



This issue of the Newsletter was written by the students of Orchard Mesa Middle School.

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Message from the Principal

Staff and students at OMMS have worked diligently throughout the year addressing all content standards. Now is the time for students to show what they know. The testing season is upon us. CMAS exams are designed to help teachers, schools, students and parents determine whether students are on track in their learning for success after high school, and to assess mastery of updated Colorado Academic Standards. We are mandated to administer the tests as a public school in Colorado.

This is not a test that is passed with rote memorization and last-minute drills. It calls for critical thinking, problem-solving and the ability to synthesize information from various sources and provide evidence and reasoning when making an argument or solving a math equation. It measures writing skills at each grade level. Rather than just asking students to select the correct answer and fill in the bubble of a multiple-choice test, it pushes students to apply their knowledge, thus better preparing them for higher education and a career.

With that being said, this year the tests have been condensed which means that 6th and 7th grade students will only be testing 2 days and 8th graders will test for 3 days compared to 4 and 5 days of testing in previous years. CMAS is one way in which we can gather data on students' progress compared to other students in our state. It also allows students, parents and staff to gather data on individual student growth over time. Your student's data will be used to more effectively place them in appropriate courses and meet their individual academic needs.

We continue to appreciate all you do to support your son/daughter and the staff at OMMS. We would like to ask if you could encourage your student to be present during the testing period. We ask that no appointments be scheduled during their specific testing time as we will not be able to interrupt classes during a testing session unless it is an emergency. To assist you in arranging for appointments, the testing schedule has been included.

Thank you for your continued support. If you should have any questions concerning the upcoming assessment, please do not hesitate to contact us at 254-6333.

(Continued on next page)



Principal's Letter *(continued)*

Testing Schedule

Tuesday and Wednesday, March 27th and 28th 8th Grade Literacy and Math

Thursday, March 29th and Tuesday, April 3rd 6th Grade Literacy and Math

Wednesday and Thursday, April 4th and 5th 7th Grade Literacy and Math

Tuesday, April 10th 8th Grade Science

On another note, our amazing PTO has organized a yard sale to generate funds for teaching supplies, equipment and student activities. The yard sale will be held on Saturday, April 21st from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the gym parking lot. Donations may be dropped off beginning Wednesday, April 18th at the main office and on Friday, April 20th from 3:00-7:00 PM in the gym parking lot.

Cheri Vana



Knights of Excellence (Student of the Month)

The teachers have the opportunity to pick a student to represent the OMMS Knights. Each month they choose these people off of how you do academically. They can also be chosen by them seeing your respect and leadership skills everywhere you go. These students do even more then the expectation asks.

Student of the Month:

Haven Miles, Snowden Fisk, Kendalle Costello, Haile Rupp, Kaden Brunk, Elliot Balsiger, Rylee Carew, Emmah Root, Corbin Todd, Sylvia Fernandez, Miguel Valle-Lozano, and Iris Valdez-Osorio!!!





Dates to Remember

Track is in Season
 3– 4:30pm OMMS Field
State Science Fair
 April 5-6
Easter
 April 1
April Fools’ Day
 April 1
Moab Field Trip 7th Grade
 April 6
New Building Plans
 April 4, 6pm, OMMS Cafeteria

New York Trip
 April 11-16
Science Fair
 Every Wednesday Morning before
 School
 Computer lab—8th grade hall
Student of the Month
 Every third Wednesday of the month
Fellowship of Christian Athletes
 Thursdays after school—7th Schafer
Chess Club
 Every Tuesday 2:25-3:45pm



New Building Meeting

You are cordially invited to view the plans for the
 New Orchard Mesa Middle School.

Community Meeting

Wednesday April 4th
 OMMS Cafeteria

6:00 P. M.



Track & Field

OMMS 7th, and 8th grade students (Boys and Girls) have the opportunity to do track.
 The first practice was March 19th at 3:00-4:30. Track is not just about running.

Events to choose from:

Field (discus, shot put, long jump, triple jump, and high jump)

Running (100M hurdles, 100M, 200M, 400M,800M,1600M, relays)

Upcoming meet results will be posted in the May newsletter.

