

# The Owletter

Orlando Gifted Academy Monthly Newsletter November 2022



Principal's Message:

I sincerely hope you each have the opportunity to spend valuable time with your family and loved ones during this Holiday Season. I am grateful for our OGA family as we strive to make our school the best it can be. Happy Thanksgiving!



# <u>Important November Dates:</u>

OGA Spirit Days - 11/4, 11/11, 11/18

College Spirit Days - 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/30

Kindness Spirit Week - 11/7 - 11/11

Middle School Writing Assessment - 11/7

Solar Bears STEM Annual School Day Game - 5th Grade - 11/8

No Early Dismissal - 11/9

Multicultural Night - 11/10

SAC Meeting - 11/10

NJHS Cards for Veterans - 11/11

NJHS Can Food Drive - 11/14 - 11/18

Mission FIT - 2nd Grade - 11/15

Progress Reports - 11/17

Teach-In - 11/18

Thanksgiving Break - 11/21 - 11/25

School-Wide Spelling Bee - 12/2





## Ms. Cortes and Ms. Gutierrez

During the month of November in Math/Science, 2nd grade will be working on solving one and two-step word problems. We will also be rounding numbers to the nearest 10 up to 100. In Science, we will be learning about different types of energy such as: electricity, heat, light, sound, and the energy of motion. We will also be learning about how the energy in moving air and water, along with light energy from the Sun, can be changed into electricity to use to power things. For Language Arts, our 2nd graders will be working on identifying the central idea and supporting details. They will also be working on re-telling various texts. They will be introduced to expository writing and working on creating their own pieces.



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

3rd grade ELA students are busy learning about different types of poems while also creating their own. Figurative language has been an engaging skill that will continue to explore during November. Book clubs are going well and the students are thinking "The Terrible Two" is pretty hilarious! Next up is "Tuesdays at the Castle."

Students are looking forward to our 4th annual Friendsgiving celebration. Please be on the lookout for a signup genius to help out!

In Math, 3rd-grade students will be exploring the concepts of area and perimeter. They will use formulas and strategies to determine the area and perimeter of shapes, as well as solve real world problems involving these measurements. While learning about these attributes, the students will participate in a PBL where they will use their understanding of area and perimeter to create their own theme park blueprints.

In Science, students will investigate animals and classify them into major groups (vertebrates, invertebrates, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, arthropods, etc.) according to their characteristics.



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

In Language Arts, 4th graders will be learning how to explain a stated or implied theme, review plot and summarizing a text to enhance comprehension, then will end the month with our unit on author's perspective, author's claim, and reviewing text structures in an informational text. In Social Studies, students will continue learning about the exploration and settlement of Florida, using DBQ's (Document Based Questions) and PBL's (Project Based Learning) to enhance learning.

Please be sure to check with your child weekly to see how many AR points they have earned toward their quarterly 25 point goal. The deadline to meet the goal is December 16.

In Mathematics, we are concluding our multiplication and division unit, where they can multiply a 2 digit by 3 digit number, and also divide a 4 digit number by one digit using a strategy they feel comfortable in. Then we will move onto place value up to 1,000,000. In science, we are going to work on Big Idea 12: Motion of Objects. We will use marble coasters (probably a time or two) as a fun science activity to explore the different concepts. Then, we will move onto Forms of Energy.





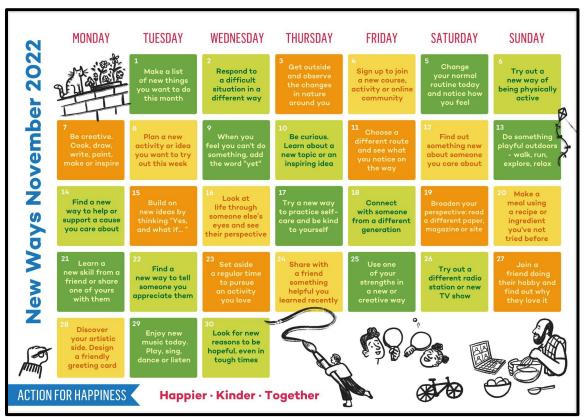






Ms. Hanson, Mrs. Kuerzi, Mrs. Stoute, Mrs. Valentin

This month, 5th Grade ELA will be working on improving and strengthening our writing skills with our argumentative writing essay topic-Would you implant your phone in your brain? Scholars will choose a side to debate and complete their essay on given the source evidence to back up their argument. In reading, we will be working on expressing our thankfulness by creating poems that are written with different types of figurative language. Fifth grade students will be diving deeper into operations with decimals division and multiplication. They will also be practicing adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators. In science, our scholars will begin studying Force, Motion, and Energy with interesting projects and hands-on inquiry. On November 8th our kids will attend a Solar Bears Field Trip. Exciting November!









In 6th grade ELA, students will work on a Mysteries and Investigations unit.
They will also be taking their first Write Score writing assessment.



