



The Oconto Elementary School Family Newsletter

810 Scherer Ave., Oconto, Wisconsin 54153

April, 2016
Volume 5, Issue 23

Ben Bourassa
Principal

"By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail."

Benjamin Franklin

From the Principal's Office:

Happy Spring, OES Families!

I am very excited to serve as OES Principal for the remainder of this school year! As we head into the 4th quarter, I find myself working with a very dedicated staff that seeks the best for our students. We will continue to work hard towards meeting our student goals, which included goals in math, reading, and behavior.

Thank you to all parents who have been doing student pick-ups and drop-offs in the appropriate zone, off of Doran St. This has created a safer environment for our students. The only students who should be entering through our main entrance are our 4K students.

We have some exciting events to look forward to, as we approach the end of the year. We will be having our Science Fair, Spring Music Concert, and field trips or activities in which students may participate. Please keep up-to-date with all school newsletters and notifications so that you or your student(s) don't miss anything.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Ben Bourassa, Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

April 1 st	April Fool's Day	
April 4 th	SCHOOL RESUMES	
April 4 th	PTO Mtg. – LMC @ OES	3:30 PM
April 5 th	Election Day – VOTE	
April 7 th	23 rd Annual Science Fair – OES	6:00 – 7:30 PM
April 18 th	Board of Education – OMS	6:00 PM
April 20 th	Early Release	1:00 PM

Upcoming Early Release and/or NO School Dates

March 24th Early Release 1:00 PM

**March 25th – Spring Break-NO SCHOOL
April 3rd**

April 20th Early Release 1:00 PM

May 6th Snow day make-up (if needed)
or NO SCHOOL to be announced

May 30th **NO SCHOOL**-Memorial Day

June 2nd LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER - Warm weather is upon us, yay! With the warmer weather, we are all ready to bring out the spring and summer clothing. Just a reminder, students **are not** allowed to wear **flip flops, no shorts above the knee, and or spaghetti strap tops** to school. Also, with the thawing and April showers; children do play outside and sometimes get wet. Please consider sending an extra pair of pants and socks to school for them. This will help eliminate a phone call to you, the parents, to bring in some dry clothing for them.



OES Attendance Line: 834-7808 - Please call before 9:00 A.M. if you know your child will be absent.

23rd ANNUAL SCIENCE FAIR

The 23rd Annual Science Fair will take place on Thursday, April 7th. The Science Fair projects will be judged from 4:00 - 5:00 pm. Student interviews will take place from 5:00 - 6:00 pm. The fair will be open to the public from 6:00 - 7:30 pm. Food will be served, so please bring your appetites. There will also be a variety of community groups set up in the Commons to share information or do activities. More information has already been sent home with those students who have signed up to participate. Any questions please contact Mrs. Brunette at 834-7808 ext. 3139 or email at ashley.brunette@oconto.k12.wi.us.

OCONTO PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

"The Oconto Preschool Center will be having open enrollment for their 3K school year 2016-2017, for ages 3 and 4 years old starting March 1st, 2016. Oconto Preschool requires a \$35 registration fee and the future preschoolers need to be potty trained and 3 years old by September 1st. Preschool offers a Monday & Wednesday morning class or a Tuesday & Thursday morning class, both with the option to add a Friday morning class.

If you have any questions please check out the Preschool website at: <http://ocontopreschool.wix.com/oconto> or you may contact Sami Cardinal at [920.373.3662](tel:920.373.3662). Don't wait spots fill fast!"

School Census Information Needed

As census is no longer being conducted, we are requesting the following information from anyone that has a non-school age child in our school district. This will enable us to get mailings to you regarding school programs and requested information outside of notices in the newspaper.

Childs Name
Date of Birth
Parents Name & Address

If you have a student in school, you can send this information with your child to be given to the office, or you can mail this information to OES, 810 Scherer Ave., Oconto, WI 54153. Please feel free to contact our office at 920-834-7808, ext. 3101.

To Your Health in 2016

Submitted by Stephanie Stauss, District Nurse

Strep Throat - Symptoms of strep throat, which is very common among kids and teens, include: fever, sore throat, and red, swollen tonsils.

How Strep Throat Spreads - Anybody can get strep throat, but it's most common in school-age kids and teens. These infections occur most often during the school year when big groups of kids and teens are in close quarters.