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN TRACK, see Coach
 Haas, Coach Pitman, Coach Wilcox, or Coach Bavor ASAP
 (join before the first meet 4/10/2018).





New York Trip

Over spring break, a group of kids went on a spring break trip to New York City. While in NYC they went all over New York and looked at some of the attractions like the 9/11 Memorial, Statue of Liberty, Times Square, and so many more places. It is so much fun to go and hang out with friends and it's just a fun opportunity to take a fun trip. This trip was also a great teaching lesson on how to manage your money. Thank you very much to our sponsors (Mrs. Spomer and Mrs. Reams) for providing this opportunity to our students at OMMS.



Next year's spring break trip will be to Washington D.C. NEXT YEARS 7TH AND 8TH GRADERS CHECK WITH MRS. SPOMER FOR DETAILS.



Expectation of the Month



One of the things I love about OMMS is the number of scooters at the park after school. Spring is upon us and more students are using their own forms of transportation to arrive at school. While this is awesome and somewhat unique for OMMS, it also creates potential issues. Therefore, I wanted to touch on some expectations

for students who ride scooters, bikes, or skateboards before or after school:

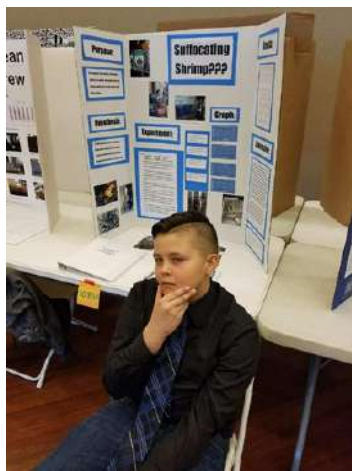
Every morning, one of the first things our custodian, Mr. Rodney, does is open the bike rack near the main office. Upon arriving at school, any students with scooters, bikes, or skateboards should head over their immediately to drop it off for the day. Also, we have a large, wide open campus with tons of sidewalks and a few benches. While this might seem like a great place to practice our skills, this is not a skate park. Students are expected to WALK with their scooters, bikes, and skateboards after school until they are off campus. Finally, if students are going to the skate park after school, we really need them to walk all the way to the intersection at the corner of the street behind the school and cross the street where the stop sign is. With so many cars and buses picking students up after school, it is very dangerous for students to dart across that road in places they shouldn't be. If we can all follow these expectations, OMMS can be an excellent, safe place for riders of all types.

Todd Barrow, Assistant Principal
Orchard Mesa Middle School

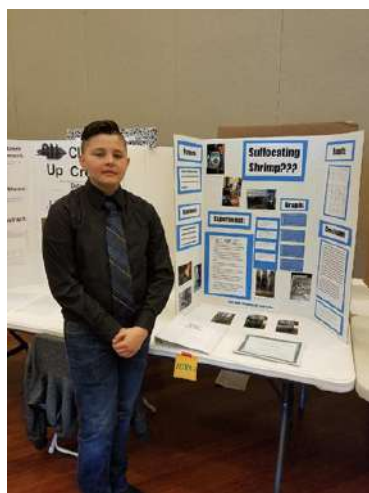
Yearbook

The yearbook is a bunch of this year’s memories put together in photos. All of your friends and teachers sign your yearbook. The yearbook for hardcover is \$20 and the paperback is \$17. Get your yearbook today!! The deadline to buy it is on April 25th. You can buy it in the office.

Science Fair



The following students participated in science club:
Sam Morgan, Wyatt Cerny, Cash Walker, Regan Catt, Morgan Herd, Elizabeth Mackeynewberry, Michael Wood.



Cash Walker had the opportunity to move forward with his project, to the regional science fair. Cash placed 2nd, and will now be attending the state science fair in Fort Collins. It will be held at Colorado State University on April 5th and 6th. The title of the project is called “Suffocating Shrimp.” It is about how certain amounts of wood ash can affect aquatic life. This idea came from California and its major problems with fire.

