

OAK STREET NEWS



Join us April 11th for our annual Oak Street School Arts Night as we take a trip around the world. All students in grades K-5 will be performing in the auditorium and will have a piece of artwork in the art show.

Art News

With Mrs. Dina Minor

The art room has been busy preparing for the annual Arts Night coming up on Wednesday, April 11. There will be an art show displaying a piece of artwork from every student at Oak Street. Look for more information soon!

Kindergarten students have been busy creating a self portrait with black glue. More painting, collage, and sculpture projects to come!

Grade One students have been busy doing paintings of Asian cherry blossoms and large abstract paintings. Look for paper mache May baskets in the future!

Grade Two students will be creating a "friends" portrait based on a beautiful book by Maya Angelou. They are working on landscape paintings now.

Grade Three students have just finished a long weaving project! Come check them out at the art show!

Grade Four students have just finished creating beautiful Asian Sumie paintings using bamboo brushes. Clay pots are coming up!

Grade Five students are finishing colored pencil lanterns. They will be working with clay too coming up.



Keep on drawing!
Mrs. Minor

The Reading Corner

We celebrated "Read Across America Week" upon returning from February vacation. Our theme this year was "Readers Are Leaders". This week is chosen in honor of Dr. Seuss' birthday who certainly was a leader of his time in writing children's books.

Today's research supports that the more students read the more successful they will be in school and in the future. To encourage additional reading, we had a whole school read, reading logs, literacy-based activities in the classrooms and special guest readers. Having leaders from our local and school community allowed our students to see how much they value the importance of reading as well. I'd like to take this time to thank all the local Police Officers, Fire Fighters, Central Office personnel, and Oak Street and HMMS Staff for helping us celebrate. Your support is greatly appreciated !!

Spring Fever is in the air. Just as exercise and outdoor play is critical to your child's development and allows them to grow strong - daily reading will also allow your child's vocabulary, knowledge base and comprehension to grow. This is a healthy lifetime habit worth establishing now and worth supporting as your child grows as a reader and learner. As always, remember to expand your child's exposure to all different genres. April is national poetry month! Try incorporating some poetry books into your routine this month.

In late May we will start planning for our Summer Reading program. Each student will receive a reading flyer/log with their report card at the end of the year which he or she will be expected to return in September. Studies have shown that students who read over the summer come to school more prepared to learn. We look forward to another successful summer of reading!!



Happy Reading!!
Tracie O'Brien
Literacy Specialist K-5



Mr. Masto's Health & Physical Education Class!

Spring is upon us!

Hopefully the nice weather will continue so we can go outside for Health and Physical Education! With that said, **please remember to wear sneakers and appropriate clothing for Health and Physical Education.**

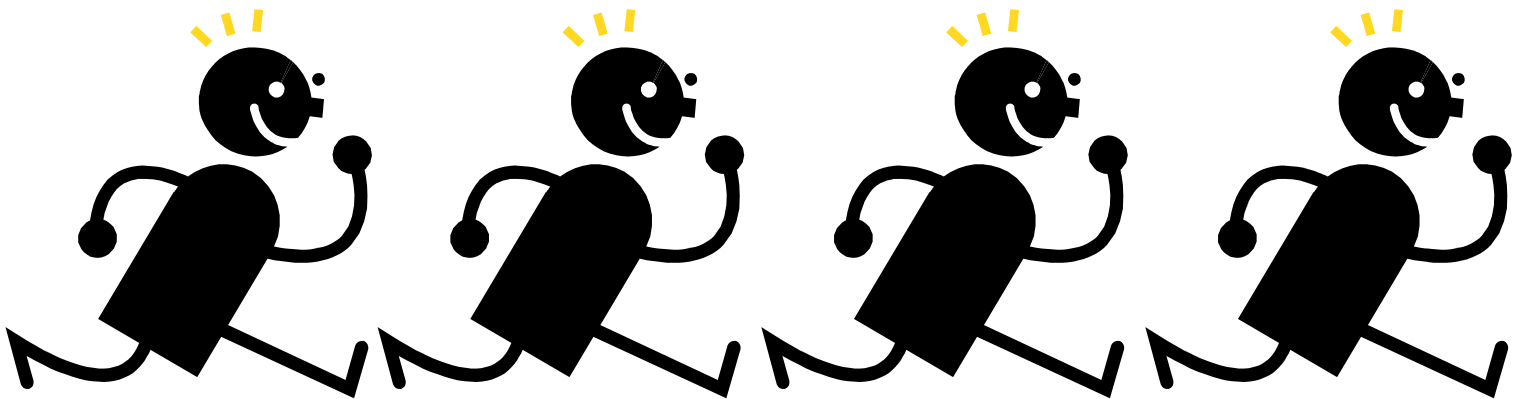
Thank you to those who raised money for Jump Rope for Heart. Heart disease has affected my family greatly, so when I see these students excited about helping others it is truly touching. Together Oak St. raised over \$6000! Way to go!

