

5th Six Weeks

Odem Intermediate School Newsletter

Soaring To New Heights



OI Hooter News
Coming UP

April 20th - A.R. Game Truck

May 4th- Odem Intermediate Talent Show @ Cafetorium 9:00 am & 2:00 pm

May 14th- STAAR Testing (Math) for 3rd & 4th grade & 5th grade - STAAR Re-test (Math)

May 15th- STAAR Testing (Reading) for 3rd & 4th grade & 5th grade- STAAR Re-test (Reading)

May 16th- STAAR Testing (Science) for 5th grade

May 17th- 3rd- 5th grade Awards @ Cafetorium 2:00 pm

May 18th- Field Day @ Football Stadium
Last Day of School for students who meet requirements.

May 21st- 5th grade Field Trip to Aransas Pass Aquatics Center

May 22nd- 3rd & 4th grade Field Trip to Aransas Pass Aquatics Center

May 28th -No School due to Memorial Day Holiday

June 1st- Last day of School for extended year students.

News from the Principal

Jana Kieschnick



Hello, Odem-Edroy I.S.D. families! We are quickly approaching the end of the 2017-2018 school year. Our 4th -5th graders just finished up the first round of STAAR testing, and I was extremely pleased with the tremendous effort students put into the test. Fifth grade students that did not master the math and reading STAAR test will retest on May 14th & 15th. As a reward for working hard, all 3rd-5th grade students will be attending a field trip to Aransas Pass Aquatic Center in May.

STAAR Test Dates are: May 14th - 3rd & 4th Grade STAAR Math; May 15th - 3rd & 4th Grade STAAR Reading; May 16th - 5th Grade STAAR Science

Because these state tests are extremely important, please do not make any appointments for your child on the scheduled dates. You can help your child be successful by making sure that he/she gets a good night's sleep, eats breakfast, and arrives on time to school every day.

I would like to recognize our fantastic staff for their endless hours of support to our students. May 7th-11th, we will celebrate our teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week. It is important that we take time to recognize their hard work and dedication.



Top Ten AR Readers

1. Jeriah Cisneros
2. Zoe Garcia
3. Von Barrera
4. Michael Ynfante
5. Kris Durrance
6. Leigha Naranjo
7. Andrew Alaniz
8. William Sturgeon
9. Aliana Montez

ACCELERATED READER



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From
Joey Avila
Technology Dept.



Hello Parents, I'd like to you know about technology news from our district. We are increasing the number of Chrome-book carts per campus, which is helping us get closer to our 1:1 initiative. A new marque that will serve the Elem and Intermediate campuses is going to be installed in the next few weeks. Also, the OHS campus has two new computer labs on the way, this will support our certification program. Our students access to technology is our priority and we want to give them every opportunity for success here at OEISD.

From
Debbie Serrano



serranod@oeisd.org

The chess club continues to grow. We have anywhere from 9-15 students attending on Wednesdays. Junior high and high school students attend periodically to assist the younger players.

From
Janie Luna
Cafeteria Dept.



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361-368-8121 x 264

The cafeteria department continues to work hard to provide a healthy and delicious meal for all our OEISD Students. They make sure that all meals are ready to be served in all 3 dining areas in a timely manner.

These dining areas are the:

- ◇ Elementary Cafeteria
- ◇ Intermediate/JH Cafetorium
- ◇ HS Cafeteria

A reminder to all parents and guardians that every student in OEISD will receive Free Breakfast and Free Lunch every day at each campus until the end of this school year (2017-2018). If your child chooses more than one main dish or other extra items, your child will need to pay in cash or use their account with sufficient funds.

You can find our menu in our district website under Food Services.

Have a Happy Spring!

OEISD Cafeteria Dept.

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Leigh Ann Ray
Parent Liaison - Birth - 3

EARLY OWL LITERACY



It's time to start making plans for the last Early Owl Literacy class of the 2018 school year. I hope you will make plans to join us. YOU AND YOUR 0 to 3 YEAR OLD, whether you are the child's parent, grandparent, guardian or baby sitter, are invited to join us on May 8, 2018, at the Odem Pool for a special Mommy and Me Swim class.

