



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

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Message from the Principal

I hope you are enjoying the New Year, incredible weather and experiencing good health.

I have a few reminders and some new information that I would like to pass on. First, I would like to remind you to continue to notify our attendance secretary, Joni Spence (38100) before 8:00 am if your child will not be in attendance. This should alleviate those annoying, but necessary phone calls you receive around 8:45 AM. Also, we appreciate your effort in keeping kids off campus until shortly after 7:00 AM. When they arrive they can seek shelter from the cold in our library or cafeteria.

Next, all Literacy and Math teachers are gearing up for Winter NWEA Testing. This is a relatively short test that will be administered through your student's Literacy and Math class. The data from these tests are used by teachers to drive instruction. After the initial tests taken in September, your child sat down with their teacher and set realistic goals. After this second round of testing, they will be evaluating their progress and re-setting goals. The testing window is January 29th through February 16th.

Have you been wondering about the plans for the new Orchard Mesa Middle School? Well, there is a dedicated team of teachers from our school, myself and district personnel that meet every Wednesday to discuss designs for the new facility. At this time we are making some initial decisions concerning adjacencies of various spaces, parking, square footage of classrooms and general building orientation. The team is dedicated to building a facility that promotes 21st century skills, flexible learning spaces and a comfortable, beautiful learning environment. The team has decided that it will be a two-story building. We are extremely excited about the possibilities. There will be a parent and community open house in mid- February to present some initial plans. We will let you know as soon as the date is set.

Finally, Just a couple announcements:

- Valentine's Day is Wednesday, February 14th. If you plan to send in flowers or something special for your son/daughter, it will be delivered to them the last 5 minutes of the school day. This is to avoid disruptions to the classrooms.
- Congratulations to our 7th and 8th grade girls' basketball players. Both teams had a great season!
- Wrestling starts Monday, January 29th!

Thank you for your continued support. Please contact my office if you have questions or concerns. Your input is very valuable to me.

Cheri Vana



Dates to Remember

President's Day—No School

February 19

Science Fair

Every Wednesday Morning before School

Computer lab—8th grade hall

Valentine's Day

February 14th

Student of the Month

Every third Wednesday of the month

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

Thursdays after school—7th—

Schafer

Soda and Candy

After School

Boys' Wrestling

Starts January 29th

Chess Club

Every Tuesday 2:25-3:45pm



Knights of Excellence (Student of the Month)

Teachers have the opportunity to pick one student to represent the OMMS Knights. Each month they choose these people off of their academic doing. It can also be chosen by them seeing your respect and leadership skills everywhere you go. These students do even more than the expectation asks.

Congratulations to :

Max Wilson

Erica Simms

Mubalachi Guy

Joey Scherzberg

Chandler Webster

Jesse Gray

Raistlin Jorgensen

Ethan Guy-Bowen

Parker Haile

Itzel Casanova

Kaitlyn Whittaker

Matthew Powell!



Fellowship of Christian Athletes

FCA is an opportunity to get together with your friends and teachers to have a chance to read the bible and react with one another by possibly playing a game. FCA meetings are every Thursday in Ms. Shafer's 7th grade classroom, and every grade is welcome. The times for the meetings are 2:50 to 3:30 right after school. This is a great opportunity to learn about God and just hang out with your friends.



Girls' Basketball Wrap-up

Basketball is a tough season this year. They always try their hardest, and never give up. We interviewed a few of the seventh grade girls. The questions were: How do you think this season is going? What do you guys need to work on? These were their responses:

Mya Sprouse- "I feel like the year is could go better. We need to focus more in practice and make our shots. Then we could win more games."

Amaya Metli- "I feel like the year's going really well; we all try our hardest. At practice we need to work on our shots."

This next section is some of their scores. If you would like to see the full list and the tournament results, there will be a full section in the March newsletter!

PV 7A defeated OMMS 7A 35-17

PV 7B defeated OMMS 7B 20-2

PV 8A defeated OMMS 8A 25-14

The girls that were on the 7th grade team were:

Phoebe Bair, Isabella Fromang, Anastasia Gomez, Michaela Guzman, Addie Henderson, Alyice Jarvis, Lillyonna Lee, Nikki Maas, Amaya Metli, Maliyah Renteria, Victoria Salazar,

Polly Senko, Mya Sprouse, Juliet Stewart, and Brittani Velazquez!

The girls that were on the 8th grade team were:

Kalea Baker, Jenna Cox, Orianna Cox, Perla Henry, Harley Hutto, Gabbi Ripa, Bailey Schmidt, and BayLea Sparks!



