

Ashbrook Compass



April 16, 2021

Message from Dr. Christopher A. Schoberl

Dear Ashbrook Community,

Thank you very much for a terrific visit to our campus last week and for the many chances you gave me to connect with you and with the Corvallis community!

While in Corvallis for several days, I was given daily reminders of what attracted me to Ashbrook in the first place and why this community is so special. Though I crossed state lines and needed to quarantine, you were super creative in the lengths you were willing to go to create opportunities for us to connect face to face: a hiking meeting to Bald Hill, a driving tour of Benton County, a Board gathering in a backyard, a family meeting on an AIS playground, a lovely family dinner at a Corvallis eatery, and coffee on a picnic table adjacent to our cafeteria.

I was also able to begin relationships by connecting with the leaders of area sending schools, the President of the Corvallis Chamber of Commerce, the Dean of the OSU School of Education, several prospective AIS families, the PTO, and the full faculty and staff, all via Zoom. As productive and enjoyable as these meetings were, my favorite Zooms, by far, were the chances I was given by our awesome faculty to Zoom into their classrooms and introduce myself to students. Their very good questions and sincere desire to get to know me were very impressive and right from the heart.

On top of these connecting points, warm greetings of “Good morning!” and “Welcome to Ashbrook!” and enthusiastic shouts of “GOOD MORNING Doc!” during drop off made me feel like I was home and have been at Ashbrook for years!

On my 10-hour drive back to Half Moon Bay, CA, I found myself trying to remember those famous lines from E.M. Forster’s *Howards End*, but had to look them up when I got home: “Only connect! Live in fragments no longer.” I think we succeeded in taking a step in this

direction! For those of you I met face to face or over Zoom, I am grateful for these memories, and as the restrictions associated with COVID continue to loosen, I look forward to other opportunities to connect.

Thanks, Chris

Dr. Christopher A. Schoberl
Head of School Elect

CHALLENGE – NURTURE – CARE - 2021

TOMORROW -- PlanetPalooza activities, 12-3 pm (see below for more info)

Next Week:

April 23 -- Middle School 'B Week' schedule

April 23 -- MS Movie Night (grades 4/5/6), Pizza at 5:30, Movie at 6 pm

Upcoming Dates:

April 30 -- Middle School 'A Week' schedule

April 30 -- MS Movie Night (grades 7 and 8), Pizza at 5:30, Movie at 6 pm

May 3-7 -- Staff Appreciation Week

May 14 -- Virtual Talent Show

Updated -- [2020-21 School Year Event Calendar](#)

New -- [2021-22 School Year Event Calendar \(DRAFT\)](#)

PlanetPalooza 2021 -- Join Us!

Did you know that Ashbrook has partnered with Parks and Recreation and the Environmental Center for over 20 years to create and lead our annual Procession of the Species here in Corvallis? Last year, we had to cancel for the first time ever. But as Earth Day 2021 approaches (in just over a week), we've been working hard once again with our community partners to create something fun, inspirational, and safe!

PlanetPalooza and the Procession are happening on Saturday, April 17th, but as with many things these days, they will look different. This year's Procession is a "reverse parade"; instead of marching in a large group, we will be spread out and physically distanced along the Riverfront. Participants will be filmed, either in costume or not, for a special Earth Day video celebration which will then be released on YouTube on Earth Day (Thursday, April 22nd).

There are several ways for people to be involved, and **we need our Ashbrook families to join in** and commit to fun, Earth Day, and our Corvallis community:

- **Volunteer:** Ten adults are needed to help organize and assist those who show up to be part of our video. This is a 3-hour commitment, from 12 noon to 3:00 pm on Saturday April 17th. You will be helping participants stay safe and physically distanced while the video is being filmed.
- **Show up:** We need people to be in the video -- and to play with sidewalk chalk! Spread the word to your friends and neighbors! Participants will come to Riverfront Park on Saturday April 17th for one of four 15-minute periods between 1:00 and 3:00 pm. Participants should register on the Parks and Rec page [HERE](#). You can dress in your best animal/vegetable/mineral costume--or not-- and smile for the camera! Bonus points if your student wears an Ashbrook shirt. This is a chance to inspire folks with our commitment to our community and to the Earth!
- **Watch and Like:** Our video celebration will be released on Earth Day, Thursday, April 22, on YouTube. We ask everyone to tune in; watch, enjoy, then hit "Like." Double bonus points for sharing on social media!

Let's bring the fun and our Ashbrook spirit to make this an Earth Day to remember! If you have questions, please email Mr. Olson or Mrs. Washburn.



**SATURDAY
APRIL 17
10AM - 3PM**

Join us in an early celebration of Earth Day! This is a FREE all ages, physically-distanced or virtual extravaganza that takes place in a variety of natural places around Corvallis or online.