We will recap our literacy strategies and learn a few new ones while learning to swim and play safely in and around the water. I hope you will join us for a good time.

If you have any questions and/or need a ride, contact

Leigh Ann Ray.

From Melissa Vela
District Coordinator



The school year is winding down and spring UIL events have concluded for the school year. Parents encourage your students to continue to work hard on their academic studies so that they may maintain eligibility for the start of the next school year.

From Debbie Serrano



The libraries have been busy with patrons. Elementary, intermediate and junior high students have been checking out books to help meet their AR goals. They have also been checking out books to help with various research projects for classes. The library also has several databases available to all students at all campuses on their website. Please contact your campus librarian if you have any questions regarding the databases.

The high school library recently had computers and a printer added to the library. High school students may now research, type assignments, and print necessary documents/assignments.

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From
Yolanda Alvaro, Director
Special Ed./Dyslexia

April National Autism Awareness Month

Nearly a quarter century ago, the Autism Society launched a nationwide effort to promote autism awareness, inclusion and self-determination for all, and to assure that each person with ASD is provided the opportunity to achieve the highest possible quality of life. This year let's go beyond simply promoting autism awareness to encouraging friends and collaborators to become partners in movement toward acceptance and appreciation.

Let's embrace a new perspective. For over 50 years The Autism Society has worked in communities (both large and small) to ensure their actions, through their services and programming, supported all individuals living with autism. Let's expand this work to focus on the rest of us – ensuring acceptance and inclusion in schools and communities that result in true appreciation of the unique aspects of all people. We want to get one step closer to a society where those with ASDs are truly valued for their unique talents and gifts.

Celebrate 2018 National Autism Awareness Month! National Autism Awareness Month represents an excellent opportunity to promote autism awareness, autism acceptance and to draw attention to the tens of thousands facing an autism diagnosis each year.

From
Dr. Lidamar Yruegas
ELAR CS

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This year our district has really promoted the use of Reading Plus and thus far several students among the four campuses have seen growth in various areas. This program is designed to assess students at the beginning, middle, and end of year. The screeners assess comprehension, vocabulary and silent reading rate. The end of the year screener testing window is fast approaching, please encourage your child to take the screener seriously and try his or her best.

From Sonia Gamez
SCI CS

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Throughout the year, students at OEISD have engaged in exceptional learning in science. From egg incubation, to growing plants, and dissecting specimens; students across the district continue to participate in a variety of learning opportunities. As we begin to wrap up the year with the final six weeks of school, please keep in mind that learning continues throughout the summer!

Summer is the perfect time to encourage students to explore and build on their knowledge as they enhance their critical thinking and creative thinking skills. Almost every activity a child engages in involves science; for example, exploring outdoors, exploring the kitchen, growing plants, building something and examining the night's sky. Below are a few resources to consider when encouraging science exploration at home.

Summer Science Activities:

<http://sassafrasscience.com/48-more-summer-science-activities-for-you-to-enjoy/>

Science Activities:

www.sciencebuddies.org

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From
Traci Pogue



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State testing season is just around the corner, and teachers and students are inevitably feeling the pressure. However, for students classified as English language learners (ELLs) this time of year comes with an added level of stress. These students are not only managing the anxiety all students experience knowing that their academic understanding is about to be put to the test; they're also dealing with the added challenge of navigating the experience in a language that may still feel foreign.

Nonetheless, come testing day, many ELLs will be expected to show what they know on a test written in English. How can we take steps to level the playing field for ELLs, and ensure that standardized testing does its job of measuring concept knowledge—not language proficiency?

Help ELLs understand the importance of testing: Many other countries don't put nearly the same emphasis on testing as we do in the United States. As a result, some of your ELLs may simply be confused by the premise, or not understand what all the fuss is about. While you certainly don't want to scare them, it is important to explain what high-stakes state tests are, what they are used for, and why they're important. This background knowledge can go a long way in motivating your ELLs to put forth their best efforts as they



From
Jana
Kieschnick

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Students that have been referred for Gifted and Talented program are currently being tested. Also, all kindergarten students are assessed using teacher input, a kindergarten portfolio, and an online NNAT-3 assessment.