This year at Arts Night the 4th and 5th Grade will have some of their Jump Rope Skills on display and you will be able to see what a Jump Rope for Heart lesson is all about!

In Physical Education we are wrapping up Basketball and will be getting into New and Field Games, Lacrosse, and an end of year obstacle course combining all skills learned this year!

Health Education is continuing on with education regarding the impact of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs, as well as Human Growth and Development. Be on the look out for some information coming home on Safety and Injury Prevention as well.

All The Best!
Mr. Masto



Math

With Mr. Kelley

In the last math update, I explained the four steps involved in solving a math word problem, or a “story puzzle” as I like to call them.

1. Understand the problem
2. Plan
3. Solve
4. Look back

Let’s explore a few of the strategies that can be used when solving math problems. You should note that not every strategy is appropriate for every problem.

Make a picture or diagram – Sometimes drawing diagrams can help us to solve problems that we understand how to compute, but need a bit of visual representation to help us come to a solution. Other times we may not fully understand a problem, so we can draw a diagram to help us visualize the problem more clearly. Pictures and diagrams do not need to be well drawn, but keeping them organized and using labels is very useful.

Make a table, chart, or list – Organizing data is very important. Making a table, chart, or list can help you to keep track of data and make comparisons. Often, a pattern will become obvious when presented in a table, chart or list as it allows the problem solver to find or see new avenues to finding a solution.

Use or look for a pattern – Sometimes a pattern is provided in a problem and we are asked to continue the pattern. Other times, finding a pattern may help uncover important information in solving a problem. As students get more mature with their problem-solving skills, they can use patterns to discover formulas that will help them solve more difficult problems.

Act it out – Occasionally getting up and moving around to act out a problem will help a student visualize or understand a problem. Often, a student can act out a problem using objects such as counters, play money, dice or even scraps of paper to help them understand the problem. This strategy is more often used with younger students than with older students.

Work backwards – To solve some problems, we need to start at the end. Sometimes the information needed is found at the end of the problem and we need to work backwards towards the information in the beginning of the problem.

Guess and check – The name of this strategy might make you think that making a wild guess is appropriate; however, that is not the case. We need to look at the information available to us and attempt to make a reasonable estimate. After that, it is crucial to check the estimate. If the estimate turns out to be incorrect, take the new information you have learned and make a new estimate. You will need to repeat this process until you arrive at the correct solution. If you are working on a multiple-choice problem, you can use the choices and substitute them in the given problem to help narrow down the choices. By using substitution, you can sometimes avoid more complicated and time-consuming solution methods. This strategy does not include “wild” or “blind” guesses. Keeping track of guesses (chart, table or list) will help find the answer and help you to explain the answer in a more organized way.

As you can see, many problem solving strategies overlap and can be used in conjunction with each other. Many problems can be solved using more than one strategy, so it is important that the problem-solver have a variety of strategies to use.

Here are some websites with math word problems for your child to practice, but often math problems that occur in everyday life are the best ones for your child to try so don’t be afraid to make up some of your own.

