



The Owletter

Orlando Gifted Academy
Monthly Newsletter
April 2022



Principal's Message :

Testing season starts this month and our teachers have worked tirelessly to ensure that your students have been taught the standards they will need to succeed. Please help us by ensuring that your child enjoys a healthy breakfast on testing days and gets a good night's sleep. We are excited to see what our owlsome students will be able to accomplish!



Important April Dates:

OGA Spirit Days - 4/6, 4/13, 4/20, 4/27
College Spirit Days - 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29
NJHS Teacher Challenge - 4/4 through 4/8
FSA ELA (3rd Grade) - 4/5 & 4/6
Full-Day Wednesday - 4/6
FSA Writing Test - 4/7
SAC Meeting - 4/14





SPECTACULAR SECOND GRADE



Mrs. Cybulski & Mrs. Newry

In math, 2nd graders will be finishing all 2nd grade Math standards and reviewing them through PBLs such as Building a Zoo and Planning a camping trip. Students will continue to build on their technology based skills by working in google classrooms and research projects.

In science, 2nd graders are waiting patiently for their baby chicks to hatch as a part of our life cycles unit. We will continue learning about habitats and environments in April.

Second graders in Mrs. Stoute's ELA class will be working on reviewing multiple mixed standards by going on Virtual Field Trips to learn about Animals and the Rainforest. While on their virtual Field Trip, students will compare and contrast facts about each animal, identify the central message and relevant details in multiple texts, and review other mixed standards. Students will also build off their knowledge by engaging in a PBL where they will research endangered animals and create presentations of multiple solutions to help protect these animals while incorporating their acquired skills within their presentation.

3rd GRADE

Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Fosky, & Ms. Sunderman

In reading, 3rd-grade students will be continuing to practice test-taking strategies and review the skills we learned throughout the year. Students are preparing for the upcoming Reading FSA on April 5th and 6th. We will also be reading the book, *Astrotwins*, during our book club days. In Math, 3rd-grade students will be exploring and problem-solving with time. They will tell and write time and measure time intervals. They will also solve word problems involving the addition and subtraction of time intervals in minutes. In Science, students will continue studying rocks and minerals by making observations and measurements.

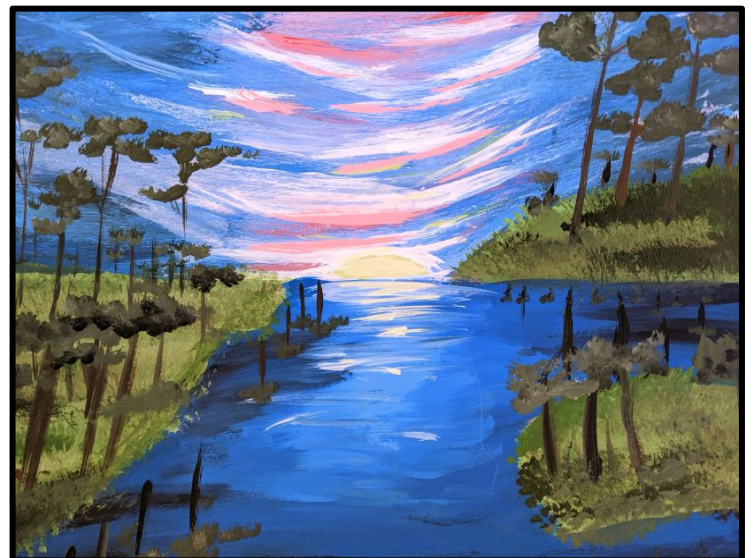
4th GRADE

Mrs. Bell, Ms. Hurley, & Mrs. Zema

As we prepare for the testing season to begin, our 4th grade writers will be completing their opinion essay about pirates then beginning their memoir projects in honor of April being National Poetry Month. We will also be learning about the structure and function of the United States Government.

