



The Owletter

Orlando Gifted Academy Monthly Newsletter October 2022



Principal's Message :

Fall has arrived and the 2nd grading quarter will begin on Monday, October 10th. I encourage you to check our website for school updates as well as Skyward for up-to-date grade information. Have a wonderful month!



Important October Dates:

OGA Spirit Days - 10/01, 10/08, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29
College Spirit Days - 10/14, 10/21
Hispanic Heritage Celebration Week - 10/03 - 10/05
Picture Day - 10/06
End of 1st Marking Period - 10/06
Parent Academy: Virtual Financial Aid - 10/06
Student Holiday - 10/07
Unity Day/Stop Bullying (Wear Orange) - 10/10
National Walk to School Day - 10/12
No-Early Release Wednesday - 10/12
Young People's Concert (3rd - 5th) - 10/11
Family Math Night - 10/13
Book Fair - 10/17 - 10/21
Book Fair Family Night - 10/17 @ 4:30
NJHS Boo Grams Sale - 10/17 - 10/21
Wear It Pink Day - 10/21
Red Ribbon Week - 10/24 - 10/28





SPECTACULAR SECOND GRADE



Mrs. Cortez & Ms. Gutierrez

During the month of October, our second graders will be interviewing Bats Langley, a New York based children's book illustrator, and continue expanding their knowledge on text features. They will be working on addition by solving real-world problems, finding the unknown, determining if equations are true or false, and finding the sum of two numbers. They will also be investigating the effect of applying various pushes and pulls on different objects and how magnets work.

3rd GRADE

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

This month in reading, 3rd grade students will be analyzing informational texts to find the text's central idea and the author's purpose for writing the text. Students will also practice summarizing informational texts. Students will also begin reading *The Terrible Two* during our classroom book club on Wednesdays. With the beginning of the new quarter, students will be setting their new AR goal. Please speak with your student to discuss their AR goals! As a reminder, students should be reading at home each night.

In Math, 3rd-grade students will be exploring the concept of multiplication. They will explore different strategies for multiplication of two whole numbers with products from 0 to 144 (ex. equal groups, number lines, arrays, etc.), apply the properties of multiplication (commutative, associative, and distributive) to find the product of two whole numbers, and multiply two whole numbers from 0 to 12 fluently.

In Science, students will investigate solutions to real world problems.

4th GRADE

Ms. Hurley, Mr. Osman, Mrs. Danese, & Ms. Breutsch

In Ms. Danese and Mr. Osman's math classes we are working on our new multiplication and division unit. We are reviewing different strategies to perform these operations reliably and interpreting the information in real world contexts. In Science, we are finishing up Big Idea 8 (properties of matter) and diving into Big idea 9 (Changes in matter). We'll go over the differences between chemical and physical changes. Also, we'll look at how the removal or application of heat can cause matter to change states.

Ms. Hurley's classes will be working on nonfiction standards in reading. Those standards cover how text features contribute to meaning, identifying different text structures, summarizing texts, and primary vs. secondary sources. Ms. Breutsch's classes will be working explaining a stated or implied theme and how it develops as well as reviewing summarizing and how story elements contribute to plot. We are all continuing with our paragraph and essay writing with a focus on expository writing. Miss Breutsch's class will continue their study of the history of Florida by learning about Florida symbols and map reading. Ms. Hurley's class will finish with Florida Natives and move on to Florida Explorers.

Please be sure to check with your child weekly to see how many AR points they have toward their quarterly 25 point goal.

