PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 28, 2024

EVENTS 10/28-11/10 (SCHOOL EVENTS, PTA EVENTS, HOLIDAYS)

10/28-11/3 (B-WEEK) 11/4-11/10 (A-WEEK)



Term 2 Essential Guiding Question: What Makes a Lifelong Learner?

Homeroom: We Communicate in Respectful and Intentional Ways; We Treat All With Kindness and Respect; We Share and Recognize Others' Perspectives with Civility and Respect

- 28 Ballroom 2:25-3:30
- 29 Young Masters Zoo Field Trip 9:15-4:00
- 30 Ballroom 1:25-2:40
- 31 Halloween
- 1 First Day of American Indian Heritage Month
- 1 PTSA Fun Friday Lunch Activities
- 2 Ballroom Team Match @ Salem Hills 12:00-3:00
- 3 Daylight Savings Time Ends

Term 2 Essential Guiding Question: What Makes a Lifelong Learner?

Homeroom: We Express Ideas Nonverbally, Verbally, and in Writing

4-8 Freedom Week

- 4 Food Drive Begins
- 4 9th PE Classes to Miracle Bowl 12:50-2:00
- 4 Ballroom 2:25-3:30
- 5 Election Day
- 5 Encore Choir to Cedar Valley 9:15-2:00
- 5 9th PE Classes to Miracle Bowl 11:05-2:00
- 6 Ballroom 1:25-2:40
- 7 9th PE Classes to Miracle Bowl 11:05-2:00
- 7 Musical Performance (Green Cast) 7 PM
- 8 9th PE Classes to Miracle Bowl 12:50-2:00
- 8 Cross Country Party in the Cafeteria 2:30
- 8 Musical Performance (Red Cast) 7 PM
- 9 Musical Performance (Red Cast) 2:00 PM & (Green Cast) 7 PM

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



In an attempt to help our students realize the importance of being on-time for their classes as well as to free them from the distractions of their cell phones in Homeroom, we started a Term 2 challenge. This challenge is meant to reward students for choosing to place their cell phones in a phone caddy in their Homeroom class as well as for choosing to be on time to their classes. In sections below, I explain how those challenges will work, but I just wanted to encourage families to support their students in this challenge. Obviously, the more time students spend in class, the greater the opportunity for them to know what is going on in class and understanding content. I was thrilled to see that last week our 4 pods averaged 98% on time behavior! That is incredible.

We will keep you posted weekly on our students' progress. In addition, by placing their phones in the cell caddy,

students have the opportunity to really monitor their participation in Homeroom and in general when they are not distracted by their phones. It is likely we will do a full adoption of this policy for all classes next year, but the goal is that our students are part of this process and help us to craft our policy based on their experience in Homeroom. We welcome any and all questions about this challenge, and we are encouraged by the way students are taking this on. Way to go, Eagles!

NEW INFORMATION

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Student Spotlight: Reggina Carleo

Reggina was born in Cuernavaca Morelos, México. She moved the United States with her family 3 months ago, and even though learning the language has been difficult she is picking quickly. She is an extrovert, and she loves sports and the arts. She acted in different plays along with Mexican actress María Elena Saldaña. She participated in several international competitions at her former school and won many gold medals. has also participated in gymnastics competitions and dances school events. Reggina was on the Mexican National



Trampoline Gymnastics Team and won a silver medal. She has also practiced MMA and won a gold trophy. Currently, she is on the Timpanogos volleyball practice team, and she works to improve everyday because she is very competitive and wants to do her best! Welcome to Oak Canyon, Reggina!

Students of the Week: Elijah Mitchell, Adelyn Johnson, Halle Jensen, Piper Burnside, Marco Morales and Ian Maldonado! Way to go!

October Eagles of the Month: The following students were selected by members of the English department for demonstrating excellence in the area of Character for the month of October.

Please join me in congratulating Siena Dallin, Cole Nelson, Molly Lawrence, McKay Goulding, and Kixx Schaefer, Not pictured: Bianca Prado and Sofia Calderon-Rodriguez



START SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS!

Parents, we would like to spotlight Oak Canyon students that are up to great things outside of school. The challenge is that we are not always aware of these student accomplishments/events to be celebrated. Please click on this link if you'd like your student to be spotlighted in a future edition of the Principal's Newsletter! https://forms.gle/KvYAYNKbDtwrMbpA6

NO TARDY TERM 2 UPDATE BY POD

It is a CRAZY close competition at this point with all 4 pods having 98% of their students on time for class. Keep up the GREAT work this week.

1st Place: Water Pod--98.75% On Time 2nd Place: Fire Pod--98.70% On Time 3rd Place: Earth Pod--98.36% On Time 4th Place: Air Pod--98.19% On Time

HALLOWEEN SPIRIT WEEK:

Monday: Crazy Sock Day

Tuesday: Wear Pod Colors Day (Water=Blues; Earth=Greens; Air=Maroons; Fire=Oranges)

Wednesday: Wear Halloween Colors

Thursday: Wear Your Halloween Costume (see expectations below)

Friday: Freaky Friday--Dress Like Your Teachers

HALLOWEEN COSTUME EXPECTATIONS

Students are allowed to dress up for Halloween as per usual. That said, please communicate with your students the following expectations for dressing up:

- 1. Costumes should be in alignment with the OCJH Dress Code
- 2. No weapons (real or fake) are permitted.
- 3. Masks are not permitted.
- 4. Face paint is allowed, but should be appropriate for school.
- 5. Costumes should not prohibit students from participating in regular classroom activities.

