



Odem Jr. High NEWSLETTER

January 11, 2018

Volume 2, Issue 3

UPCOMING EVENTS

Planning Day	1/5
Begin 4th 6 weeks	1/8
Boys BB vs. Mathis	1/11
Girls BB at Mathis	1/11
Report Cards	1/11
Girls Odem BB Tourn	1/13
Planning Day	1/15
Boys BB at Skidmore	1/18
Girls BB vs Skidmore	1/18
UIL Comp. Mathis	1/19
UIL Comp. Goliad	1/20
Boys BB Tourn. Fal.	1/20
San Patreio County A&H Show	1/22-1/27
Girls BB at Blooming-	1/25
Boys BB vs. Blooming-	1/25
Girls St. James BB Tour	1/26-1/27
Boys BB vs Taft	1/29
Mandatory Cheer Mtg.	1/31
All Region Recordings	2/1
Girls BB vs. Taft	2/1
Girls BB vs. Goliad	2/5
Boys BB at Goliad	2/5
Odem S&E Recital	2/6
UIL S&E Contest	2/8
End of 4th 6 weeks	2/16
Planning Day	2/19

Career Day

Odem Junior High was treated to Career Day on Friday, December 15. It was the second year to return to the campus. Students rotated through enrichment classes listening and interacting with experts of various occupations. It was considered a huge success by students and staff.

Odem Junior High plans to continue bringing in career day to expose occupations to the students. Statistics show that junior high is a crucial time for students to investigate careers. If students know what they want to be by middle school, they are more likely to graduate and pursue that career. The important thing is to expose students to careers they may not have thought about. It is also wonderful to bring back Odem Alumni to share their experiences in the work force. OJH hopes to have more alumni participate in the upcoming years.



CONGRATULATIONS—These students met their AR goal for the 3rd 6 weeks. They will be enjoying technology time on January 19th.

8th Grade— Torri McClellen, Jiomara Rivera Negrón

7th Grade— Cameron Aleman, Madison Bevely, Jasmine Bigner, Tyler Brewer, Serenity Cavazos, Karla Covarrubias, Anna Decker, Alexis DeLeon, Emma Doria, Samarra Durrance, Johnathan Espinoza, Julietta Esqueda, Zoey Garcia, Julian Gomez, Bella Kholomeyev, Daniela Morales, Aaliyah Parraz, Jason Silguero, Isabella Salinas, Kayla Tovar

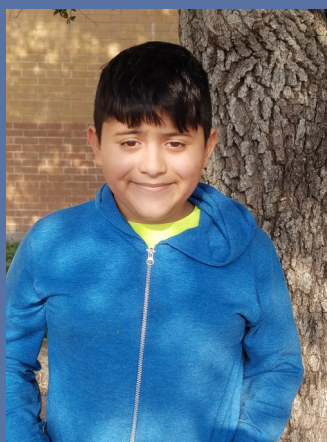
6th Grade— Haley Alambar Luna, Justin Andrade, Mario Benavidez, David Bevely, Claudia Covarrubias, Joaquin Gamez, Joy Lerma, Javier Martinez, Traci McClellen, Ebin McCloskey, Eduardo Medina, Ryan Mendez Dezirae Moreno, Jessalyn Ortiz, Jonathan Perez, Jacob Phillips, Nathan Phillips, Ashton Rodriguez, Adam Romero, Julian Romero, Daniel Seanez

Claudia Covarrubias



Claudia is an outstanding student who strives to do her best. Her leadership skills combined with dedication, focus and integrity have proven to make her an exemplary student.

Leo Garcia



Leo is one of the hardest working students in 6th Grade. He is always willing to participate in class and is always willing to help out his peers. Leo is an excellent student, he is an outstanding asset to OJH.

Emma Doria



Emma is always attentive and takes her responsibilities earnestly. She is a strong minded leader, and consistently stays on task throughout the class. Her hard work and dedication have paid off in band and in basketball.

Cameron Aleman



Cameron is a natural born leader, and remarkable student. He has a vibrant attitude toward sports and brings that same excitement into the classroom. He actively participates in class discussion, and sharing insightful comments.

Nicole Ortiz



Nicole is leader and a dedicated student in class. She is always willing to help her classmates and teachers alike. Nicole is competitive involved in sports, cheerleading, and organizations at our campus.

