

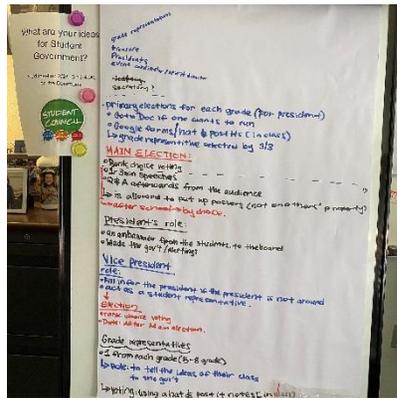
# Ashbrook Compass



February 25, 2022

Dear Ashbrook Family,

I am so incredibly proud of our provisional student government. The students who have been meeting for the past three Thursdays to discuss what they think student government should be met yesterday without me. Earlier in the week I noticed I was double booked and was tempted to reschedule but saw it as a chance to provide our students with a leadership opportunity, and they rose to the occasion. I met with them at the outset and shared my expectation for a deliverable... and they DELIVERED! Congratulations, those in attendance, for a FABULOUS job, a wonderful outcome, and something strong to work with moving forward. AND you cleaned up the pizza boxes: you are my heroes!



Be well, Doc

Dr. Christopher A. Schoberl  
Head of School

P.S. Lower School won the Tutus Challenge on Tuesday, 2/22/22, so they will be awarded a dress code free day, TBD. Here, kindergartner Hazel is rocking her tutu and going twinsies with Doc and Gorby.



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### Next Week:

**Feb. 28** -- Free Dress Day for LS students (Coin challenge reward gift from the MS students)

**March 1-4** -- Free Dress Days for MS students (Coin challenge reward)

**March 1** -- Pizza for MS students in the Commons at 2:45 pm (Coin challenge reward)

**March 2** -- PTO meeting via Zoom at 9 am

**March 4** -- PTO Fun Night ([see details below for LS and MS-specific times](#))

### Upcoming Dates:

**March 10** -- MS Concert at 6 pm

**March 11** -- No School; End of Term

**March 16** -- Founders Day

**March 17** -- Half-day of school; dismiss at 12 noon

**March 17 & 18** -- Parent Teacher Conferences

**March 21-25** -- Spring Break

### [School Year Event Calendar](#)

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

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## Preschool Paleontologists!



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## Admissions and Enrollment Updates

### Re-enrollment

The 2022-2023 enrollment season has started! You should have received an email with enrollment steps for the 22-23 school year. Here are some additional documents for your reference as you plan for the new year. Please remember to read the Family Handbook, sign the enrollment contract, and then pay the deposit in MSP in order to finalize your student's enrollment.

- [2022-23 Payment Options Summary](#)
- [2022-23 Dewar Tuition Insurance leaflet](#)
- [2022-23 After School Program Registration](#)
- [2022-23 Ashbrook Family Handbook](#)

### Open House March 31

Do you have friends with school-aged children who are interested in Exploring Extraordinary? If so, please let them know (and feel free to push out on social media or forward) about the Ashbrook School Open House, Live and In Person, 3/31, 3:30-5:00pm. Drop in for some coffee and to meet school leadership, have your questions answered, and tour our beautiful campus! Details to follow!

### Admissions Resources

If you know someone who could benefit, please pass these resources along:

- December Admission Event: 12/7 slideshow, [The Arts as Essential Curriculum at Ashbrook School](#)
  - January Admission Event: 1/19 video, [Ashbrook's Beginning and Lower School Experience: an Excellent Education is Built on a Strong Foundation](#)
  - February Admission Event: 2/10 video, [Math/Science Education at Ashbrook: Lifting Up the Bottom vs. Pushing Down the Top](#)
  - A Second February Admission Event: 2/24 video, [Humanities, Foreign Language, and Physical Education at Ashbrook School](#)
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## PTO Fun Night March 4

The Ashbrook PTO is excited to host its first in-person student event of 2022! On Friday, March 4, we are inviting the Lower School student cohort (Kindergarten to 4th) and the Middle School student cohort (5th to 8th) for a carnival-themed Fun Night at school. There will be fun games and prizes, a photo booth, and pizza dinner with delicious cupcakes by Rachel Terry for dessert.

We will be welcoming the Lower School and Middle School cohorts separately.

- 4:30 - 6:00: Lower School Cohort (student drop off and pickup at the front door)
- 6:30 - 8:00: Middle School Cohort (student drop off and pickup through the fire lane hallway door)

We will be sending a separate email next week with RSVP/Permission slips and a link to volunteer sign-ups, so be on the lookout! Please email Jennifer Chang if you have any questions.

If you would like to be a volunteer chaperone, please fill out [the Background Check form](#), [the Confidentially Form](#), and provide a copy of your vaccination card with booster to Miss Rachael no later than Tuesday, March 1. Your vaccination card, background check, and confidentially form must be on file before you can volunteer.

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## Welcome New Families!

We extend a warm Ashbrook welcome to our new Preschool student June and her parents Robbin and Andy Stevenson!



We also welcome our new 4th grade student Jane and her parents Huiqing Zheng and Zelang Jian! (Jane politely declined having her picture taken.)

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## Board of Trustees Update

The Board was busy in December and January discussing the tuition increase for AY22-23 that has been communicated to parents. The Board's discussion looked at impacts on parents, the influence of inflation and the hiring environment that the school finds itself in as well as the impact on staff retention, enrollment and the school's overall business model.

