



OCES Newsflyer

June 2014

Principal's Message



I can hardly believe that this is my first last Principal's message of the year! What a fabulous year it has been. Although summer is just around the corner, it feels more like Thanksgiving time to me, because all I can think about is how grateful I am.

Thank you parents for all of your support; from helping your child with homework, to working at the Fall Festival, to chaperoning field trips, to getting your child to school (a daunting task at times!). My sincere appreciation goes out to you.

Thank you students for being the best ever! You are the core of our vision for OCES. You are like the sun that rises each day, making the world brighter. I see so much potential for

each and every one of you, and it is a blessing to see you grow and use your special gifts and talents. A heartfelt thank you to all our future teachers, doctors, builders, and—who knows—maybe even President of the United States of America!

To the staff at OCES, please accept my sincere gratitude and appreciation for all of your hard work with our students. Thank you for being that significant person in students' lives. Your efforts throughout the year help mold our children into well-prepared, well-rounded and productive adults. The commitment you show each and every day is valued, admired and respected.

I wish everyone a safe, fun and restful summer! Enjoy the things you enjoy—whatever they may be. Most of all spend as much time as possible with family. Time with family is a precious gift, and I encourage everyone to take advantage of it whenever possible. My girls will be home soon, and my plan is to spend every moment I can just being with them.

Have a great summer everyone! **KIDS, DON'T FORGET TO READ!**

(Couldn't help myself – the teacher always comes out in me.)

The OCES Motto

I have a **Curious** Mind,
A **Caring** Heart,
and the
Courage to never give up!

Mrs. Dawn Rogers,
Principal
Mrs. Karen Marx,
Asst. Principal
Mrs. Linda McGean,
School Counselor
OCES Phone:
410-632-5370

Dates to Remember:

- **6/5** Last AR store
- **6/9** Term 4 Awards Ceremony
- **6/11** Last full day of school
- **6/11** Dress Up Spirit Day in honor of 4th graders
- **6/11** 4th Grade Graduation
- **6/12 1/2 day** for students with a **1:00 dismissal**
- **6/13 Last day of school. 1/2 day with a 1:00 dismissal**
- **8/27** OCES Open House 10:30-11:30
- **8/27** Berlin Intermediate School Open House 11:30

Summer Open House

August 27th
10:30-11:30

The Open House, on Thursday, August 27th will be your opportunity to meet your classroom teacher. That is the only day scheduled, as teachers will be busily preparing for the 2014-15 school year. We hope to see you then. Have a great summer!

Friday, June 13th
is the last day of school.
It is a 1:00 dismissal.
Watch for more information!



Missing Something?

Please check the **Lost and Found Closet** in the cafeteria. It is overflowing with hats, coats, sweaters, lunchboxes, etc. If not claimed by the end of the year, all items will be donated to charity!

As a reminder, please mark your child's belongings with his/her name.

Student Library Books

All student library books were due Friday, May 30. Please remind your child to get those books in.

If a book is missing and not returned or paid for by the last day of school, June 13, report cards will be held until the obligation is met!

Accelerated Reader Update

It has been a successful reading year at OCES. Our 470 AR readers have read and tested on **25,559 books**, earned **30,039 points**, that are spent at the AR store, and read **169,585,744 words**. (Yes, words!)

Even though less book tests were taken this year, more points were earned which indicates more challenging books were read! Our 4th graders met the challenge—and read up a storm!



Curriculum Connection

As summer nears, you and your family may be planning vacations, signing up for some summer camps, or planning some day trips. It is a very exciting time of year for our students and their families. During the summer months, it is very easy for children to lose reading and math skills that they have learned during the school year. The old saying holds true, "If you don't use it, you lose it."

Below you will find a list of fun summer activities that your child could easily incorporate into their busy summer schedule that would encourage learning.

