The Owl Express

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hello OGA Families! Many of you have asked for my philosophy of Orlando Gifted Academy. I wanted to include it in this inaugural school newsletter as well as provide you with a idea of how this communication will be coming to you. This newsletter, as well as newsletters to come, will be created by our School Newsletter Enrichment Cluster. Due to Hurricane Dorian, the enrichment cluster had less time to include classroom specific information in this issue; however, they were able to quickly interview teachers for some fun information.

MS. DESPENZA'S PHILOSOPHY FOR OGA

I believe that every child must be given the opportunity to reach their fullest potential with the support and guidance of a caring and nurturing teacher/facilitator. Every child should be able to learn and flourish in a classroom environment where they are permitted to engage in independent learning activities based on their interests. I believe that all students should be exposed to challenging and rigorous learning opportunities while having fun. Students should be able to have the opportunity to deepen their understanding of content through research and investigating open-ended tasks.

Additionally, students should have the ability to guide their own learning and engage in thought provoking conversations with their peers while learning how to collaborate and debate effectively. I believe all students need to develop skills to defend their thoughts and ideas, while being able to communicate in a positive and respectful manner.

My goal is to recruit and retain teachers that understand the importance of differentiation and are willing to differentiate lessons, activities, experiences and projects. I believe that a school community must be established that fosters a sense of social and emotional well-being for all and embraces diversity and inclusion.

As the new principal of Orlando Gifted Academy, I am committed to develop an environment where we "value respect, creativity, and collaboration" while allowing students the opportunity to learn and be challenged. I am excited to work with parents, teachers, staff, students and all stakeholders to ensure Orlando Gifted Academy is a safe and nurturing

OGA'S TEACHER OF THE YEAR:

MR. BURNETT

5TH GRADE TEACHER

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER ENRICHMENT CLUSTER

- Ms. Allen & Ms. Fosky
- Olivia M, Emily R., Jordan S., Sohom S., Derek R., Mason B., Hallie M., Blaise G., Isabella V., Max M., Madelyn T., Kade S.

IMPORTANT DATES

- 9/13—OGA Foundation Fundraiser Kick –off
- 9/16—Progress Reports go home
- 9/19—PTA Meeting (6:00)
- 9/19—Grandparents Bingo (6:30)

  Suggested donation $5/family. $1 pizza slices and $1 waters will be available.

STUDENT PEACE EXHIBIT

Congratulations to Aiden F., Anna R., Charleigh G., Delaney A., Finely D., and McKayla S.! Their art will be on display at the Student Peace Exhibit in the Rotunda of Orlando City Hall! Join us on Monday, September 16th, from 5:30 -6:30 p.m. at Orlando City Hall to recognize their creative work.

"No one is perfect….that's why pencils have erasers." ~Wolfgang Riebe

FOOTBALL SEASON HAS ARRIVED!
WHO'S YOUR FAVORITE TEAM?

NFL:

Ms. Jackson – Buffalo Bills

Ms. Vinnedge – Chicago Bears

Ms. Faubel – Cleveland Browns

Mr. Michaud – New England Patriots

Ms. Despenza – New Orleans Saints

Ms. Larzo – New Orleans Saints

Ms. Kuerzi – New Orleans Saints

Ms. Hale – New York Jets

Ms. Kilpatrick – Washington Redskins

NCAA:

Ms. Switters – Arizona State University

Ms. Dunn – Clemson Tigers

Mr. Burnett – Florida State Seminoles

Ms. Handley – Florida State Seminoles

Ms. Hinch – Florida State Seminoles

Ms. Sharpe – Florida State Seminoles

Ms. Tame – Florida State Seminoles

Ms. Allen – Florida Gators

Ms. Fosky – Florida Gators

Mr. Lovelette – Florida Gators

Ms. Lublin – Florida Gators

Ms. Mullen – Florida Gators

Ms. Scheid-Atkins – Michigan Wolverines

Ms. McCrae – UCF Knights

Ms. Newry – UCF Knights

Ms. Painter – UCF Knights