

GREEN RIVER MONTESSORI SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Dear GRMS Families,

Welcome spring! April showers bring May flowers! As mentioned in last month's newsletter, we will have a "Spring Festival" at Green River College on Friday, April 12th. This will include our families from the Brick Schoolhouse. This year we will have our children perform on stage. There will be a slide show of the infants and toddlers. Please read this newsletter for further details.

Our new heat, air-conditioning and air filtration will be installed the week of **April 8-12th**. Classrooms will be as follows:

- **D-1** – Main office area (enter via the front office)
- **D-2** – The Annex (enter through the lattice area, lower parking lot)
- **U-1 and U-3** – Brick Schoolhouse 1015 Harvey Rd (you may need to park at the Denistry Building located on the same side of the street at 11033 Harvey Rd, and then walk over).
- **U-2** -Gym at the Annex (enter through the lattice area, lower parking lot)

The elementary is on Spring Break. Attendance for all others is optional for this week. Just let us know if you plan to be gone for any portion of the week. On Friday, April 12th please try to pick up early if you can so we can prepare for the Spring Festival at the college.

Looking forward to sunny days,

Diana and the GRMS Staff

Volume 49, Issue 8

April 2024



Important Dates To Remember

Spring Break

April 8-12
No School for the Brick
Schoolhouse students.

School Renovations

April 8-12

Spring Event

April 12th 6-7:30pm
Green River College

Graduation Celebration

Thursday, June 6th
6:00-7:30 pm



Member of
Washington Federation
of Independent Schools

Approved by



Spring Break

There's no school for the Brick Schoolhouse during the week of April 8-12th.

If childcare is needed for this week, please contact the office. There will be an additional fee for those who are not part of the childcare program.

Cakes/Desserts Needed

Please let us know if you want to sign-up to donate a cake or other delicacy for our "Cake Run" scheduled for April 12th at our Spring Festival. The cake or dessert needs to be enough for 12. It can be donuts, cupcakes, pie, or a special dessert. This fun event is part of our fundraising efforts.

BRING CAKE DIRECTLY TO THE EVENT!

Fundraising Profits

The fundraising profits will help to pay for the venue for our spring festival. Remaining proceeds go directly into our Activity Account which will go toward the special events for our Summer Program. Families who do not attend during the summer can accompany their child for the weekly special event.

Raffle Tickets

In conjunction with our Spring Festival, we are asking families to each sell 20 raffle tickets (or more) at \$1.00 each. Families can sell them, buy them themselves, or return them. We are hoping that they won't be returned! The raffle will be for big ticket items, including a \$300.00 tuition credit to the family who sells the winning ticket! Other items for the raffle will be donation of items from the community. The winning ticket will be drawn at our Spring Festival.

Gardening for All Children!

We will be doing some gardening at the main school this month. Please feel free to send a small flowerpot for your child to replant in our garden boxes.



**FUNDRAISER
RAFFLE**

Year End Tax Statements

Tax Information is still available. April 15th is just around the corner. Please email requests to grms@comcast.net.

Our Tax Identification number is: 91-1171288

Remaining 2023-2024 School Calendar

Closure Dates:

April 8-12th Spring Break
(Brick Schoolhouse Only)

May 27 – Memorial Day

June 7th – Last Day of School

June 19 – Juneteenth

July 4 & 5 – Independence Day

August 26-30th – Closed for Inservice Week

Classroom Garden Pots

ALL DONATIONS TOWARD THE POTS
NEED TO BE TURNED IN BY APRIL 5TH.



To prepare for our Spring Festival, each classroom is putting together a Garden Container to be auctioned off. Containers will vary based on the items collected. It might be a large flowerpot, a wooden raised garden box, a wheelbarrow, a small picnic table, etc. The items will be personalized by each classroom. Each family is asked to add to the container. This can be anything that goes along with the garden theme from just a few dollars in price to \$20.00 or more! **Some ideas include:**

Seeds, soil, small gardening tools, garden gloves, garden apron, or garden décor'. It can also be **Gift Cards**--Visa, Lowes, Home Depot, Target, Walmart, or any card you prefer!