<http://www.kidzone.ws/math/wordproblems.htm#gr5wp>

<http://www.mathplayground.com/wpdatabase/wpindex.html>

<http://www.dadsworksheets.com/v1/Worksheets/Word%20Problems.html>

$$2 \times 5 = 10$$

$$3 - 1 = 2$$

$$2 + 2 = 4$$

Summer Math Academy

Franklin is pleased to announce a new offering this summer for students who enjoy mathematics. The Summer Math Academy is a place where children work together in a casual environment to enrich and extend their mathematical knowledge. The non-traditional setting allows curious and enthusiastic campers to explore math, art, and science through hands-on interactive projects, and in general to share their love of mathematics.

The Summer Academy will run for one two-week full morning session at Oak Street Elementary School from Monday, July 2nd to Friday, July 13th (no class on July 4th).

Here is just a sampling of some possible activities:

Origami, Attribute Graphing, Pattern Art, Logic Puzzles, Cryptology, Tangrams, Sudoku, Engineering Challenges, Math Story Re-enactments, Gum Drop 3-D Figures, RubeGoldberg Inventions, Probability Games, and more!

The Director is Jeff Chaffee, the Mathematics Curriculum Enhancement Teacher at Remington Middle School. If you have any questions, his email address is chaffeej@franklin.k12.ma.us.

NEWS FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE

Mrs. Cameron R.N.



Dear Parents/Guardians,

I would like to remind parents of students in fourth grade that I need a copy of a recent physical before May... I need to complete your child's medical records.

During March and April we will begin screening for scoliosis for all fifth grade students who have not submitted proof of a screening from a private physician.

Just a reminder to the parents of kindergarten students and any student who is new to the school... I need a copy of a recent physical... these forms are important to your child's medical records and must be submitted.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at **508-541-7890**.

Sincerely,
Kym Cameron
Oak Street School Nurse

Music



With Ms. Allison Wroe

Here is some of what we have been working on in music class:

Kindergarteners have been busy singing, moving, chanting, and playing instruments! We are working on singing the resting tone of a song, moving in different ways to the macro and micro beats, and learning traditional circle games.

In first grade, students have begun learning solfege to help understand tonality and pitch. They have also been learning about rhythm and beat through playing instruments and improvisation.

Second graders continue their tonal development through singing traditional folk melodies along with playing and singing bass lines with xylophones. We are continuing to label songs in duple and triple meter through a unit using J.S. Bach's Brandenburg Concertos.

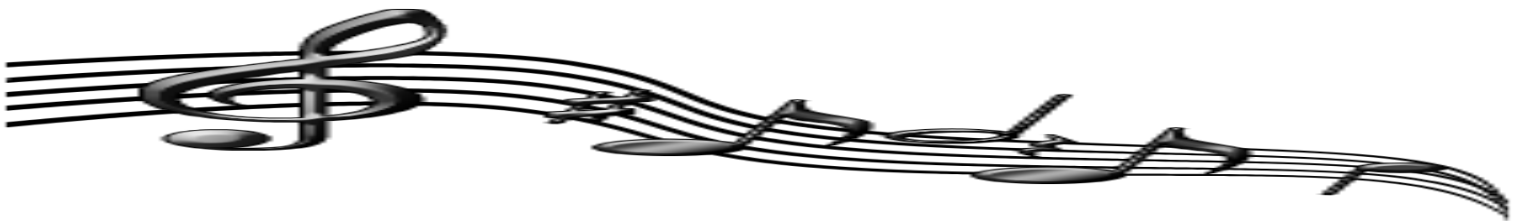
Third graders continue to label meter and tonality of many different songs. We have also been reading and writing rhythms in duple and triple meter, and will soon begin to explore the staff.

The fourth grade continues to progress in learning the recorder. They continue to show great responsibility in bringing their recorders home to practice. Our fun incentive program "Recorder Karate" is going so well, many are flying through their belts!

Fifth graders are continuing to develop their recorder abilities this year by reading more advanced notation and rhythm, and even improvising on their instruments. They have also shown greater responsibility with their practice habits in preparation for the upcoming RI Philharmonic field trip.

Reminder: 4th and 5th grade are preparing to go to the RI Philharmonic field trip on Tuesday, April 10. Permission slips will be going home shortly.

Reminder: Night of the Arts is Wednesday, April 11 for grades K-5. More information will be sent home soon.