Mrs. Bell's scholars will be learning how to explain the relationships between a circle and an angle with the understanding that degrees of an angle is a fraction of a circle. In addition, in science they are comparing and contrasting life cycles of plants and animals including the process of reproduction.

Ms. Hurley's math and science class will be testing for the measurement unit and moving on to the 2-D unit. They will also begin the heredity and reproduction unit then embark on our intensive Everglades unit to learn about interdependence.





5th Grade

Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Kuerzi, & Ms. Switters

During the month of April, 5th grade will begin our last novel study for the year using the Newberry and American Library Association Award winning book, "The Giver" by Lois Lowry. This science fiction novel focuses on many relevant themes of our time, including characters' personal struggles, tolerance, and conflict. April is also National Poetry Month. Our classes are still practicing informational and opinion essays to share evidence and elaboration skills as we prepare for the writing FSA assessment on April 7th.

In History, we will continue to analyze the American Revolution and the historical figures who shaped the United States, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and introduction to Western Expansion.

In Mathematics, we will continue to study fraction skills, measurement, geometry and problem-solving. We are following the 100 Days of Math Reviews and Assessments to adequately prepare them for FSA testing and familiarizing them with the format of questions presented to them.

In Science, students will cover Big Idea 17, Interdependence of Living Organisms. Then, we will begin preparing for FCAT Science with the Shuffle Missions Program, a hands-on investigations and content comprehensive review of the science standards that have been covered this year. We will have our STARBASE graduation on April 12th and parents are welcome to attend.

Character Education and Caring Community Lessons will focus on perseverance, entrepreneurship, self-management, and decision making skills. This will help our scholars be ready for the challenges they will face in middle school.



6th Grade

To wrap up the school year, the students will do a novel study and have choice novel literature circles.



7th Grade

In celebration of National Poetry Month, we will start exploring various types of poetry focusing on sonnets and haikus.



8th Grade

8th grade will wrap up essay writing skills and participate in some friendly competition as review our ELA Informational and Literature standards.





6th Grade

We continue our journey in the Mediterranean, exploring the birth, expansion, split and decline of the Roman empire.



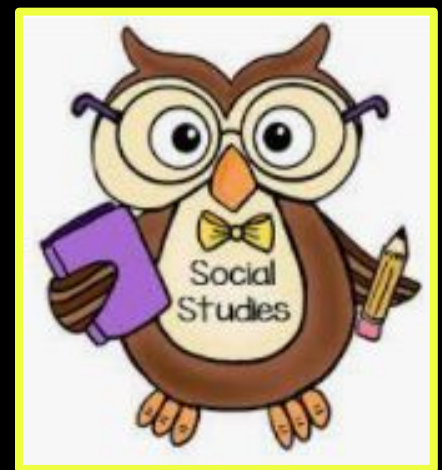
7th Grade

The verdict is in...literally, after our mock trial. Now we look at systems and forms of government locally and internationally. U.S. foreign policy is delved into briefly before End of Course exam review begins in earnest.



8th Grade

Students in US History will begin their exploration into the Civil War.





6th Grade

In Life Science, we'll continue our examination of human body systems, as well as analogues in other closely related species.

In PLTW, we'll begin to automate our mechanical systems and study elements of app development

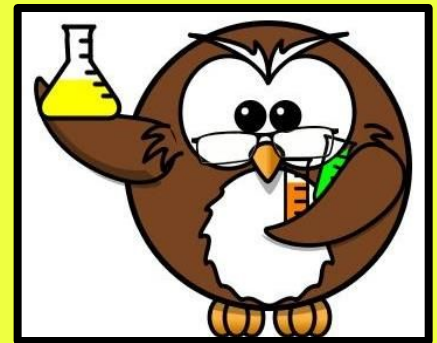
7th Grade

Dr. Roz can provide more information about what's happening in this course in April. Please contact Mark.Rozmarynowycz@ocps.net for details.



8th Grade

Dr. Roz can provide more information about what's happening in this course in March. Please contact Mark.Rozmarynowycz@ocps.net for details.