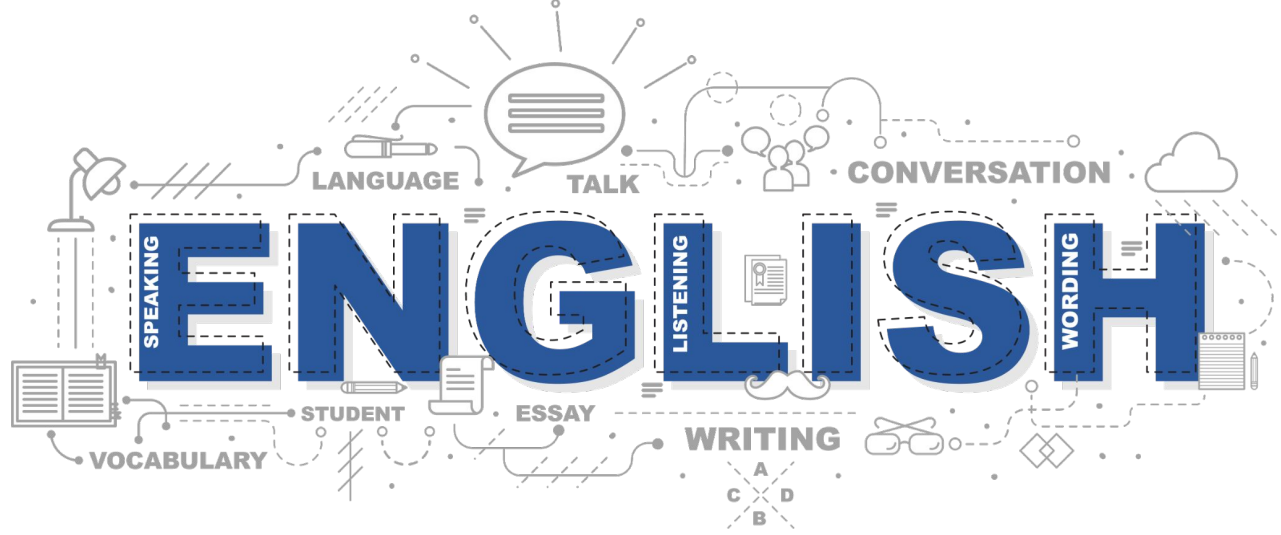
5th Grade

Mrs. Kuerzi, Mrs. Valentin, Ms. Hanson, & Mrs. Stoute

This month, 5th grade ELA will be working on diving deep into informational and argumentative texts as well as argumentative writing. Some of the activities we will be working on this month are: non-fiction text features scavenger hunts, in class debates, literature circles to pair with our novel studies, and technology based enrichment projects and presentations. This month will be a HOOT in 5th grade ELA!

In math and science, our 5th grade scholars will be working on many exciting projects to prepare for our Math Night on Thursday, October 13th. They will be in charge of the decorations and running stations for all elementary students. Math this month will focus on fluency, problem solving strategies, place value, and decimal operations. In science, our fifth graders will be investigating Matter and Its Properties as well as Changes in Matter; studying Earth in Space and Time, and receiving an introduction to Force and Motion.





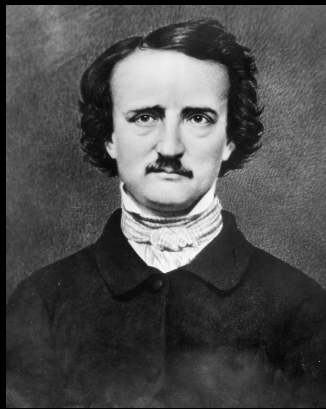
6th Grade

In ELA, students in 6th grade will be working on a Poetry in America unit as well as completing a poetry research project. We will be celebrating Halloween by doing a Haunted Forest Escape Room.



7th Grade

In 7th grade ELA we will be practicing our argumentation skills through a mock trial based on the works of Edgar Allan Poe.



8th Grade

We will begin the 2nd quarter with our informative readings and writing standards as we explore the implications of food waste. I can't wait until the start making their own PSAs!





6th Grade

We have jumped into the Fertile Crescent, wrapping up the first quarter amongst the first forms of written language, the development of irrigation, agricultural surpluses, labor specialization, a polytheistic pantheon and the shift from village to city-state to empire.



7th Grade

As the quarter comes to a close, we've wrapped up the Declaration of Independence and the build up tensions that led to the Revolutionary War. Now we see the early drafts of a Constitution and the Federalist vs Anti-Federalist debate.