Notes From The Office

Here in the office we would like to remind parents of a few things:

- 🍁 School officially starts at 8:30AM. If your child arrives at 8:31 he/she is tardy and will require a late slip from the office before arriving to class. Dismissal begins at 2:35.
- 🍁 If your child has forgotten items such as clothes for PE, homework, water, lunch money or snacks, please be aware that we try not to interrupt classroom teaching time. We will have students stop by the main office on their way to a special or to lunch to see if their forgotten items have been dropped off.
- 🍁 Please call before 2:00PM with any changes in dismissal for your child. The office becomes extremely busy at this time of day and we will not guarantee your child will receive the message if the call is after 2:00PM. Also PLEASE do not dismiss your children five minutes before dismissal begins unless a note has been sent in or it is an emergency.

To Contact Oak Street School:

🍁 Office Telephone Number:	508-541-7890	
🍁 Automated Phone Number:	508-541-7253	For Absentee Call-Ins, Solutions or Voicemail

Important Dates to Remember

(Dates may be subject to change)

April 6 th – No School – Good Friday	June 7 th – Fun Day (rain date 6/13)
April 11 th – Arts Night	June 13 th – Talent Show Rehearsal – 3:30 p.m.
April 12 th - PCC Meeting – 9:30 a.m.	June 14 th – Talent Show – 6:00 p.m.
April 16 th -20 th - No School Spring Recess	June 18 th – Last Day Of Kindergarten
May 10 th - PCC Meeting – 6:00 p.m.	June 18 th -5 th Grade Breakfast & Celebration
May 25 th – Memorial Day Concert – 9:00 a.m.	June 19 th – 5 th Grade Trip to Town Common
May 28 th – No School – Memorial Day	June 19 th , 20 th & 21 st - Kindergarten Screenings
May 30 th – Kindergarten Info Night – 6:00 p.m.	June 21 st – Last Day of School – 11:40 a.m. Dismissal
June 7 th – PCC Meeting – 6:00 p.m.	

OAK STREET NEWS



Winter 2012

Art News

Many exciting things are happening in the art room this year. Students are learning about various artists, many different art techniques, and creating a wide variety of art projects! Keep a look out for new, exciting projects in the hallways!

Kindergarten students have been learning about lines, shapes, and designs. They will use this knowledge for many upcoming projects including painting and collage.

Grade one students will be learning about mixing tints and shades on top of what they have experienced with color mixing. More painting projects and figure drawings are on the way!

Grade two students will be experimenting with painting and printmaking. Look for a clay sculpture project too!

Grade three students have finished three-handled mugs in conjunction with their social studies unit on Plymouth Plantation. They are coming out great! Painting, self-portraits, and weaving projects are coming up.

Grade four students will create a lesson on Greek style vases and will create a real clay version soon. More painting, drawing, and sculpture are coming up.

Grade five students have created beautiful line drawings with pumpkins and an extensive printmaking cityscape project. Both of these projects were finished with great care and came out wonderfully! They will be kept until the art show in the spring. Projects in clay, watercolor painting and drawing are next for grade five students!



Keep Drawing!!!!
Mrs. Dina Minor

The Reading Corner

Reading is an essential skill that requires lots of practice! Through Reader's Workshop, the students are reading on a daily basis and developing and strengthening their comprehension skills at a deeper level. Students are being asked to think deeply, beyond the surface level, and to reflect on their thinking and reading strategies. It is essential that students continue to practice these skills at home as well. Consider how much time your child spends mastering their skills to advance to the next level with a new computer game. They play it over and over again, reflect on how they approached it the last time and then make decisions on how to tackle it more effectively in order to move on to the next level. Imagine if they put this much effort into advancing their reading skills! Take some time to reflect as a family on how much emphasis is put towards developing and strengthening reading skills on a daily basis in your home.

Moving forward, we will be recognizing the importance of reading once again in late February and early March with "Read Across America Week". We will recognize the contributions Dr. Seuss made to the world of literacy with his wacky yet enchanting tales and characters. We will have guest readers from our school and local community visit each of the classrooms to celebrate the importance of reading as well. The theme for this year will be "Readers Are Leaders". This is a great message to send to our students!