Reading Activities:

- Set a reading goal at the beginning of summer
- Start a book club with your friends
- Listen to books on CDs
- Family Reading/Poetry Night
- Read books on a Nook/Kindle/Ipad

Writing Activities:

- Keep a personal diary or travel journal
- Write a play for you & your friends, make costumes, and perform the play for your family
- Take pictures and write captions for your pictures
- Publish a book

Math Activities:

- Relay races with math concepts
- Computer games
- Visit some math websites
Coolmath4kids.com
Calculationnation.nctm.org

Science Activities:

- Build a simple machine
- Start a garden
- Start a collection
- Put up various bird feeders and observe different kinds of birds

Social Studies activities include:

- If you are going on a vacation, research the area for any historical facts
- Pick a state and learn some interesting facts about that state

Parents, there are a plethora of apps that could be downloaded to any electronic device that could be used to provide engaging learning experiences for your child. These are only a few suggestions of learning activities for your child. These activities are meant to be fun, exciting, and meaningful! Have a safe and happy summer!

Humane Society Fund Drive and Donation

The Humane Society fundraiser was very successful with many donations of bedding, food, toys, etc. for the shelter. The cash donation of \$332.59 was greatly appreciated by the staff of the Worcester County Humane Society and will be used to care for the animals in need of adoption. Thank you to all that made donations!

If you have room in your heart—contact the Humane Society and make a special pet part of your family!

Star Citizens

The following students have been selected as Star Citizens for showing compassion and caring towards others.

Grace Cropper, Luke Schwalbach, John Murphy, Reese Robins, Brynn Robins, Karijah Fosque, Renata Lovitt, Kobe Bouzaglo, Sadie Glick, and Willa Novelli.



Congratulations,
boys and girls!



Box Tops **for Education** **Correction**

Many BoxTops have expiration dates that will expire during the upcoming summer months. ***If you send in those BoxTops NOW, we can submit them before they expire and still get credit for them.***

So.....

continue to send in those BoxTops and your child will receive credit towards the first collection of the 2014-15 school year!

In advance, the Olerta Family thanks you for participating in this OCES PTA year round fundraiser!

Thank You, PTA!

The Teacher Appreciation luncheon provided by the PTA was delicious and very much appreciated!! Thank you for taking good care of us!

A big thank you to many hands that provided the tasty dishes, and to Kandy Davis, Alyson Kendall, Christina Fohner, Gail Greenwood, and Melanie Mason for assisting and serving.

Delays in School Openings for Fog, Bad Weather, or Emergency Closings

Listen to the local radio and TV stations **or** call the Hotline at: 410-632-5399, Access #6600 **or** access the Board of Education's Website at:
www.worcesterk12.com

May Students of the Month

Congratulations to the May Students of the Month. These students exhibited leadership and responsibility without being reminded. The lunch for these students was sponsored by the Ocean City - Berlin Opti-MS.

Grade 1: Marissa Hearne, Leean Omar, Sarah Nottingham, Barzilay West, Paige Gillespie, and Jocelyn Navarrete Garzon.

Grade 2: Hadden Elsner, Alexis Wilkinson, Gabriel Walas, Karijah Fosque, Kayla Rocco, and Charlie Greenwood.

Grade 3: Eddie Aksu, Summer Brenner, Dylan Wilkins, Matthew Hammond, Tatum Vorsteg, and Diana Perez-Mojica.

Grade 4: Jacob Bauer, Shawn Rosemond, Emma Carey, Emily Peters, Ryan Hall and Mason Houck.

Congratulations boys and girls!

If you are interested in being a sponsor for the Student of the Month program next year, please contact Mrs. McGean at 410-632-5381.

PTA News and Information

- **June 18: 5:00-10:00pm.** Pig Roast at Buxy's that kicks off the Golf Tournament.
- **June 19th: 12:00 noon—** Golf Tournament at Ocean City Golf Club, Newport Bay. Players, sign up now before we max out at \$100.00 per player. We are looking for hole sponsors as well.
- Contact Kandy Davis at 443-944-1608 for more information on any of the above—OR if you would like to volunteer to help!
- Please sign up for PTA membership at the beginning of the next school year. We need you!

Americanism Essay Contest Winners



A luncheon and ceremony was held at the Ocean City American Legion to honor the Americanism Essay Contest winners. The student that placed second is pictured with her teacher, Mrs. Murray.

Homeroom Assignments for 2014-15

Homeroom assignments for the 2014-15 school year will **NOT** be placed on the end of the year report card. Assignments will be made during the summer, with notifications going out prior to the start of the school year.

