



# The Owl Post

April 19, 2021

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"If people are doubting how far you can go, go so far that you can't hear them anymore."

-Michele Ruiz

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## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE 4/19/21

Greetings Orlando Gifted Academy Families,

Our School Based Social and Emotional leadership team participated in a Showcase of Data event. Our Sell Team shared how OGA incorporates SELL strategies within the school and classrooms. The team was able to collaborate with other district SELL teams to discuss additional strategies.

I had the opportunity to visit PE a few times last week and was impressed by our student's lacrosse skills. Students were throwing and catching the ball using the lacrosse stick. If your child attended PE last week, ask them to share their experience.

Progress Reports will be distributed on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Please review your child's Canvas in Skyward to ensure there are no missing assignments. J

This week we will celebrate Earth Week. "Earth Day is about raising awareness about the importance of protecting our planet and taking action." OGA will do our part with celebrating Earth Week by engaging in the following activities:

Tuesday- Wear blue. Save the water.

Wednesday-Wear green. Be waste free.

Thursday-Wear bright colors. Be bright and turn off the lights.

Friday-Wear as many colors as you can. Celebrate the colors of the earth.

HOOT! HOOT! We have an OCPS Top Talent Finalist!

Congratulations to Nicole Savinykh (Visual Arts). She is representing Orlando Gifted Academy as a finalist in the OCPS Top Talent competition! Let's continue to cheer her on!

Our middle school orientation presentation is on the homepage of our school website. I encourage all rising 6<sup>th</sup> families to review the information with your child.

Did you know that April is National Humor Month! "Larry Wilde created National Humor Month in 1976 to show people how humor is a useful tool to improve our ways of life. Scientific research now indicates that the curative power of laughter and its ability to relieve debilitating stress and burnout may indeed be one of the great medical discoveries of our times." Through laughing, we're reducing our stress and pain levels, strengthening our immune systems, and recharging our bodies." Try the 24 hour challenge. Find something to laugh about every 24 hours for the month. I am going to help you get started by sharing this joke by sharing the joke below.

**Knock, knock.**

Who's there?

Owl.

Owl who?

Owl be seeing you

*Mrs. Despenza*

*From there to here, from here to there, funny things are everywhere. — Dr. Seuss*

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# HAPPENING AT OGA

## Upcoming Events

**April 19-23:** Earth Day Spirit Week (see Mrs. Despenza's note above)

**April 28:** Denim Day (Wear jeans to spread awareness about physical & emotional trauma that accompanies sexual assault)

**April 29:** Progress Reports go home

**May 3-4:** Reading FSA (4th-7th)

**May 6-7:** Math FSA (3rd-7th)

**May 10:** Civics FSA (7th)

**May 10-11:** Science FSA (5th)

## Lunch this Week

**Monday:** Tangerine Chicken

**Tuesday:** Hard Tacos

**Wednesday:** Cheese Pizza Rippers

**Thursday:** Breaded Drumsticks

**Friday:** Cheese Pizza

## Schoolwide Food Drive

by [Xavier V.](#)