We will also be hosting our second Book Fair around the same time. This is a great time to build up your home libraries! There will be more information forthcoming. Each class will visit Book Fair during their scheduled library times. There will also be a family night Book Fair that coincides with Pasta Night once again. Please stop by as a family and support our school and to celebrate how much fun it can be finding the next great book to read!

Happy Reading,
Mrs. O'Brien
Oak Street School
Reading Specialist K-5
508-541-7890 ex. 2607



Mr. Masto's Health & Physical Education class!

Students in all grades have been hard at work in both Health and Physical Education!

Students in grades K-2 have recently been working on directional movement, kicking and punting, skill themes, and movement concepts! Moving forward we will continue on with locomotor skills, team games, and much more.

Our 3-5 Students have taken soccer to a new level in our Oak St. version of Mad Ball soccer. A unique underhand kicking game that allows for maximum movement and participation. We will be moving onward to dribbling and basketball related skills, striking with long and short handled implements and balancing.

On the Health side, we wrapped up Nutrition and are moving onward with Disease Control and Prevention as well as Human Growth and Development. More information will be coming out in the near future.

AS THE WEATHER GETS COLDER WE UNDERSTAND THAT STUDENTS LIKE TO WEAR BOOTS. PLEASE BRING SNEAKERS WITH YOU FOR **BOTH** HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION!

All the best!
Mr. Masto



Math News

With Mr. Kelley

At Oak Street School, one area the children have been working particularly hard on is problem solving in mathematics. Students are learning a four-step method for problem solving. Although different vocabulary and terminology may be used at different grade levels, the four steps followed are basically the same.

1. **Understand the problem** - Read the problem several times and put the problem into your own words. What information do I already know? What do I need to find out? What information is useless?
2. **Make a Plan** – How will I solve this problem? What strategy or strategies will I use? Will I draw a picture, use addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, find a pattern, make a chart, work backwards, combine strategies, etc.?
3. **Solve the Problem** – Carry out the plan. If the plan is not working go back and revisit steps 1 and 2.
4. **Check your Answer** – Is my answer reasonable? Does it make sense? Did I double check my computation? Did I provide an answer to all parts of the problem and show my work?

If you are working with your child on math problem solving at home, try using this four step process. The steps should be familiar to your child and hopefully will help lead them towards an accurate and complete answer. Just knowing the four steps is not enough to become a proficient problem solver. Your child needs to put the steps into action and practice, practice, practice!

Music



In kindergarten we are working on finding our singing voices and the steady macro beat. We are also exploring personal space through movement and chant and learning about taking turns through traditional circle games.

First graders are already singing loud and proud! We are reviewing macro and micro beats, singing the resting tone, and audiation skills through chanting and moving in different meters and singing in different tonalities.

In second grade, students are working on labeling tonic and dominant tonal patterns in major and minor tonalities. We are also improvising rhythm patterns, and labeling the meter of songs and chants in duple and triple meter.

In third grade, students are experiencing multiple parts at one time through Orff arrangements as well as singing bass melodies to accompany the melody. We can even sing some songs that have four different parts!

In fourth grade we have begun recorders! We are learning recorder by ear as well as through notation. We've even played melodies and bass melodies together all ready! Students are doing a great job remembering the backpack rule...keep it up!

This class of fifth graders did so well with recorder last year that I've decided to continue furthering their recorder skills this year! We've been working hard on reading tonal and rhythm patterns through notation, but have also figured out how to play familiar songs by ear.

A big congratulation goes out to our fourth grade chorus and fifth grade chorus on a beautiful winter concert performance!!

Allison Wroe
Oak St./Parmenter
K-5 General

Attention parents!

Town-wide Honors Chorus
For 4th & 5th Grade Students



If your fourth or fifth grader loves singing in chorus, consider signing them up for Franklin's district-wide afterschool honors chorus! Honors chorus rehearses Thursdays from 3:30-4:30. Enrollment will open in January. Look for a flyer to come home soon with more info!

NEWS FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE

Mrs. Cameron R.N.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

With the arrival of the cold and flu season, I am asking for your assistance in utilizing the following guidelines to help prevent an illness cycle.