MATHEMATICS

6th Grade

This month we will be concluding our two-dimensional geometry unit and moving onto three-dimensional geometry. This unit will include things like finding the volume of a right rectangular prisms by packing it with unit cubes. We will also work on showing that the volume is the same as would be found by multiplying the edge lengths of the rectangular prism. We will also work on finding the volume of three-dimensional figures by finding the surface area of the rectangles and triangles that make them up (using nets). Once we wrap this up, we will review this year's content.

7th Grade

Greetings! WOW! April is here already! First, I want to say thank you for being AWESOME AND SUPPORTIVE! Your scholars are continuing to work hard in class every day. We just finished a unit on Statistics. All three of my classes combined had an overall average of 88%. Our goal is to average at least 80%; we were over our original goal by 8%. Currently, we are working in the Unit on Probability. We continue spend at least 10 minutes every day in our FSA Countdown Booklet to ensure that we will be prepared for anything that comes our way! I am also recommending that they spend 45 minutes a week and pass two lessons on iReady with an 80% accuracy or higher to fine tune skills that have been identified for them as needing extra help. Again, thanks for all that you do to make learning a success for your scholars in 7th grade Math Class here at OGA! Up next: FSA REVIEW!

Pre-Algebra

Students in Pre-Algebra have completed their coursework for the year!!! We are currently reviewing previously taught content for FSA Math practice! Assignments have been given on Khan Academy.





MATHEMATICS

Algebra I

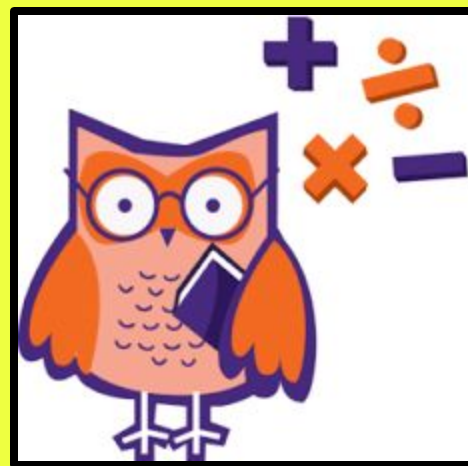
Hello! We have been putting in some major work! We have successfully finished our unit on Two Variable Statistics! We also took PMA 3 just before Spring Break. According to that data as well as the other PMA's combined, ALL students are projected to pass the Algebra EOC. Overall, we are doing an amazing job with our pacing and are on schedule to complete the testing standards. If your scholars feel that they need extra help, please let me know so that I can make arrangements to give them some extra help before or after school.

You should be very proud of our students for coming to class daily and working really hard to learn the standards and working towards mastery. We spend at least 10 minutes every day in our Algebra EOC Countdown Booklet to ensure that we will be prepared for anything that comes our way! I am really impressed with the caliber of work they have been putting out!
Next up: Sequences!

Geometry

We are now on our last unit of study before the very important Geometry EOC! This test will be administered over 2 days from May 5 - May 6.

We will be focusing on learning about surface area, volume, area and perimeter for 2-D and 3-D figures. Students will be using AlgebraNation and/or Khan Academy to review for the EOC.



COME TO OUR BOOK FAIR!



#ScholasticBookFairs

DOG EAR © 2017

A friendly reminder books are not loaned out for the summer and all library books must be returned before the last day of school.



Don't forget to return your library books!

Our Book Fair is coming April 15-April 22! Students MUST have an eWallet to shop which can be created at <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/orlandogiftedacademy> we look forward to having the Book Fair back and hope you stock up for summer reading!

