience a unique community. Camp Elderberry creates amazing lasting memories.

For those of you new to the school, Camp Elderberry is an end of the school year event that takes place at Panhandle Lake in Shelton, WA. The venue is magical, the event is fulfilling. Before the event, the students choose from a list of activities, ranging from arts and crafts to soccer with plenty more in between. We do our best to place the students in activities they have chosen or we think they would enjoy. The parent band entertains us, as well as, the student talent show, during lunch and snack break times. For the dinner portion, it is a potluck with every family bringing an entree and either a salad, appetizer, or dessert. After that is the fifth grade graduation ceremony and a camp out; with dorms, cabins and plenty of fields for tents.

Annie Maclay is, among other things, the Activity Coordinator of this event. She has immense amounts of knowledge to pass on to the next person. Jodi Shafer-Hudson is the Transportation Coordinator. Did I forget to mention that this whole school event to Shelton is organized by carpooling? Jodi has this down to a science! I, Jill Lieseke, am the Camp Elderberry Liaison. I have another child in first grade, so I will be around for a few more years to help significantly with Camp Elderberry.

THIS IS A CALL OUT FOR PEOPLE WHO LIKE TO ORGANIZE EVENTS! Please consider speaking with Annie, Jodi, Marcela or myself about carrying on this legacy. I also want to say that I, wholeheartedly, love being a part of this event. I know you will too!

Seen Around Our School... Can you and your Lincoln student identify these sights from around our school? Try a scavenger hunt!



Meet Our Wonderful New Paraeducator Taylor Charette

Hello!

I am Taylor Charette. I'm almost 23 years old, father of one awesome little 2 year old and husband. I enjoy being with and teaching children, and have had past experience working in Y-Care and the YMCA Daycare and summer camps. I am contemplating a teaching career or something to do with serving youth.

I love a good hike, a fun game of pick-up basketball, and at the end of the day, a nice cup of tea with my wife. I feel blessed to be a Lincoln am looking forward to meeting and being in a relationship with all the children.

Lasagna Gardening Method

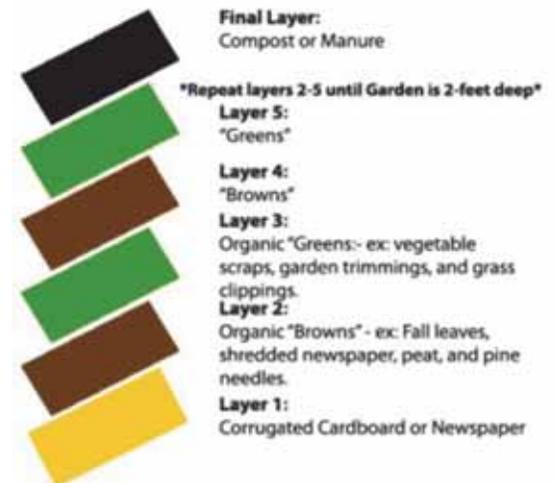
By Nichole Garden

Last year we employed the lasagna gardening method in the school's outdoor beds. We observed this method drastically cut down on the amount of weeds in the garden and so we are employing it again this year!

Lasagna Gardening also known as Sheet Composting is a way of gardening that builds your garden's soil by adding organic matter in layers and allowing the matter to compost directly on the garden beds. In the past we have helped our garden hibernate by covering our outdoor garden beds with straw, mulch, and cover crops and then removed the material in the spring. With lasagna gardening instead of removing the composted winter blanket we were able to plant directly into it.

Some benefits include:

- Preventing soil depletion from our lovely NW rain.
- Requires no tilling in the spring.
- Retains and adds organic matter right on the garden beds.
- Plants thrive in the spongy medium.
- Better water retention.
- Less need for fertilizer, because crops are planted in compost, which is very nutrient-rich.
- Teaches our students the importance of reciprocity with our Earth. We are giving back to our wonderful garden that gives so much to us.



If you would like to try Lasagna gardening at your home follow these layering instructions.

The first layer is made up of cardboard (with all tape removed) laid down over the garden bed. After the bed is completely covered with the cardboard saturate the cardboard with water. This will help keep the layers in place and entice the garden worms to assist in the decomposition of the organic matter.



The second, brown, layer is made up of organic browns such as fall leaves, shredded newspaper, peat, and straw. This brown layer will need to be two times as thick as the green layer that tops it.

The third, green, layer is made up of organic greens such as vegetable scraps, compost, coffee grounds, garden trimmings, and grass clippings.

This process should be repeated until the layered beds are about 2 feet high. Then cover with Compost or Manure and saturate with water. By spring the soil should be rich and fluffy and ready for plants to go directly into the organic composted medium.

Winter Rummage Sale at Lincoln Sat. Jan. 31st

The **Thurston Santo Tomas Sister County Association's** magnificent sale of gently used goods will take place on **Saturday, January 31st from 9 AM to 3 PM** in the Lincoln gym.

Proceeds from this annual event helps support a modest public library, children's free lunch program and college scholarships in our sister community in Nicaragua, including Lincoln's sister school, Escuela Ruben Dario.

Donations are gratefully accepted the night before from 4-7 pm.

For more info on donating or to volunteer, call Maureen at 464-5264 or email MaureenH313@comcast.net.

Lincoln Options Opus

January 2015

It's our Opus.

If you have an item for the Opus, please forward it to Sarah Clifthorne at opuseditor@gmail.com. The deadline for submissions is the **15th of each month** for the next month's issue. Questions? Feedback? Suggestions for improvements? Contact us via email. Thanks!