Mark Moreno



Mark is a hard worker and self-motivated individual that is always prepared and ready to learn in class. He is competitive in both sports and academics, including UIL Academics.

Technology—

What's new at OEISD Technology? 3D Printing! We now have four 3D printers at our district and we cannot wait to see how our students will use them to learn and create in the classroom! As we continue integrating new technology we will keep you posted, have a great day.

UIL —

The Spring Semester is underway and UIL Academic activities have begun.

OJH students have already begun participating in UIL competition. The writing competition was held on each individual district campus and results will be posted at the academic meet.

The OJH academic meet will be held on January 19th in Mathis and January 20th in Goliad.

We would like to wish all our participants and sponsors the best of luck.

ESL/ELL—Empowering ELL Parents and Families at Home.

All parents can be helpful in their children's literacy development, regardless of their language, education, or literacy level. Parents who speak little or no English can contribute to their children's education in valuable ways. English language learners may benefit when they develop solid literacy skills in their first language before learning to read in a second one. Through Spanish, they are developing key language and literacy skills that may enable them to become excellent readers in English. Here are some suggestions:

1. Storytelling
2. "Read" wordless picture books
3. Say rhymes and sing songs
4. Make frequent trips to the library
5. Engage in meaningful conversations
6. Watch educational children's television programs together.

Social Studies—

Students in social studies classes at Odem Junior High were busy at work finishing the first semester. Coach Andrade's 8th grade classes spent some time on American/Indian relations in the 1800's by studying the Trail of Tears. Students gave presentations on President Andrew Jackson's Indian Removal Act. The students presented the causes and effects of this controversial piece of legislation.

Perfect Attendance

6th Grade— Justin Andrade, Kacee Ballard, Alexander Beltran, David Bevly, Claudia Covarrubias, Isabella Flores, Joaquin Gamez, Leonardo Garcia, Nathaniel Garcia, Jadelynn Hall, Nayeli Lugo, Traci McClellen, Ebin McCloskey, Eduardo Medina, Dezirae Moreno, Joshua Obregon

7th Grade— Cameron Aleman, Madison Bevly, Jasmine Bigner, Julianna Borrego, Tyler Brewer, Charles Coker, Karla Covarrubias, Emma Doria, Julietta Esqueda, Stephane Fonseca, Zoey Garcia, Marianna Gomez, Daniel Lopez, Isaac Lugo, Brandon Magana, Destiny Medina, Harley Molsbee, Mary Nevarez, Shamanda Nevarez, Annaid Olvera, Uriel Rodriguez, Marissa Seanez, Nathaniel Villarreal

8th Grade— Mia Aviles, Brandon Beltran, Jenna Chapa, Nicholas Chavira, Xavier Drennon, Belicia Flores, Elijah Friedrichsen, Catalina Gamez, George Garcia, Arabella Garza, Dario Gomez, Marco Gonzales, Mia Gonzales, Lauro Gonzalez, Isaiah Lopez, Adolfo Martinez, Alyssa Martinez, Torri McClellen, Lahni McCloskey, Isaac Moreno, Mark Moreno, Nicole Ortiz, Adrian Ramirez, Diego Rodriguez, Yolanda Salas-Cruz, Gabriela Sanchez, Dylan Tijerna, Kassidi Tijerina, Cody Underwood, Gabriella Vega

Attendance Incentives

Students who meet all attendance requirements, earn all course credits, and pass all STAAR EOC assessments (if applicable) will not be required to attend the final 7 days of school from May 21 – June 2, 2018. The school year for students who do meet all attendance requirements as described will end on May 18, 2018. Students required to attend will be denied promotion or credits if not in attendance all 9 days.

Every six weeks each campus will host a Campus Perfect Attendance Award Celebration for all students who achieve perfect attendance for the previous grading period. To be eligible for the Campus Perfect Attendance Award Celebration a student CANNOT have any unexcused or excused absences for any period of any day during the six weeks grading period.

Dear Odem Junior High Parents:

With respect to all students and staff on our campus, we will no longer be accepting Valentine's Day deliveries.

In the best interest of all of our students, the factors determining this decision are listed below.

Educational Disruption for both teaching and learning

Not all students receive deliveries and this presents multiple problems

Safety issues on our busses with oversized objects, balloons, etc.

