

# Ashbrook Compass



February 4, 2022

Dear Ashbrook Family,

Thanks to all of those who completed the Parent Resource Partner Survey I sent back in the fall. Many of our teachers have reached out to ask you to speak to students, host trips, or help create programs to enhance the student experience, so we are grateful for that. We are issuing the survey once again in hopes you can update your availability and interests. If you are available to make presentations to our students, lead clubs, share your interests and passions, or introduce our young Explorers to your profession, please let us know by 3/1. This information will be shared with our teachers, who may reach out to arrange a connection.

## **Doc's Lawn Sign and Car Magnet "Explore Everywhere" Campaign**

Please remember that Doc has offered to donate \$50 to the Explorers Fund for every picture of a lawn sign (on your lawn) and a commitment to keep it there until June, AND \$25 for a pic of a car magnet on (on your car) with the same through June commitment. Be like Susan, Sabrina, and Nolan, and pick up your sign or magnet today (signs by the tiny library and magnets in the office)!





## Parent Wishlist

As we continue to build the budget for next year, we have queried staff and students regarding their hopes and dreams for Ashbrook's future; now it's time for our parents to weigh in. By 2/18, please use this spreadsheet (link removed) to indicate ANY "wishlist" items you would like to see at Ashbrook (we have purposely not used a Google Form because we want you to see what others are thinking, which may prompt other ideas). Just to manage expectations, as we have with students and staff, we can't make any promises about anything on these lists, but we can factor them into our vision for the future, next year maybe... or 10 years from now.

## Student Government Update

Our next Student Government meeting is scheduled for 2/16 at 3:15-4:00, on the Commons, pizza to be served. Please remind your child and plan accordingly, those who were there last time and those who are interested in learning more. [HERE](#) is our agenda/minutes doc, FYI.

Be well, Doc

Dr. Christopher A. Schoberl

Head of School

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## Next Week:

**Feb. 8** -- 4th and 5th grade fieldtrip to the Corvallis-OSU Symphony

**Feb. 10** -- Zoom Admission event (see below for details)

**Feb. 11** -- Foreign Language Festival

**Feb. 12** -- Rube Goldberg Challenge (more info [HERE](#))

## Upcoming Dates:

**Feb. 15-16** -- Oregon Battle of the Books (more info [HERE](#))

**Feb. 16** -- New Parent Coffee with Leadership

**Feb. 18** -- LS Movie Night

**Feb. 21** -- Presidents' Day; No School

**Feb. 22** -- Tutu Tuesday! Everyone is encouraged to wear tutus to school

[School Year Event Calendar](#)

[Family Volunteer Opportunities](#) -- 10 opportunities available!

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## Admissions and Enrollment Updates

Our next Admission Zoom event is a reprise of our mathematics teacher panel, 6:30-7:30 on Thursday, 2/10. The link to the PowerPoint presentation from last time is [HERE](#). (Doc promises to hit record this time!)

The video of our Beginning and Lower School Admissions event is [HERE](#). Please share with friends interested in a PS-8th grade school!

The Tuition Increase Zoom Town Hall Video [HERE](#). Please pass along to your Ashbrook friends who may not have seen it or who have questions.

As Admissions Season heats up, you may be asked about Ashbrook School. We are sure you have plenty to say on your own, but if you get stuck, consider using [Doc's top 10 things about Ashbrook](#) to brag about. Extra points if you pass this along to a friend interested in a school option for their child(ren).

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## Foreign Language Festival next Friday

Please join us for the 2022 Foreign Language Festival on Friday, February 11 from 2:10 - 2:50. A link to the performance will be provided via email next week.

All students will be sharing either a song, dance or skit that they have prepared in Chinese, French or Spanish. Come and celebrate with our students the wonderful diversity of languages that are spoken. Check out the pictures below for a tease of what you'll see.

Thank you for your support of the Foreign Language Program!

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## Do you have a thespian in your house?

It's time for the Spring Play auditions! Auditions will be done via video, so please read [this Audition FAQ](#). We will be doing two separate plays so the students can stay safely within their cohorts. Read more about the Lower School play [HERE](#), and information on the Middle School play can be found [HERE](#).

Please contact Ms. Kimberly if you have any questions.