Fundraising Report

Profits (so far) from Flower Power - \$515.00

Profits from Reading for Education - \$441.00

Thanks to the generous efforts of our GRMS families, the teachers earned more than \$4,000 in gift cards to be spent on school supplies for their individual classrooms.

Money continues to come in for the Italy Study tour that supports Mrs. Fietz and Mrs. Anstrom. They have nearly reached their goal! Your donations from the **Number Board** will be charged to your account on May 25th and will be fully credited toward your Fundraising Obligation.

Spring Festival

Schedule:

5:40-6:00 Arrivals/Silent Auction/Seating

6:00-6:50 Slide Show & Performances

6:50-7:15 Cake Run
and Silent Auction Completion

7:15-7:30 Raffle and Closing

Location:

Green River College – Cascade Hall
Inside the Student Affairs (SA) Building
<https://www.greenriver.edu/campus/welcome-desk/main-campus-map/>

Best to enter via the East Entrance and park in P10, P11, or P12.

Table Reservations

Seating is for 240 individuals. To make sure we have enough seating, each table is set for 10 individuals (children have separate seating on the floor in front of the stage). **If you want to reserve seating at the event, please let us know.**

There are 9 front row tables - \$25.00 each

There are 12 other tables – No Charge (we will assign the table and seating)

There are 2 tables on the side in front reserved for staff.

If there are open seats at your table (even if you have reserved it), we will fill it with other families that need a seat. If you have an infant, you may want to bring a carrier.

Please check in at the table near the lobby when you arrive so that you can be given your seat assignment.

Proceeds from the event will pay for the costs associated with using the college and organizing the auction items. Left-over profits will pay for special events during the summer.

Summer Sign-ups

Our summer sign-ups are completed and it looks like we have almost everyone continuing for our summer program. We have a great line-up of activities including children's music entertainer, Nancy Stewart, the Insect Safari, and the Splash Time Fun Company. Community helpers are being scheduled for our Community Helper Week. We will also have our annual Hawaiian Luau, and our Playground Carnival. It will definitely be a fun summer, especially with central air conditioning which will be throughout the main building and the gym.

The Brick Schoolhouse will be closed after June 7th and the school-age group will have their classroom in the gym.

Employee Retention

It's important that our school retain its teachers and support staff. We know how important it is for the children (and parents) to see the same faces each day. Green River Montessori provides health and dental coverage and a 401K option for employees. We were able to award Christmas bonuses this past year and education support as well.

Through parent participation in our various fundraising efforts, teachers were able to add money to their Activity Account and never have had to buy supplies out of their own pockets. Our high-quality rating through Early Achievers has also added revenue to our school to invest directly into maintaining our level of excellence.

Thank you for helping us retain our quality staff.

Welcome new teacher, Ms. Natacha to our Infant/Toddler community (D-1). She will train with us the first week of April and start working on April 15th.

Volunteer Hours

To enhance each child's experience at our school, we must all work together. Each GRMS family is expected to earn 500 points per child (or pay \$200.00 per child) during the schoolyear to satisfy this effort. Here are some ideas:

- ✓ Assist on field trips or swim lessons (Brick House only) – 25 points each time.
- ✓ Respond to school needs (Varies)
- ✓ Participate in fundraising (20% of what you sell can be applied as cash instead of points. **You must keep track.**)
- ✓ Donate cash toward teacher professional development (**entire donation applies**)
- ✓ Donate to classroom Amazon wish lists (75% of cost)
- ✓ **Cake donation for Spring Festival – 25 Points**
- ✓ Donation toward gift basket for the Spring Festival – 25 Points

500 Points – Meets \$200.00 Requirement

450 Points – Deduct \$180.00

400 Points – Deduct \$160.00

350 Points – Deduct \$140.00

300 Points – Deduct \$120.00

250 Points – Deduct \$100.00

200 Points – Deduct \$80.00

150 Points – Deduct \$60.00

Remember, it is up to you to keep track of your points and/or donations and to submit your written documentation by May 20th. It will be deducted on the May 25th billing cycle.