



November 17th—3rd-5th Turkey Trot @ 9:15 a.m. around the Elementary campus

November 20th– 24th Thanksgiving Holidays

November 27th Fundraiser parties during PE/ Music times

December 9th UIL Academic Meet @Petty Elementary in Taft

December 12th Science Fair Projects Due

December 14th Progress Reports

December 19th Music Performance at OJH Cafetorium (3rd-5th grade) @ 7:00 p.m.

December 20th Classroom Christmas Parties TBA

December 20th, 2017 thru January 5th, 2018—No School Christmas/New Year's Holidays

## Christmas Food Drive

Odem Intermediate will participate in a food drive beginning November 27th. We will collect **canned** food items until December 8th, 2017. All donations will be for needy families in our community. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.



### Top Ten AR Readers!

1. Zoe Garcia
2. Brook Martinez
3. Timothy Rogers
4. Jesus Gomez III
5. Eva Garcia
6. Michelle Rogers
7. Angel Castillo
8. Cayden Smith
9. Michael Ynfante



# 2nd Six Weeks Odem Intermediate School Newsletter Soaring To New Heights

## News from the Principal

*Jana Kieschnick*



Hello again to each of our Odem Intermediate 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 Intermediate 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 learning at Odem Intermediate School.





LivingTree is the one private, social network for our school community. SIGN UP LOGIN.to get school communication. If you have not signed up I encourage you to do so. All parents were sent an email that allowed you to set up an account for Living Tree. If you are unable to find the email you may contact us here at 361-368

### Think Through Math Login

Your child can work on Think Through Math at home if you have internet access.

Here are the steps:

Visit the Odem-Edroy district web page at [www.oeisd.org](http://www.oeisd.org).

Click on **Students**.

Then click on **Think Through Math**

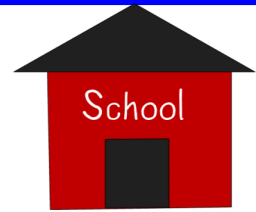
#### **Think Through Math/Imagine Math:**

The username is their lunch number.

The password is their birthday (example: 4/17/10)

The site code is 4833360.

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



**Cafetorium** (grades 3-5)

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!

# ODEM INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS!



Volume 1, Issue 1

2nd Six Weeks



Leigh Ann Ray  
Parent Liaison - Birth - 3

## EARLY OWL LITERACY

Odem parents and their 0 to 3 year old children are invited to participate in an early literacy program beginning Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 am, in the Elementary parenting classroom. This new class will provide books to each student as well as opportunities to participate in monthly field trips and activities, that will promote early literacy. Transportation will be provided after the first meeting. Please join us for a good time and a head start for our youngest Owls!

From Melissa Vela  
District Coordinator



The first semester of school is quickly coming to an end, and Odem Elementary and Odem Intermediate students have already begun preparation for the UIL academic competition that will be held on December 9th.

Students will be competing in various events such as number sense, dictionary skills, spelling, storytelling, music memory, ready writing, art memory and oral reading. Students have been working hard on their assigned event for competition with their UIL sponsors.

Sponsors for Odem Elementary/Intermediate are as follows: Mrs. McDowell (Number Sense), Mrs. Gamez (Dictionary Skills), Mrs. Decker (Spelling and Maps, Graphs, and Charts), Mrs. Clenney (2nd grade Storytelling), Mrs. Sorrells (3rd grade Storytelling and Listening Skills), Mrs. Rakowitz (Music Memory), Mrs. Gonzalez (3rd and 4th Ready Writing), Mrs. Rogers (Art Memory), Mrs. Cantu (4th and 5th grade Oral Reading), Mrs.

From Debbie Serrano



The elementary, intermediate and junior high libraries have been bustling with patrons. Students have been coming in to choose books to read both for pleasure and to meet their AR goal. Students who met their goal the 2<sup>nd</sup> 6 weeks were treated to an AR celebration. Elementary and intermediate students were treated to ice cream floats. Junior high students will be treated to a movie and popcorn in the library at a later date. All libraries have had new books added to their collections. Students are excited about the new books as several of them are books that they have requested.