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## Coffee with Leadership

Doc Schoberl and Rachel Sechler are continuing to make themselves available for monthly Zoom/in person coffees. They are titled "New Family" but anyone who wants can attend, new families especially. If you have any questions or want to share any observations, they have blocked out the following dates and will be in the library and in person as scheduled below. Zoom links for future months will be in the Compass.

- 2/16, 9-10am
  - 3/16, 2:30-3:00pm
  - 4/20, 9-10am
  - 5/18, 2:30-3:00pm
  - 6/8, 9-10am
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## Alumni Updates

**Kelsey Burkum** graduated 8th grade in 2006 as a member of the first class to go K-8 at Ashbrook. She was invited to put together a fashion/art collection to show at Break Free New York Fashion Week, a runway show with a cause. BFNY is looking to lead the discussion on mental health and substance use disorder within the fashion industry. They have invited mental health and addiction activists to not only walk in this show as models, but to be featured designers showcasing their collections for the world to see. For more information, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/170367834780>. Congrats Kelsey!

**Sean Hixon** graduated 8th grade in 2007, and he is the newest alumni profile on the Ashbrook website! Go [HERE](#) to read about Sean's amazing accomplishments since leaving Ashbrook. Thank you Sean!

We welcome alumni updates! Please have alumni contact Kelly Tynon.

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## **Apply now for a PTO Spring Mini-grant**

The Ashbrook PTO is proud to offer a second opportunity to apply for mini-grants this spring! Mini-grants are a way to request funding for supplemental learning experiences with additional resources/activities. The spring mini-grant applications are due March 18, 2022.

Previous grants include: Middle School Graphic Novel Library, Choir Club, Destination Imagination, First Lego League and First Lego League, Jr., "Eclipse" (student written/produced play), Cascades Raptor Presentation, Middle school author's visit.

Click [HERE](#) to download the application form with more information on activities/resources that are eligible with guidelines for funding. Send questions to Krista Lindberg or Jennifer Chang.

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## **Thank You for supporting the Explorers Fund!**

We are still collecting Explorers Fund donations--thank you! Every dollar means so much and we are inching closer to matching our stretch goal.

**Thank you to the following donors so far:** Anonymous, Marsha and Edgar Washburn, Tsuyoshi Yamashita and Zhuqing Zhang, Amy Kwock, Lexie Elliott, Diane and Greg Hammerstad, Ron and Soozie Stevens, Nicholas and Megan Dahl, Xin Wang and Bo Sun, Russell and Becky Weaver, Dave and Cecilia Gore, the Gottlieb Family, Kelly Tynon, Elaine Pettigrew, The Kinkade Family, John Teller and Amy Tykeson, Rachel and Mitch Sechler, The Burand family, Barbara Balen, Christopher Parrish and Deborah Kurnik, The Vets family, Aaron and Christy Rivers, Brittney and Jesse Bryant, Terrance Blackburne and Gayle Christensen, Fumiko Yamashita, Carol Alley, Adam and Anna May, Krista and Matthew Lindberg, Lori Tully and Chris Beatty, Lyle and Donna Ulrich, Richard and Kathy May, Jason and Kathleen Lin, Kerry Watkins and John Matthews, Jeff Hsing and Susan Lai, Tze-Yiu Yong and Debby Tao, Taal Levi and Jennifer Allen, Dongdong Shen and Jie Ma, Hongxia Wu and Yanming Di, Christopher and Eileen Schoberl, Anne and Andrew Rice, Stephanie and Patrick O'Connor, Thomas and Diane Dukes, and Paul and Susan Schwarz.

Giving through our website is the easiest way to donate. Click [HERE](#) to be taken directly to the Explorers Fund page where you can donate via a credit card or EFT/ACH. (Tax ID #93-1131186)

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## **The 8th graders are taking over Ashbrook social media!**

We want our 8th grade class be the face and voice of the official Ashbrook social media accounts this spring. This privilege is only being offered to 8th grade students, and we believe they will showcase the best Ashbrook has to offer. We piloted the program last week with Bernice Liu acting as

our Content Creator and received a lot of positive feedback. Our hope is to offer this privilege to the 8th grade class every spring as we ramp up our marketing for the admissions season. While alumni profiles on the Ashbrook website are a great way for parents to see where our students go when they leave, we think this student “takeover” is a great way to showcase the student experience while they are still at Ashbrook. Start following the Ashbrook Facebook and/or Instagram accounts to see upcoming Content Creator weeks!

