

# Ashbrook Compass



January 28, 2022

Dear Ashbrook Family,

Is it Monday Yet? is my once monthly attempt to address developmental and topical issues we confront as we “challenge and nurture” our children. This month's topic is, "What Shirtless Dancing Guy can Teach Students about Leadership."

For the first time in anyone's memory, students met with the Head of School yesterday afternoon to discuss the creation of an Ashbrook Student Council. About 25 students from grades 5-8 took time away from their after school lives to spend time with me. OK, so I did offer pizza, and a few may have been inspired as much by that as by the opportunity to engage in a discussion with the Head of School! Still, the conversation was animated and students engaged enthusiastically with the task before them, even after the pizza was gone:

What would you like your teachers to know about why a Student Council is important to you?

Read the rest [HERE](#).

Be well, Doc

Dr. Christopher A. Schoberl

Head of School

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## Next Week:

**Feb. 2** -- PTO meeting via Zoom, 9 am

**Feb. 4** -- MS Movie Night (the original Jumanji), free pizza at 5:30 and movie at 6pm.

## Upcoming Dates:

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

**Feb. 12** -- Rube Goldberg Challenge

**Feb. 15-16** -- Oregon Battle of the Books (more info below)

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

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

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

[School Year Event Calendar](#)

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

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### **PTO meeting on Wednesday**

Please join via Zoom

Meeting ID: 893 220 4776

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### **Upcoming Admissions Event and recording of last one**

On Thursday, 2/10 our fabulous math and science teachers will once again deliver their awesomeness in a Zoom panel discussion on mathematics and science at Ashbrook School. Please tune in using this information:

Join Zoom Meeting

ID: 94043550805

If you know of anyone with early childhood through 4th grade children, whether or not they are looking for a school for their children, please consider sending them [this video of our Beginning and Lower School teacher panel](#). And ask them to send it on to their friends who may be interested in Ashbrook as an option!

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### **Tuition Increase Zoom Town Hall Recording**

If you missed it, please log into [the video recording](#) of our Thursday evening Tuition Increase Zoom Town Hall Presentation, a very informative 35 minutes. Please be in touch with Doc or Tze if you have any questions.

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## First grade lined the hallway with life-sized penguin art!



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## Ashbrook Adult Ambassadors

We have 3 Ashbrook Adult Ambassadors on our website and a 4th parent has expressed interest--THANK YOU!! If you are interested in corresponding via email with prospective parents regarding Ashbrook, please be in touch with Kelly Tynon. It's a great way to volunteer your time and an easy way to [brag about our school](#). The AAAs can be found on the website [HERE](#).

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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, and Anne and Andrew Rice.

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 and please share the link with family and friends who may also want to support Ashbrook. Ashbrook Independent School is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and gifts may be tax deductible. (Tax ID #93-1131186)

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

These are just a couple of the photos our 8th grade "Content Creator of the Week" Bernice Liu posted this week. Check out all of her posts on the Ashbrook Facebook and Instagram accounts!

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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. We are privileged to be among only four schools attending this event live. This concert is designed for young listeners and will be interactive and engaging for students of all levels.

For this field trip, students will walk in cohorted groups to and from the concert, under the supervision of Ms. Kelley (5th), Mrs. Jenson (4th) Mr. Hoge, and Doc.

While at the LaSells Stewart Center, classes/schools will sit in multiple rows separated by at least one seat in between each student/teacher. All live audience members (students and teachers) are required to wear a mask for the duration of the concert. Additionally, all of the performing musicians are fully vaccinated and will wear masks. 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 Drive**

Who is winning--Lower School or Middle School? It's hard to say!

No matter who wins, UNICEF wins. Parents are encouraged to send their children to school with that spare change that you can shake out of the couch cushions or that's spilling out of that jar on the counter. (No pressure, but the winning students get a free dress day and a pizza party!)

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**Harry Potter Club for grades 2-4 is off and running! We have eight 2nd graders, three 3rd graders and six 4th graders.**

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### **New Family Referral Stipend from Doc Schober!**

There is nothing better than word of mouth advertising, especially in the nonprofit world of independent schools. And if we end up enrolling a new Explorer family you refer to our school, you will earn a \$100 referral stipend.

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### **Rube Goldberg Ashbrook Challenge February 12**

Spectators are welcome to watch our Rube Goldberg Machine Challenge! More information on the Rube Goldberg Machine Challenge is [HERE](#). Ashbrook is fielding not one but TWO Rube Goldberg Machine Challenge teams!

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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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### **In-House OBOB Competitions Just Around the Corner**

Our Ashbrook OBOB teams continue to read and practice diligently, getting ready for the in-house battles February 15 and 16. We have 29 students and nine coaches making up eight teams, all preparing to do their level best in the upcoming battles. The in-house battles will result in two surviving teams, one from the Lower School and the other from the Middle School. Those two teams will progress to the regional competitions to be held virtually in April (dates TBA). Regardless of which two teams prevail in-house, Ashbrook will be proudly represented in the Regionals! The full list of students and coaches can be found [HERE](#) (link removed).

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### **Math Insights by Mr. Wilson**

In Geometry, when we're learning about points of concurrency, students learn how to find the centroid of a triangle. The centroid is the point that is the center of gravity of the triangle. Our students construct their own triangles and find the centroids. Once students locate their triangle's centroid, they are able to find the balancing point of the triangle, and balance their triangle on the tip of their pencils.



## Fifth Annual Minoru Yasui Student Essay Contest

Organized by the [Minoru Yasui Legacy Project](#) and the [Japanese American Museum of Oregon](#), the Minoru Yasui Student Contest is 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. In the process, they will learn about the life and legacy of Minoru Yasui, the only Oregonian to have been awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Submission deadline is March 1, 2022.

This year, we are pleased to offer a \$1000 grand prize for the Senior Division and a \$500 grand prize for the Junior Division. For the full criteria, requirements, resources, and awards, please visit the Minoru Yasui Legacy Project's [Student Contest website](#).

Interested in Learning More? The Minoru Yasui Student Contest Committee is excited to announce an upcoming workshop in partnership with Grant High School in Portland. This virtual workshop is open to any students wanting to learn more about the prompt, resources and tips for contest submissions. Please share this information with students who may be interested.

Tuesday, February 3rd, 6-7pm PST, Join the workshop using [this link](#)

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## COVID News

**NEW!** -- In order to streamline the process we need to go through once we discover a student has been exposed to a positive case of COVID, 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.

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

The pediatric Medical Director of Samaritan Hospital says the following about masks: *Of utmost importance is adherence and fit. Cloth masks that are poor fitting and single layered are the least helpful. By wearing multiple layers and ensuring proper fit, we believe that there is reduced risk of viral spread. For the next few weeks as we experience a sharp increase in case count, asking parents to check fit and ensure that masks have multiple layers (or double up), are good steps to take.*

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. This weekly testing program is entirely optional. You can pick-up a barcoded test kit on Monday mornings from the orange bucket just outside the front door, test your child that night or Tuesday morning, and return the test Tuesday morning. You will receive confidential results in 1-2 days. For more details, click [HERE](#).

With the arrival of the Omicron variant, it is highly recommended that you test your children on a regular basis. Please take advantage of this opportunity to mitigate the possible spread, which is especially important during the winter months when we are more likely to share indoor air than during the warmer months.