Thank you very much for your understanding, support and cooperation.

Sincerely,
Traci Pogue
Principal, Odem Junior High

Band—The Junior High Bands have been busy recently. All of Symphonic Winds and members of the Concert Band participated in all Region Auditions on Saturday December 2nd at West Oso High School. Odem Junior High was one of the best represented schools and had 26 students make one of the Honor bands. Those students practiced together with other students from across our Region with a clinician Friday December 8th and performed in a concert at Texas A&M Kingsville on December 9th.

The Following week all three of the Junior High bands, Beginning Band, Concert Band, and Symphonic Winds had their annual Winter Concert on the new stage at the High School. This was the first performance for our Beginning Band. The students performed an excellent concert in front of a packed crowd. As the 2nd semester begins, the focus of Concert Band and Symphonic Winds will turn to preparation for their UIL Concert and Sight Reading performances.

From
Yolanda Alvaro, Director
Special Ed./Dyslexia

Back-to-School Tips for Special Needs Students:

Many kids aren't really excited to head back to school after their Christmas break, but for special needs students the transition from home to school can be extra rocky. There are a few things you can do at home to help make the new beginning more exciting and less stressful. Get your child with special needs focused after the holiday break with these back to school tips.

Provide Structure at home. Whatever you can do to keep structure to their days at home can help. Start their day by telling them what to expect for the day.

Associate School with fun. Talk to your child about the things they have to look forward to when going to school.

Work behind the Scenes for a good first week. If there have been any changes to; care plans, medications, changes at home, let your child's teacher know in advance.

Prepare for the first day back. The use of social stories can assist your child in the transition.

Examine your child's Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Familiarize yourself with the plan again and work on activities at home to help your child transition better.

Share the joy and have fun!



Reading—

The spring semester at Odem-Edroy ISD is always a busy exciting semester filled with end of the year extra-curricular activities and state testing. In order to help your child prepare for upcoming state assessments, your campus reading teachers have already begun their STAAR Tutorials. If you are unsure of the details, you can check Living Tree or you make arrangements to speak with your child's reading teacher to confirm a time and day for tutorials.

Please discuss the importance of attending these tutorials with your child and encourage him or her to attend tutorials regularly. Ask your child to share what they are doing during tutorials; having your child explain the concepts covered will help them reflect on their learning and review the concepts at home too. Also, having your child log onto Reading Plus at home to work on activities they've been assigned will help tremendously. Together, we can encourage and prepare your child for success on their 2018 STAAR Assessments!

Dr. Lidamar Gracia Yruegas, Ed. D
Assistant Principal & ELA-R Specialist

Gifted and Talented—

Gifted children are so diverse and do not exhibit all characteristics all of the time. There are common characteristics that many gifted individuals share:

- Rapid learner; put thoughts together quickly
- Excellent memory
- Unusually large vocabulary and complex sentence structure for age
- Exhibit unusual emotional depth and complexity
- Thinking is abstract, complex, logical and insightful
- High energy level
- Concern with worldly events
- Highly developed curiosity
- Aims for perfection
- Keen sense of humor
- Vivid Imaginations
- Creative
- Responds and relates to older children and adults

Anyone wishing to refer a student attending Odem-Edroy ISD in kindergarten through twelfth grade this school year can go to the OEISD website and print a form or go by the student's campus office and request a copy of the referral form. This form must be returned to the school counselor by January 16, 2018.

Esmeralda Martinez, 504—What are “major life activities”?

Major life activities include, but are not limited to: self-care, manual tasks, walking, seeing, speaking, sitting, thinking, learning, breathing, concentrating, interacting with others and working. As of January 1, 2009 with the reauthorization of the Americans with Disabilities Amendment Act, this list has been expanded to also include the life activities of reading, concentrating, standing, lifting, bending, etc. This may include individuals with AD/HD, dyslexia, cancer, diabetes, severe allergies, chronic asthma, Tourette's syndrome, digestive disorders, cardiovascular disorders, depression, conduct disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, HIV/AIDS, behavior disorders and temporary disabilities (e.g., broken writing arm, broken leg, etc.). Conditions that are episodic or in remission are also now covered if they create a substantial limitation in one or more major life activity while they are active. Students who are currently using illegal drugs or alcohol are not covered or eligible under Section 504.