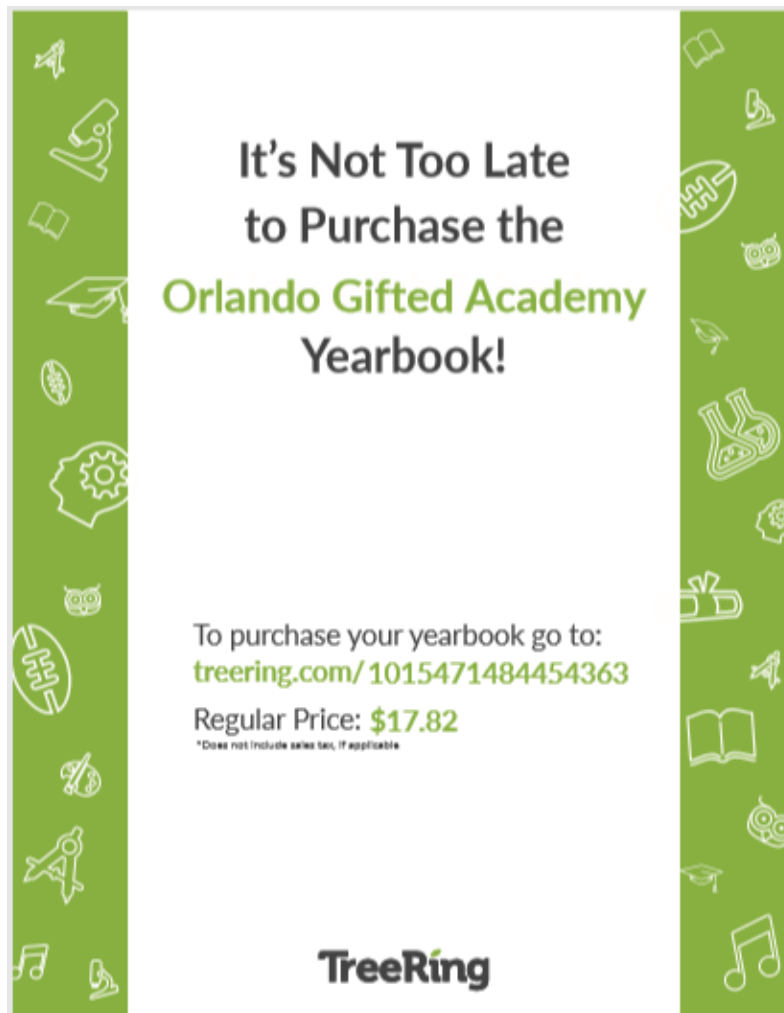
Good Morning Parents and Teachers,

For my gifted studies project, I am hosting and partnering with Orlando's Second Harvest Food Bank in a school-wide food drive here at OGA. Now through April 23rd, please send in the following food items: meals in a can, oatmeal, canned meats, canned tuna, canned fruits, canned veggies, canned soups, dry beans, rice, evaporated milk, pasta/macaroni,

nutritional drinks, and baby food. You can drop off the items in the donation bin inside the sick clinic before or after school.

One out of 5 Orlando children struggle with hunger. Together, we can make a difference!

Thank you!



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# THIS WEEK'S TOP STORIES

## Summer Flowers

By: Anna Russo

Flowers are what color our world, and with every season, even more sprout! Since summer is coming up many flowers are starting to sprout and begin this natural artistic process. There are hundreds of thousands of different flowers that are known, and here are a few of them.

Lavender is a beautiful smelling bright purple flower that blooms during spring and summer. Lavender is a Mediterranean plant, so similar climates are where it is best grown. Moving on, not only does Lavender have a beautiful color, but it also has many health benefits too. Lavender oil is said to help with anxiety, depression, stress, insomnia, and more. It is also associated with grace, peace, silence, purity, luxury, and royalty.



Another popular summer flower is the Sunflower. The sunflower is a large yellow flower with a big brown center. Sunflowers are grown in large fields or groups and are used for a variety of things. They can produce dye, oil, food, and fodder. Oftentimes sunflower designs can



be seen on all types of products as well. Sunflowers are associated with happiness, faith, and unconditional love. Overall, sunflowers are very cheery and happy flowers.

Hibiscuses grow best in warm sunny weather, but can continue to grow in cooler weather as well. These flowers are often seen growing in peoples' yards and gardens because they are easy to care for, especially in Florida. Hibiscuses are also a symbol of glory, beauty, and a perfect wife or romantic partner.

The last flower is called a Hibiscus. This beautiful flower blooms all throughout the summer and can bloom in many different colors. These include, white, pink, lavender, red, or burgundy.



## **Fortunately, The Milk Book Review**

by: Charleigh Gonzalez

Fortunately, the Milk By Neil Gaiman

Fortunately, the Milk is a humorous fiction book for all ages. This book is a very fun book to read multiple times and has kids and parents excited about reading.

About the book: When mom is gone on a business trip it's all on dad and the kids to keep things in order. Dad comes to the rescue when there is no milk but things take a twist. When dad is on his way home he gets abducted by aliens. Then he is on a pirate ship in the middle of the Caribbean. After being forced to walk the plank right at the last second he is rescued by Professor Steg in his time-traveling-floaty-ball-person-carrier. As they try to get dad back home they encounter cavemen and fulfill a prophecy, visit the wumpires, and ponies, and piranhas. All the while the milk was safely secured in dad's pocket. Then finally they make it back home and the kids can have breakfast and dad can have his tea.

Final thoughts: After reading this book time and time again I have to give this book a 5-star rating. It is a fun book for all ages and no matter what genre you like this is a book that you will enjoy



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