

**Kraxberger students learn environmental science**

Sixth graders from Kraxberger Middle School are experiencing a rite of passage at Outdoor School, a tradition in Gladstone for over 35 years. Along with camp songs and skits, they are learning environmental science in forests and rivers from Canby to Welches.

“Hands-on lessons teach them about the water cycle, streamside habitats, sustainable practices, native plants, and the components of soil, including sand, silt, and clay,” said teacher Azure Akamay. “The kids have discovered that nature is the best science lab ever.”

**PHOTO: Dayton Hennings, Jaxon Green, and Chloe Miller use nets to observe stream life on the Sandy River.**

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**Gladstone students to be featured in Promise of Oregon campaign**

In September students at John Wetten Elementary and Gladstone High School were photographed and interviewed for the Promise of Oregon project. Since 2014, the social media campaign by the Oregon School Boards Association [OSBA] has focused attention on the accomplishments of Oregon students and the need to fund public education.

The award-winning effort highlights Oregon students from across the state, and reveals their dreams and aspirations in student quotations.

“Our students spent a lot of time thinking about their dreams and goals before they were interviewed,” said elementary principal Wendy Wilson. “I can’t wait to see them represented in this statewide effort.”

**PHOTO: Alex Pulaski of OSBA and Shannon Neilon of Blue Chalk Media interview Joshua Ramos, a second grader at John Wetten Elementary.**

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**Eric Graves resumes role of School Resource Officer**

After time exploring other roles with the Gladstone Police Department, Officer Eric Graves is returning to the job he likes best, School Resource Officer.

“Our schools are at the heart of Gladstone, so working here is a way to be involved with the whole community,” he said. “I love connecting with kids so when they need me, they know me as a trusted adult.”

Officer Graves works in all four Gladstone schools. He spends time serving breakfast at the elementary school, reading to kindergarteners, presenting on Kraxberger's career day, or helping with mock interviews at Gladstone High.

"Guiding and mentoring students is an important part of my role, educating teens about the law and showing them their choices matter," said Graves. "I want them to know that when they make good choices, good things happen."

**PHOTO: Officer Eric Graves has returned to the role he loves best, Gladstone's School Resource Officer.**

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**GCCF offers Thursday night parenting classes**

Help is available to parents of children six and under thanks to a series of monthly parenting classes at the Gladstone Center for Children & Families [GCCF]. All classes are free, with free dinner and childcare provided.

Each class runs once a month from 6 to 8 p.m. September through June at the GCCF, 18905 Portland Avenue. To register, call Chelsea Hamilton at 503.367.9116 or email [ClackamasParenting@gmail.com](mailto:ClackamasParenting@gmail.com).

Courses include Beautiful Babies [first Thursdays], Terrific Toddlers [second Thursdays], and Growing Up [third Thursdays].

**PHOTO: Chelsea Hamilton presents practical parenting tips to help families with young children from birth to age six.**