In December's meeting, the Board also talked about the math de-tracking activities going on in the Corvallis schools. This doesn't reflect how Ashbrook manages a child's education and there was discussion about integrating this messaging into our upcoming admissions events. In January, we discussed with our accountant the use of expert resources in the area of financial planning and management for schools like Ashbrook. We also discussed work that we've already done as a Board related to our fiduciary responsibilities (e.g. financial policies, reviewing our investment assets performance).

During the HOS report in January, we talked about the enrollment funnel, the admissions event for BS / LS, reviewed the projected 22-23 budget, recent security installations, HVAC expenses and its impact on future budgets and finally COVID exposure statistics.

Finally, we talked about a teen dating policy for the school.

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## Only 1 sign left in Doc's Explore Everywhere campaign!

Please remember to send doc your pics and he will donate \$50 to the Explorer's Fund for every sign and \$25 for every car magnet... unless you took one of the signed ones, in which case those pics are worth twice as much! My great thanks to those of you who continue to enthusiastically engage with the sign planting and magnet sticking!



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## Library News



However you say it, it's good news for students and staff. The cards will be ready for use by Friday, March 4th. They look just like Ashbrook ID cards, with one exception—on the back is your unique library patron barcode for scanning when you check out books. The cards will be organized by grade in a card holder on the library desk. Stay tuned for more information on browsing and checking out books from our library!

Happy Reading! ~Bookly and Stax

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## Congratulations MathCounts participants!

Congratulations to Kai Y, Arlo O., Natalie Y., Chris B., Anna R., Alison L., and Keira L, who all competed in the 2022 Mathcounts Chapter Competition last week. These mathletes put in a valiant performance with the team of Kai, Arlo, Natalie and Chris placing third in a very competitive Chapter that includes schools in West Linn and Clackamas County. Kai placed first in the Chapter (a repeat of 2021!) and will be advancing to the State Competition next month. Way to go Kai!

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## Don't forget to order your 2021-2022 Yearbooks!

Go to [ybpay.lifetouch.com](http://ybpay.lifetouch.com) and search by school or use our code: 12883622 to place your order. All orders need to be made by April 8th.

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## Keep the donations coming for the Tag Sale Fundraiser April 2!

Our Tag Sale donation collection is growing--thank you!!! Michelle Ryan will be by the front doors every Friday between 7:30 and 8:30 am. Also, Michelle will need volunteers to help set-up in the 2 days leading up to the sale as well as to help on the day of the sale. Please email Ms. Tynon and she will put you in touch with Michelle.

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## Ashbrook in the News

Here is an [article in the Corvallis Advocate](#) that mentions our Arts as Essential Zoom panel from December 7th. (see link above)

Here is a [Philomath News story](#) about Ashbrook's Rube Goldberg Machine Contest, including a [photo gallery](#), in addition to [The Gazette Times video](#) and [article](#) on the Rube Goldberg Machine Contest, appearing on the front page on 2/13.

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## Staffing Updates

As we look ahead to the next school year, we will include regular staffing updates here in the Compass to keep families informed of any changes taking place at Ashbrook. Our current job postings:

- [First Grade Teacher](#)
  - [Theater Arts Specialist](#)
  - [Summer Program Assistant Teacher](#)
  - [Kitchen Assistant](#) (parents of current students encouraged to apply to work alongside Chef Fabio Patanè and receive 50% tuition discount)
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### **Still relevant**

**Explorer's Fund** -- The Explorers Fund drive is still going strong! The Board of Trustees and an anonymous donor pledged \$50,000 in matching funds, and we are close to meeting our full challenge goal! 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)

**Parent Wishlist** -- **It's not too late** to add your hopes and dreams for Ashbrook's future! Please use [this spreadsheet](#) (link removed) to indicate ANY "wishlist" items you would like to see at Ashbrook.

**Apply now for a PTO Spring Mini-Grant** -- The spring mini-grant applications are due March 18. 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.

**Parent Resource Partner Survey, Round 2** -- 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 [HERE](#) by 3/1.

**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.

**Parent Volunteers** - The Office needs your updated COVID card with your booster vaccine. Please email a picture of it to Miss Rachael.

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## Beyond Ashbrook

Our own **Ms. Kimberly Olbrich** is in a community theatre production of "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time" based on the book by the same name. It's a livestream production available through February 27. Visit [Majestic.org](https://www.majestic.org) to read a full description of the production and purchase a "ticket" for the link and password.

**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](#). Deadline is March 1.

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## COVID News

Earlier this month, OHA announced that the K-12 mask rule would be lifted on March 31. Yesterday, they updated this date to March 19th, "in order to keep alignment between the dates for lifting the statewide face covering expectations in the K-12 settings and the lifting of the general indoor public spaces masking requirement." In the next week, Ashbrook will fine tune our masking plan moving forward, and will be in touch with details in our 3/4 Compass.

Following March Break, 3/21-3/25, Ashbrook will ask for all students to be quick tested on Sunday, 3/27 prior to the first class day back, Monday, 3/28. Here are your options:

1. Purchase a BinaxNOW quick test, the brand we have been relying upon because it is super accurate, and test your child(ren) at home. We would recommend ordering these now as we anticipate a rush on them prior to students returning to school after breaks. If your child is positive, please consult the When should I Keep my Student Home? document [HERE](#).
2. Visit Doc on campus on Sunday, 3/27, and allow him to curb test your child(ren) using the BinaxNow quick test. You will drive away with your test and be in touch with Doc only if it is positive. In exchange, Doc asks that if you have a dog, you bring it so he can get some pets in! If this is of interest to you, please RSVP.

Mrs. Sechler is the contact for 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.

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

Number of Ashbrook Samples Tested