A child should stay home for at least 24 hours to rest if any of the following symptoms are present the morning of school or the previous night.

- Vomiting and/or diarrhea
- Fever > 100 degrees
- Cold and cough with colored nasal drainage
- Itchy or reddened eyes with drainage (possible conjunctivitis)
- Moderate to severe pain
- An unusual rash
- A poor night's sleep due to illness, cough, etc...

Please contact your child's health care provider if symptoms persist.

Please encourage your child to wash their hands frequently, to keep their hands out of their mouths, and not to share drinks or foods with their friends. Show them how to cough or sneeze into their sleeve rather than their hands.

Please call me if your child is diagnosed with strep throat, pneumonia, or any contagious illness. I will send a note home through the classroom so that other parents can be aware of any symptoms in their child.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health requires all students in fourth grade to have a physical examination. Many fourth graders have not turned in physical forms. If your child has not turned in a physical form for the year 2011, please send it to me as soon as possible. If your child has a physical examination scheduled for this spring, please provide me with the date of the exam and send in a copy of the physical as soon as you have it.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call 508- 541-7890.

Sincerely,
Kym Cameron
Oak Street School Nurse

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Important Dates to Remember

(Dates may be subject to change)

Jan 2 nd - NO SCHOOL- NEW YEAR'S DAY	Mar 8 th - PCC Meeting - 9:30 a.m.
Jan 12 th - PCC Meeting - 9:30 a.m.	Mar 14 th - Report Cards Go Home
Jan 16 th - NO SCHOOL - MLK Day	Mar 15 th & 16 th - Invention Convention
Jan 20 th - Inside/Out Day	Mar 15 th - Report Card Conferences- 11:40 a.m. Dismissal
Jan 25 th - PDD Day - 11:40 a.m. Dismissal	Mar 16 th - Report Card Conferences - 11:40 a.m. Dismissal
Jan 29 th - Blizzard Ball	Mar 20 th - MCAS Long Comp
Feb 9 th - PCC Meeting - 6:00 p.m.	Mar 27 th , 29 th & Apr 2 nd - Kindergarten Registration
Feb 10 th - Grade 5 Disability Program	
Feb 12 th - Blizzard Ball Snow Date	
Feb 20 th - 24 th - Winter Break	
Mar 5 th - 9 th - Book Fair - Read Across America	
Mar 7 th - PDD Day - 11:40 a.m. Dismissal	
Mar 8 th - Pasta Night	
Mar 8 th - Term 2 ends	

“Let us be grateful to people who make us happy, they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom. ”

Marcel Proust

OAK STREET NEWS



Fall 2011

Art News

By Mrs. Minor

In the Oak Street Art Room we cover a broad range of art styles, materials, and periods of Art History. We explore the basic concepts and fundamentals of art and design through various media such as drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and sculpture. Lessons are designed to be age appropriate for K-5 students.

We are all starting out the year with the Square 1 Art Project. All students will create a vibrant drawing for the Square 1 project and the company will send all students free stickers with their own artwork on them. Other items will be available for purchase with the artwork on it.

More details on this great fundraiser to come.

BENCHMARKS – Art Skills and Learning Goals

- Overall Review of Art & Design Elements & Principles
- line, shape, form, space, value, texture, color
- Balance, contrast, pattern, movement, rhythm, emphasis, unity
- Drawing
- Design & Printmaking
- Space
- Color Theory
- Painting Techniques
- Collage
- 3D
- Representational/Non-Representational/Abstract
- Group Discussion & Brainstorms
- Art History & Vocabulary
- Developing personal style & working collaboratively

Be ready to experiment, think, work creatively
AND have fun making art!

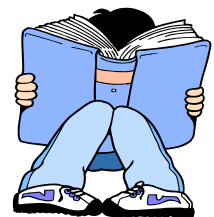
Reading with Mrs. O'Brien

Once again, Summer Reading was a huge success! Everyone did a great job logging all their reading this summer! Thank you to all the parents for their support. This commitment builds your child's foundation and prepares them for a great start to the school year!

On September 30th the school celebrated with an enchanting production of "Cinderella" performed by the Tanglewood Marionettes.

