



OCES Newsflyer

May 2014

Principal's Message



Some say that money makes the world go 'round. But to quote Helen Peters, a children's author, "**Teacher Appreciation makes the work of education go round!**" We appreciate our teachers at OCES and recognize the hard work and heartfelt effort that each and every one of them puts forth in order to meet their students' needs. In the course of a normal day, teachers fill the role of parent, nurse, mediator, and counselor ... like candles, lighting the way for their students.

Teachers are the teachers of all other professions. They are like

gardeners, planting the seeds of knowledge in their students. Then they nurture, inspire and watch with amazement as each little one grows and blossoms in his or her own unique way.

Please join me in showing appreciation to our teachers at OCES. They go above and beyond in teaching and molding our children to be curious learners; to discover, to make connections, and to consume knowledge.

They encourage students to have a caring heart and to be mindful of others. Teachers remind students that it takes

courage to work hard and never give up.

The OCES Motto

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

June 13th

is the last day of school. It is a 1:00 dismissal.
Watch for more Information!

Dates to Remember:

- **5/7-9** PTA Mother's Day Plant Sale
- **5/8** PTA Dine Around Town Fundraiser at Old English Fish & Chips, and Sweet Frog 4:00 - 9:00 (a % in sales back to the PTA!)
- **5/9** Care For Pets Spirit Day
- **5/9-30** Humane Society Fund Drive
- **5/11** Mother's Day
- **5/16** Mid Term grades go home
- **5/16** Team Spirit Day
- **5/22** Grade 4 Music Program 6:30 p.m.
- **5/22** PTA Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- **5/23** Field Day
- **5/26** Memorial Day-Schools closed
- **5/29** Student of the Month Lunch
- **5/30** ALL STUDENT LIBRARY BOOKS DUE
- **5/30** Last Day for AR Testing
- **6/9** Term 4 Awards Ceremony
- **6/11** Dress Up Spirit Day in honor of 4th graders
- **6/11** 4th Grade Graduation

Special Education Parent Involvement Survey

Make Your Voice Heard!

Your Opinion Matters!

Parents or guardians of children receiving special education and related services have been mailed the **Maryland Special Education Parent Involvement Survey** from the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services during the first week in April. Parents are asked to complete the survey and return it in the postage paid envelope by **May 30, 2014**. The survey may also be completed online. Your feedback will help guide efforts to improve special education and related services in your local school system. Your voice can make a real difference for your child and many other children across the state of Maryland. To learn more, please visit:

<https://www.mdparentsurvey.com>



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.

Field Day 2014

On Friday, May 23rd 2014, Ocean City Elementary School will be holding its' annual Field Day. The students are looking forward to this event with great anticipation! We are hoping for sunny and 75 degrees as students participate in action-packed races throughout the day. Each child will sign up to compete in approximately 7 – 10 events and each class will have 10 participants per race. It is a great day for students to display teamwork and



good sportsmanship as they enjoy a day of fun and competition!

Thank You, Volunteers!

Thank you to all the many wonderful volunteers who have participated in the OCES Volunteer Program this year. We truly appreciate the many hours you have spent working with the faculty and the students in our school. Your presence has made a positive difference and we are grateful. Thank you for supporting OCES!

Curriculum Connection

Math: What does it look like in a second or third grade classroom?

In a second grade classroom, students will extend their understanding of place value to the hundreds place. They will use this place value understanding to solve word problems, including those involving length and other units of measure. Students will continue to work on their addition and subtraction skills, quickly and accurately adding and subtracting numbers through 20 and also working with numbers up through 100. They will apply this skill to one and two-step word problems. They will also solve problems within 1000 by applying their understanding of models for addition and subtraction. Students also begin to build a foundation for understanding area and volume by working with shapes and geometry. They work on describing and analyzing shapes by examining their sides and angles. They investigate how decomposing and combining shapes to make other shapes. They also work on telling time and representing data in a bar graph.