From: Janie Luna
lunaj@oeisd.org
Food Service Newsletter

Cafeteria Dept.
361-368-8121 x 264

During the months of January and February we will be focusing on Whole grain rich. As of school year 2014-2015 all grains that school served had to be whole grain rich. Odem Schools currently offers ALL whole grain rich products with Breakfast, Lunch, and it's A-La-Carte items.

Why should I eat more whole grains?

Eating 3 or more servings can decrease the risk of having a stroke, developing type 2 diabetes, and heart disease. They may also help you reach and maintain a healthy and weight.

Most Americans eat 1 or less serving of whole grains per day.

What is whole grain rich?

The food items contains at least 50% whole grains.

The item has 8 or more grams of whole grains per serving.

Library—The libraries continue to be busy with patrons. Students at the junior high campus are doing well with the AR program. Students are rewarding at the end of each 6 weeks for reaching or surpassing their reading goals. Every library has added several new books to their collections in order to keep up with the students' interests and reading levels.

The elementary library will be hosting a book fair for elementary and intermediate students, Feb 5-9th. Students will be visiting the book fair at the elementary library during their music time on Monday and Tuesday to browse and fill out their wish lists. Students will be able to come by before and after school and during their music time the rest of the week to make their purchases. In addition, we will have a family night on Tuesday, February 6 from 5-7pm. Families are invited to attend and receive a small treat.

Science- Hello OEISD Families!

Students at OEISD experience vast opportunities to practice hands-on science activities through engaging lessons on a regular basis. Our Pre-K students study animals and their habitats with the use of class pets, such as frogs and turtles. Intermediate students explore magnetism and electricity using common objects, such as batteries, wire, and paper clips. Our junior high students conduct investigations to explore the world around them as they identify leaf structures outside. High school students investigate different types of water plants and microscopic organisms to identify structure and functions of living organisms. Please remember to keep students interested in scientific concepts at home by encouraging curiosity, exploration, and investigation of common objects.

CTE-

What is CTE?

Career and technical education, or CTE, is education that directly prepares students for high-wage, high-demand careers. CTE covers many different fields, including health care, information technology, advanced manufacturing, hospitality and management and many more, as described in the national Career Clusters® and ACTE's What is CTE? page and Sector Sheets. CTE encompasses many different types of education, from classroom learning to certification programs to work-based learning opportunities outside the classroom.

Yvette Maldonado Custodial Dept.



Why a Clean School Can Impact Student Success

With the Flu Season being so aggressive this year, our number one priority is to keep our four campuses highly cleaned and sanitized to prevent the spread of the flu virus.

We know clean schools lead to increased student attendance because students are healthy and well.

Remind your children to always flush and to always wash their hands.

Together, we can impact student success with clean schools and hands.

Yvette Maldonado
maldonadov@oeisd.org

The 3rd Six Weeks has ended, and after spending time with family and friends during the Christmas Holidays, the maintenance department is ready for the 4th Six Weeks!

We continue working very hard on resolving our A/C and Heating issues throughout the district. We appreciate everyone's patience on this issue.

Grounds, football field and any maintenance problem that arise continue to be on our daily tasks. Our main goal is to keep our district clean and up and going.

We continue to ask for your assistance in observing the district's cross walks by stopping in these areas. We also ask that you observe the "SLOW" signs painted/displayed throughout the district. Also, please note the new Directional Signs painted on the Junior High School/Football Stadium parking lot. These signs help with the daily flow of traffic in a safe way. Slow and Safe driving around Owl Square ensures the safety of all our students/faculty and staff.

If you see a light out around the campuses, please e-mail us at villgasf@oeisd.org so we can tend to those safety/security notices as soon as possible.

OEISD Maintenance Dept.
Arnold Maldonado
361-368-8121, ext. 266

Roel Arguelles, Transportation Dept.

Transportation Department
Rolling Out Success at OEISD

arguellesr@oeisd.org
361-368-8121, ext. 266

The Transportation department has rolled once again through the 3rd Six Weeks and enjoyed the Christmas Holidays along the way with Student Safety being our number one goal.

Before every route or extra curricular activity we run our daily inspections on all the buses to make sure they are safe to run.

