



The Owletter

Orlando Gifted Academy
Monthly Newsletter
May 2022



Principal's Message :

As we come to the end of the school year, let me just say how proud I am of everyone at OGA for all of their hard work and efforts in making this school year a huge success! To our 8th grade students - we wish you all the best as you begin your high school careers and we look forward to all the great things you will accomplish. Owls forever!



Important May Dates:

OGA Spirit Days - 5/6, 5/13, 5/20

College Spirit Days - 5/4, 5/11, 5/18, 5/25

FSA Reading - 5/2 & 5/3

FSA Math - 5/5 & 5/6

Civics EOC - 5/12

NGSSS Science - 5/12 (5th & 8th grade), 5/13 (5th grade)

SAC Meeting - 5/12

8th Grade Awards - 5/19

8th Grade Gradeventure - 5/20

Common Final Exams - 5/16 through 5/25

Last Day of School - 5/25





SPECTACULAR SECOND GRADE



Mrs. Cybulski & Mrs. Newry

Second graders in English Language Arts will be working on reviewing multiple mixed standards by engaging in book club groups where they will be reading books of choice and completing standard-based activities to practice skills. Students will also create stories of their own and record podcasts for their peers to listen to and enjoy.

2nd graders in Ms. Cybulski's class has been building their habitats since April and can't wait to present them to the class. We will be finishing our interdependence unit in science and beginning our final big projects by researching, planning, and teaching a lesson to the rest of the class! This has been an unique and exciting year. Have a great summer, we can't wait to see you again real soon!

3rd GRADE

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

3rd grade students did an excellent job on their famous American biography projects! In Reading, students will be researching endangered animals and creating a narrative essay using the information that they learned. Students will also be creating a diorama of their animal's habitat. Students will be continuing to read *Pet War*.

In Math, 3rd-grade students will be reviewing the concepts they have learned this year and preparing to take FSA. The math FSA will take place on May 5th and 6th. In Science, students will begin working on a Star Research Project. They will conduct research using a variety of sources and create a presentation to communicate their findings.

4th GRADE

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

To end the year, 4th graders will be participating in literature circles, in which they will meet in small student led groups to read and discuss a novel. Students will be choosing from a small collection of novels chosen based on student interest and reading levels. In writing, we will be creating a creative narrative about a world-changing scientific invention.

In social studies, we are going to be diving into financial literacy with a project that explores career options and monthly budgets.

Ms. Hurley's Scientists are excited to begin their in depth unit on interdependence focusing on the Everglades. Ms. Hurley's class will also be learning about water conservation and painting a rain barrel that will be kept in the 4th grade courtyard.

In Math, Ms. Bell's students are completing their various end of the year projects to finish off the year strong! If you have any additional questions please reach out to her. Ms. Hurley's class will be completing their bridge to 5th grade unit to end the school year.





5th Grade

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

During the month of May, 5th grade will continue their 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. They will finish with a creative project to wrap up this amazing book. FSA Reading will take place May 2nd and 3rd of this month. It's more important than ever to remind your readers to practice daily.

In History, students 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. They will take a trip back in time to the "Oldest City" in Florida--Saint Augustine. Our scholars will make connections to their 4th grade lessons as they compare how the Spanish, French, and British Empires tried to dominate trade and resources by controlling our state.

In Mathematics, students will be testing May 5th and May 6th. Using a spiral review, the fifth graders will further their understanding of decimal operations, problem solving, and a little pre-algebra to prepare them for middle school.

In Science, students will review and test all the big ideas they have been exposed to on May 12th and 13th. To bring to life the concepts of Big Idea 17 and the interdependence of living organisms, students will take a trip to the Central Florida Zoo and Botanical Gardens in Sanford on May 10th. Our fifth graders will enjoy an exciting and engaging lesson with "Paws on the Planet".

Character Education and Caring Community Lessons will wrap up perseverance, entrepreneurship, self-management, and decision-making skills. While we will be a little sad to see our kids go, we feel confident that our classes will have a solid social-emotional foundation and growth mindset to succeed.

Finally, the 5th grade Award Ceremony & Party will take place on May 17th. Please look out for your invitation, which was sent home at the same time as Progress Report 4 in April. Thank you for a wonderful year!



6th Grade

May 1st & 2nd is the FSA ELA diagnostic. Please be sure to be to school on time this week. After FSA testing, students will finish out the year running their own Book Clubs. Students will choose a book due to the genre they are interested in and will complete a project based on the book they chose with their groups.