You can help your second grader outside of school by playing math games. You can use a deck of cards for a math game. Deal two cards and have your child add the two cards together. You can also play the game, "I'm Thinking of a Number. It has 5 tens, 3 hundreds, and 4 ones. What is the number?" You can have your child explain the relationship between different numbers without counting. For example, 147 is 47 more than 100 and three less than 150. Have your child create story problems to represent addition and subtraction of numbers. Encourage your child to stick with it whenever a problem seems difficult. This will reinforce our school motto of having the courage to never give up.

In a third grade classroom, students will continue to build their concept of numbers, and developing an understanding of fractions as numbers. They will learn the concepts behind multiplication and division and apply problem-solving skills and strategies for multiplying and dividing numbers up through 100 to solve word problems. Students will also make connections between the concept of the area of a rectangle and multiplication and addition of whole numbers. Some activities include: multiplying one-digit numbers by multiples of 10 (such as 20, 30, 40), solve two-step word problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, relate the measurement of area to multiplication and division, identify a fraction as a number on a number line, and compare the size of two fractions.

You can help your third graders at home by playing math games with your child. For example, "I'm thinking of two numbers whose product is between 20 and 30. How many pairs can you think of that would satisfy this problem?" Encourage your child to write or describe numbers in different ways. For example, what are some different ways to make 1450? $1450 = 1 \text{ thousand}, 4 \text{ hundreds}, 5 \text{ tens}, \text{ and } 0 \text{ ones}$, or $1000 + 450$, 14 hundreds and 50 ones, 13 hundreds + 15 tens, etc. Use everyday objects to allow your child to explore the concept of fractions. For example, use measuring cups to have students demonstrate how many $\frac{1}{3}$'s are in a whole, and how many $\frac{1}{4}$ cups are needed to make $1 \frac{1}{4}$ cups. Continue to encourage your child to stick with it whenever a problem seems difficult and praise your child and celebrate when they persevere.

As always, don't be afraid to reach out to your child's teacher. You have a very important role in your child's education.

For more information on helping your child learn mathematics go to <http://www2.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/math/index.html>.

Worcester Northern Schools AFG Mission Statement

The mission of Worcester County Northern Schools, a diverse and growing community, is to provide a rigorous, sequential, and balanced curriculum for all students to become responsible lifelong learners.

This will be accomplished through instructional excellence in partnership with family and community in a safe, caring, and well-maintained environment.

We will recognize the uniqueness of each student's role as a productive citizen in an ever changing world.



Stand Up, Speak Up!



In May the *Stand Up, Speak Up* anti-bullying program is highlighting the positive attribute “befriend.” Befriend means being kind and friendly to everyone, and being willing to help others even if you do not know them well.

The following scenario was shared with students. “A new student gets on the bus. “Can I sit with you?” she asks. Harry responds, “No. This seat is saved.” The girl is upset and embarrassed.

“What would YOU do?”

Ask your child what he/she would do in this situation.

Student Library Books Are Due May 30

Gather those books, check the backpacks, look under the bed, in the back seat of the car, seat sacks, and desk — anywhere!

All library books **MUST** be returned before the last day of school, June 13.

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!

Students participate in first annual Board-WALK for fitness

On Monday, April 28th, OCES third and fourth grade students participated in the 1st Annual BoardWALK for Fitness in downtown Ocean City. The students briskly walked the entire boardwalk and enjoyed the activity immensely. Students were taught about exercise heart-rates and the importance of regular, aerobic exercise in the weeks preceding the walk. A grant from Target provided the financing for the field trip.



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

April Students of the Month

Congratulations to the April 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: Riley Gannon, Savannah Logan, Addisyn Fluckey, Adelina Olerta, Sara Cropper, and Mario Vasquez.

Grade 2: Saylor Amos, Eric Braica, Summer Vent, Evelyn Westman, Ali Wood, and Matthew Beck.

Grade 3: Jack Greenwood, Carolina Novelli, Carlie Gates, Logan Bradshaw, Matthew Rankin, and Lily Canfield.