The librarians also recognized Rockin' Readers at the end of the 6 weeks. Teachers nominated students who showed reading improvement, worked extra hard to meet their goal this 6 weeks, or reached a new reading level. The students were treated to pizza and cupcakes. A few football players and a cheerleader served the students and interacted with them as ate. The students and volun-



# ODEM INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS!



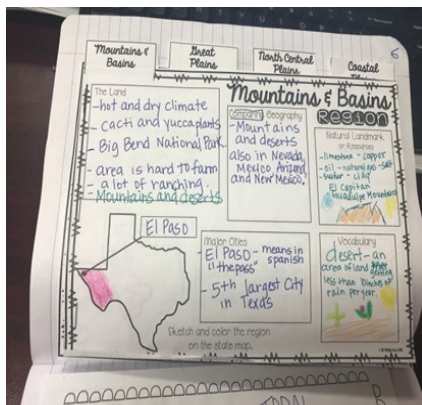
Volume 1, Issue 1

2nd Six Weeks

From  
**Tony Ramirez**  
**Social Studies CS**

ramirezA@oeisd.org

Students in Odem Intermediate Social Studies classes have been busy this 2<sup>nd</sup> Six Weeks learning about our home state. Students in Mrs. Hinojosa's 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes created a Tour of Texas Regions book. This activity allowed students to learn about major cities and the different regions in Texas. They also learned about the regions of Texas on their hand and created a chant to go along with this activity.



From  
**Armando Huerta**  
**Athletics Director**

HuertaA@oeisd.org

The Odem athletic department would like to encourage all the young owls in the district to follow and take interest in our athletic programs. As the holiday season approaches, our fall sports are coming to a close. In volleyball our 7A team finished (7-0) and as district champions. The 8A team finished (5-2) and in 2<sup>nd</sup> place. 8<sup>th</sup> grade football finished (7-1, 4-0) and district champs. 7<sup>th</sup> grade football finished (5-2-1, 2-1-1) and in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. HS volleyball finished (15-13, 4-6) and in 4<sup>th</sup> place. They lost in the BI-District round of the playoffs. The varsity football team has finished the regular season (6-4, 4-1) and as Co-Champs of District 16-3A. They will begin the playoffs this week against Stockdale. With the close of the fall, comes the start of our winter sports. Both boys' and girls' JH basketball is underway. Games are on Mondays till Christmas break then will resume on Thursdays after the break. HS girls' basketball has begun and will have games on Tuesdays during the tournament portion of the season. Again we encourage



From  
**Clarissa Moreno**  
**Parent Involvement  
Coordinator**

morenoC@oeisd.org

## News

Great jobs parents, we had a successful 2nd Six weeks. Congratulations to OIS students, they had the highest attendance rate! 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. OEISD will cover the admission fee and provide transportation. You also receive a free shirt for attending!

## Events to Attend

### *Elementary*

- Literacy Night 11/7
- Parental Involvement Conference 2/6/18

### *Intermediate*

- Literacy Night 11/8
- Parental Involvement Conference 2/6/18

### *Junior High*

- Parental Involvement Conference 2/6/18

# ODEM INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS!



Volume 1, Issue 1

2nd Six Weeks

From  
Joey Avila  
Technology Dept.



Hello from the Tech Department, as we are approaching the end of the semester we would like to remind you about Digital Citizenship. Just like we use our manners and show people respect in real life, we need to do the same when we are online. Our digital world is expanding and we are now learning and interacting in an online cloud environment. Here are some tips.

- Be careful about what you make public online
- Know the difference between sharing and stealing online content
- Beware of users

From  
Debbie Serrano



serranod@oeisd.org

Chess is continuing to meet on Tuesdays at the intermediate library. Students from grades 3-12 are invited to join. Attendance has grown since the first meeting. JH and HS students are teaching and playing against elementary students to give them both competition and experience. Despite the vast differences in ages and expertise, the students all work well and are learning from each other. Meetings will be moved to Wednesday starting the first week in December.

Any student from grade 3-12 is still able to join.

From  
Janie Luna  
Cafeteria Dept.



lunaj@oeisd.org

361-368-8121 x 264

## Food Service Newsletter

Welcome to the Food Service Department Breakfast and Lunch : Free to all Students to the end of Nov 30, 2017. Our school community can access our menus on our school website.

The tray containing 3 component must be served . A fruit or vegetable for breakfast.