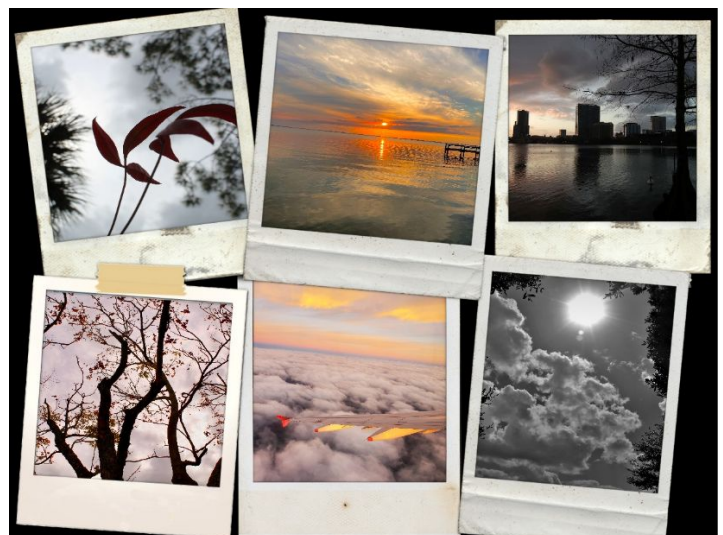
Save the date - our Book Fair is coming April 15 -20! More details will follow soon!



NJHS BOMB POP SALE

\$1.00

Wednesdays - Car Loop
Fridays - Car Line





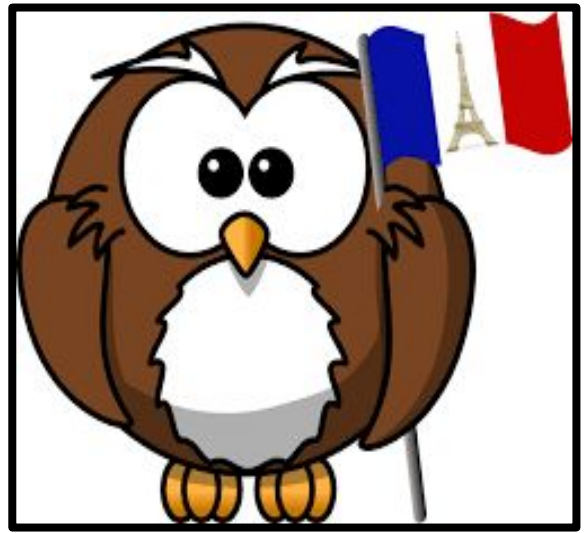
In celebration of National Poetry Month, the students will be creating virtual poetry books.

We are starting to wrap up the yearbook and will continue our newspaper. Students who want to share their Advanced Academics projects should reach out to Mrs. Olowu in Room 19.



Advanced Academics

As we are beginning the fourth third quarter of the school year, most students are completing his/her second or third individual Advanced Academic project for the year. These projects are based on their passions. Students are having to complete extensive research to solve these real-world problems. Students are at different stages in their projects. Some students are researching and taking notes, some are currently working on his/her product and some have already presented their product to the class and are deciding on a new topic. It is so exciting to see what the students are creating!



In French class, 2nd and 3rd graders will continue practicing descriptions and talk about personal preferences through stories.

Our 4th and 5th graders will be doing a unit on the environment and how they can make a positive influence on the world around them.

Beginning French students will be completing a unit on music in the Francophone world.

French I students will be talking about their school day and comparing it with those of kids around the world. They will also be talking about what makes a community and the differences and similarities between communities around the world.

All French students will learn about Poisson d'Avril.



MAKERSPACE MATERIALS NEEDED

Please donate the following items:

Double A batteries

Triple A batteries

9v batteries

Lego

Printer paper

Black/Blue/Gree/Red Markers

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

We did it again! Our first-year team tied for 4nd place in the State OOTM Tournament.

We are restocking our supply closet. Over the next few months, as you are cleaning out your garages, craft rooms, and other spaces, please bring in any unwanted art supplies, paint, recyclable materials, fabrics, etc... anything that looks interesting.