New School!

There is a team of teachers from our school, Mrs. Vana, and district personnel that meet every Wednesday to discuss designs for the new facility! The new building will be out on the front field, and our field will then be where the old building was. They are not sure if we will keep our name of Orchard Mesa Middle School, though!



Media Production Team

In this new semester, there is a new Media Production Team. We are the team that wrote this newsletter and we find all of the information and interview our students and staff of OMMS! The students of this team are: *Lanie Dougherty, Raelyn Feaster, Olivia Thurston, and Cash Walker!*





Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is a day to show love for someone special in your life. The history behind Valentine's Day is because of a man named Saint Valentine. He was a priest who lived in the third century of Rome. A man named Claudius made a decision that young men were not allowed to get married. The reason for this is single men make better soldiers than the ones with wives. Valentine did not agree with this so he still married in secret without Claudius knowing. Claudius soon found out about this and ordered him to death. Valentine was actually the first to send a valentine. Basically Valentine made it where anyone could love who they want and they shouldn't hide it. Note: The principal letter says when to deliver and pick up gifts on February 14.



Corny Jokes of the Month

Isaiah Selk- "What do you call an orange and a banana? An orange banana!"

Kieran Giger- "What did the egg say when his friends made a horrible joke? I guess the yolk's on them!"

Mr. Hadley- "What did hydrogen say when oxygen and magnesium got together? O...MG!"

Nick Smith- "What do you call cheese that's not yours? Nacho cheese!"

Mrs. Belden- "How do you catch a unique rabbit? U-nique up on it!"

Mrs. Trager- "Knock knock? *Who's there? Dishes! Dishes who? Dishes Mrs. Trager don't you know me?*"



Boys' Wrestling

In February, there are three matches, which are all triangular.

Here is a letter from Mr. Guffy about wrestling:

Regular wrestling season begins on January 29th and will run through March 8th. Practice is from 3-5 in the gym, Monday – Friday unless we have a match. When we wrestle one team, it is called a dual. If we wrestle two teams the same evening, it is called a triangular. We have three tournaments to compete in this season: Feb. 24th at Fruita High School, March 3rd at Montrose High School and the district tournament at Central High School March 7th and 8th.

Orchard Mesa Middle School Knights have three coaches this year: Coach Shahn Guffy, Coach Henry Billet and Coach Rogelio Giner.

We have PIN shirts again this year, for sale in the office for \$10.

OMMS has new wrestling uniforms, new headgear and a new wrestling mat. We are looking forward to showing off our pinning skills at all our matches this season and particularly at our home match against Bookcliff MS on Thursday, March 1st.

Soda and Candy After School

Student council is starting to sell Soda and Candy after school for only \$1. They will be around the school and will have a variety of sodas and candies for you to choose from, for only \$1! The money goes towards Student Council!



Honor Choir

Honor Choir is an after school activity for Choir students who auditioned. It is after school on Thursdays, and the concert is combined with other schools. 2018 Honor Choir was very successful for Orchard Mesa students. Twelve students auditioned and made the district wide honor choir. They prepared high school level music for the concert on January 18. Students spent the day at Fruita Middle School rehearsing with guest clinician Scott Betts. The concert that evening was in Fruita as well. Pieces performed were “For the Beauty of the Earth”, “Jonah”, “Something Told The Wild Geese”, “Flat Foot Floogee”, and “Dies Irae”.



Baylea Sparks, Rain Raymer, Isabell Eldridge, Jenna Cox, Hailey Tenney, Hailey Strickland, Ian Prichard, Katelynn Peterson, Kaydance Flint, Gracie Campbell, Phoebe Bair, Lanie Daugherty

Heart & Sole, aka Girls on the Run

Heart and Sole is a fun program where you get to learn about things such as your unique physical abilities and how unique you are! It is an after school program to learn about self-respect and being healthy. This is taught through activities and having important discussions. This program teaches you how you are strong and to be self-confident! Papers were sent home at the beginning of January, but you can still sign up at www.gotrwesterncolorado.org



Spirit and Pride Shirts

The Spirit and Pride shirts and sweatshirts are now available and the pricing is reduced! You can either buy a pack and get multiple items or buy individual items! They come in various colors and sizes with our school logo on them! [Spirit&Pride Reduced Pricing.pdf](#)

Days Off in February

In this month of February, the days we have off are:
Friday February 16th Middle School Teacher In-service
Monday February 19th for Presidents day