



January 15th - No School Due To Teacher Planning Day
 January 19th - Basketball Tournament (TBA)
 January 23rd - 3rd Grade Field Trip to CC Airport
 February 1st - Group Pictures
 February 2nd - Last Day For Box Tops
 February 5th - 9th Book Fair
 February 19th- No School Due To Teacher Planning Day

Dear Parents,
 With respect to all students and staff, we will no longer be accepting Valentine's Day deliveries. In the best interest of our students, the factors determining this decision are listed below.

- Educational disruption for both teaching & learning
- Not all students receive deliveries
- Safety issues on our busses with oversized objects, balloons, etc.

Thank you very much for your under-

3rd Six Weeks
Odem Intermediate School
Newsletter
Soaring To New Heights

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 STAAR 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 ef-

Top Ten AR Readers

1. Jeriah Cisneros
2. Shawn Williams
3. Evan Nunez
4. Timothy Rogers
5. Tomas Dunlap
6. Jessica Mendez
7. Alma Almendarez
8. Emaly Maldonado
9. Randy Salinas
10. Michael Ynfante



Science Fair



Congratulations to the following science fair winners!

3rd Grade

1st place: Von Barrera

2nd place: Michelle Rogers

3rd place: Cayden Smith

4th Grade

1st place: Jeriah Cisneros

2nd place: Mason Castillo

3rd place: Timothy Rogers

5th Grade

1st place: Zoe Garcia



Just a reminder that changes in transportation must be made by 2:30 p.m. This allows ample time for the school to receive the notes and give it to our

When is the Last School Day for Students?

Students that meet the following criteria will not be required to attend the final 9 days of school from May 21-June 1, 2018. The last day of class for students will be on Friday, May 18th if the student meets the following requirements:

- 90% attendance rate for the school year (no more than 17 absences),
- Have a 70 or higher yearly average in reading/language arts for the school year,

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From
Joey Avila
Technology Dept.



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.

From
Debbie Serrano



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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.

From
Janie Luna
Cafeteria Dept.



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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

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**Leigh Ann Ray
Parent Liaison - Birth - 3**

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 there "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

**From Melissa Vela
District Coordinator**



Spring semester is underway and UIL academic competition has concluded for the elementary levels. Students can continue to stay active on other academic events and activities held on both the elementary and intermediate campuses.

Students can join the chess club to keep their decision making skills sharp. Chess club members meet on Wednesdays after school at the intermediate campus to challenge each other and compete in chess matches.

Parents continue to encourage your students to stay involved in all academic activities on the elementary and intermediate campuses.

From Debbie Serrano



The libraries continue to be busy with patrons. Students at elementary, intermediate and junior high campuses 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. Fami-

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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

From
Dr. Lidamar Yruegas
ELAR CS

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The spring semester at Odem -Edroy ISD is always a busy exciting semester and before we know it, the time to take state assessments will soon be here. As a parent, there are several activities you and your child can do to prepare for these important state assessments.

Your campus reading teachers have begun afterschool tutorials to help students prepare for their STAAR test. 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. If you have internet access at home, you could have your child work on his or her assigned activities in Reading Plus. The program promises that if your child completes the required hours per week, he or she will see growth and develop comprehension

From Sonia Gamez
SCI CS

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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

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From
Traci Pogue



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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 Say rhymes and sing songs



From
Jana
Kieschnick

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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

From Lisa Flores

CTE

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This spring semester, we have 8 students who will begin the Phlebotomy Tech Training Program. Students will receive all training at Odem High School. So what is a Phlebotomy Tech? Phlebotomists play a vital role in the operations of the clinical laboratory. Phlebotomy is the procedure of puncturing a vein to collect blood either for analysis or transfusion. A phlebotomist is the individual who collects blood by venipuncture to assist in the assessment of a patient's medical condition. After successfully completing the program, students will earn a certificate in order to be eligible to sit for the national examination through the MedCA. Entry level pay in our area range from \$11 to \$14 per hour. We are so excited for

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From
Tony Ramirez
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The 3rd six weeks has drawn to a close and with it the fall semester had ended as well. Students in Mrs. Decker's 3rd grade class spent some time on map skills. Students learned how to use a variety of maps from city, country and product maps. Students also spent some time on understanding cultural heritage and the way that individuals and communities celebrate various cultures. 5th grade students in Ms. Earley's classes learned about the 3 branches of government. They created Christmas ornaments that illustrated and explained the roles of branch of government.

From
Armando Huerta
Athletics Director

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The Odem athletic department would like to encourage all the young owls in the district to follow and take interest in our athletic programs. With the first semester behind us, all fall sport accolades have been received and basketball is in mid-season. Many of our HS athletes were selected to the fall All-District teams. HS volleyball placed 3 ladies on the first team, 3 on the second team, and one honorable mention. 2 students were selected to the State All-Academic team. Football placed 15 players on the first team, 11 on the second, and 4 honorable mention. 14 football players made the all-academic team, with 7 of those making the All-State academic team. For details on these accomplishments, please visit www.odemowlsathletics.com. As mentioned previously, 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), 9th (1-2), JV (10-3), Varsity (21-6). Boys records are as follows: 7A (6-0), 7B (4-2), 8A (6-0), 8B (4-2), JV gold (8-5), JV blue (10-2), Varsity (14-9). HS programs have just begun their district schedules. Again we encourage all little owls and their families to take interest in our athletic programs as they will become the



From
Clarissa Moreno
**Parent Involvement
Coordinator**

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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 a message about a meeting time.

Events to Attend

Elementary

- Parental Involvement Conference
2/6/18

Intermediate

- Parental Involvement Conference
2/6/18

Junior High

- Parental Involvement Conference
2/6/18

High School

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From Yvette Maldonado
Custodial Dept.



Yvette Maldonado

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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

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From Arnold Maintenance Dept.



The 3rd Six Weeks

has ended, and after spending time with family and friends during the Christmas Holidays, and 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 task list. Our main goal is to keep our district clean and up and running efficiently.

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.

From Roel Arguelles
Transportation Dept.



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 travel.

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

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From
Dr. Veronica Gutierrez
Curriculum Dept.

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!

- Point out the ways in which different family members use math in their jobs.
- Encourage your child to be persistent if a problem seems difficult.
- Praise your child when he or she makes an effort, and share in the excitement when he or she solves a problem or understands something for the first time.

Make math part of your child's day.

- Point out to your child the many ways in which math is used in everyday activities.
- Include your child in everyday activities that involve math - making purchases, measuring ingredients, counting out plates and utensils for dinner.
- Play games and do puzzles with your child that involve math. They may focus on direction or time, logic and reasoning, sorting, or estimating.

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

From
Esmeralda
Martinez

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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

From
Lisa Perez
District Nurse



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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