



Volume 1 Issue 1 2nd Six Weeks  
**Odem Elementary School**  
**Newsletter**  
**Where the Future Begins!**

- November 17th**—3rd-5th grade Dodgeball tournament in the varsity gym
- November 18th**—Annual Kindergarten Feast
- November 18th**—Turkey Trot during P.E./Music classes @ the H.S. stadium
- November 21st—November 25th**—Thanksgiving Holidays.
- December 1st**—Progress Reports
- December 6th**— PTO Meeting & K-2nd grade Performance
- December 10th**—UIL Contest at Taft Elementary.
- December 15th**—OE Annual Sing along @ 8:30 a.m.
- December 15th**—Early Release
- December 15th**—End of 3rd Six Weeks
- December 16th, 2016 thru January 3rd, 2017**—No School Christmas/New Year's Holidays.



To make a report about a bullying incident, go to the Odem Elementary School campus page at [www.oeisd.org](http://www.oeisd.org). Click on the link on the left side "Report a Bullying Incident." If you have any questions or need help, please contact the elementary office at **368-3881, ext. 239.**



**News from the Principal**  
*Jana Kieschnick*



Hello again to each of our Odem Elementary families!

Welcome to November! It's hard to believe we are already through the 2nd six-weeks of the school year. The first twelve weeks just flew by. I am looking forward to the cooler weather and spending time with family during the holidays.

Of all the holidays, Thanksgiving has always been my favorite. It is a holiday that does not require buying things (except a lot of food!) and it brings families and friends together to enjoy a meal, perhaps watch football, take a family walk, and create fond memories that last. I am thankful for each family we serve here at Odem Elementary School. You make my role as principal a joy through your commitment to your children and to our school community. I wish you a blessed holiday, gathered with those who mean the most to you.

In addition, as a principal, one of my most important roles is to be an instructional leader. I enjoy spending time in classrooms with students and staff members. We have OWLstanding teachers and students! I am excited about the quality of instruction and meaningful student earning at Odem Elementary School.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns that you may have.

Yours in Education,  
 Jana Kieschnick

**As a parent/guardian, you can ensure your child's success in the following ways:**

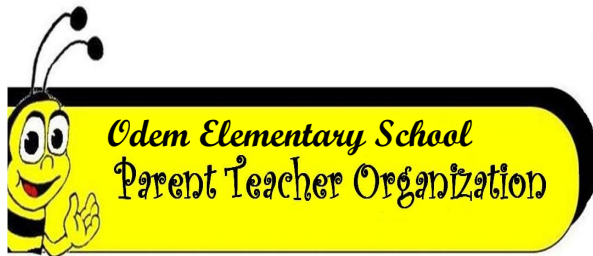
As a parent, there are several small things you can do at home to promote literacy. Something as simple as picking up a magazine or newspaper in front of your child, models behavior that reinforces the importance of reading. With holidays just around the corner, ask your child to help you look up recipes in cook books or online. When you go to the store to shop for the items in the recipes, have your child read the labels as he or she places the items in the basket. You could also have your child help you read the recipe's directions as he or she assists you in stirring or pouring items in as you create delicious dishes and memories together.



Students must ride the bus to and from field trips. Parents/volunteers/guardians must provide their own transportation to and from field trips.

## Christmas Food Drive

Odem Elementary will participate on a food drive beginning December 5th. We will collect **canned** food items until December 9th, 2016. All donations will be for our needy families of our community. Please share with us this good will. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.



The PTO fundraiser items will be delivered the week after Thanksgiving. Thank you for selling and helping our school. Our 2016-2017 PTO Officers are:

President- Joanna Laurel  
Vice President- Misty Zepeda  
Treasurer- Rebecca Romero  
Secretary- Kelly Yates

If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please contact the PTO at:  
OdemEdroyPTO@yahoo.com.

The following areas are open to students before school, beginning at **7:30 a.m.:**



**Cafeteria** (grades 3-5)  
**Multi-Purpose Room** (PreK-2)

Please do not drop off students before **7:30 a.m.**

**Thank You!**



How important is it that your child is in school EVERY DAY?

- Teachers can't educate students that aren't in school.
- Did you know missing even 2 days of school in a month can create serious gaps in understanding math at any age.
- All types of absences, including excused, make a difference.
- Time out of classroom equals time away from instruction and learning.

One of the most important things your child can do to achieve academic success is also one of the most basic: going to school every day. .

Every day counts! Good attendance matters for success.



# What Families Can Do to Foster Their Child's Success in Mathematics



## Doing Mathematics Together— Everyday Situations

Mathematics is all around us!

The following activities represent just a sampling of the many everyday situations that involve mathematics and ways you can nurture your child's mathematical development during these activities.

- Count, count, and count! Young children love to count and will count everything and anything. Encourage your child to count out loud the number of blocks she has, steps climbed, or crackers on her plate.
- Practice classifying by separating toys into sets, such as cars, blocks, or dolls. Ask questions related to size or quantity: Which is larger? Which is largest? Which is smaller? Which is smallest? Do you have more dolls or more bears? Are there fewer dolls or fewer bears?
- Find two and three-dimensional geometric shapes, such as circles and spheres.
- Let your child help set the table. Fold napkins as rectangles one day, then as triangles the next. Find the number of chairs needed to match the places set. Determine the number of knives, forks, and spoons needed.
- Let your child sort the laundry. Before washing, have your child sort the piles by colors or by family members.
- Practice counting and making change. Ask your child to help you figure out how much money you have in your pocket. Let your child pick out the paper currency and change needed when making a purchase, and have your child tell you how much change you should get back.

[http://illuminations.nctm.org/uploadedFiles/Activities\\_Home/FamilyGuide\\_FullText.pdf](http://illuminations.nctm.org/uploadedFiles/Activities_Home/FamilyGuide_FullText.pdf)

## To 100 and Beyond!

Are you looking for creative ways to help your child study math? Even without a workbook or teacher's manual, your child can learn a lot about numbers. Just spend an afternoon playing around with a hundred chart, also called a hundred board or hundred grid. The link below will lead you to "30+ Things to Do with A Hundred Chart."

<http://denisegaskins.com/2008/09/22/things-to-do-hundred-chart/>

Each six-weeks, students in 1st-5th grades are given an AR (Accelerated Reading) goal. Our goal is to motivate And inspire literacy and to recognize student accomplishments.



How does AR work?

1. Students read books on their specific reading level.
2. Students take an Accelerated Reading test on their chosen book to earn points.
3. Points accumulate each six weeks and students are rewarded for tests passed with a 70% or higher.

Upcoming Incentives:

2nd six-weeks: Carnival Activities

3rd six-weeks: Movie & pop-



### Front Row:

Jesse Livar  
Melanie Bajardo  
Timothy Rogers  
Traci McClellan

### Back Row:

H.T. Duncan  
Angelica Soto  
Javier Martinez  
Madison Cadena  
Trenton Garces





# Odem Elementary School 2016 Literacy Night

We all had a great time at the Family Literacy Night last month. I would like to encourage you to help your child become a good reader. Children learn to read by seeing others read, having others read aloud to them, reading with others, and reading by themselves and to others.