The bacteria that cause strep throat (group A *streptococcus*) tend to hang out in the nose and throat, so normal activities like sneezing, coughing, or shaking hands can easily spread infection from one person to another. That's why it's so important to teach kids the importance of hand washing — good hand hygiene can lessen their chances of getting contagious diseases like strep throat.

Strep Throat vs. Sore Throat - Not all sore throats are strep throats. Most episodes of sore throat — which can be accompanied by a runny nose, cough, hoarseness, and red eyes — are caused by viruses and usually clear up on their own without medical treatment.

A child with strep throat will start to develop other symptoms within about 3 days, such as:

- red and white patches in the throat
- difficulty swallowing
- tender or swollen glands (lymph nodes) in the neck
- red and enlarged tonsils
- headache
- lower stomach pain
- fever
- general discomfort, uneasiness, or ill feeling
- loss of appetite and nausea
- rash

Caring for Your Child - Strep throat usually requires treatment with antibiotics. With the proper medical care — along with plenty of rest and fluids — a child should be back to school and play within a few days. You can help your child feel better while battling strep throat. Give plenty of liquids to prevent dehydration, such as water or ginger ale, especially if he or she has had a fever. Avoid orange juice, grapefruit juice, lemonade, or other acidic beverages, which can irritate a sore throat. Warm liquids like soups, sweetened tea, or hot chocolate can be soothing.

**Health tip taken from kidshealth.org



“WE ARE THE WORLD”

FOOD DRIVE



May 9th - 13th

Each day a needed food pantry item will be highlighted for students to donate. On Friday, May 13th, the class that has donated the highest number of food items will win a pizza party!

At the Spring Concert on May 12th, adults will have a chance to win a prize by donating a non-perishable food items and receiving a raffle ticket for each item. The winning number will be drawn sometime during the 6:00 PM concert (must be present to win).

Hosted by:

OES “The SunSational Star Singers”

Mrs. Trepanier’s Students

&

The Oconto Presbyterian Church

(All donations will benefit the Bread By the Bay Food Pantry)

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART CAMPAIGN

Congratulations to all of the students that participated and to everyone that made donations. Oconto Elementary School students raised **\$6,246.75**. Great Job!!!

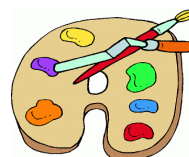


SPRING CONCERT/MINI-MUSICAL

(presented by 3rd and 4th grades)

Thursday, May 12th
6:00 p.m.

The spring concert will highlight the talents of the third and fourth grade students here at OES. Under the direction of Mrs. Gilson, they are busy preparing a wonderful evening of singing, dancing and drama. The SunSational Star Singers and the third grade will open the concert with several uplifting songs. Then the fourth grade will present the musical entitled “The American Dream” which spans the historical period from the earliest explorers through the post-Civil War reconstruction. Come enjoy an evening of fun!



“What's New in the Art Room?”

Submitted by, Kelly Nemeč

What's New in the Art Room: Because the last day of school always seems to creep up and we run out of time, our last unit of the year will focus on the Impressionists, a group of painters who painted how they “thought” things looked. These individuals also believed in painting outdoors, and used soft, blurry brushstrokes. Students will again be introduced to Claude Monet, along with newcomers Mary Cassatt, Vincent Van Gogh, Paul Cezanne, and Edgar Degas. Hopefully, if the weather is nice, we'll get to work outside!





PTO Connection

April 2016

"Fruit Fundraiser"

Thank you to everyone who helped make our fundraiser a success! Do you ever wonder where fundraiser monies go?

Here are some examples:

- *Teacher/Staff Appreciation Day
- *Take home folders
- *Bouncers and activities for the last day of school
- *Each child receives \$5.00 toward a field trip.
 - *Book Bags
 - *Lyceums
- *Concerts/Play Costumes
- Just to name a few.

Book Fair

Book Fair is another way the PTO raises money for our teachers and their classrooms. A big **THANK YOU** to all the "Grands" that attended our "Grands" Day. Not only did you help raise money, you also put a big smile on your child's face by joining them for an ice cream cup and spending some time with them.



Milk Moola

The PTO receives 5 cents for each plastic cap, bag top and UPC code from Kwik Trip Nature's Touch product.