Our Fall Book Fair is the week of October 3rd thru October 7th. All classes will attend during their regularly scheduled Library time. Parents are welcome to visit during their child's time slot. We will also have Book Fair open to families on October 6th during the Ice Cream Social. This is a wonderful opportunity to get some great books for the new school year!

Thank you to Michelle Addi for all her hard work to make this event possible and for all the parents who have offered to volunteer their time at the fair.



Happy Reading
Tracie O'Brien ☺

What's been happening in Mr. Masto's Phys Ed and Health Classes?



Physical Education and Health classes at Oak Street are both off to an awesome start!

In Physical Education classes students in Kindergarten thru Grade 2 are in the process of developing and refining locomotor movements, spatial awareness and movement concepts. Grades 3-5 students are practicing proper throwing and catching technique, which will be the basis for some upcoming cooperative games and activities.

In Health Education students in Kindergarten thru Grade 5 have been hard at work on the Bullying Prevention Program. Upcoming Health topics include health related fitness and nutrition. I always encourage all students to remain active out of school and make healthy choices!

All students are asked to wear appropriate clothing (Shorts or Pants, T-Shirt and Sneakers) on both Health and Physical Education days due to the fact some Health classes will be taught in the Gymnasium. Students are rewarded for wearing sneakers!

All the best!
Michael Masto

NEWS FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE



Mrs. Cameron

To help reduce the spread of influenza we are asking parents and students to be mindful of the following:

1. Get your flu shot.
2. Wash your hands **OFTEN** with soap and warm water. If soap and water are not available, use alcohol-based hand gel.
3. Cough and sneeze into your elbow, **NOT** your hand.
4. Do not share eating or drinking utensils (e. g. water bottles, forks, cups, straws).
5. Individuals who are sick with flu-like symptoms should stay home until they are fever free (under 100 degrees F) for 24 hours **WITHOUT** the use of fever reducing medications. Flu-like symptoms include **FEVER** and a **SORE THROAT** and/or **FEVER** and a **COUGH**. Other symptoms may include: runny nose, headache, muscle and joint aches, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea and fatigue.

Please keep your student home from school if they have any flu-like symptoms. If you would like more information on the flu, you can go to the Mass. Department of Public Health influenza website: mass.gov/flu or call the MDPH information line: 211. **If your child is taking antibiotics, they need to receive a full 24 hours of medication before returning to school.**

Tis the season for head lice – I know this is not a pleasant subject and parents tend to not share this information with the schools but we **NEED TO KNOW!!**

Franklin Public Schools have already had cases of lice and we need parents to be aware of any itchy heads!! You can refer to a video on the Oak Street website under the nurse's office which will show you what head lice and nits look like.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call 541-6230.



How do we learn music?

Students learn music in the same sequence they learn to read. First we listen, then we imitate, then we learn to improvise, and finally we learn to read and write.

What do we do in music class?

We learn through listening, chanting, singing, imitating, creating, improvising, moving, and playing in different tonalities and meters. Each 30 minute music class is generally comprised of a tonal activity, rhythm activity, and a movement activity.

GRADING:

1. Effort: Every class, students receive a grade (4,3,2,1) based on participation and trying their best. Students begin class with a 4. However, each warning results in lowering this grade for the day. At the end of the term, an average of these grades is taken.

2. Behavior: Every class, students receive a grade (4,3,2,1) based on following appropriate classroom responsibilities. Students begin class with a 4. However, each warning results in lowering this grade for the day. At the end of the term an average of these grades is taken.

3. Growth in music concepts: Using formal and informal assessments, students are assessed on their demonstrations of movement and rhythm (rhythm is learned through movement). For example, students are evaluated on being able to identify duple and triple meter.

4. Growth in vocal/instrumental concepts: Using formal and informal assessments, students are assessed on their tonal achievement (for example, echoing singing patterns) and good instrument technique (for example, holding mallets correctly).

Success

Don't wish for it. Work for it!

Math News

With Mr. Kelley

“How can I help my child with math at home?” is a question I often hear from parents. One of the most powerful things that you can do to influence your child’s math aptitude is to help them achieve “fact power”. Fact power is the ability to recall the answer to a math fact *automatically*, without having to figure it out.