# 7th Grade

Students in 7th grade will will read Lorraine Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun.



# 8th Grade

We are continuing
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!





We have been up and down the Nile in our exploration of the thirty-one dynasties of ancient Egypt.
Students are creating character maps on these rulers, before we drop into Nubia and the under-studied Kingdom of Kush.



# 7th Grade

Having separated the powers out into the three branches of government and their respective checks and balances, we shift into a unit on Elections and Campaigns, just in time for the midterm elections.



# 8th Grade

For more information about 8th Grade US History, please contact Ms. Buyo at Louise.Buyo@ocps.net



Students will compare and contrast the general processes of sexual reproduction requiring meiosis and asexual reproduction requiring mitosis. Including compare and/or contrast processes of sexual and asexual reproduction that result in the passage of hereditary information from one generation to another. Our project will include the use of gummi bears (in which I will need 8 packages, please!)

# 7th Grade

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

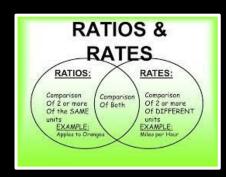
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## 6th grade math students are finishing up graphing on the coordinate plane as well as finding distances between plotted points. They are now able to find the area of a shape based on coordinate geometry. Next up will be rates and ratios. Students will apply these concepts in real-life situations.



# 7th Grade

We have had an amazing start to the second 9 weeks in class! Most of your scholars have been working extremely hard! During this marking period; we are hoping to bring in more energy and effort as I am trying to get them prepared for Algebra next year! We are testing on Scientific Notation & Equivalent Expressions this week.

Please have your scholars work in Khan Academy and practice problems from in class at least 10-15 minutes per day. All lessons and

Google Slides are located in Launchpad in Math Nation. Next up: Ratios and Proportional Relationships!

# Pre-Algebra

Hello! I'm excited about the effort that most of the Pre-Algebra students are giving! We will be testing on Scientific Notation this week and starting on a new unit. We have been busy pulling small groups and giving some one on one to the students. This is done at least twice a week to make sure that they are grasping all concepts. Next up: Solving Linear Equations.

# Solving Linear Equations -8 = 5 - 7 -8n = 48 5 - x = 12 6.3 = -2+7 6 + x = 13



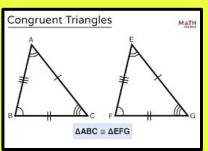
# Algebra I

Greetings! We have just started the Key Features of Linear Equations Unit. We have picked up the pace and our flow is steady. 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 concepts much quicker. 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 have been doing an amazing job at learning this year's standards! I'm proud of their growth mindsets and how willing they are to take risks with their learning. This month, we'll continue learning about Triangles and Congruency. Students will learn how to use postulates and theorems, such as SSS, SAS, ASA. AAS, and HL to complete proofs showing two triangles are congruent. Furthermore, they will use CPCTC (Congruent Parts of Congruent Triangles are Congruent) to proof how pieces of triangles are congruent to each other.



Thank you all for your support of our Fall Book Fair. It was a huge success and not only did students purchase a lot of books we were able to get many for our library!! A huge thank you to the volunteers who worked the Book Fair and helped make it a success!





engineering and innovation project
Thursday, November 10th 4:00 - 5:00PM

**Teams will showcase their robot** 









Creative writing authors will be working on an anthology.

Hopefully you are enjoying the student-led newspaper. You can find The Owl Messenger at https://orlandogiftedacademy.ocps.net/under the School Information tab.



# Advanced Academics

### November-Advanced Academics with Mrs. Dunn

The students did an amazing job on their presentations for their first projects with Defined Learning. For November, students will be coming up with their own topic ideas based on their individual passions, likes, and interests. Students will be developing their own PBL project by deciding on their topic, driving question, SMART goal, researching thought provoking questions, analyzing, and synthesizing the information to make a conclusion to help solve real-world problems, and developing a product. I look forward to seeing what the students decide to do.

#### November - Advanced Academics with Mrs. Bell

Students will work on the gifted goal GK.12.4 "Application of Acquired Knowledge": They will identify and think creatively to identify and solve a real-word problem along with creatively presenting their knowledge.

## November- Service Learning with Mrs. Dunn

For the month of November, the students in all three classes are continuing our first Service Learning Project on verbal bullying. We will continue working on the investigation stage which entails, researching, and conducting observations. Then we will move on to the planning stage of the project. I am look forward to where our research and the end demonstration leads us!



In French, students will learn restaurant-setting vocabulary and read informational texts that discuss food choices and food around the world.