Families with incoming 2nd graders can also create their own OGA teams. If you'd like more info about starting a Primary team (grades K-2) under the school membership, please contact Mrs. Olowu at Falisha.Olowu@ocps.net.

YEARBOOK

We are beginning to put together our Yearbook spread. If you have any ideas or events you would like to see included, contact Mrs. Olowu at Falisha.Olowu@ocps.net.



FREE WORKSHOP

3 Keys to Effective Parenting



- Are you seeing more "attitude" and general disrespect from your children?
- Has your child stopped listening or following through with responsibilities?
- Learn how **curiosity**, **connection**, and **consequences** are three simple ways to create a more harmonious home life.

April 14th
at OGA
4:30-5:30pm

OR

April 19th
on Zoom
7-8pm

Hosted by Ms. Kristen Tame
www.kristentame.com



This month we will be working on our reading / listening skills. We will be completing spelling quizzes and Wordles in to help build our vocabulary, and discussing cognates. Our class will continue working on our writing and AR quizzes. We will also be working on both informational and creative writing.

Students in FLL have been working on putting their kits together for next year's competition. Interested students have been interviewed and invited to participate in next year's challenge. We're looking forward to an exciting season!!



For information regarding Speech/Debate, please contact Ms. Buyo.



NJHS will be sponsoring a fundraiser to raise money for UNICEF! Students will be able to vote for which teacher they would like to see get either pie on the face or doused with ice water. Also, they will be sponsoring an Egg-Hunt for the 2nd grade class!

ORLANDO GIFTED ACADEMY ODYSSEY OF THE MIND NEEDS YOU!

We are in need of large boxes
and insulation foam board,
crafting supplies, spray paints,
fabrics, packing materials, and
all of your other odds and ends.
Please drop off at 1121 N Fern
Creek Ave in care of Mrs. O.

You may also donate
through
tinyurl.com/OOTM2122



5 Martial Arts World FITNESS

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THE ATHENIAN SOCIETY

An after-school mentoring club for middle school girls

Wednesdays from 1:00pm-3:00pm

WISDOM • COURAGE • STRENGTH

Want a weekly club to get together with trusted friends and
have fun discussing topics such as

- friendship
- peer pressure
- making the right decisions
- managing stress
- conflict resolution

Then this is the club for you!

Middle school can be a tough time socially. The Athenian Society gives you a fun, relaxing group where you can feel safe to laugh, share, create, and receive insights. Each week you will also learn a vital life skill that will help you move through middle school and beyond with more wisdom, courage, and strength. Please join us!



WHAT GIRLS AND PARENTS ARE SAYING:

Athenian Society with Ms. Tame has been a great experience this past year. I'm allowed the freedom to be me without judgement. I would recommend the program to anyone at OGA in need of a space to talk and enjoy yourself. —Natalie, age 12

The Athenian Society was a safe place to talk to Ms. Tame and other girls about how I felt and to have great conversations! It was very fun to meet up with everyone and share about how our week was! —Katherine, age 12

My daughter loved the club and connecting with her peers especially during the COVID months. Creating a safe place for young girls to share ideas and experiences is extremely important and Athenian Society was instrumental in my daughter's development this year. She is excited to be a part of it again. —Rose, parent

Hosted by

MS. KRISTEN TAME

Certified Life Coach

Florida Certified Educator

Former OGA Teacher



Would you like more information or are you ready to sign up? Contact me!



Kristen Tame
Educational Mentor & Consultant
Email: KristenTame@gmail.com
Web: www.KristenTame.com

Classes are for middle school girls and are only \$50 per week or \$35 per month!

Interested in joining? Please have your parents email me to reserve your spot!

KristenTame@gmail.com. Please sign up quickly as the class is limited to 12 girls.

SET UP YOUR
eWALLET
NOW!

#ScholasticBookFairs





DIT is reviewing for the CompTIA IT Fundamentals exam which they will have 3 chances to take by the end of the year. We are reviewing software, infrastructure, applications, databases and security practices.