The Selection Process includes the following:

- Nominations will be requested in the spring semester.
- The GT testing window is held during the fifth and sixth six-weeks.
- Entry into the gifted and talented program will be at the beginning of the fall semester.
- In order to facilitate the selection decisions, a matrix will be prepared for each student. The matrix is used to organize and evaluate student performance on selection criteria.
- The GT committee may consist of the building administrator, counselor, grade level teachers and GT coordinator.
- The GT Committee members make decisions regarding the selection process, furloughs, exits from the program, and transfers.

From Lisa Flores
CTE

floresL@oeisd.org

A huge thank you to the OHS Counseling Department for providing a very informative parent meeting on dual credit and continuing education. We had a great turnout! We hope that you may have heard something that has peaked your interest. Now is the time to make some choices on future career goals. Just a reminder that we will be having pre-scheduling night at OHS on 4/16 for 9th and 10th graders and on 4/23 for 11th and 12th graders. Are you interested in attending The Craft Training Center to receive a certification in welding? What about a certification in the medical field? We offer several career pathways right here on campus. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the high school should you have any questions on scheduling. We are looking forward to growing our programs and offering the very best for our students.

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From Tony Ramirez Social Studies CS

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Students at Odem Intermediate have been spending time in their social studies classes learning about our government. They created a number of different color coded foldables and graphic organizers during the 5th Six Weeks. These activities were geared toward the students learning about the branches of our government and the role of each branch. Students also learned about officials that serve in our government and their duties.

From Armando Huerta Athletics Director

First and foremost, the Odem athletic department would like to encourage all the young owls in the district to follow and take interest in our athletic programs. Our JH competition season has come to end, but not without a strong showing at the JH track meet. The 7th grade girls finished 2nd at the district meet with the 8th grade girls coming in 3rd. 7th grade boys finished 3rd and the 8th grade boys brought home a District Championship. At the HS both Tennis and Golf have come to an end. Baseball and Softball both sit in first place as the district race is nearing its end. The track program will compete at District this week with several kids looking to advance to Area. One important note is that all summer camps have been set. Basketball (2nd-6th grade) is June 5th-8th, Basketball (7th-9th grade) is June 18th-21st, volleyball is June 11th-12, and football is July 26th-27th. For basketball camp info you can email Coach Antonio Ramirez at ramireza@oeisd.org. For volleyball information email trujilom@oeisd.org. For football please email huertaa@oeisd.org. Again we encourage all little owls and their families to take interest in our athletic programs as they will become the future of those programs. For more information on our athletic programs please visit our school website or www.odemowlathletics.com.

From Clarissa Moreno Parent Involvement

News

Great jobs parents, we had a successful 5th Six weeks. OEISD staff would like to thank you for sending your child to school on time and ensuring they are prepared for class. Let's keep up the great work!

Thank you to all OEISD parents who attended the Parental Involvement Conference in Sinton. We enjoyed the keynote speaker Rosie Sanchez presentation covering the ways to help keep our lives less stressful. I hope you left with valuable information.

Help Needed

If you are interested in helping out Odem Intermediate 4th grade teachers make STAAR snack bags please email me at morenoc@oeisd.org or 361-726-2260.

STAAR Updates

As you know parents, STAAR is always a topic for discussion. STAAR is around the corner and it's imperative to get your child ready! Please ensure your child is getting plenty of rest each night. If they are attending tutoring, talk to them what they learned. Ask them what you can do to help them prepare for the test. Remember parents, you are the biggest help in your child's education.

Resources

Please view the link below.

<http://edscoop.com/act-to-add-free-online-test-prep-this-spring>

The program above, ACT Academy, features personalized resources to help students struggling in certain subjects. If you would like to learn more, please click on the link.

How can you help you child prepare for STAAR exams? Please click on the link below for tips and an informative video.

<https://texasassessment.com/families/how>

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**From Yvette Maldonado
Custodial Dept.**



Keeping our schools clean, create a positive learning environment for our OEISD students continue to be our number one priority.

With springtime weather, allergy season is high. With this in mind, the custodial departments is working hard to help minimize allergy symptoms for our students, faculty, and staff.

Please remind your children to always flush and to always wash their hands.