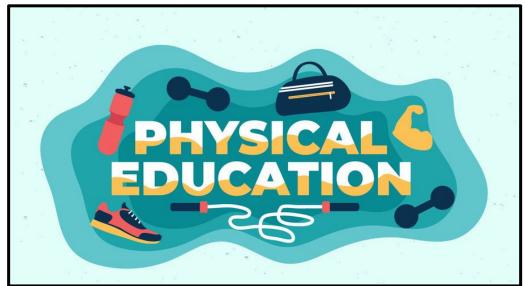
In PE, elementary students will be kicking off the Kids Heart Challenge. They will be practicing their jumping skills while raising money for a great cause, The American Heart Association.

The campaign will conclude on November 11th.

Middle schoolers will continue with team sports.



November will see us continuing our study of engineering. We'll explore 3D modeling with computer-aided design, use computer science to automate our VEX mechanisms, and continue to create physical computing systems.



Dual/Individual Sports:
We'll continue
improving our
hand/eye coordination
through a series of bat
and racket games.





We are gearing up for makerspace after winter break. Please help support our makerspace by visiting our Wishlist on amazon: https://amzn.to/3VEDdLf

# MANDARIN CHINESE

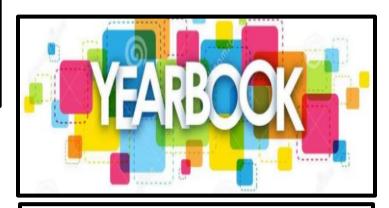
In Mandarin, our 4th and 5th grade students are finishing up their 2nd cycle of Mandarin with learning about family members in Mandarin and practicing our traditional Chinese Calligraphy. Our 2nd and 3rd grade students are learning about Chinese Geography, culture, and holidays as well as practicing their Chinese Calligraphy.



Our preliminary scripts are written and we have begun 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. Thanks to all who supported our 1st annual garage sale!



Odyssey of the Mind



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.



Students in Spanish will focus on learning how to talk about and describe families. The students will also create a family tree to present during class.

This month we're continuing to prepare for our qualifying competition taking place on December 3rd at Lake Highland Prep. Last Saturday, Lightning Legends were awarded the Robot Design Award at the RedFins Invitational. Their robot game run scored 205 points!!



For more information regarding debate class, please contact Ms. Buyo at Louise.Buyo@ocps.net

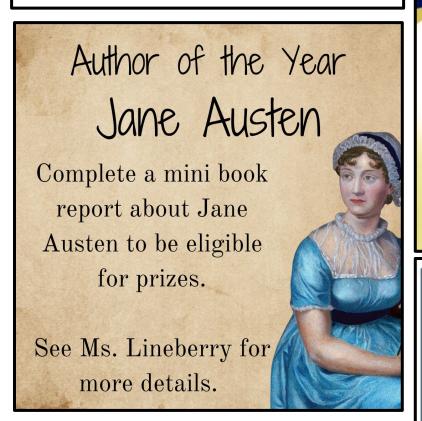




National Junior Honor Society will be sponsoring events in the month of November. First, we will be providing students with an opportunity to make thank you cards for Veteran's Day. Also, they will be sponsoring a canned food drive in support of First Harvest Food Pantry. For more information, contact Dr. Carr via email at Alexander.Carr@ocps.net



Congratulations to Molly G. who was honored for her project being selected as our first winner as part of our Author of the Year Program. Molly did a mini book report and created a scratch code to be our winner. Way to go Molly! Don't forget you can each month we will have an elementary and middle school winner, contact Ms. Lineberry for more details









## THE ATHENIAN SOCIETY

WWW.MAWOrlando.COM

An after-school mentoring club for middle school girls

## Wednesdays from 2:00pm-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 GIBLS AND PARENTS ARE SAYING:

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

The Athenian Society was a nafe place to eath to Ms. Tame and other girls about how I felt and to have great conversational It was very fun to meet up with everyone and share about how our week was! "Kathenine, say at

My daughter leved the club and connecting with her peers especially during the COVID menths. Creating a safe place for young girls to shape 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 Educato 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 \$10 per week or \$35 per month! Interested in joining? Please have your parents email me to reserve your spot!

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



## Elementary Art -

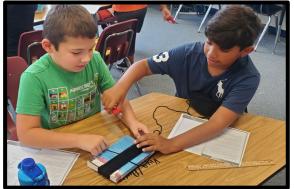
November will be a busy month in the Art room! Second graders will be creating mixed-media self-portraits. Third graders will be learning about abstract art and creating their own abstract masterpieces. Fourth graders will be learning about artist Alejandra Robles Barba and then creating imaginative cityscapes and landscapes. Fifth graders will be learning about artist Lourdes Villagomez and taking inspiration from her colorful artwork.

Be sure to check out the artwork on display November 10th during multicultural night! Artwork from 2nd and 3rd graders will be featured on the bulletin boards that evening.

Art l students will begin a unit on weaving. They will learn how to create their own loom from cardboard and have a chance to practice their weaving skills









Creative Photography students will begin their study of the Principles of Design. They will focus on incorporating both the Elements of Art and Principles of Design as they take pictures on campus and at home.









