REMINDERS

Tax Day, April 15th
We can provide a print-out of your 2009 payments.

Schedule Change Deadline
Complete a schedule change form by April 15th, for a change to go into effect the first of May.

Upcoming Forms Available–
4/16– Summer Zero Week
   Due back April 29th
4/30– Summer Applications
   Due back May 10th
5/17– Fall Applications
   Due back May 29th

4j No-School Day
Friday, April 16th.
This only effects Jay/Mallard/Ellie rooms, which are open all day. The rest of Moss Street is open as usual. Parents of school agers must sign up at your child’s classroom to have care.
Email Mary at: marymac@uoregon.edu.

Let Your Voice Be Heard

The University of Oregon is evaluating the status of the EMU and the SRC to determine if the facilities are meeting the needs of the campus community and if renovations and expansions are needed.

One of the key components of this undertaking is to learn about how you use the EMU and SRC - or the reasons you don't. This will help the U of O better meet your needs and those of future students.

On April 6th all students, faculty, and staff will receive an invitation to complete an online survey asking how they currently use these facilities and what they would like to see in a renovated and expanded EMU and SRC. Your participation in this survey is vital to the success of the U of O efforts.

Check out the website http://yourvoice.uoregon.edu/ for more information about these projects, the great prizes you could win for completing the survey, like a PC or Mac laptop, and other ways you can let your voice be heard.
Taylor Schefstrom, a photo-journalism student and a student staff in the Robin Room, has been working on a photographic project about children from the Toddler and Preschool classrooms. The initial project took place several weeks ago with the final product eventually being showcased on a professional website. This project can be seen at www.immunemedia.com and is titled ‘2 Eyes’, follow the link called “filter” to a link called “UO assignments” and then you will see “Two Eyes”.

The response to the project was so great that Taylor wanted to expand the project. She has compiled photos and printed a poster-sized piece that is currently displayed in the Moss Street lobby for everyone to enjoy.

“The variety and beauty of all the faces at Moss St. was truly an inspiring subject and I really think this project let the beauty of every individual child shine through.” she says.

If you see your child and are interested in obtaining a print contact the front office and a message can be sent along to Taylor.
Dear Parents,

I wanted to use my space this month to update you on some Moss Street business that has been pending, and might have you wondering, “What’s up with that?”

(Traffic Control) Signage for the streets surrounding the entrance of Moss Street Children’s Center
I found the proper folks to contact (City of Eugene Public Works Department), and emailed them several weeks ago. When I called them two weeks ago, to follow up, they told me I hadn’t waited long enough to expect a reply as they had to do a study of the area and pull together information.

Additional lighting for the areas surrounding Moss Street Children’s Center
I contacted Dana Winitzky, who is the head of facilities for the EMU. Dana gave me the name of an approved U of O vendor. Jeff Guckenberger, of JKG Guckenberger Electrical Contractors, came to Moss Street and assessed the situation. Jeff suggested we install two attractive pole lamps (like the green one at the southeast corner of the parking lot on 17th Avenue). One would be placed in our flower bed at the corner of Moss and 17th, and the other, on 17th in our flower bed there, several yards north of our building. The quote is $9931 for the work and materials, $95 for the electrical permit. Discussion of funding options for lighting will be addressed at our next parent council meeting.

Search for an Assistant Director
The search for an assistant director was postponed while the personnel at both Moss Street and the EMU reconsidered the administrative structure of our child care facility. With the increased emphasis on risk management, training and compliance to numerous agencies, we will be hiring a full time child care compliance specialist in lieu of the assistant director. The reorganization also included an additional mentor (supervising) teacher, and increased FTE for the existing mentor teachers – to cover the administrative tasks of the former assistant director. We believe this model will serve Moss Street most efficiently, and create additional awareness of the safety issues we manage on a daily basis. The search for the Child Care Compliance Specialist should begin with posting and advertisements next week.

Search for an Office Assistant
The search for an office assistant to replace Frances Scott is in the works. An HR week – long posting yielded 42 applicants. Next week, we will be conducting face to face interviews with the top three applicants. By the end of the week, we should be able to hire an office assistant, and begin training.

DesignBridge Backyard Playground
We’re winding up our renovation of the backyard play area and will plan a celebration and thank you in May to the Architecture and Allied Arts students and advisors who participated. We just have the arbor to go. Check it out.

Early Sprouts
Our gardening grant is underway, and the children are ready to begin planting vegetables. We want to thank Leslie Finlay for getting this project underway, and to Jen Ditmar for assuming the leadership on the project. Jen has an article on the next page.

Parent Suggestion
A parent recently asked me if we had a “Moss Street Wish List”. Until now, we did not. However, that suggestion makes sense, and soon we will start share our ongoing “Wish List” with parents.
Because we schedule Summer Zero Week, Summer Term and Fall Term care all during Spring Term, the application process is more condensed this time of year. Please be aware of the dates that these applications are due because the time frame is not as long as usual.

**Summer Zero week** request forms will be available April 16th in your child’s classroom and due April 29th.

**Summer term** applications will be available April 30th in your child’s classroom and due May 10th.

Summer applications follow the UO schedule. This means you can schedule care for less than the 13 weeks of a summer term. School Age children can be scheduled in one week blocks. Preschoolers and toddlers can be scheduled by two-week blocks and infants can be scheduled on a four week basis. Applications for each age group will show the scheduling options available. Summer confirmations will be done by May 28th for all returning families and June 4th for new families.

**Fall term** applications will be available May 17th and due May 27th. Confirmations for UO student families will be complete by June 30th. Confirmations for non-UO student families will be complete by July 31st.