### What is included in a full Lunch?

A school lunch included five food component: with protein and whole grain. A side of vegetables and a selection of low fat or fat free milk. Students must have 3 components for a meal to be considered a meal . At least one of the 3 components must be a fruit or vegetable.

Join us for breakfast and lunch!

# ODEM INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS!



Volume 1, Issue 1

2nd Six Weeks

From  
Yolanda Alvaro, Director  
**Special Ed./Dyslexia**

### Inclusive Education

Here at OEISD we advocate for inclusive education as much as possible. This happens when children with and without disabilities participate and learn together in the same classes. Research shows that when a child with disabilities attends classes alongside peers who do not have disabilities, good things happen..

Inclusive education occurs when there is ongoing advocacy, planning, support and commitment. These are the principles that guide quality inclusive education:

- **All children belong.** Inclusive education is based on the simple idea that every child and family is valued equally and deserves the same opportunities and experiences. Inclusive education is about children with disabilities - whether the disability is mild or severe, hidden or obvious - participating in everyday activities, just like they would if their disability were not present. It's about building friendships, membership and having opportunities just like everyone else.
- **All children learn in different**

From  
Dr. Lidamar Yruegas  
**ELAR CS**

Yruegasl@oeisd.org

With the holidays approaching there are several holiday activities that can promote literacy at home. For instance, you could take your child to the local library and have them check out holiday stories to read at bedtime or to younger family members at family get togethers/celebrations. You could also urge your child to write their own holiday stories to share with loved ones which will help their creative, listening, speaking, and writing skills. If your child is very tech savvy, have him or her look up new and improved holiday recipes for you on the internet. By incorporating some of these activities/ practices during the holidays, students may not recognize that you have found a way to sneak in learning on their holiday break. In addition, students can see that reading and writing is a useful fun part of

From Sonia Gamez  
**SCI CS**

gamezS@oeisd.org

Hello OEISD Families!

Science education begins at home! Children are naturally curious and love to experiment. Providing opportunities for children to experience hands-on investigations at home encourages and increases this natural curiosity and promotes problem solving techniques.

Examples of learning science at home:

Go outside! Allow your children to play outside. Their senses will be overwhelmed with sounds, sights, and touch as they explore the textures and sounds of the world around them.

Cook! Allowing children to help with cooking and baking allows them to experience changes in states of matter as well as chemical changes.

Tinker! If something breaks, such as a toy, allow children to try to problem-solve in order to fix the item.

As parents, one of the best



# ODEM INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS!



Volume 1, Issue 1

2nd Six Weeks



From  
**Dr. Veronica Gutierrez**  
Curriculum Dept.

Greetings!

Here are some useful tips on how you can support your child in math:

### The Six DO's for Families and Their Math Students

1. Be positive
2. Link mathematics with daily life
3. Make mathematics fun
4. Learn about mathematics-related careers
5. Have high expectations for your students

Support homework—don't do it!  
Look for "word problems" in real life.  
Some examples might include:

- Notice those everyday occasions when you find yourself using your times tables such as to determine how many days there are in four weeks. Ask your child for the answer.
- Ask your child to compare numbers using phrases like "times as much." For example, if the family cat weighs 8 lbs. and the family dog weighs 56 lbs., how many times as much does the dog weigh?
- Doing arithmetic with decimals, for example when balancing a checkbook.

In addition, we highly encourage all our students to log on to Think Through Math once a night for at least thirty minutes. All students have been assigned lessons

From  
**Esmeralda Martinez**



### What is an "impairment" as used under the Section 504 definition?

An impairment as used in Section 504 may include any disability, long-term illness, or various disorder that "substantially" reduces or lessens a student's ability to access learning in the educational setting because of a learning, behavior, or health related condition. A physical or mental impairment does not constitute a disability for purposes of Section 504 unless its severity is such that it results in a substantial limitation of one or more major life activities.

