



OCES Newsflyer

November 2013

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

Principal's Message



Maybe you have heard your child recite the new OCES motto. *I have... a curious mind, a caring heart, and the courage to never give up!* OCES has a clear vision for all students. The heart of the vision is for students to become productive adult citizens. What does this mean? It means the children at OCES will be "curious" about learning and through curiosity, be

driven to pursue any career for which they have a passion. It also means "caring"; love for family and friends, and compassion for others. Finally, it means to have "courage" to work through good times and tough times and to make the best out of what has been given.

It is that time of year that most of us reflect on what we are thankful for. One thing I am thankful for is being part

of OCES, a place where students, staff, parents and community members come together to do what is best for kids. Thank you for your part in helping make these little ones into curious, caring and courageous adults!

"Today a reader,
tomorrow a leader."
Margaret Fuller

Did You Know...

- **American Education Week** is November 18-22. Come and visit your child's classroom this week.
- The **PTA Book Fair** was a huge success. Thank you for supporting our **PTA and READING!!**
- School **starts** at **8:25** each morning and **ends** each day at **3:30**—make sure your child is here each and every day!
- **Library Books** are to be kept in a **Ziploc bag** in your child's backpack. They will tell you the bookbag is the safest place in the world for their books!
- **Box Tops for Education** are collected all year long. Send in those box tops with your child! It is really 'free' money for our PTA. The next collection will be sometime in February!
- **Science Fair Projects** are due **December 5th by 9:00 a.m.** Grade 1 & 2 projects

will be on the stage. Grade 3 & 4's will be in the Media Center.

- **Tech Fest** information will be coming home soon. Encourage your child to try submitting a project. It's fun!

The New OCES Motto

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

Dates to Remember:

- ☺ **11/4 & 5** Schools closed for teacher professional development meetings
- ☺ **11/8** Report cards issued
- ☺ **11/13** Term 1 Awards Program
- ☺ **11/15** Mix and Match Spirit Day
- ☺ **11/18-22** American Education Week
- ☺ **11/21** OC STARS perform at **Winterfest of Lights** 5:30 p.m.
- ☺ **11/27-12/1** Thanksgiving Break
- ☺ **12/5** Science Fair Projects due by 9:00 a.m.



Accelerated Reader Update

Number of Students Gr.1-4:
472
Book Tests Passed Successfully:
4,630
Points Earned for the AR Store:
5,251
Schoolwide Reading
Comprehension:
86.2%
Words Read:
30,344,019
% of Books Independently Read:
64%
% of Fiction Read: 90%
% of NonFiction Read: 10%

Change of Transportation

Anytime there is a need to make a change in your child's transportation, be it bus or pick up, **PLEASE take the time to fill out the Change of Transportation form at home** that is in your child's folder. Please do not call the office to make verbal changes unless it is an emergency!

elementary.weebly.com

The new OCES website has it all!

Forms, calendars, news and information, as well as links to other valuable websites may be found here. Check it out!!

Curriculum Connection

The English Language Arts and Literacy Standards have clearly defined goals for each grade level. Ocean City students in Pre-Kindergarten through fourth grade are working hard to meet the expectations that are defined in each grade level so they will be well prepared for the next grade. The following provides examples of what your child will be working on in each grade level and what you can do with your child to support learning at home.

In **PreKindergarten**, children are working on retelling a story and identifying characters and setting with model and support from their teacher. Parents can reinforce these skills at home by reading to your child every day. While reading to your child, stop and ask them to retell what just happened. You could also ask your child to tell you their favorite part of the story.

In **Kindergarten**, children are working on comparing the adventures and experiences of characters in familiar stories, retelling familiar stories using details from the text and asking and answering questions about key details in stories or other information read aloud. Parents can reinforce these skills at home by reading with your child every day. Ask your child to explain his or her favorite parts of the story and why they like those parts.

