

## NEXT GENERATION

"Next Generation" features the talents of our local students and school news and updates. All schools in the Applegate Valley are encouraged to submit art, writing, photography and any other creative pieces to [gater@applegater.org](mailto:gater@applegater.org).

## RUCH SCHOOL

### Summer at Ruch School

Along with preparing for our 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration held on Saturday, May 17, students at Ruch School have been engaged in a place-based experience that is being shared with Southern Oregon University (SOU). This experience is orchestrated and administered by Margaret Perrow (Ruch School parent and SOU instructor); Abraham Katz, founder and Music Director for Indigital Kids; and SOU interns, David Lindstrom, Kendra Lawrence, Jake Weigel and Rachel Lawson.

During this experience, students are writing stories about their lives and transforming them into short picture slide shows. Students will contribute to a final product showcasing their work.

#### Here are examples of amazing work in progress:

As a child I was full of creativity and imagination. I would make strange and creative stories; they seem chaotic and random to me now, full of unorganized thought. Now I can't find that kind of raw creativity within me. Some may call it maturity or adulthood, but it's more like death. The fall of culture where most movies seem to be about the same thing.

It's the death of creativity. But when in a person's life does it die? Did we just use up all the creativity?

**Meagan McCoy**, Seventh Grade

Ever since I could pick up a pencil I always drew pictures. At that time, it wasn't anything special; stick people or something similar. Later on in life, I don't know when, but not long ago, I started to express my feelings really well so this was good.

**Pineach Praneetpolgrang**, Seventh Grade

My friend changed my life. I used to go to school with bullies and kids who did not listen to the teachers. I was one of those kids. Two years later I went back to school that was awesome. I used to go to this school when I was younger. I walked into my class and didn't say a word to anyone. After that class I went to recess... that's when it started!

**Danyeal Durr**, Seventh Grade

Julie Hill

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### The Storytelling Guild proudly presents its 48<sup>th</sup> annual Children's Festival at Britt Gardens in Jacksonville

This magical three-day event will take place on July 12-14 at Britt Gardens in Jacksonville. It's a guaranteed amazing day out for the entire family. The theme "Create a Spark!" was inspired by the Jackson County Library's Summer Reading Program, "Fizz, Boom, Read."

Children and adults can participate in more than 35 booths of hands-on arts and crafts and daily feeding of the beloved litter-eating dragons, Rosabelle and Pebbles and our newest addition, Lulu! Older children will enjoy crafts such as candle making, pottery and woodworking, while younger children can make their own puppets, do sand and easel art, and have their faces painted. Child-focused stage performances, yummy food from our Dragon Deli, and activities like storytelling on the hill will delight the whole family. And, always enjoyable, are some local celebrities who will be reading to the children, including a few well-known news anchors!

The festival runs for a total of three sessions over a three-day period:

Saturday, July 12: 4:30 - 8:30 pm

Sunday, July 13: 4:30 - 8:30 pm

Monday, July 14: 10 am - 1:30 pm

Admission for this spark-tacular event is \$3 per day for adults and children. Our goal has always been to offer an amazing day of entertainment and education while keeping the cost to families as low as possible.

This year's festival promises to inspire children of all ages and will help us continue our mission of instilling a love of reading in children—a gift that if given in childhood can last a lifetime.

For more information or to sign up as a volunteer, visit the Storytelling Guild's website at [www.storytellingguild.org](http://www.storytellingguild.org) or its Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/storytellingguild](http://www.facebook.com/storytellingguild).



## APPLEGATE SCHOOL

### Applegate School takes first place at annual district-wide Battle of the Books

Applegate School students won the Battle of the Books competition with a first place in both level one and level two.

Three Rivers School District's Elementary Schools Battle of the Books is held annually at Fruitdale School in Grants Pass, OR. This year's competition was on

Saturday, April 26, 2014.

Level one winners were Natalia Sahr and Joaquin Martinez of Mrs. Yerby's third-grade class.

Level two winners were Lucas Cross, Hunter Krouse, Ronan Hodge and Lily Emmons, who are from Mr. Scull's fourth- and fifth-grade classes and were coached by "Grandma Jean."

Congratulations to our young readers and thank you Grandma Jean for helping!



Battle of the Books winners (left to right): Level one—Natalia Sahr and Joaquin Martinez. Level two—Lucas Cross, Hunter Krouse, Ronan Hodge and Lily Emmons. Photo: Kelli Palmerton.

### Applegate School student wins third place in district-wide spelling bee

Eighth-grader Shae Wiginton took third place in the middle school division of the Three Rivers School District's spelling bee on Wednesday, April 16, 2014. Shae was awarded a third-place ribbon and a spelling bee trophy.

Other participating students were Jessica Hendricks, an eighth-grader (middle school division) and Kaiah Fisher (fifth grade) and Alyssa Seal (third grade), who represented Applegate School's elementary division.

Thank you parents and friends for coming out to watch our students excel in this year's spelling bee.



Students who participated in the district-wide spelling bee are (left to right): Shae Wiginton (third-place winner), Jessica Hendricks, Kaiah Fisher and Alyssa Seal. Photo: Linda Kappen.

### Applegate School has a new garden club!

Led by parent volunteer Carrie, the new after-school garden club program is open to kindergartners through third-graders. More than 20 children signed up to meet one afternoon a week to plant seeds and flowers and learn about working with soil. A fence and planter boxes have been built by parent volunteer John, and the children are filling the boxes with soil and planting seeds.

Parent volunteers, our librarian Janie, and our teachers are all getting in on helping the children with gardening. New plants are being planted near the entrance to the classrooms. Elizabeth, a student teacher at our school, is also working with the children on a special project making lasagna beds in planter boxes. (Lasagna gardening is a method of building a garden by adding layers of organic materials that will "cook down" over time, resulting in rich, fluffy soil.)

Long-range plans include some new landscaping next to the brick schoolhouse where once cars were parked.

Applegate School principal Mrs.



Garden club members. Photo: Linda Kappen.

Hults says, "The garden is an amazing hands-on learning opportunity. It is heartwarming and exciting to see our students put effort into beautifying our school. I am so thankful for the efforts and vision of our volunteers!"

Personally, I think it is a great thing to watch our students as they garden. The children are very excited to have a garden of their own at school.

If you would like to help, please contact the Applegate School office at 541-846-6280.

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Applegate School