A friendly reminder to all parents/guardians of our bus riders: If you have **a change in your child's drop off destination**, the campus office where your child attends school, **must** have a written note with a parent signature and be approved by the school office personnel by 2:30 p.m. on the day of the request. Once we receive the note from the campus office that same day, we copy the note and hand it to the driver before they depart. After ten consecutive days of not using the bus service, that service may be discontinued. For the safety of our students, please observe this very important traffic rule: When a school bus has the stop sign out and the red lights flashing, on a two-lane, undivided roads, drivers are required to stop in both directions.

Message from the School Nurse:

A few friendly reminders.....

Please do not send your child to school if he/she has or has had:

Fever more than 100 degrees within the last 24 hours (**must be fever free without medication**)

Two episodes of vomiting or diarrhea within the last 24 hours.

Continuous coughing not relieved with cough medicine.

Odem-Edroy ISD does not allow school personnel, including the nurse, to give any medication without a District Medical Form signed by the parent and a doctor. This includes all over the counter medications. These forms are available on-line and in the school nurse's office.

Since students need to be picked up when they become ill at school we need current telephone numbers. Please inform the school immediately of any change in your current telephone number(s) so we may be able to contact you when needed.

Thank you in advance for working with us to keep students and staff healthy and in school.

TOP 10 OJH READERS

1. HT Duncan, 95.6 points
2. Javier Martinez, 77.8 points
3. Justin Andrade, 52.6 points
4. David Bevly, 50.8 points
5. Madison Bevly, 42.6 points
6. Leovardo Canales, 36.0 points
7. Leonardo Garcia, 34.0 points
8. Jiomara Negron Rivera, 33.0 points
9. Julian Gomez, 28.0 points
10. Emma Doria, 27.3 points

OJH Girls Basketball

Team is 1/2 through their season and are doing a great job representing OJH by leading nearly in all levels of play. We are striving for another District Championship!

Record:

7A 5-0

7B 4-1

8A 4-1

8B 5-0



Coach Huerta, Odem Athletic Director:

Basketball is in mid-season on all levels. Girls current records are as follows: 7A (5-0), 7B (4-1), 8A (4-1), 8B (5-0). Boys records are as follows: 7A (6-0), 7B (4-2), 8A (6-0), 8B (4-2). We would like encourage all Odem Junior High students and their families to take an interest in and join our athletic programs. We would also like to thank everyone currently involved and supporting those programs. For more information on our athletic programs please visit our school website or www.odemowlathletics.com.

OJH Basketball—

The Odem Jr High Boys Basketball program started late November. The Jr high program had great numbers of kids come out this season. Starting with the 7th graders we had 27 players and 8th graders had 29 players, participating in basketball this season. Throughout the season the boys have been practicing hard every morning.



The Odem Jr High Boys Basketball program started late November. The Jr high program had great numbers of kids come out this season. Starting with the 7th graders we had 27 players and 8th graders had 29 players, participating in basketball this season. Throughout the season the boys have been practicing hard every morning.

The Odem 7th grade A team has started off the first half of the year on a roll as they remain undefeated on the year. After a close game to Orange Grove to begin the season the Owls have really come together and have kept opponents at bay with great hustle on defense and outstanding offensive performances. The entire team has made great strides toward a district championship, waking up early for practice and putting extra effort toward understanding both the offensive and defensive schemes. The 7th A team looks to stay undefeated for the second half of the season and

hopes Owl fans will come out and support these young men.

The Odem Owl 8th grade A team started off the basketball season with big wins over Orange Grove and Skidmore. The Owls have played phenomenal defense as well as shot very efficient percentages from field goal range. Together these young men have compiled an undefeated record but have managed to stay humble toward their quest for a district championship. As the second half of the season starts, the Owls will look to improve their record against district opponents as well as in tournament play. We look forward for all our Owl fans to come out and support these young men as they push forward for a district title.

The Owls 7th and 8th grade B-Teams have a record of 4-2. The Owls came up short in their own tournament losing in the championship game versus Sinton. The boys are having a great season and continuing to improve. The Owls are starting the second around of district and looking to finish strong.



Clarissa Moreno, Parent Involvement Coordinator News

Great jobs parents, we had a successful 3rd Six weeks. Congratulations to OIS students, they won the Odem Can Food Drive! OEISD staff would like to thank you for sending your child to school on time and ensuring they are prepared for class. Lets keep up the great work!