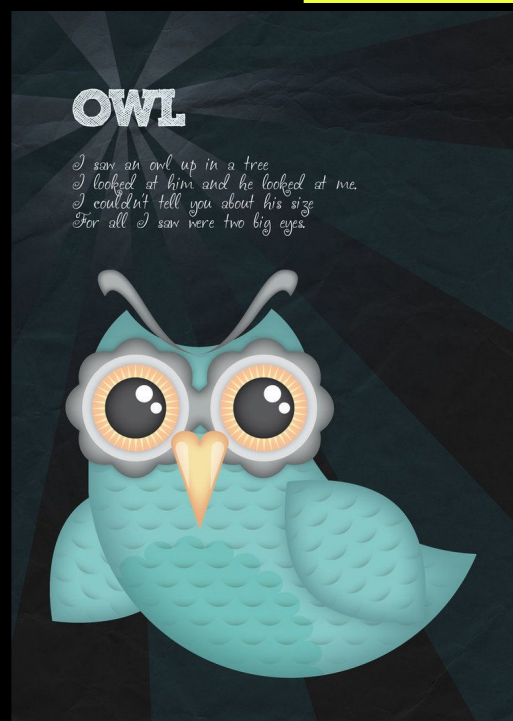
To end the school year, the students are completing creative writing projects based on our novel study of *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief*.

7th Grade

The 7th graders are creating their own poetry anthologies using Google Sites.

8th Grade

So much has happened this year that we just couldn't get to everything. In May, we will get to all of those great stories that just didn't fit our other units. 8th graders should be ready to explore some great short stories!





6th Grade

Having explored the obelisks of Africa's oldest Christian civilization, Axum, we land closer to home exploring the ancestor civilizations of Mesoamerica, the Olmecs and Zapotecs, before heading high, high up into to the Andes of South America to meet the Chavin culture.

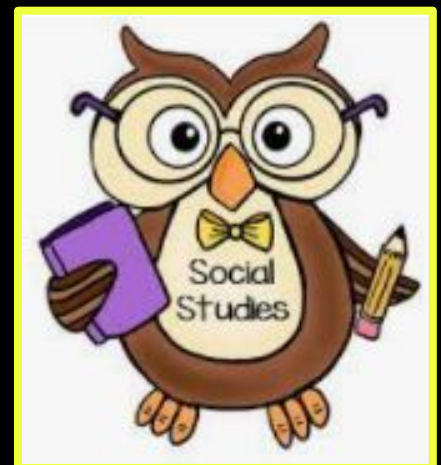


7th Grade

From the halls of global diplomacy of the United Nations, to the treaties and mandates implemented by the State Department and the major conflicts of the 21st century, we turn to all our attention to review for the End of Course exam in Civics coming up on May 12th.

8th Grade

Ms. Buyo can provide more information about what's happening in this course in May. Please contact Louise.Buyo@ocps.net for details.





6th Grade

In life science, we'll be preparing for the CFE and completing our unit on the reproductive system.

In PLTW, we'll wrap up the semester with our final automation projects.



7th Grade

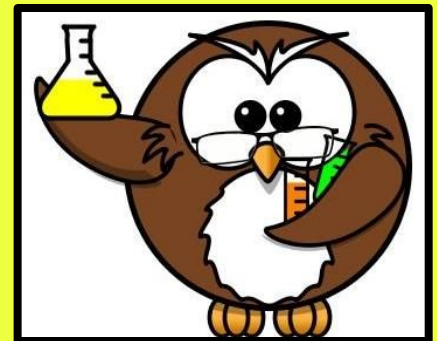
Dr. Roz can provide more information about what's happening in this course in May.

Please contact Mark.Rozmarynowycz@ocps.net for details.

8th Grade

Dr. Roz can provide more information about what's happening in this course in May. Please contact

Mark.Rozmarynowycz@ocps.net for details.



MATHEMATICS

6th Grade

This month in math, we will be reviewing any 6th grade content as needed. We will also begin preparing for 7th grade by focusing on the following:

- Applying properties of operations to add and subtract linear expressions
- Determining whether two linear expressions are equivalent
- Writing and solving one-step inequalities in one variable within a mathematical context and represent solutions

7th Grade

Greetings! Can you believe that we have less than 3 weeks of school left? We have been reviewing for the Math FSA for the past two weeks. We also spent a week doing EOY i-Ready Diagnostic. Overall, I was pleased with their results! 96% landed in green! This is awesome! Up next: Algebra Preview!



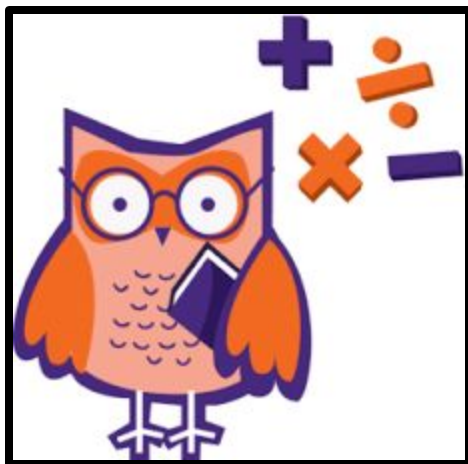
Pre-Algebra

Pre-Algebra students have worked extremely hard this year and showed amazing growth during the last i-Ready diagnostic. After the FSA, we will be looking at previewing skills for success in Honors Algebra I. On a personal note, I'd like to thank all of the students for an amazing year! Good luck in High School.