Please turn in all caps, bags tops and UPC codes to your teacher by **Monday, May 16th.**

Box Top\$

Please turn in all your Box Top\$ to your teacher by **Monday, May 16.**

Book Bag Winners - March

4K/EC	Cole Last & Jezzivella Wusterbarth
K	Meagan Gossen & Aiden Noonyen
1	Jacob Dunks & Florence Dong
2	Azavier King & Jaelin Kumhala
3	Trenton Hartman & Cadence Duffy
4	Chase Schwaller & Lauren McDowell

Please join us!

PTO meetings are held on the **FIRST MONDAY** of each month at 3:30 p.m. in the library/LMC. Our next meeting is on **Monday, April 4 2016.** We are always looking for parent participation **and** child care is provided.



April is Autism Awareness Month

- About 1 percent of the world population has autism spectrum disorder.
- Prevalence in the United States is estimated at 1 in 68 births.
- More than 3.5 million Americans live with an autism spectrum disorder.

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a complex developmental disability; signs typically appear during early childhood and affect a person's ability to communicate, and interact with others. ASD is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a "spectrum condition" that affects individuals differently and to varying degrees. There is no known single cause of autism, but increased awareness and early diagnosis/intervention and access to appropriate services/supports lead to significantly improved outcomes. Some of the behaviors associated with autism include delayed learning of language; difficulty making eye contact or holding a conversation; difficulty with executive functioning, which relates to reasoning and planning; narrow, intense interests; poor motor skills' and sensory sensitivities. Again, a person on the spectrum might follow many of these behaviors or just a few, or many others besides. The diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder is applied based on analysis of all behaviors and their severity.

Farnsworth Public Library **Calendar of Events April 2016**

Preschool Storytime - every Friday at 10:30 AM

Fun and educational spring themed stories, activities, and crafts.

National Poetry Month Middle School Poetry

Contest Middle school students are invited to enter an original poem to be displayed in the Library throughout the month, all entries must be typed or neatly printed on an unlined 8 ½ X 11 sheet of paper, illustrations are optional, entries must be received at the Library no later than April 15, judging by the public will take place April 18-30, cash prizes (donated by an anonymous library patron) will be awarded for the four poems getting the most votes

Lego Mania - Monday, April 4 from 5:00 – 6:30

PM School age kids are invited to participate, 1st Monday of each month, Library supplies the Legos, projects are displayed in Library throughout the month

Listening Session with Representative John Nygren – Friday, April 8 2:00 PM

Representative Nygren will be available to answer questions from constituents.

Friends of Farnsworth Public Library Spring Book Sale Preview for Members Only Friday, April 8 5:00 – 6:00 PM

join 'The Friends' any time before the Preview Sale starts and you can shop early, \$5.00 for single annual membership, \$10.00 for family annual membership.

Open to Public April 9 – 23 during regular Library hours

Great deals on hundreds of books, magazines, and more. Donations of books, magazines (two years old or newer), DVDs, video games or CDs are greatly appreciated; please, no encyclopedias, textbooks or Readers' Digest books.

National Library Week – April 10-16

Join in a week-long celebration of libraries: 'Guess How Many Books are in the Library Collection' contest; 'Food for Fines'- bring a nonperishable packaged food item and receive \$1.00 off fines for each food item (up to \$10.00 per patron) for late items only, not accepted for lost or billed items; raffles; Library Love Letters – tell why you love your library.

Teddy Bear Sleepover – Friday, April 15 10:30

AM Preschool Storytime attendees bring a Teddy bear or other stuffed animal to leave at the Library overnight, kids are invited back to have **Breakfast with the Bears - Saturday morning from 10:30 – 11:00 AM**. No sign up is required.

Free Movie: Star Wars-The Force Awakens Wednesday, April 20 1:30 PM

Kids who wear a Star Wars item (tee shirt, hat, etc.) will have their name entered into a special drawing.

Henna Tattoos – Wednesday, April 20 1:30 PM

tweens & teens are invited to the Library after early release from school to learn the art of henna, a plant-based dye that safely stains the skin for 1 – 2 weeks.

Wildlife & Nature Photography Presentation – Thursday, April 21 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Rob Zimmer will do a free presentation on his varied experiences as a writer, photographer and naturalist; Q&A; Rob's books and other publications will also be available for purchase.

On behalf of the Oconto Elementary School Staff, have a Happy Easter and an enjoyable Spring Break.