Grade 4: Makayla Brown, Sidney Kiser, Emma Meyer, Mackenzie Williams, Anays Verdugo-Gonzales, and Meredith Eitel.

Keep up the great work!

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

PTA News and Information

- **May 5:** PTA Teacher Appreciation Lunch.
- **May 7-9:** Mother’s Day Plant Sale. If you would like to assist with this, please call Kandy Davis or Jen Wheeler.
- **May 8:** Old English Fish & Chips, Sweet Frog, and Aledis Jade fundraiser night from 4:00-8:00pm.
- **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!

Americanism Essay Contest Winners



First and third place awards were earned respectively, in the Americanism Essay Contest. Here they are pictured with their teacher, Dr. Melanie Biscoe at a luncheon held in their honor.

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.



Mrs. Fiori's class created "Trash to Treasure" projects for Earth Day. They took items from their home recycling bin and turned them into fantastic and creative "treasures". Her students are working hard to learn how to save the planet and encourage everyone to do their part. Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle!

Star Citizens

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

Angelina Giordiano, Maisam Omar,
Mia Barzilay-West, Sara Cropper,
Paige Gillespie,
Matthew Looney, Glenn Piche-Waters,
Malik Hemmeian,
Nicholas Purnell, Brian Quach,
Charlie Greenwood, and
Samuel Reyes-Ayala.



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! And thank you, Olertas, for taking on this project!

2014-2015 Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration

To be eligible for the Pre-Kindergarten program, children must be **four years old on or before September 1, 2014**. Children who will be five years old on or before September 1, 2014 **must** register for Kindergarten.

Children who are currently attending Pre-Kindergarten at OCES **must** register for Kindergarten.

If you have not registered your child for the 2014-2015 school year please call the school office today at 410-632-5370. If you have friends/family that have not registered, remind them to call the school as soon as possible.

The following documents **must** be brought in when registering:

***Birth Certificate (not a birth registration notice)**

***Social Security Card**

***Current Immunization Record**

***Proof of Residency in the Ocean City Elementary School district (deed, lease, or utility bill that lists a service area in the OCES district)**

****Additional For PreK registration: Proof of income (2013 income tax return)**

Humane Society Fundraiser

May 9th is the kick-off date for the Worcester County Humane Society Fundraiser. We will celebrate that day by having a Pet Spirit Day, and encourage the children to dress with pet type clothing, school colors of blue and white, or wear OCES apparel.



Items and cash collected between May 9 and 30th will be donated to the Humane Society to help support the great work they do in finding homes for the animals in the shelter.

Items such as dog/cat toys, bedding, blankets, and especially cash are encouraged. We ask that food not be sent in, as the Humane Society regulates the food provided the animals.

During morning announcements, the students will highlight an animal of the week that is awaiting adoption!

In advance, thank you for caring!

Shorebird Baseball Game Rescheduled for June 6

We just received word that the Shorebird Game that was rained out on April 25th, has been re-scheduled for Friday, June 6th at 7:00.

Tickets will be reissued as soon as they are received here at OCES.



Watch the homework folder for those reissued tickets.

BIS Orchestra Class

Recently, the Berlin Intermediate School's 6th grade Festival Orchestra, directed by music teacher Mrs. Lisa Adams, performed at the Eastern Shore Orchestra Directors District Festival in Salisbury. They received a "superior rating" for their performance. All student at BIS are invited to enroll in orchestra class for the 2014-15 school year. We are especially looking for viola, cello, and double bass players. Please be looking for sign up forms this spring or contact Mrs. Adams at 410-632-5320 or email Mrs. Adams at: LTAdams@mail.worcester.k12.md.us

Accelerated Reader Update

We have amazing readers! Students have read and tested on over **22,800** books, earned over **25,900** points, that are spent at the AR store, and read over **145,500,000** words. (Yes, words!) AR testing will end May 30th, so if your child has set a goal, encourage them to keep reading and not give up! Your support of reading at home is appreciated. We want our children to be ready for the future, and reading is the key!