8th Grade

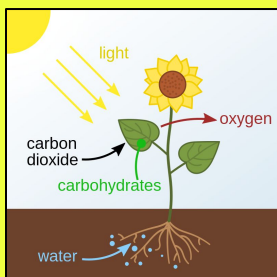
We will be finishing our journey to 13 Colonies by examining the causes and consequence of the American Revolution.





6th Grade

In October, we'll take our assessment on cells. Then move into cell processes. The goal is to explore how cells of all organisms undergo similar processes to maintain homeostasis, including extracting energy from food, getting rid of waste, and reproducing. We will conclude these lessons with a project where students will create a 3D model of photosynthesis.



7th Grade

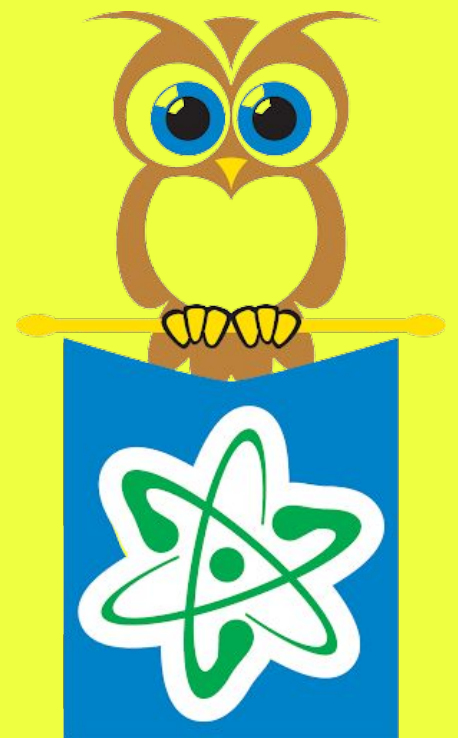
Dr. Roz can provide more information about what's happening in this course in October.

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

8th Grade

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

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





MATHEMATICS

6th Grade

7th Grade

For the month of October, we will be spending the first couple of weeks going over operations with integers (introducing adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing negative numbers). After we finish that up, we will move on to graphing on the coordinate plane (plotting on all four quadrants). Then it's on to ratios and rates (this will spill into November).



We have had an amazing 9 weeks in class! Most of your scholars have been working extremely hard! As we approach the second marking period, we are hoping to bring in more energy and effort as I am trying to get them prepared for Algebra next year! The first nine weeks has been a wake-up call for them and now they realize that my expectations are extremely high for them. We have just started a unit on Laws of Exponents. We will then go to a unit on Scientific Notation & Equivalent Expressions. Please have your scholars work in Khan Academy or practice problems from in class at least 10-15 minutes per day. Also, I will be tutoring on Mondays and Thursdays every week after school. All lessons and Google Slides are located in Launchpad in Math Nation.

Next up: Ratios and Proportional Relationships!

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I

We have put in some major work during the first nine weeks of class!

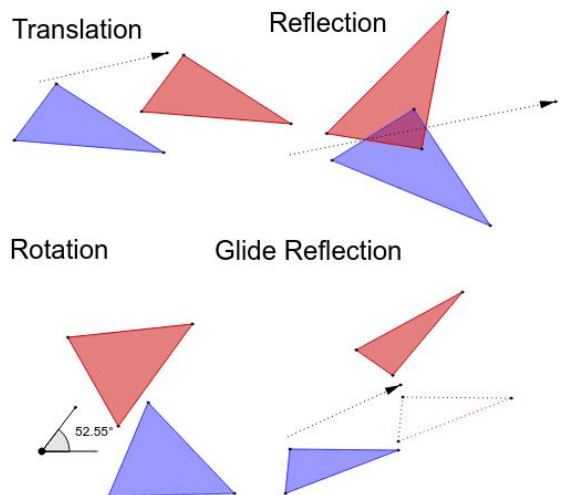
We have just started the Linear Equations Unit. Our pace has slowed down a bit; but don't worry, we will eventually pick it up. We have been doing problems daily and working in IXL to get more practice. Please have your scholars do practice problems in IXL about 10-15 minutes daily. This will help them perform better on test. The students that put forth the effort to do practice math at home usually grasp the concept much quicker. Also, Mrs. Cross will be tutoring on Tuesday's and Friday's every week after school. Dr. Carr will be tutoring on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:00am. All lessons and Google Slides are located in Launchpad in Math Nation. Next up: Solving Equations and Linear Inequalities in One Variable!!