In **first grade**, children are working on using phonics and word analysis skills to figure out unfamiliar words when reading and writing. They are also getting facts and information from a variety of reading sources. Parents can reinforce these skills at home by having your child practice reading to you. He or she should be able to read grade-level text with understanding and fluency by the end of first grade.

Watch for information concerning grades 2, 3 and 4 in the upcoming December issue.



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

In 1996, Dolly Parton launched a new effort, The Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, to benefit the children of her home county in East Tennessee. Her vision has grown worldwide. Her dream was to provide quality books into the hands of preschool children. Thanks to the United Way of the Lower Eastern Shore, these books are now available to families of children ages 0-5. Simply go to the **Website: www.imaginationlibrary.com** and register your child. One book will be mailed to your child every other month until their 5th birthday.

The website also contains additional information about her program.

You simply need to register by email. Be sure to read the necessary terms of agreement. That is always a good thing to do when signing up for anything!

OCES Participates in a New Health Curriculum Project

Worcester County Public School District has partnered with Atlantic General Hospital and Health System to improve the health literacy of county youth. Teachers will work with health and communication experts to integrate health awareness, information seeking, media health messages and healthy decision making into the general curriculum. The integration will take place in our second grade classes, using the students' existing curricular materials to make important connections to their health and well-being. OCES has been designated a pilot school of the "Health Literacy for All" initiative; more information as to how the school, students and parents are involved will soon follow.



Stand Up, Speak Up!



In November the *Stand Up, Speak Up* program is highlighting the positive attribute of "Strength." We develop **strength** when we learn and practice strategies that enable us to stand up and speak up for ourselves and others. These strategies help us deal with stressful or painful situations. When we exercise these "muscles in our minds" we learn not to let little things bother us.

The following scenario was shared with students. Ask your child what he/she would do in this situation.

At recess, there is a line for the swings. Jed wants his turn now. He pushes Gordon out of the way. Some of the kids in line start laughing.

What would YOU do?"

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.worcester.k12.com

October Students of the Month

Congratulations to the October Students of the Month. These students exhibited leadership and responsibility without being reminded. The lunch for these students was sponsored by Parkplace Jewelers. If you are interested in being a sponsor for the Student of the Month program, please contact Mrs. McGean at 410-632-5381.

Grade 1: Clayton McCabe, Lily Carson, Lana Sbih, Nazli Unal, Nicolas Rittersbacher, and Kristian Herrera-Mancinas.

Grade 2: Cole Campbell, Macy Woroniecki, Layla Hargrove, Brian Quach, Hannah Campbell, and Colt Kramer.

Grade 3: Renee Fohner, Leah Rohlfing, Christian Elliott, Owen Schardt, Devin Phillips, and Hilary Tirado-Cano.

Grade 4: Owen McAdams, Hailey Bowden, Emma Ozazewski, Dylan Braica, Mac Gates, and Ryan Sweeney.

PTA News & Information

It's November already! Our PTA has much to be thankful for! The Hooper's Fundraiser, the Fall Book Fair, and the Harvest Festival were great fun and a big success! Thank you to those that made it all happen! The PTA is always in need of donations for our many fundraisers. Please contact Kandy Davis at 443-944-1608 if you are able to assist us, or just need additional information. Note the upcoming events:

- ◆ Please keep collecting the **Box Tops for Education!**
- ◆ Watch for the **Five Below Fundraiser** flyer. As we get closer to the holidays, Five Below will return 10% of purchases made back to OCES/PTA.
- ◆ Help the PTA earn cash back by signing up at your favorite grocery store. A flyer was sent home mid October.
- ◆ **The Holiday Float** planning is underway with direction from Mrs. Greenwood and Mrs. Intrieri. If you would like to help, contact Mrs. Davis (phone above) or either of the chairpersons. Many hands make light the work!



OCES students showed spirit by donating new and used sports gear to help children in need. This practice of Good Sportsmanship will help children all over the world be physically active and play sports with the equipment donated. In conjunction with the OC Recreation Department and NAYS, the students of OCES participate in the **Global Gear Drive** every year and are extremely generous and proud to help children around the world.