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### **4th and 5th grade field trip to OSU**

Ashbrook students in 4th and 5th grade will attend a live-performance by the Corvallis-OSU Symphony on Tuesday, February 8th at 12:30pm at the LaSells Stewart Center. The concert hall is quite large, and due to the small number of schools attending, the organizers of the event have assured us that there will be more than enough room to keep schools/classes separated.

If you have any questions, please email Mr. Hoge. He is thrilled to be able to share live music performed by professional musicians with his students!

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### **UNICEF Coin Challenge Success**



As you may have heard, the MS students won the recent UNICEF coin challenge. It was pretty close for a long time, but they pulled ahead late on Tuesday afternoon.

I am exceedingly proud of all of the students who participated in the challenge. No matter who won, UNICEF wins. I was very impressed with how enthusiastically our students engaged with this challenge; their energy was a source of inspiration for the staff and me.

For winning the challenge, the MS has won a week of dress code free days and a pizza party. As I mentioned to many of them, and will mention to Student Government at our next meeting if it is not yet resolved, I need someone to tell me which week they will be dress code free and the preferred date of their pizza party.

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### **Ashbrook School Tag Sale Fundraiser April 2, drop-off every Friday morning**

Michelle Ryan collected approximately 8 boxes of goodies today in the first Tag Sale collection day! She will be by the front doors every Friday during morning drop-off to collect your donations of gently used items for the tag sale. If you can't make it between 7:30 and 8:30 am or you need us to do a pick up, we can arrange another time.

We will accept books, tools, sporting equipment, toys, record albums, electronic equipment, crafts, plants, antiques, bicycles, car parts, hobby items and more. Please no clothing or child safety items (car seats, cribs, etc).

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### **Still relevant**

**Family Referral Stipend** -- If we end up enrolling a new Explorer family you refer to our school, you will earn a \$100 referral stipend.

**Ashbrook Adult Ambassadors** -- We have 4 Ambassadors on our website [HERE](#). If you are interested in corresponding via email with prospective parents regarding Ashbrook, please be in touch with Kelly Tynon. Many thanks to Kathy, Sabrina, Brandy, and Brittney for accepting the mantle of AAAs!

**Parent Volunteers** - The Office needs your updated COVID card with your booster vaccine. Please email a picture of it to Miss Rachael at [rlevy@ashbrookscool.org](mailto:rlevy@ashbrookscool.org).

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### **Beyond Ashbrook**

**The Minoru Yasui Student Contest** -- An essay contest open to high school and middle school students and offers them the timely opportunity to explore how people can stand up to racism and discrimination. For the full criteria, requirements, resources, and awards, please visit the Minoru Yasui Legacy Project's [Student Contest website](#).

**Virtual Middle School Women in STEM Workshop Feb. 26** -- Discovering the Scientist Within (DSW) is a free half-day workshop designed to encourage young women to pursue science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) careers. It's offered through OSU's Precollege Programs Office, and registration is required. To find out more, visit <http://beav.es/ZCq>.

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### **COVID News**

**IMPORTANT!** -- We are asking parents to opt INTO blanket permission to test their children using the [BinaxNOW](#) quick test. Please use [this form](#) to indicate that we have your permission to test your child.

**COVID Policy Update** -- Rachel Sechler has been named the voice of Ashbrook's responses to all of your COVID questions. Please reach out to her if you have any inquiries about school policy or if you are wondering about specific scenarios related to your family's quarantine or testing status, but [please check here first](#), where you may find your question answered. If you do text Doc or call the

school and get Carol or Rachael on the phone, they will ask some specific questions and then relay your query to Rachel, so we thank you for your patience ahead of time.

Current Ashbrook COVID statistics can be found [HERE](#).

Please visit the [Benton County COVID-19 website](#) for upcoming vaccination and testing events.

Ashbrook has enrolled in Oregon Health Authority's COVID-19 Screening Program for K-12 students. For more details, click [HERE](#).

