

Odem Elementary School Newsletter

Where the Future Begins!



News from the Principal



Jana Kieschnick

I hope that the holidays were full of fun and allowed you some time to relax and spend time with your families.

The second semester brings lots of testing for our 3rd-5th grade students. Students will be taking benchmark tests to prepare for STAAR testing. These tests are important tools to help determine each child's readiness for the test.

Thank you to all of the students and families at Odem Elementary that donated to the Odem Community Food Drive. Your generosity was amazing! January is School Board Appreciation Month. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those that

give of their time and

TOP 10 A.R. Readers

Congratulations to the top 10 Accelerated Readers for the 3rd Six Weeks.

1. Jeriah Cisneros
2. Javier Martinez
3. Timothy Rogers
4. Traci McClellen
5. Justin Andrade
6. Joaquin Gamez
7. Leonardo Garcia
8. Catherine Duncan
9. Claudia Covarrubias
10. Lilah Morin



Transportation Changes

Just a reminder, changes in transportation must be made by 2:45 p.m. This allows ample time for the school to receive the notes and give it to

Requesting Assignments

If you are requesting homework or make-up work, please make sure to pick up the assignments after 3:30 p.m. on the day your request has been made. Thank you!

Important Dates

January 5th-9th - Reading Universal Screener for 2nd-5th grade students

January 9th—Science Fair Projects are due

January 10th—Science Fair Judging for Kindergarten—3rd grade

January 11th—Science Fair Judging for 4th & 5th grades

January 16th—Student Holiday/Teacher Planning Day

January 17th-19th—TPRI Testing for Kindergarten—2nd Grades

STEAM AND PARENT MEETING

WHAT: Parent Training Session with Layne Waxley

TIME: 2:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

PLACE: OE Science Lab

Come over and receive a parent literacy handbook and a take-home bag for



Pre-Kindergarten Families!

Please Join Us 5:30-6:30 in the Elementary Cafeteria For Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math Adventures

Wednesday, Jan. 25th "Animal Adventures"

Take your measurements and compare them to animals big and small. Live creature feature from the Early Scholar's Academy

How to Help your Child in Mathematics



How parents can help their children at home?

Pre-Kindergarten: When reading any book, have your child touch and count the number of objects in pictures, “1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7. There are 7 dogs!”

Kindergarten: In addition to counting, your child can practice writing the numerals 0-10.

1st grade: Discuss various ways to take apart a given number, e.g. 6 is made of 1 and 5, 2 and 4, 3 and 3, etc.

2nd grade: Ask how many ones, tens, and hundreds are in numbers that you and your child come across.

3rd thru 5th grade: Continue to review multiplication and division math facts with your child.

All grade levels:

*Look for opportunities in daily life to discuss fractional parts and divide objects into equal parts, such as dividing them into halves, thirds, and fourths

*Ask your child what they learned in school today and ask them to show you an ex-

UIL COMPETITION

Our Odem Elementary students competed at the UIL competition in Taft on Saturday, December 10th. There are a variety of UIL academic events that have been developed specifically for elementary students. We believe that children deserve the opportunity to accept academic challenges, and use their talents to be recognized and appreciated. Students involved in UIL climb to greater heights and understand and appreciate the educational values of competition. Congratulations to the following students that placed at the academic meet:

2nd Grade Creative Writing – 1st place - Michelle Rogers, 4th place- Khloe-Hernandez

2nd grade Storytelling – 3rd place – Michelle Rogers;

3rd grade Spelling – 7th place – Tim Rogers

3rd grade Storytelling- 4th place – Leigha Naranjo, 5th place- Juliet Rodriguez

3rd grade Music Memory Team – 3rd place- Leigha Naranjo, Catherine Duncan, Tim Rogers, Juliet Rodriguez, & Lyanette Rios

4th grade Art Memory – 4th place – Evelynna Pena

4th grade Music Memory Team – 3rd place – Angelica Soto, Madison Cadena & Chloe Bush

4th grade Number Sense – 8th place – Jovana Gomez

4th grade Spelling – 4th place – Itzac Cruz, 7th place – Chloe Bush

4th grade Ready Writing 1st place—Itzac Cruz, 2nd place—Chloe Bush

5th grade Ready Writing – 4th place – Maelynd Sinnerich, 5th place- Joaquin Gamez

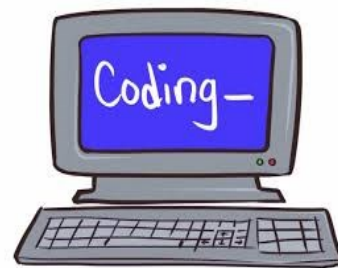
5th grade Number Sense – 1st place – Justin Andrade, 2nd place – Javier Martinez, 7th place – Ryan Mendez

5th Grade Art Memory – 2nd place - Claudia Covarubbias

5th grade Spelling – 8th place- Ryan Mendez

5th Grade Maps, Charts & Graphs- 2nd place – Javier Martinez

5th grade Listening Skills – 8th place- Jonathan Perez



Children today are constantly using technology, but few are learning how to create it. Coding is one piece of computer science and it is quickly becoming a necessary skill and starting early is the only way to level the playing field for all students. At Odem Elementary School, students in grades K-5 are learning coding each week. Students are completing “unplugged” and “plugged” coding lessons in math and science classes. Unplugged activities require no computer at all. Students use computers, iPads, and Chromebooks for the plugged lessons. Children love it and have been learning a lot! To get more information about coding, visit



Thank you to those 4th and 5th grade students who signed up to participate in the Early Bird Reader Program! A total of 56 students received a free book. We would really love to see our Early Bird Readers in action. Please email any pictures of your reader reading to his/her sibling to yruegasl@oeisd.org. There will be a drawing for a free prize for those students who send in pictures. We will have another opportunity, right before Spring Break, for our 2nd and 3rd grade students to participate. Please keep on the lookout for a letter from your teacher.

Dr. Lidamar G. Yruegas
K-12th ELAR Specialist

Gifted/Talented

A gifted/talented student is a child or youth who performs at or shows the potential for performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience, or environment and who also exhibits high performance capability in an intellectual, creative, or artistic area. The gifted and talented child may also possess an unusual capacity for leadership or excels in a specific academic field. The goal for gifted/talented students is to ensure that they participate in services to demonstrate skills in self-directed learning, thinking, research, and communication. Gifted and talented students are allowed to develop innovative products and sophisticated performances that reflect individuality and creativity.

Odem Edroy ISD is now accepting referrals for students who may need Gifted/Talented services for the school year. This program is designed for students who exhibit intellectual and creative thinking abilities at an extraordinary level not normally served in the regular classroom. Services are provided only upon identification of educational needs of the student. Anyone wishing to refer a student to be tested attending Odem-Edroy ISD in kindergarten through twelfth grade this school year can obtain a referral form on our district website. This form must be returned to the school counselor by January 16, 2017. Those una-

Don't Forget to Collect
BOX TOPS!



and send them to your school

The Odem Elementary library is collecting box tops to earn cash for different incentives to help our students with reading. The deadline to collect box tops is on February 3rd.

Please continue to send in your box tops to the library.

We look forward to a great success!



PERFECT ATTENDANCE

The Odem Elementary perfect attendance winner for the 3rd Six Weeks drawing is kindergarten student Arturo Romero, Jr.

Great Job!