Geometry

Students in Geometry are finishing up their 3rd unit: Lines and Angles. Our next unit will be Rigid Motions and Congruence. We will be going deeper with topics such as translations, reflections, rotations, and dilations.

Dr. Carr offers tutoring on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:00am.

Rigid Motions



WE WEAR PINK! DAY



BREAST CANCER AWARENESS
WEAR PINK ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21ST



Middle School Dance
CAFETERIA

Costume Contest

Photo Booth

Line Dancing

Candy & Drinks for Sale



NJHS & Robotics

BOO GRAMS

SEND YOUR FRIENDS A BOO GRAM THIS
HALLOWEEN!

BOO GRAMS INCLUDE CARD AND LOLLIPOP

Sold at Lunch

October 17- October 21

COST IS \$1.00!



NJHS

BOMB POP SALE

\$1.00

Wednesdays - Car Loop

Fridays - Car Line



Our authors will continue working on short stories. This month the students will write their first mystery stories.

Hopefully you are enjoying the student-led newspaper. You can find The Owl Messenger at <https://orlandogiftedacademy.ocps.net/> under the School Information tab. Also, you may connect to your student and pre-order the yearbook at treering.com. The school code is 1015471484454363. 8th grade parents may also purchase ads for their students.



Advanced Academics

Mrs. Bell's PBL: Teams are working on the leadership and participatory roles in the 7 goals of the gifted frameworks. They will wrap up their research on structural integrity failures. They will collaboratively create a video, sharing in detail, the purpose of the structure, why it failed, consequences of the failure and how it was rebuilt. By the end of the month, they will also research more advanced, modern (to-date), materials and thinking processes, to conclude a different way the structure can be rebuilt today. Then they will create a 3-D of the new structure to present along with their video at the beginning of November.



In French, Period 6 students are completing a unit on Housing Around the World. Period 7 students are working on a Schooling in the Francophone World unit and writing to pen-pals in France!

Advanced Academics

Advanced Academics with Mrs. Dunn -

The students are continuing to work on their first team PBL project of the year. They have created an Inquiry Question (this is the driving question that guides them through the research process), SMART Goal, and an Action Plan based on their team's topic from Defined Learning. The students are now in the research stage of their project. Next up, they will be creating an end product. These projects are now due on Friday, October 21st. After all of the presentations, the students will begin creating their own individual projects based on their interests and passions.

Engaged Citizenship through Service Learning with Mrs. Dunn -

We just concluded our unit on what Service Learning is all about and what it means to be an engaged citizen. For the upcoming months, the students in all three classes unanimously agreed that our biggest societal issue at OGA is a lack of compassion. We will begin the Service Learning process of investigation, preparation/planning, action, reflection and then demonstration. This will be our first Service Learning project of the year and I look forward to where our research and the end demonstration leads us!



māo tóu yīng 猫头鹰

Owl

In Mandarin, grades 2-5 are continuing their first cycle of Mandarin. Students have already learned the basics of introduction in Mandarin. In their second cycle, students will begin working with Chinese calligraphy brushes as well continuing building their Mandarin vocabulary through practicing contextualized language through everyday scenarios.



Our preliminary scripts are written and we will begin set and costume designs. We are now on Top Secret mode and cannot divulge any more details. We can, however, still accept donations of recyclable materials, tools, and art supplies. Look out soon for our 1st annual garage sale!



**DISABILITY
HISTORY and
AWARENESS**

Weeks: October 1 - 15



Students will learn about Día de Muertos for this month's cultural focus and will continue to practice their listening comprehension.

All 3 robotics teams are hard at work completing game missions, learning and researching problems related to energy, and working with other teams as they prepare for the pre-qualifying competition happening on October 29th.



We will continue to refine our public speaking skills by working on organization and presentation in speeches.