This Spring term we will begin our “Early Sprouts” curriculum project through a grant funded by Trust Management Services. The curriculum is intended to encourage children to taste and explore vegetables with an eye to reducing childhood obesity, and encouraging healthy eating habits.

Activities will include planting several target vegetables, examining and exploring the vegetables in various ways, and tasting the vegetables both raw and in several recipes the children will cook in their classrooms. We will also send the recipes home in the hope that children will share their cooking and tasting experiences with their families.

The children in the Infant/Todder and Preschool rooms will be gardening in garden beds here at Moss St. in the backyard and toddler yards, while the school age children will be coordinating their gardening with the UO student group at CASL (Center for Advancement of and Sustainable Living) just up the block on Moss St.

We will be rotating the target vegetables based on the season as we go through Spring, Summer and Fall. Vegetables for Spring will be carrots, peas, green beans, swiss chard, and lettuce. We hope you enjoy the recipes with your child, and give us any feedback on the program. We’d love to hear from you!

Moss Street wants to give a special thank you to Chris Bradway and Jessica Swain-Bradway, and “Down to Earth” for their generous supply contributions. We will be using these supplies for the Early Sprouts project.
Moss Street encourages you to participate in...

Center for SCREEN-TIME AWARENESS

TV Turnoff Week
April 19th-25th

The average American watches over 4 hrs of television per day, with more television sets per average household than there are people in that same household!

The Center for Screen-Time Awareness wants to change this statistic, starting with the week of April 19-25. This may be the perfect opportunity for you to spend some much needed time with your kids. If the weather is nice, some outside activities can be great. If it is rainy, pull out a board game.

Here are some ideas that the organization suggests from their website, www.screentime.org:

- Read together
- Play outdoor games such as hopscotch, tag, hide and seek, etc
- Learn about native trees and flowers
  - Go “camping” in your backyard
  - Watch the clouds or stars
  - Go on a family walk, bike ride
  - Picnic in the park
  - Start a garden

The American Heart Association recommends children limit sedentary behaviors, with no more than 1 to 2 hours per day of video screen/television and no television sets in children's bedrooms and encourages 60 minutes of moderate-to-vigorous play or physical activity daily.

Week of the Young Child

Bring Communities Together for Children—Children Bring Communities Together

April 11-17, 2010 is the annual NAEYC’s Week of the Young Child. The theme for 2010, Week of The Young Child is “Early years are learning years.” This week focuses public attention on the needs of young children and their families, and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.

For more information about Week of the Young Child activities, visit their web site at www.naeyc.org/about/woyc/
Meet Our New Substitute Teachers

Meet our two new Substitute Teachers that were hired in March. We would like to welcome them to the family here at Moss Street.

Naoko is originally from Japan. She has been living in Eugene, OR for the past 13 years, ever since she came here as an exchange student. She lives here with her husband and four children. Naoko says she is interested in working with children because she learns a lot from them and they remind her of her own childhood. Naoko has worked with children at Head Start for two years. Also, she did a practicum here at MSCC while she was a student at the U of O. For the past four months she has been a substitute teacher at EC CARES. She has a Bachelor’s Degree in Music Education and a Master’s Degree in Early Intervention. Outside of work Naoko loves to play tennis, basketball, and swim with her family.

Mark is originally from Pasadena, Ca. He has been living in Eugene on and off since he was 12 years old. He lives with his wife Heidi and his son Elliott, who is 2 1/2 years old. Mark and Elliott love Thomas the Train, Sesame Street and going to the park and getting dirty. Mark also enjoys being an avid cyclist and a talented chef. The things Mark loves about working with children are exploration, wonder and the many questions. He has experience working with preschool, 2nd & 3rd grade and 2 years of ECE administration. In addition, he has worked a school age camp for 3 years.

Earth Day Celebration

Saturday, April 24th
11 a.m. -- 5 p.m.
EWEB’s River Edge Plaza
Eugene, Oregon

http://www.earthdayoregon.com/
### April Calendar & Lunch Menu

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Mon</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 5-9</td>
<td>*Turkey Sloppy Joes (F-12) Broccoli Mandarin Oranges Milk</td>
<td>Pinto Beans &amp; Cheese Brown Rice Corn Olives Peaches Milk</td>
<td>Macaroni &amp; Cheese (D-27) Peas Applesauce Milk</td>
<td>Cheese Pizza (D-23) Carrots (0-2) Salad (3-12) Bananas Pineapple Milk</td>
<td>*Tuna &amp; Cheese Chunks Triple Pasta Mixed Vegetables Oranges Milk</td>
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<td>April 12-16</td>
<td>Cheese Slices WW Bagels Hummus Carrots Celery Spiced Apples Milk</td>
<td>Vegetable Lasagna (D-27) Green Beans Pears Milk</td>
<td>*Baked Chicken Breasts (w/Teriyaki) Brown rice Mixed Vegetables Bananas Milk</td>
<td>Bean &amp; Cheese Burritos (D-21) Corn Peaches Milk</td>
<td>*Turkey Hot Dogs Buns Baked Beans Fruit Salad Milk Zero Wk forms avail. 4j no-school day Jay/Mallard rooms open all day</td>
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<td>April 19-23</td>
<td>*Tuna Salad (F-11) Pocket Bread Lettuce Pickles Bananas Oranges Milk</td>
<td>*Turkey-WW Spaghetti (D-03) Green Beans Pineapple Milk</td>
<td>*Garlic Chicken Breasts Pesto Pasta Corn Peaches Milk</td>
<td>Cheese Bread (F-13) Tomato Soup (or Tomatoes) Kiwi Bananas Milk</td>
<td>*Turkey &amp; Cheddar Focaccia Bread Carrots Apples Milk Earth Day</td>
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*Vegetarian Option Available

Moss Street Children’s Center is an opportunity provider.