



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

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The year is off to a great start at Orchard Mesa Middle School!

Student Fees

Paying student fees is essential to the school and it's funding system. All the money collected will go toward all the classrooms for paper, pencils, notebooks, markers, and all the supplies needed to have a successful learner. The money will also go toward electives for drills, saws, wood, paint, paint brushes, sand paper, nets, basketballs and volleyballs, nets, etc.

Days Off School

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| Students will get three days off in September. | October Days off- |
| September 1, 2017 –Teacher Work Day | · October 16, 2017 |
| September 4, 2017—Labor Day | · October 26, 2017 |
| September 5, 2017—Teacher In-Service | · October 27, 2017 |

5K Run

The 5k run is September 16, 2017. The admission fee for students is \$15.00 for a shirt and \$10.00 with a shirt, along with \$25.00 for anyone over the age of 17. Students who participate or simply pay the \$10.00 registration fee will be included in our 5K celebration on Friday, Sept. 22nd



Library Times and Changes

The library will now be open from 7:10 Am to 3:30 Pm. You no longer need to bring your student ID card, and no late fees will be put on your books, unless the book is not returned, or renewed in three months. After the three month deadline your book will be considered lost, and you will have to pay for a replacement of the book that you have lost. In case you haven't been to the library yet, you will see that Mrs. Karp is not there. Instead it is Mrs. Pitman, last year's computer teacher. Mrs. Karp has retired and is no longer working at the school.



Knights of Excellence (Student of the Month)



The Student of the Month will happen throughout the entire school year. A few 6th, 7th, and 8th graders will have the opportunity to come to school early and have a breakfast with the teacher who nominated them. The KOE (Knights of Excellence) will happen every third Wednesday of every month. For September, that'll be the 20th.

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The Poe Project

The Poe Project is an annual (yearly) celebration of the life and works of Edgar Allan Poe. The Poe Project will start October 1st and end at the 13th. It's hosted by Colorado non-profit Geek Parties of Grand Junction. Edgar Allan Poe is a(n) author/poet born in Boston, Massachusetts. His work has greatly impacted American as well as international literature. Poe is often credited as the father of horror and detective fiction. Anyone interested in acting/reading in the Poe Project need to contact Mrs. Nicholson as soon as they can. Her room is #26 (to the left of Mrs. Beltran's, Mr. LaDuke's, and Mr. Hayter). No prior experience is needed to be in the Poe Project.



Class Period Changes

Class Periods have changed this year. For the exception of electives, all classes are now about an hour long. This change has given more time to Social Studies and Science, and less to English Language Arts (ELA) and Math.



New Teachers at OMMS

New Teachers:

- * Assistant Principal- Todd Barrow
- * Computers- Mr. Bavor (Changed Subjects)
- * 7/8th Grade Math- Ms. Cranmer
- * Library- Mrs. Pitman (Changed Subjects)
- * 8th Grade Math & Science- Mr. Adkinson
- * P.E.- Ms. Fox
- * 7th Grade Science- Mr. Hadley
- * 8th Grade ELA- Ms. Smith
- * 6th Grade Math and Science- Ms. Ocheltree
- * 7th Grade ELA- Ms. Shafer
Aides Brandon Craven, Emily Chaves
- * ELL- Ms. Kleinschnitz
- * 8th Grade—Ms. Haifley
- * 7th Grade—Ms. Sawyer
- * Counselor—Ms. Bowen
- * Psychologist—Ms. Patino



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7th Grade ELA



The overall theme for the 7th grade ELA will be “Experiencing Discomfort.” The primary focus, or agenda for the first quarter of the year will be: reading literature, annotating text, structure of paragraph, and to begin to research. The (class) novel that the 7th grade teachers will be reading to their students will be: Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt. Outside of reading that in the classroom, all students must have their reading logs brought back to school as well as being signed by parents in order to receive credit. The COC (Code of Collaboration) is to have fun, be safe, be respectful, as well as being hard-working.



9/11 Patriotic Assembly

The 9/11 Patriotic Assembly is to honor those who were or know someone that was affected by the terrorist attack in New York on the 11th of September, 2001. Students are given the opportunity to invite anyone (family members, neighbors, friends), however if they bring someone that has served/serving in the military, or any first responders. The school would like to give praise to those who help the people of America. If students are bringing someone ‘special’ (served military, etc.) they should pick an invitation slip from Mrs. Vana or Mr. Barrow from the cafeteria during lunch.

Events and Information

- ⇒ Student Fees can be paid any day at any time at OMMS
- ⇒ The 5k Run is September 16th, 2017, at 8:30am at Eagle Rim Park
- ⇒ The Poe Project will go on from October 1st - October 13th in Mrs. Nicholson's room #26
- ⇒ We have September ,1st,4th-5th off of school! Yeah!
- ⇒ Knights of Excellence 6-8th graders are selected the third week of every month. September 20th at Orchard Mesa Middle School
- ⇒ Wash Your Hands 6 times a Day! Every day In a Bathroom
- ⇒ Student Counselor Advice is available any day at any time in the Office

Blood Transmitted Disease

Make sure to wash your hands immediately after coming into contact with any blood, as you could get a bloodborne virus, like Hepatitis B Virus (HIV) , Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) , Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) , and many more.

Sit in Your Chairs Properly

Make sure you sit in your chairs properly in order to avoid any dangers to your health, including broken bones, cuts, and more. Do not tip in your chair. It may seem innocent however it can cause serious damage.

Smencils



Smencils are going to be sold in the library for \$1.00 each. This is a fundraiser in which the majority, if not all, will go to towards improving the library.



School Counselor's Advice

Ms. Wright is the counselor for (all) students with the last name starting with A-L and Ms. Stamatakis is the counselor for students who have last names starting with M-Z. Counselors are located in the main office at OMMS. The purpose for a school counselor is to:

- * Support ALL students with academic, social/emotional, and career assistance.
- * Advocates for students, parents, and staff
- * Teaches Advisory Class to help build strong, positive relationships, educates with a variety of lessons
- * Provides assistance with students' schedules
- * Presents prevention topics to all students
- * Guides, mentors, and is a great resource for students

To go to a school counselor you need a student referral, staff referral, parent referral, or a school counselor referral.

1. Follow your curiosity and **try out new activities, clubs, and sports** offered at the middle school. Not only will it expand your horizons, but also it is a great way to meet friends.
2. Use a **PLANNER**. Using a planner will help you stay organized with homework and projects due, test dates, and your daily schedule.
3. Do your **HOMEWORK** so you do not fall behind. Homework is intended to help you review important concepts and learn new skills. In addition, it sends the message to your teacher and yourself that you value your education.
4. **ASK for HELP** when you need it! This an important skill, even for adults. Figure out who can support you with academic, social, and or personal challenges and read out to them.
5. When having to make a difficult decision, like what to do when faced with peer pressure, **LISTEN TO YOUR WISE VOICE WITHIN**. Ask yourself is this safe, will someone get hurt, or what could be the consequences? Then make a decision that honors your values and empowers you to live your best life.
6. Take **GOOD, KIND CARE of YOURSELF**. This includes eating healthy, drinking lots of water, and getting at least 8-10 hours of sleep each night.
7. **JUST BREATHE**. Middle school can be wonderful, exciting time in your life, and there may be moments when you feel overwhelmed with all the changes taking place. Slow down, take it one-step at a time, and practice healthy coping strategies and breathe.
8. REMEMBER THAT YOU MATTER, BELONG AND ARE JUST RIGHT JUST AS YOU ARE SO STEP INTO YOUR POWER AND **BE YOUR BRAVE SELF!**