MSA Testing Dates

Test	Grade	Date(s)
Reading	3 & 4	March 3,4
Math	3 & 4	March 5,6

Research indicates that students who test with their class in the regular classroom do better on tests than those who are tested at other times. Please put these dates on your calendar.

We are asking that you not plan family vacations during these testing dates.

★ Star Citizens ★

Congratulations to the following Star Citizens, who were caught/observed making great choices!

They are:

Nyana Carabello
 Sharleaha Dale
 Derek Tirado-Cano
 Parker Brittingham
 Mary Short

Website of Interest

RoomRecess.com is focused on providing children with free educational games that reinforce important skills that are vital to elementary students and their learning process. The educational games are free, students do not have to sign up or hold an account with us. Children can simply load up an activity and have fun learning while they play!

Notes From Nurse McCabe

Remember, all medications to be given at school **must have** a doctor's order and be brought into the nurse by a parent or guardian. This includes over-the-counter medications such as cough syrup and cough drops.

Lost and Found!

PLEASE....

mark your child's clothing, lunch boxes/bags, and jackets with their name. Each day items are left behind and we can't find the owner. If you are missing items, check the **Lost and Found Cabinet** in the cafeteria! Things are too expensive to be lost and replaced regularly!!

Book Characters



Second graders in Mrs. Fogle's class created character book reports.

Students were to choose a character from a picture book and describe the character traits of that character.

After describing what that character was like, students were to be creative and create that character.

Pictured above are Parker Intrieri, Ella Katna, Dane VanDornick, and Sophia Law.

READ!

Music Matters

The students in **Mr. Chapman's music classes** have been listening to and discussing the music of Franz Joseph Haydn and Christopher Theofanidis. Haydn was an 18th century German composer who helped make the musical form of a symphony popular. We have been listening to *Symphony No. 109* by Haydn. Theofanidis is an American composer who is still alive today. He also uses the musical form of a symphony. We have been listening to *Symphony No. 1* by Theofanidis. The

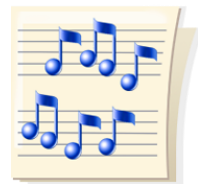
contrast of styles is striking, and the children love the beginning of the Theofanidis composition because of the sudden loud "explosion" that occurs.

All students have recently finished their first round of station work. Each student must complete all five stations, which include piano keyboard, performance on rhythm instruments, listening station, activity sheet, and computer games. With the exception of the computer games, all

stations are graded assignments. You should have seen some of the written work sent home in homework folders. I was pleased with the first set of stations. We will soon begin another set with new composers and music.

The *O.C.Stars* will soon begin a busy performance season. We have been working towards two events: the Term 1 awards ceremony scheduled for November 13th at 1:30, and the opening of Winterfest of Lights set for 5:30 Thursday

evening, November 21st. We are excited about performing for you this year. The new uniforms should be ready during the first week of November. I will send them home as soon as they come to me. The rehearsals have been going very well and we are looking forward to many fine performances.



Food & Toy Drive November 6-December 6

In keeping with the spirit of the season, the students and staff of OCES will be collecting nonperishable food items and new toys to be distributed by the Worcester County Sheriff's Department during the holidays. In past years, your generosity has been overwhelming. Please support the less fortunate families in our county again this year. Donations will be collected in each grade pod area.

We are encouraging students to make a sacrifice in order to help someone else. For instance, students may give up a snack at the grocery store and purchase a canned item instead, or students could forgo a trip to the movies to purchase a toy.

Students may choose to write down what they sacrificed, what they purchased, and why they chose that item. Forms are available in the grade pod areas. A few students will read their forms on the morning announcements each day. Thank you!

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Mix & Match Spirit Day!



Mrs. Bauer and Mrs. VanKirk joined Molly Randolph in celebrating Red Ribbon Week's Mix and Match Day! Mix and Match Day was just one of the ways students celebrated "just say no to drugs" week. Having fun and making good choices is the right path to choose!