Many students have conditions or disorders that are not readily apparent to others. They may include conditions such as diabetes, epilepsy and asthma. Hidden disabilities such as low vision, poor hearing, heart disease or chronic illness may not be obvious, but if they substantially limit that child's ability to receive an appropriate education, they may be considered to have an

From  
**Lisa Perez**  
District Nurse



[perezL@oeisd.org](mailto:perezL@oeisd.org)

It's the most wonderful time of the year — or so you keep telling yourself, teeth clenched, as the stress of the holidays mount. The shopping, the baking, the wreath and card making... According to a recent "Stress in America" survey, adults are more likely to find family responsibilities stressful than they have in the past. For many of us, the holiday season can bring an increased sense of family responsibility and, along with it, additional feelings of stress. If you find yourself stressed this year, following these tips may help you and your family enjoy the holidays with less stress and more fun!

**STRESS: UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS**  
Holidays can be stressful when people put pressure on themselves to have a "perfect" holiday.

**SOLUTION:** Just relax! The holidays are about being with friends and family and none of us are perfect. Be yourself and enjoy the people around you for who they are.

**STRESS: TOO MANY RESPONSIBILITIES**  
Scheduling too many activities during the holidays can put a big strain on both you and your family.

**SOLUTION:** Don't take on more than you can handle, learn to say "No," and do not over commit yourself or your family. Don't be afraid to ask for help! What children really want is to spend time with you!

**STRESS: FINANCIAL PRESSURE**  
Over-spending adds stress and can ruin the holiday spirit.

**SOLUTION:** Your family and friends do not

# ODEM INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS!



Volume 1, Issue 1

2nd Six Weeks

From Yvette Maldonado  
Custodial Dept.



### *Why a Clean School Can Impact Student Success*

With drastic changes in our fall weather, from hot to cold and cold to hot, it is no surprise that students and district staff are getting sick with colds, soar throats and all that comes with it. It's during this season, that keeping our four campuses highly cleaned and sanitized is our number one GOAL as a TEAM.

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.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING**  
  
**FROM THE**  
  
**OEISD CUSTODIAL DEPT.**

Yvette Maldonado

From Arnold  
Maintenance  
Dept.



**361-368-8121,**  
**ext. 266**

The 2nd Six Weeks has ended and we are ready for a great 3rd Six Weeks!

We are working very hard on resolving our A/C issues throughout the district especially our Intermediate Campus.

Maintaining our grounds, football field upkeep for home games, and addressing building maintenance requests drives our daily schedule. We appreciate your patience as we work hard to keep our district clean, maintained and fully operational.

We continue to ask for your assistance in observing the district's cross walks by stopping and slowing down 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. Also, please note that we now have a **Speed Hump** located between the Administration Building and the High School Gym. Signs have been placed so drivers can be aware of this new safety addition to Owl Square.

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

*Happy Thanksgiving Day*

From  
Roel Arguelles  
Transportation  
Dept.



The Transportation department [arguellesr@oeisd.org](mailto:arguellesr@oeisd.org)

**361-368-8121, ext. 266**

The Transportation department has rolled through the 2nd Six Weeks and we continue to make student SAFETY 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. Additionally, we ask parents and the Odem Community to 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.*

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 of office personnel by 1:00 p.m. on the day of the request.** Once we receive the note from the campus office by 2:30 PM that same day, we copy the note and hand to the driver before they depart. After ten consecutive days of not using the bus service, that service may be discontinued.



# ODEM INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS!

Volume 1, Issue 1

2nd Six Weeks



From  
Traci Pogue



poguet@oeisd.org

### What is the purpose of an ESL program?

- An ESL program develops competence in English.
- An ESL program prepares the students to be successful in all academic subjects.
- An ESL program emphasizes the mastery of English language skills, as well as, mathematics, science, and social studies, using research-based methodologies appropriate for second language acquisition.

### Who is eligible for an ESL program?

- Students in prekindergarten through high school who speak or hear a language other than English in their home and who are learning English are eligible.
- Students will be assessed in language proficiency and



From  
Jana  
Kieschnick

kieschnickj@oeisd.org

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 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. Those unable

From Lisa Flores

## CTE

floresL@oeisd.org

You may have already heard how extremely proud we are of our high school student, Arturo Lopez. At the Craft Training Center he was only one of three area HS students that completed his NCCER SMAW Degree Plan. Arturo graduated from the CTC on October 26 and will now have employment options in the welding field upon graduating from Odem HS in May 2018. He is currently working on his next welding certification. This is just one example of the opportunities offered by Odem High School's CTE program. We have three more students attending CTC for welding and one for electrician. Congratulations Arturo Lopez!