VIRTUAL
(PRE-RECORDED OR IN-REAL)

Let's Talk about Climate Change with OSU's Dr. Andreas Schmittner (Zoom; pre-register) April 17, 12-1pm | April 22, 7-8pm

The Masque of Gaia presented by The Magic Theatre (pre-recorded)

SELF-GUIDED
(NO REGISTRATION NEEDED, AT VARIOUS PARKS)

Story Walk: "We've got the whole world in our hands" at Chilochoi Park with Benton County Library

Eco Surveys to Monitor Change Baffles by Mid-Valley STEM-CTE Hub with survey forms and info 10am-1pm at Riverfront, and observation sites at Porter, Willamette, Avery, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park

Bird Tales and Trails with Corvallis Audubon (4 local parks: Bruce Starkner Arts and Natural Area, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Willamette and Chilochoi)

IN-PERSON
(AVAILABLE TO REGISTER)

Wonders of the Watershed at Willamette Park with Corvallis School District 10am-10:30am | 11am-11:30am | 12pm-12:30pm

Reverse Parade: Procession of Species at Riverfront Park with Ashbrook Independent School 10am-1:00pm | 1:30pm-2:45pm

Garden Adventure at Starkner Arts Garden for Education with Corvallis Environmental Center 10am-10:30am | 11am-11:30am | 12pm-12:30pm

Hike at Chip Ross and Beyond with Avery Recreation 10am-10:30pm

Wetlands and Birds at Jackson Frazier Wetland with Benton County Natural Areas, Parks and Events 10am-10:45am | 11am-11:45am | 12pm-12:45pm

Pollinators & Planting at Corvallis Community Center 10am-10:30am | 10:30am-11am | 11am-12:30pm | 12:30pm-1pm

Birds of the Willamette Corvallis Sustainability Coalition 10am-10:45am | 11am-11:45am | 12pm-12:45pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND/OR TO REGISTER, GO TO corvallisoregon.gov/parksrec/page/special-events

All in-person activities follow ORH guidelines for COVID. Please plan to wear a mask and stay physically-distanced from other households.



Model United Nations conference

Last week, four Ashbrook students ably represented the Commonwealth of Australia as delegates to the Oregon High School Model United Nations conference. Abe Tsai presented a resolution drafted by his Human Rights committee in the General Assembly, while Connor Lindberg presented the first position paper in his Health and Human Services committee. Reid Gold dealt with the frustrations of trying to get the International Court of Justice to come to a unanimous decision on multiple resolutions, and Nina Schwartz participated in discussions in her Health and Human Services committee. This year's conference was presented on-line, and the delegates had the opportunity to listen to human-rights workers, foreign service officers, and non-profit founders. Well done, Team Australia!

Parent Perspective from the Wolff-Zevallos Family



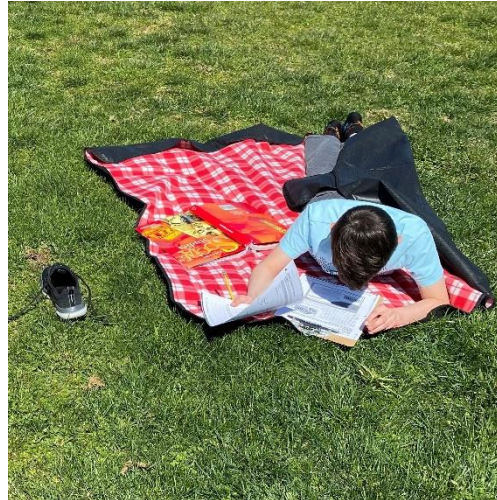
We moved to Corvallis 3 years ago from Austin, TX. At that time, we were zoned for a public school and I had my daughter all registered to start, but I didn't have any peace inside. The same day we visited the public school, we had tennis class where I fortuitously met three Ashbrook moms! They were so helpful and enthusiastic that THAT day we ran over to Ashbrook. From the moment I stepped inside and heard the peaceful flowing fountain, to the memories of performing in their beautiful theater (I am a cellist) I knew we had found the home for our kids.

I have profound respect for institutions that recognize the fundamental role Art plays in shaping our children's minds. Ashbrook has continuously demonstrated their commitment to the arts with their staff and curriculum, and their beautiful home-spun theater productions that engage the children's creativity and imagination. The teachers that inspire my children every day are confirmation that we are giving our children the best possible introduction to the fields of study that could lead them to fulfilling professional lives. I have witnessed such a rich and varied tapestry of education being laid out: ever crucial and fundamental STEM education, a brilliant introduction to cultural awareness and historical appreciation, and a holistic health and wellness emphasis. There is a balanced atmosphere provided to meet the needs of individual children with their unique talents and interests. The class sizes alone ensure a level of detailed care we couldn't have received in larger public schools.

Bravo to Ashbrook's response to the pandemic! We are SO grateful for the gymnastics that teachers and staff executed to keep our children sane and engaged this past year! Ashbrook's focus on the arts, their dedicated and inspiring teachers, the community of involved and supportive parents, the organized and friendly staff, and meticulous attention to the details of my children's health and safety are all reminders that there is nowhere else I could dream of sending my kids every day.

Victoria, Victor, Tessa (6th), and Max (1st)

The PTO awarded a mini-grant to Miss Kelley for outdoor blankets so 5th graders could be more comfortable studying outside.