Staffing Changes for 2014-15

The upcoming school year will bring some new and exciting changes at OCES. Listed below are the current changes:

Ms. Savanna Morgan	Kindergarten
Ms. Lauren Mumford	Grade One
Mrs. Sarah Tilghman	Grade Two
Mrs. Jennifer Spicer	Grade Three
Mrs. Deneen Nicolle	Grade Four
Mrs. Deb Quilter	Special Education Grades 1 and 2
Mrs. Alice Loch	Special Education Grade 3
Mrs. Kristin Rorke	Special Education Grade 4

In addition, we have been granted an additional classroom position and an additional Special Education position. The classroom position will be placed into fourth grade and the Special Education position will be for Early Intervention and Pre/K Special Education. These position assignments have yet to be determined.

Note from the Nurse

Warm weather means tick season, take precautions when outdoors in tick environments....

- Wear light-colored clothing to allow you to see ticks that are crawling on clothing.
- Tuck pant legs into socks and tuck shirts into pants so tick will not get onto skin.
- Use tick repellent on family members and pets and carefully follow product instructions.
- Perform daily tick checks especially in the hair and remove immediately if found. Wash area thoroughly with soap and water and apply antiseptic.
- Contact physician if rash, fever or unexplained flu-like symptoms following a tick bite.

Active Mind, Busy Bodies

Research shows that children will fall behind in learning over the summer vacation if they do not keep their minds active and busy.

Simply reading everyday for at least 30 minutes will help keep that loss at bay. But don't just stop with reading. Visit the public library and sign up for some of the many activities provided.

Slip in some math skills by reading a cookbook and preparing some special dishes over the summer. Or have your child set up a chart to record plant or vegetable growth in the garden.

Summer is the time for fun and relaxation, but the mind is a terrible thing to waste during that unstructured time! So, get busy learning and having fun all at the same time!

Read Every Day!



Pictured are several first graders that recently participated in “Down on the Farm”, a program provided by the University of Maryland Extension 4-H STEM. These students were learning to milk a cow!

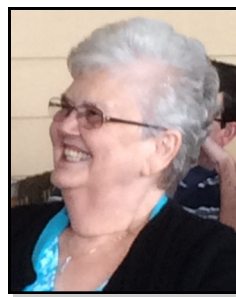


Kindergarten student enjoyed learning about the critters living on our beautiful Assateague Island during an Environmental Education Program presented by the National Park Rangers. The school collected “Cents for the Seashore” and resented their angers with the funds as a thank you for all they do to help protecte and preserve this beautiful treasure. Pictured are a few of our students.

100th Day Penny Collection

Each year the students and staff of OCES collect pennies for the 100th Day Celebration. This year \$650.51 was collected and donated to Diakonia. The generosity of our students, families and staff will have a big impact upon those in need. Thank you to all that participated in this celebration!

Happy Retirement!



Mrs. Peek



Mrs. Rickards



Mrs. Adkins

This year we say goodbye to three very special staff members that are retiring from OCES. Mrs. Frances Peek, our Cafeteria Manager of 16 years, Mrs. Terri Rickards, educational assistant for 28 years, and to Mrs. Bonnie Adkins, educational assistant of 40 years are leaving us. These ladies will be missed for many reasons, but mostly for their dedication to the children, the staff, and the school for all of those years.

Mrs. Peek began her career as a substitute in the Snow Hill area and then moved to BIS, then to Snow Hill High School as a manager before coming to OCES as Cafeteria Manager. Her love of children and her desire to make sure children have proper nutrition made her an important part of our staff.

Mrs. Terri Rickards sense of humor, love of the children and desire to help in anyway possible will be missed. While at OCES Mrs. Rickards became the official MC for Jump Rope for Heart and any other occasion there was a need for an MC with dance music!

Mrs. Bonnie Adkins has seen changes of all kinds as she worked at OCES. Mrs. Adkins probably knows the working of OCES better than anyone. She has seen renovations of the original building, the tearing down of the old one, and the construction of the new one. With that, she has learned that no matter how much things change, the children remain the same and are the very reason she has enjoyed her time at OCES.

Best wishes! Rest, relax and think of us as the school bell rings in the fall! You will be missed!