

Chalk Talk

Chalk Talk is a monthly column of information about Vernonia schools. It is written by various staff members. This column was written by Dr. Ken Cox, Superintendent.

As I write this the rain has returned along with occasional thunder and lightening. I bet many of you were awakened during the night this past weekend by the thunder. I am often amazed at the awesome power of the world around us and the influence that the weather can have on our perspectives on life.

As parents we often spend much of our communication time with our children reminding them to make their bed, brush their teeth, or put their clothes in the laundry. We do this because we feel a responsibility to guide our children to learn good habits and build character. Children learn most of their attitudes and character before they ever come to school. As a parent you are your children's most influential teacher.

The start of school is approaching quickly and just as the weather can influence our moods and perspectives so

can you influence your child's success in school. Here are a couple of little things that you do to help your children be successful in school: Children need plenty of sleep, so you may want to consider shifting their bedtime earlier so they will be better prepared for getting up earlier when school starts. Although most children seem to have endless energy, they do need a good breakfast before they head off for school. And once they start school, checking with them each day on their homework, and on how their day went helps you monitor their progress.

I was recently reminded that 'by small and simple things are great things brought to pass.' And so it is with raising our children, simple rules consistently followed, appropriate behavior consistently reinforced, and a positive attitude toward school can make a huge difference in what a student learns both at home and at school.

As always please feel free to contact me about any of your concerns.

SILENT AUCTION NOTICE: The district has a number of surplus items that are being placed on an auction list. Please contact the district office for a copy of the list. Bids are due in writing to the district office by noon on Friday, August 29.



OYCC picnic celebrated work of crew



Front row, left to right; Elliott Graf, Zach Dyer, Beth Kintz (Crew Leader), Courtney Wiita, Mike Potter and Trevor Gwin. Back row, left to right; Jeff Brewington, Jesse Armstrong, Tylor Owen and Kyle Brixey.

MTC Works held a picnic August 8, at Anderson Park, to celebrate the accomplishments of this year's Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC) crew.

The crew in Vernonia this year built 20 picnic tables, cleared flood debris from area parks, improved the Anderson Park parking lot, painted signage at Airport Park, landscaped at parks, cut and stacked firewood and cleared brush at campsites, among other projects.

The OYCC crew was made possible by Summer Conservation Corps grants that provide funding to programs, traditionally run through the summer months, to provide work and work-skill opportunities for Oregon youth through conservation and community service projects.



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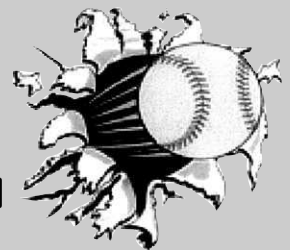
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Saturday, Aug. 23rd, 9:30 AM • Vernonia Golf Club

4 Person Scramble
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