Out of School Activities

OMMS students have opportunities to play out of school sports. The following sports are available are spring football for MCJFA, club wrestling, soccer FIRE FC, Baseball, swimming, Competitive Basketball. Go out and get involved with other people that like to play the same sports as you do and just go out there and have a good time with other kids. We will also be listing summer activities in the upcoming newsletters.

April Fools Day

April Fools has been celebrated for many centuries. There is no exact origin, but there are many ideas. Some sources say that it dates all of the way back to 1582. This is a day of pulling pranks on family and friends and just joking around. A lot of people celebrate this event and it’s a very fun day.



High School for 8th Graders

At this time of the year, 8th graders are looking at information and applying for high school. There are different programs at each school that meet the students' needs. The high schools that are in the Grand Valley are:

- Central High School
- Grand Junction High School
- Palisade High School
- Fruita High School



GJHS Tigers Tours



Dear Future Freshman:
Please join us at Grand Junction High School on **Monday, April 25, from 6:00-8:00 p.m.** in an open house format for our annual Tiger Tour being held in the gym. The program will highlight GJHS' unique features. You will have an opportunity to ask questions, tour the building, and take the Tiger Tour of sports, clubs, organizations and activities that are part of student life at GJHS. We

look forward to sharing the evening with you!

Here's a little bit of what Junction has to offer:

Fall Sports Winter Sports Spring Sports, Football Boys' Basketball Baseball, Softball Girls' Basketball Track, Boys' Tennis, Wrestling, Girls' Tennis, Volleyball, Girls' Swimming, Boys' Swimming, Boys' Golf, Girls' Soccer, Cross Country, Girls' Golf, Boys' Soccer, Girls' Lacrosse, Boys' Lacrosse, Year Long, Cheerleading, Poms, A Parade of Possibilities: Clubs and Organizations, Academic Team Gay Straight Alliance, Ski/SB Club, Art Club, German Club Spanish Club, Art Honor Society (NAHS), Granola Club Speech & Debate, ALT/Link Crew Interact Student Senate, Band Knitting Club Tiger Yearbook, Booster Club Library Book Club and many more...., Choir MESA, Drama/Thespians Club Mock Trial, Future Business Leaders of Am. (FBA) Mountain Bike Club, Future Christian Athletes (FCA) Orange and Black Newspaper, FCCLA, and French Club.



STEM @ Central



For next year in 8th Grade, 14 students from our school have been accepted to the Central High School STEM Program. STEM introduces students to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Congratulations to the following:

Michael Nowlin, Alex Tayler, Carlos Martinez, Kevin Nguyen, MacGuyver Mohler, Kalea Baker, Baylea Sparks, Avery Cordova, Isabell Eldridge, Olivia Lurvey,

Brenden Creech, Cody Braden, Lexi Joslin-Beghan, and Cameron Bailey!!



Palisade IB Program



Congratulations to the following students for being accepted into the IB program at Palisade: **Danielle Benites, Azeneth Lugo-Ruiz, and Dominic Wolfe.**



CHS Winterguard Performance

Four girls from our school went to Central High School for a Winter Guard Performance. The girls that were involved are Jana Lane, Emerald Strong, Amiah Will, and Devinn Myers. We interviewed the four girls about what they did and information about what it is. Winter guard is a fun performance that Mr. C put together for all D51 middle schoolers. Winter guard is a free program and every middle school can participate.



Easter

We interviewed some kids about what they do for Easter. The students we interviewed were Josh Roper, Hailey Kelchner, Dominic Wolfe, and Kaydance Flint.



Josh Roper responded to the question what are you doing for Easter by saying, "We're going to my Grandparents house, and I'm going to see my cousins, and we're going to have a big dinner." ←

Hailey Kelchner responded to the same question saying, "Me and my family look for Easter eggs or we'll have baskets around the yard and look for those, and I help my younger siblings look for eggs and I eat food." →



Dominic Wolfe responded to the question saying, "Normally me and my family go to church down at the Vineyard CVC, then we usually go to Spoons for brunch." ←

Kaydance Flint said, "My family's coming over and we always do a little Easter egg hunt and we have a big Easter dinner with the whole family." →



Everyone have a Happy Easter!