Middle School Movie Nights

We're going to take advantage of our small class sizes and large theater for MS Movie Nights! All of our usual COVID precautions will still be in place, so we're splitting up the students by cohort, masks are required except while eating, and students will sit in specific seats in the theater to keep to our 6ft physical distancing requirements.

Pepperoni and cheese pizzas with flavored seltzer water will be served at 5:30, the movie starts at 6 p.m.

Robin Ippoliti Scholarship--Essay Contest

Current 5th – 7th Grade Students are invited to apply for the Robin Ippoliti Scholarship--Essay Contest. Entries are being accepted now through May 21, 2021.

Robin Ippoliti was one of the original teachers when Ashbrook was founded over 20 years ago. She provided not only her professional expertise, love of learning, and passion for history, but was a wonderful person who was admired and respected by students, parents, and colleagues alike.

Thanks to the generous support of many, a scholarship fund was created to honor the memory of Robin Ippoliti and all she did for our school and the strong legacy she left behind. This scholarship is available to students entering grades 6-8. The winner will be awarded \$1000 towards Ashbrook tuition for the 2021-2022 academic year. Announcement of the scholarship recipient will be made by June 4, 2021.



A small section of the Robin Ippoliti Memorial Garden in the Ashbrook Courtyard

2021 Talent Show

It's almost time for our Virtual Talent Show! Are you a magician? A celebrity chef in the making? Do you have some skateboarding skills you want to show off? Or a musical number to perform? Then submit to the Ashbrook Talent Show!

If you are interested in being featured in the May 14th virtual talent show, email your video submissions to Mrs. Coon. The video will be available via Google Drive for one week. We will need at least 4 student submissions to run the show.

Middle School Drumming Elective with Mr. Patané



Parent Volunteer Opportunity for 2021-22 service hours

The office needs help sorting through uniform donations and hanging them on the racks. The work would need to happen after students leave for the day, typically 3-4 pm. The hours earned will count towards 2021-22 family service hour requirements. Email Carol to arrange date and time.

Enrollment for 2021-22 Continues

Links:

[Family Handbook](#)
[Enrollment Contract](#)
[Payment Plans](#)

Deadlines:

4/23 - Financial aid awarded
4/30 - Enrollment Deposit due
6/15 - Early bird discount for lump sum tuition payments due
6/30 - Lump sum tuition payments due
8/2 - 10-month payment plan begins

If you have questions regarding tuition payments, payment plans, tuition insurance, or financial aid please contact Elaine Pettigrew.

The Summer Camp Program

The Ashbrook Summer Camp Program has returned! Our goal is to offer 8 weeks of camps, 5 days a week 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. The program is tailored to current preschool through 3rd grade students. Priority will be given to current Ashbrook students, but if space is available we will open spots to non-Ashbrook students who meet our qualifications for attendance in the program.

Click [HERE](#) to view the Summer Program information sheet that includes the themes for each week and a link to RSVP so you can save a spot for your student.

Recommend Ashbrook and Receive \$100 as a Thank You

Recommendations are the #1 reason other families come to Ashbrook. If you refer a family to Ashbrook and they go through the Admissions process, we will give you a \$100 credit toward your tuition or a \$100 gift card to your favorite store as a thank you for helping reinforce our enrollment efforts!

Sunny Days = Sunscreen and Hats

Students may have sunscreen in their backpack or cubby and they must be able to apply the sunscreen themselves. No spray sunscreens please! Hats and sunglasses are encouraged for outside wear only.

Please Drop-off Items Outside

We are still limiting traffic inside the building as much as possible, so please drop off items for teachers or students on the white table outside the front doors. Thank you!

Mr. Olson fired up the kiln to 1900 degrees this afternoon with the 5th grade class



Lunch Program / After School Program

We do not have enough families participating throughout the week to make the program sustainable at this time. If you are interested, please complete [this form](#) so we can add you to our numbers.

We are still able to provide After School care for PS-3 students. The updated registration form for the remainder of the year can be found [HERE](#). Due to staffing requirements needed to keep cohorts separate, we are unable to offer it for Grades 4-8 at this time.

Attendance Email

Please use the new attendance email address for any attendance information about your student - early pick-ups, doctor appointments, and upcoming vacations.

Current COVID Information

At this time, Benton County has 110 cases per 100,000 for the 3/28/20 - 4/10/21 time frame.

If your student has been exposed to COVID, we expect your student to be quarantined for 14 days. However, they may come back to school after 10 days if they do not experience any symptoms or after 7 days if they receive a negative test result from an antigen or polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test that was conducted within 48 hours of the end of the 7-day period.

Current Testing Sites:

WVT Laboratory, Drive-thru, 366 SW Washington Ave. 11am-4pm daily, no appointment necessary

Rite Aid, Drive-thru, 2080 NW 9th St. 10am-1pm, 2-8pm daily, appointment needed

Benton County Community Public Health, 530 NW 27th St. 8am-5pm Monday-Friday, appointment needed

Urgent Care Clinics operated by Samaritan or the Corvallis Clinic, call ahead for appointments and procedures

Visit <https://govstatus.egov.com/or-oha-covid-19-testing> for a current and updated list at any time.