Studies have found that poor math-fact retrieval can impede participation in math class discussions, successful mathematics problem-solving, and even the development of everyday life skills. Rapid math-fact retrieval has been shown to be a strong predictor of performance on mathematics achievement tests.

According to the most recent *Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks*, the following guide can help you understand where your child should be at the **end of the year** on the Fact Power Continuum:

Kindergarten: *Fluently add and subtract within the number 5* (e.g. $4+3=7$, $4-2=2$).

First grade: *Demonstrate Fluency for adding and subtracting within the number 10* ($8+7=15$, $13-4=9$).

Second grade: *Know from memory all sums of two one-digit numbers and their related subtraction facts* (e.g. $9+6=15$, $15-6=9$).

Third grade: *Know from memory all products of two one-digit numbers* (e.g. $7\times 8=56$).

Fourth grade: *Know multiplication facts and related division facts through 12×12* (e.g. $6\times 8=48$, $48\div 8=6$).

Fifth grade: *Students finalize their fluency with multi-digit addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.* They will need this fluency to explore more difficult math concepts such as decimals, fractions and volume.

Just like sports, music, reading or any other skill, your child’s fact power will not improve without consistent practice. You can help with regular practice at home, or wherever you find time (car, checkout line, doctor’s waiting room, etc.). Your child is learning games at school that they can teach you to help make learning the facts at home more exciting. Your child may work better with oral drill, triangle flash cards, math fact bingo, writing the facts down, or using technology. Among the many options available on the internet is www.IXL.com. All children at Oak Street School in grades 2-5 have access to IXL where they can practice all of the math skills that go along with the *Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks* including practicing their math facts. Find a method or combination of methods that work well for your child and make a habit out of practicing.

Thank you for giving your child “Fact Power”!

Brian Kelley, Math CET



Notes From the Office

- 🍁 School officially starts at 8:30AM. If your child arrives at 8:31 he/she is tardy and will require a late slip from the office before arriving to class. Dismissal begins at 2:35.
- 🍁 If your child is going to be **late** or **out sick**, please **be sure to call 508-541-7253**.
- 🍁 If your child has forgotten items such as clothes for PE, homework, water, lunch money or snacks, please be aware that we try not to interrupt classroom teaching time. We will have students stop by the main office on their way to a special or to lunch to see if their forgotten items have been dropped off.
- 🍁 Please call before 2:00PM with any changes in dismissal for your child. The office becomes extremely busy at this time of day and we will not guarantee your child will receive the message if the call is after 2:00PM. Also PLEASE do not dismiss your children five minutes before dismissal begins unless a note has been sent or it is an emergency.

To Contact Oak Street School:

- 🍁 Office Telephone Number: 508-541-7890
- 🍁 Automated Phone Number: 508-541-7253 For Absentee Call-Ins, Solutions or Voicemail

Oak Street Important Dates to Remember

Dates may be subject to change

Oct 3 rd -7 th	Book Fair Week	Nov 23-25 th	No School – Thanksgiving Break
Oct 6 th	Ice Cream Social	Dec 7 th	Report Cards Go Home
Oct 10 th	No School – Columbus Day	Dec 8 th & 9 th	11:40 a.m. Dismissal – Rpt Card Conferences
Oct 13 th	PCC Meeting – 9:30 a.m.	Dec 26-Jan 2 nd	No School – Holiday Break
Oct 20 th	Kindergarten Pot Luck Dinner		
Oct 26 th	½ PDD Day – 11:40 a.m. Dismissal		
Oct 31 st	Black & Orange Day		
Nov 3 rd	PCC Meeting – 6:00 p.m		
Nov 8 th	Full PDD Day- No School		
Nov 11 th	No School – Veterans Day		
Nov 18 th	School Store		

School Banking will start Tuesday, October 11th at 8:30 a.m.

The Franklin School Lunch Program Food Service Office is in dire need of substitute cafeteria workers. If interested, candidates should contact Susan Childers at Human Resources (Town Municipal Building) and fill out an application.