Algebra I

You should be extremely proud of your Algebra Scholar; they come to class daily and work hard! We have been reviewing for two weeks and we have covered a lot of standards. We are now ready to knock out this Algebra EOC! Up next: Geometry Preview!



Geometry

Geometry students have worked extremely hard this year and are ready to excel on this month's EOC exam!! After the EOC, we will be looking at previewing skills for success in Honors Algebra 2. It's been an honor to work with these students and I wish them all great success next year in high school.



Family Art Night!

We hope you can join us for Family Art Night on May 12th from 4:30-5:30 in the cafeteria. Art work from Creative Photography and Middle School Art students will be on display. In addition, students and families will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of hands on art stations.

A HUGE Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the Book Fair and Book Drive a success! Thank you all for participating and supporting our Media Center.

Books are not checked out for the summer. Please ensure all books get back before we go on break.



Don't forget to return your library books!



NJHS

BOMB POP SALE

\$1.00

Wednesdays - Car Loop

Fridays - Car Line

CHARACTER TRAIT FOR MAY IS BEING TRUSTWORTHY

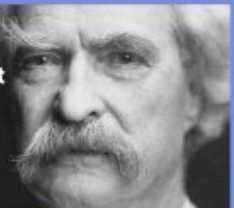
Learning to be trustworthy is essential for gifted students to achieve success. Students must learn and understand that trust is an essential ingredient in meaningful and lasting relationships. A trustworthy person is honest, reliable, loyal and has integrity.

How can parents model trustworthiness at home?

- Keep your promises and explain how it feels when someone doesn't keep theirs.
- Show loyalty by keeping in contact with your friends and relatives, both near and far
- Talk about times in your life when it is/was hard to be honest, keep promises, and do the right thing.
- Admit your own mistakes and shortcomings.

If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.

MARK TWAIN





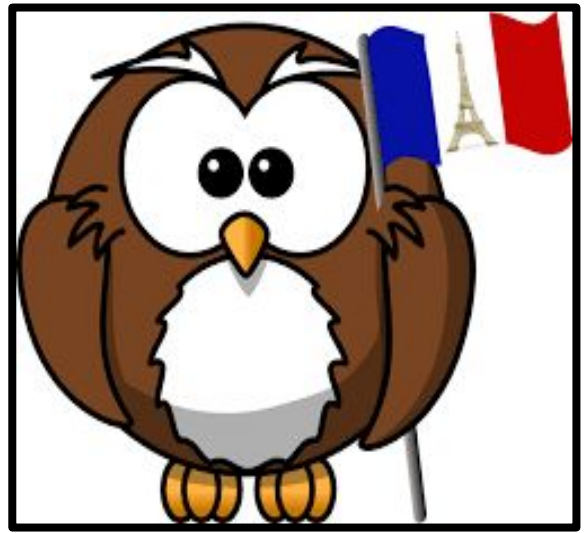
Our writers will end the school year by writing a short story in a genre of their choosing and by creating a portfolio of their writing throughout this school year.

We are done with the yearbook and are working on our final newspaper of the year!



Advanced Academics

As we are coming to the end of the school year, students are completing their final Advanced Academic's project for the year. Some students are working in small groups on projects designed by Defined Learning and some students are working on individual projects. These projects are based on their likes and interests. Students are asking and answering research thought-provoking questions, analyzing, and synthesizing the information to make a conclusion to help solve real-world problems. Students will be presenting these final projects in the last weeks of school. It is so exciting to see what the students create!



In French class, 2nd and 3rd graders will be learning body and health vocabulary through interactive stories.

Our 4th and 5th graders will be continuing a unit on the environment, as well as engaging in an end-of-year review.

Beginning French students will be reviewing major topics of the year including adjectives, preferences, and food.

French I students will be reviewing present and past tense verb conjugations, as well as leaving a lasting legacy in their French classroom by creating a book for others to read.





Odyssey of the Mind

MAKERSPACE MATERIALS NEEDED

Please donate the following items:

Double A batteries

Triple A batteries

9v batteries

Lego

Printer paper

Black/Blue/Gree/Red Markers

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

We have smashed out sets and cleaned our space. Now, we are using the extra time to get ready for next year's new team members and keeping up with our grades in other classes. Don't forget to bring in unwanted art supplies and recyclable materials.