NJHS students will be participating and sponsoring many activities in the month of October. Students will be selling pink bracelets in support of the Breast Cancer Foundation of Central Florida. They will also be co-sponsors of the Back to the 80's Dance.

Media Center



Our Fall Book Fair is October 17th - 21st with a Family Night October 17th from 4:30pm - 6:00pm. All proceeds go directly to our Media Center to purchase new books! It is once again cashless, and students will need to set up an eWallet or use a credit card to shop.

Scholastic Book Fair





5 Martial Arts World FITNESS
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM
FOR AUDUBON PARK SCHOOL

- Build Confidence
- Improve Grades
- Learn Self-Defense
- Increase Self-Discipline
- Develop the "Yes I Can!" Winning Attitude!



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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.

October COOPERATION



Social Awareness

Teach your child social awareness by:

- Having empathy conversations
- Name & talk about feelings
- Modeling empathy, kindness, and respect

Relationship Skills

Teach your child how to:

- Focus on friendships
- Build conflict resolution skills
- Identify unhealthy relationships

Self-Awareness

Teach your child to:

- Identify emotions
- See themselves honestly
- Recognize strengths & weaknesses
- Work toward growth



ART

Art 1 -

Mrs. Faubel's Art 1 students will be learning about abstract art during our upcoming unit. They will be analyzing the use of lines, shapes, color, texture, and space in an assortment of abstract art examples. Students will experiment with a variety of media and techniques to create several original abstract pieces of art.

2-D - We will be working on portraiture, including self-portraiture and using mannequins as models for posing and movement.



Elementary Art -

Students have been busy learning and creating in the Art room! Second graders will continue learning about amate paper and the types of paintings created on this special paper. They will be mixing primary colors to create secondary colors on their nature inspired paintings. Third graders will continue their study of artist Joan Miro. After analyzing his use of shapes, lines, and colors they will be creating their own masterpieces inspired by Miro's artwork. Fourth and fifth grade students will continue to explore ways to communicate the importance of water conservation through art. Students will develop an original water conservation message and artistic design to communicate the importance of saving water.



Creative Photography students will be continuing their study of the Elements of Art and how they relate to composition. Students will be sharing their favorite picture weekly during our Photo of the Week session each Friday.



Exploring the World of Science

As we move into October, it is time to get serious! We have our official competition rules and guidelines. Supplies will be coming in to get started with our engineering component, the build events, and there will be an increase in focus on the study events. We are also going to start moving our gardening efforts into high gear and getting the winter corn maze planted as well as getting the vegetable garden started.



Optimistic October 2022

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

1 Write down three things you can look forward to this month

2 Find something to be optimistic about (even if it's a difficult time)

3 Take a small step towards a goal that really matters to you

4 Start your day with the most important thing on your to-do list

5 Be a realistic optimist. See life as it is, but focus on what's good

6 Remind yourself that things can change for the better

7 Look for the good in people around you today

8 Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding

9 Share an important goal with someone you trust

10 Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently

11 Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward

12 Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today

13 Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing

14 Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation

15 Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted

16 Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting

17 Take a small step towards a positive change you want to see in society

18 Set hopeful but realistic goals for the days ahead

19 Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future

20 Find joy in tackling a task you've put off for some time

21 Let go of the expectations of others and focus on what matters to you

22 Share a hopeful quote, picture or video with a friend or colleague

23 Recognise that you have a choice about what to prioritise

24 Write down three specific things that have gone well recently

25 You can't do everything! What are your three priorities right now?

26 Find a new perspective on a problem you face

27 Be kind to yourself today. Remember, progress takes time

28 Ask yourself, will this still matter a year from now?

29 Plan a fun or exciting activity to look forward to

30 Identify three things that give you hope for the future

31 Set a goal that brings a sense of purpose for the coming month



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

Come to Our

SCHOLASTIC

BOOK FAIR

©2022 Scholastic Inc. All rights reserved. DOG MAN art © Dav Pilkey. CAT KID COMIC CLUB art © Dav Pilkey.

OCTOBER is BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



Congratulations to our students who have artwork on display at the RBELC Hispanic Heritage Month Exhibit!