OEISD Custodial Department

Yvette Maldonado

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**From Arnold
Maintenance
Dept.**



Spring is here and the maintenance and grounds department are working at keeping our campuses neatly mowed and clean.

Spring Sports are also up and running, so the maintenance and grounds crew are also working hard on maintaining Owl Stadium ready for our track athletes, as well as the baseball field for our Odem Owls Baseball Team and the Softball Field for our Lady Owls Softball Team.

Go Owls!

We also want to thank you for your patience during the demolition process of our old buildings. Water had to be shut off, electricity had to be shut off for the safety of the demolition crew.

Please continue to observe the district's cross walks by stopping in these areas. We also ask that you observe the "SLOW" signs painted/displayed throughout the district. 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 ville-gasf@oeisd.org so we can tend to those safety/security notices as soon as possible.

OEISD Maintenance Dept.

**From
Roel Arguelles
Transportation
Dept.**



The Transportation Department has been very busy this six weeks. With spring sports up and running our department is busy getting the buses ready for these extra curricular activities as well as for our daily routes.

We run daily inspections (all fluids, tires, etc.) on all the buses to make sure they are safe to run. Our number one priority is to transport our students safely to and from their homes or extra curricular activities.

Parents and Guardians, please remind your child that when they are riding the bus that they need to practice safety procedures.

- ◆ Stay in your seat
- ◆ Follow the bus driver's directions.

Also, 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.***

OEISD Transportation Dept.
[Roel Arguelles-arguellesr@oeisd.org](mailto:Roel.Arguelles-arguellesr@oeisd.org)

361-368-8121, ext. 266

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From
Dr. Veronica Gutierrez
Curriculum Dept.

Spotlight on Fractions

Talk positively about how you use fractions in everyday life. Making models

of fractions for your child will support their understanding of fractions. Try

some of these ideas making use of everyday objects:

- Can you cut up the apple to make six equal pieces?
- What fraction of the glass is filled with water?
- How do the hands on the clock face show the time quarter past?
- Can you show me halves and quarters as you cut the orange?
- If you fold a towel three times equally, what fraction does it show?

From
Esmeralda Martinez

504

What information is used in doing an evaluation under Section 504?

Under Section 504, no formalized testing is required. The 504 Committee should look at grades over the past several years, teacher's reports, information from parents or other agencies, state assessment scores or other school administered tests, observations, discipline reports, attendance records, health records and adaptive behavior information. Schools must consider a variety of sources. A single source of information (such as a doctor's report) cannot be the only information considered. Schools must be able to assure that all information submitted is documented and considered.

Can a student be placed under Section 504 without parental knowledge?

No. Parents must always be given notice before their child is evaluated and/or placed under Section 504 (34 C.F.R. §104.36). Parents must also be given a copy of their child's Section 504 accommodation plan if the committee determines that the child is eligible under Section 504.

Will a student still be in the regular classroom or will he/she be in a "special class"?

A Section 504 eligible child will always be in the regular classroom. Accommodations that are appropriate and have been agreed upon by the 504 committee will be implemented in the regular classroom.

From
Lisa Perez
District Nurse



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Summer is almost here and warmer days are around the corner. When children are outdoors, it's important to protect their skin to prevent melanoma and skin damage from too much sun exposure. Every child needs sun protection. The lighter someone's natural skin color, the less melanin it has to absorb UV rays and protect itself. The darker a person's natural skin color, the more melanin it has. But both dark- and light-skinned children need protection from UV rays because any tanning or burning causes skin damage. Here are the key ways to protect children's skin:

Use Sunscreen:

Wear sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher, make sure it's broad-spectrum, and if kids are in or near water, is labeled water-resistant.

Avoid the Strongest Rays of the Day

Try to stay in the shade when the sun is at its strongest (usually from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the northern hemisphere)

Cover Up

One of the best ways to protect skin is to cover up.

Wear Sunglasses

Sun exposure damages the eyes as well as the skin. Even 1 day in the sun can lead to a burned cornea. The best way to protect eyes is to wear sunglasses that provide 100% UV protection.

Double-Check Medicines

Some medicines make skin more sensitive to UV rays. Ask your doctor or pharmacist if any