ODYSSEY OF THE MIND



Meaningful May 2022

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

1 Make a list of what matters most to you and why

2 Do something kind for someone you really care about

3 Focus on what you can do rather than what you can't do

4 Take a step towards an important goal, however small

5 Send your friend a photo from a time you enjoyed together

6 Look for people doing good and reasons to be cheerful

7 Let someone know how much they mean to you and why

8 Set yourself a kindness mission to help others today

9 Notice the beauty in nature, even if you're stuck indoors

10 What values are important to you? Find ways to use them today

11 Be grateful for the little things, even in difficult times

12 Listen to a favourite piece of music and remember what it means to you

13 Look around for things that bring you a sense of awe and wonder

14 Find out about the values or traditions of another culture

15 Do something to contribute to your local community

16 Look up at the sky. Remember we are all part of something bigger

17 Show your gratitude to people who are helping to make things better

18 Find a way to make what you do today meaningful

19 Send a hand-written note to someone you care about

20 Reflect on what makes you feel valued and purposeful

21 Share photos of 3 things you find meaningful or memorable

22 Find a way to help a project or charity you care about

23 Share a quote you find inspiring to give others a boost

24 Recall three things you've done that you are proud of

25 Make choices that have a positive impact for others today

26 Ask someone else what matters most to them and why

27 Remember an event in your life that was really meaningful

28 Focus on how your actions make a difference for others

29 Do something special and revisit it in your memory tonight

30 Today do something to care for the natural world

31 Find three reasons to be hopeful about the future



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together



This month in Spanish we will be completing our Ink Monster project. Students are creating their monster along with a character description and story to go with it. We are also going to be reviewing and taking our CFE test. To conclude our year, we will focus on comparing specific cultural traits of Spanish-speaking countries and compare to own culture. In addition, we will learn about some of the products (e.g, food, shelter, clothing, transportation, toys) and typical celebrations of these countries.

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.



Our NJHS members will be assisting during several events this coming month. They will be helping as greeters and ushers during award ceremonies as well as with laptop collection. 7th grade members - please pay attention to Canvas as we will be needing your help in August!!



Orlando Gifted Academy

8TH GRADE AWARDS

THURSDAY, MAY 19TH @ 9AM



DOORS OPEN AT 8:30
AUDITORIUM



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.

JOIN US FOR OUR END OF THE YEAR

MegaBlast Event

May 13, 2022 | Ms. Sharpe's PE Pavillion
Elementary Students will come during their
SPECIALS BLOCK (Morning)


Middle School students will come during their
PE PERIOD or 7TH PERIOD if they do not have
PE as an elective. (Afternoon)

THERE ARE SOME STUDENTS WHO HAVE EARNED VIP STATUS AND ARE INVITED TO COME OUT DURING 7TH PERIOD FOR EXTRA TIME. STUDENTS MUST BE WEARING A VIP WRISTBAND TO BE RELEASED.

ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT MULLEN OR SHARPE.

Orlando Gifted Academy
CLASS OF
2026
 Thursday, May 19th

8TH GRADE DAY EVENTS
9:00 Awards & Reception (Dress Nice!)
10:30 Classroom Events
12:56 Lunch (Media Center)
1:30 - Kickball Game (PE Clothes)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR
BOOK FAIR
SUPPORT!



SCHOLASTIC



For more information about our DIT/Tech Courses, please contact Mrs. Klear at Andrea.Klear@ocps.net

The OGA MEGABLAST event will be held on Friday, May 13th for all students. Thank you to those who participated! Please be sure to wear cool, comfortable clothing, since we will be playing outside in the heat. Please also be sure to bring a water bottle and wear sunscreen. We cannot wait to finish off the year with a "blast"!



Elementary Art-

May will be a very busy month in the Art room! Elementary students will be adding final touches to their masterpieces they started in April. If time permits, students will create mixed-media owls with a variety of colorful supplies. Fifth grade students will be reviewing for their Art Course Final Exam scheduled for Tuesday, May 24th.

Art 2-

Art 2 students will be learning about a variety of famous artworks, fine tuning their skills, and reviewing for their Art 2 Course Final Exam scheduled for Monday, May 23rd.

Creative Photography-

Creative Photography students will continue to experiment with manual settings, learn about Feldman's Model of Art Criticism, and review for the Creative Photography Course Final Exam. Seventh period students will take their final exam on Monday, May 16th. Sixth period students will take their final exam on Tuesday, May 24th.

A very special congratulations to Micah T. He has a photograph on display in the Student Exhibition at the Orlando Museum of Art!



Important Art Dates

May 12th Family Art Night (4:30-5:30)

May 16th Creative Photography (7th period) Course Final Exam

May 23rd Art 2 (5th period) Course Final Exam

May 24th Creative Photography (6th period) Course Final Exam

May 24th Art Course Final Exam for Fifth Graders

It's Not Too Late to Purchase the Orlando Gifted Academy Yearbook



Customize Your 2 Free Pages

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- Answer fun Memory Questions to help remember the year.
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