ICT is continuing a multimedia unit and creating presentations for the school news to showcase their learned skills.

A/V class is creating various film festival projects, including parodies, a class spotlight, tech tips and a principal of the day feature story. The news crew on YouTube also continues the OCPS theme of each awareness month, with this month's awareness campaign focusing on autism.



save the date

8TH GRADE AWARDS

May 19, 2022
Doors open at 8:15pm

National Junior Honor Society Teacher Challenge



Wanna see your teacher get doused with ice water?

Wanna see your teacher get pied in the face?



\$1 per vote 4/4 - 4/8

Proceeds to benefit UNICEF

Participating teachers/staff:

Mrs. Despenza Mrs. Hale Ms. Scheid
Mrs. Diaz Ms. Cherolini Ms. Buyo Dr. Carr
Mrs. Dunn, Mr. Menna, Ms. Mullen, Ms. Santos
Ms. Panther, Ms. Gutierrez, Mr. Miller, Dr. Roz

Elementary Art -During the month of April students will continue refining the skills they have been learning throughout the year in Art class. Second graders will be creating their own scratch art with oil pastels and acrylic paint. They will be creating a seascape that incorporates line, shape, color, texture, and imagination. Third graders will be using a variety of media and artistic skills to create an imaginative cityscape. Fourth graders will continue working on their value study paintings. They will create shades of colors by adding black paint and tints of colors by adding white paint. When their value study paintings are complete they will add another element to their work with cut paper silhouettes. Fifth graders will be completing their Basquiat inspired masterpieces and begin learning about Feldman's Model of Art Criticism.

Art 2 students will continue to fine tune their artistic skills through creating a variety of realistic and imaginative artworks. They will be learning about careers in the Arts and reviewing for their end of course exam.

Earlier in the school year, Art 2 students learned about water conservation and participated in the OUC Water Color Project. Students worked collaboratively to paint a Florida themed rain barrel. Their rain barrel is currently on display at CityArts in downtown Orlando! All rain barrels painted by OCPS students will be auctioned off and the proceeds will directly benefit the Art program at the participating schools. More information about the auction will be shared on our school Facebook page mid-April.

Creative Photography students will be exploring manual camera settings, experimenting with light painting, and learning how to create ghostly images in their photographs.





ORLANDO GIFTED ACADEMY
Art Instructor: Jennine Faubel



Active April 2022

MONDAY



4 Eat healthy and natural food today and drink lots of water

TUESDAY



5 Turn a regular activity into a playful game today

WEDNESDAY



6 Do a body-scan meditation and really notice how your body feels

THURSDAY



7 Get natural light early in the day. Dim the lights in the evening

FRIDAY

1 Commit to being more active this month, starting today

SATURDAY

2 Spend as much time as possible outdoors today

SUNDAY

3 Listen to your body and be grateful for what it can do

11 Set yourself an exercise goal or sign up to an activity challenge

12 Move as much as possible, even if you're stuck inside

13 Make sleep a priority and go to bed in good time

14 Relax your body & mind with yoga, tai chi or meditation

15 Get active by singing today (even if you think you can't sing!)

16 Go exploring around your local area and notice new things

17 Be active outside. Dig up weeds or plant some seeds

18 Try a new online exercise, activity or dance class

19 Spend less time sitting today. Get up and move more often

20 Focus on 'eating a rainbow' of multi-coloured vegetables today

21 Regularly pause to stretch and breathe during the day

22 Enjoy moving to your favourite music. Really go for it

23 Go out and do an errand for a loved one or neighbour

24 Get active in nature. Feed the birds or go wildlife-spotting

25 Have a 'no screens' night and take time to recharge yourself

26 Take an extra break in your day and walk outside for 15 minutes

27 Find a fun exercise to do while waiting for the kettle to boil

28 Meet a friend outside for a walk and a chat

29 Become an activist for a cause you really believe in

30 Make time to run, swim, dance, cycle or stretch today