We have events coming up, so stay updated by using Living Tree. We will share strategies to help make us awesome parents, so please come and support OEISD.

Updates

I will be sending out a letter and a flyer detailing information about the Parental Involvement Conference taking place on February 6, 2018 from 8:30am-1:00. If you are attending, I will be sending out an message about a meeting time.

Events to Attend

Junior High

- Parental Involvement Conference 2/6/18

Resources

Stay Smart Texas shares how to promotes the role of parents in making any time a learning time. Click on the link and explore the site.

<http://startsmarttexas.org/about/tv-spots-pbs/>

Greetings!

In our everyday lives, understanding math enables us to manage time and money, and handle everyday situations that involve numbers (for example, calculate how much time we need to get to work, how much food we need in order to feed our families, and how much money that food will cost).

Be positive about math!

Let your child know that everyone can learn math.

Let your child know that you think math is important and fun.

Point out the ways in which different family members use math in their jobs.

Encourage your child to give explanations.

When your child is trying to solve a problem, ask what he or she is thinking.

If your child seems puzzled, ask him or her to tell you what doesn't make sense. (Talking about their ideas and how they reach solutions helps children learn to reason mathematically.)

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 361-368-8121 ext. 232 or gutierrezv@oeisd.org.

District Liaison—Leigh Ann Ray

EARLY OWL LITERACY

Early Owl Literacy is a program for ODEM parents and their 0 to 3 year old children. We use our time together having fun while practicing literacy. This class provides a free book as well as opportunities to participate in monthly field trips and activities, that promote early literacy. Two of our recent field trips were; a trip to the library to see Mr. Kippy and a play day at TAGS Gym in Portland during their "Toddler Time" gymnastics. YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US ON FEBRUARY 13th FOR VALENTINE'S ACTIVITIES, STORIES, and a PARTY for all of our guest. Come join us for a good time and a head start in literacy for our youngest Owls! For more information, email Leigh Ann Ray at rayl@oeisd.org

All 'A' Honor

6th Grade— Justin Andrade, Claudia Covarrubias, Joaquin Gamez, Javier Martinez, Traci McClellen, Ebin McCloskey, Ryan Mendez

7th Grade— Anna Decker, Emma Doria, Julietta Esqueda, Julian Gomez, Beau Hill, Daniel Lopez, Shamanda Navarez, Miranda Pena, Emilee Sturgeon

8th Grade— Evelyn Contreras, Xavier Drennon, Catalina Gamez, George Garcia, Robert Garza, Alyssa Martinez, Mark Moreno, Nicole Ortiz, Katherine Rodriguez

'A' and 'B' Honor Roll

6th Grade— Eric Aguirre, Mario Benavides, David Bevy, Leovardo Canales, Joshua Chavira, Johnetta Espinoza, Isabella Flores, Leonardo Garcia, Jaelynn Garcia, Nathaniel Garcia, Matthew Guzman, Joy Lerma, Samantha Luna, Eduardo Medina, Dezirae Moreno, Jacob Phillips, Bailey Rodriguez, Julian Romero, Vanessa Saucedo, Daniel Seanez

7th Grade—Cameron Aleman, Madison Bevy, Julianna Borrego, Tyler Brewer, Karla Covarrubias, Madison Curtis, Pedro Diaz, Torin Falcon, Stephanie Fonseca, Zoey Garcia, Kayla Gomez, Esai Gonzalez, Bella Kholomeyev, Kalista Ocana, Aaliyah Parraz, Isabella Salinas, Kayla Tovar

8th Grade—James Adams, Perla Almendarez, Mia Aviles, Krista Beltran, Isiah Brown, Kyle Castaneda, Alejandro Cruz, Lizbeth Cruz, Martin Doria, Matthew Dunlap, Arabella Garza, Jacob Gomez, Jordan Hernandez, Jeslyn Luna, Alexis Martinez, Isabella Mata, Torri McClellen, Isaac Moreno, Jiomara Negron, Yolanda Salas-Cruz, Edward Sanchez, Gabriella Sanchez

CONGRATULATIONS!

Tyler Brewer

is our perfect attendance winner for the
3rd 6 weeks!

He will be recognized at the board meeting
on February 12.

Chess Club—

Chess club meets on Wednesdays in the intermediate libraries. Students from 3rd grade through high school are still invited to join and participate. There is no deadline to join the club.