SAVE THE DATE--OCJH FOOD DRIVE STARTS NOVEMBER 4

Each year we have a food drive to benefit families in need during the holidays. This year, donated food will first fill the OCJH Food Pantry to assist members of our school community. The remaining donations will be donated to Tabitha's Way. We will run the competition through students' Homeroom classes. The winning class will be determined by the class with the highest number of food items donated per student. Acceptable non-perishable donations include: non-expired canned food, unopened boxes of cereal, unused hygiene items, diapers, unopened baby formula, etc. Come on, Oak Canyon, let's see who's Homeroom is up to the task! Good luck!

WORLD LANGUAGE WOWS

Our fantastic World Language department has put together a fantastic way to share with faculty and families the amazing things our World Language students and teachers are up to this year. Just click <u>here</u> to access WOWS!



BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM TRYOUTS

Boys and Girls Basketball Tryouts will be held November 13th, 14th, and 15th. The Girls will be from 1:30-3:45 on Wednesday and 2:20-4:10 on Thursday/Friday. The Boys will be from 3:45-6:00 on Wednesday and 4:10-6:00. There are posters around the school with a QR code that can be used to sign up. Please reach out to Coach Baller or Coach Holmes with any questions. IN ADDITION, WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR A HEAD COACH FOR THE GIRLS' TEAM. IF YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW IS INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT Benjamin Abrams .

SCHOOL MUSICAL--INTO THE WOODS JR.

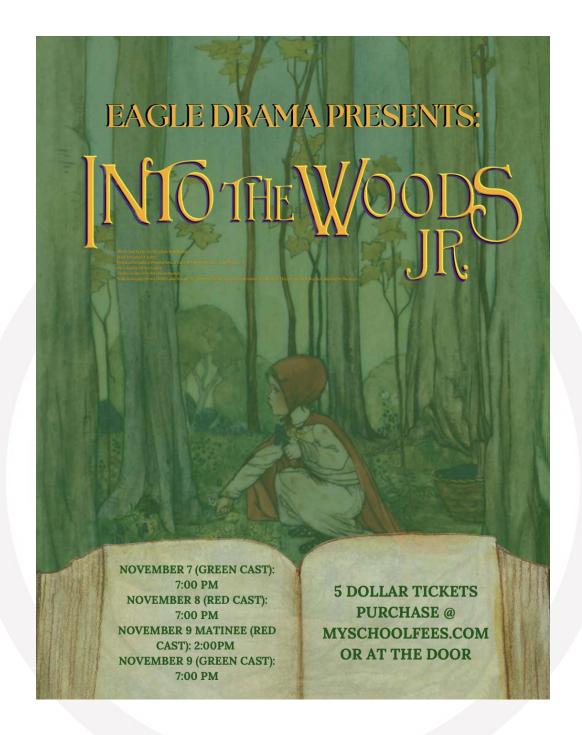
Come support our students as they perform in our Fall Musical, "Into the Woods Jr." All tickets are \$5 and can be purchased online (myschoolfees.com) or at the door. Show lasts about an hour, and is fun for the whole family. We have a little more than 100 students involved with the show. We would love your support.

November 7 (GREEN CAST): 7:00 PM

November 8 (RED CAST): 7:00 PM

November 9 MATINEE (RED CAST): 2:00 PM

November 9 (GREEN CAST): 7:00 PM



FROM THE OAK CANYON PTSA

-Our PTSA does so much to support our school and students--selling suckers on Fridays, sponsoring the Eagle of the Month student recognitions, organizing Spirit Nights, making generous donations for school improvements, recognizing our honor roll students, and more! **We encourage all to join the PTSA**--the membership dues go a long way for our school. In addition, Eagle Cards are a great value for all of the discounted goods and services they provide. **To join the PTSA**, purchase Eagle Cards, and/or donate for Teacher Birthday/Appreciation gifts, please visit the Oak Canyon PTSA store <u>link</u>.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS





REMINDERS:

BARK FOR SCHOOLS--PLEASE READ

Digital safety is critically important to us at Oak Canyon which is why we are now using **Bark for Schools** to help us protect our students both online and in real life.

Bark monitors for signs of potential issues like:

- Cyberbullying
- Suicidal ideation
- Sexual predators
- Threats of violence
- And more

Alerts at the first signs of danger:

When possible dangers arise on school-issued accounts, Bark for Schools sends us alerts so we can address the situation in a timely manner. These alerts also give us insights that help us promote the wellness of the entire student body.

Sign up to get alerts with Parent Portal:

Kids use their school-issued accounts both at school and at home, and families are often in a better position to respond to urgent alerts after hours, on weekends, and during breaks. In the coming week, you will receive an invitation to create your free account for the Bark for Schools Parent Portal. As soon as you opt-in, you'll be able to

receive alerts if Bark detects potentially time-sensitive issues. Some alerts may be triggered by the system, but you will find there is no legitimate concern. Just because an alert is triggered does not mean a student has done anything wrong. Bark is an early warning system to allow you and the school to determine if there are legitimate concerns.

Check out these parenting resources

- Visit the Bark Blog to stay informed on all things kids and tech.
- Download this guide for helpful tips on talking to your child about common issues.
- <u>Join</u> the Parenting in a Tech World Facebook group and connect with other parents raising kids in the digital age.

Learn more about <u>Bark for Schools</u> — including their commitment to <u>student privacy</u>. If you have additional questions, please contact us by replying to this email. Thank you for your support as we strive to help keep our students safe online.

TERM 2 NO-TARDY CHALLENGE

Starting on Wednesday, October 23, is our Term 2 No-Tardy Challenge. Students have ample time with our 7 minute passing periods to get from class to class on time. That said, many still are not. There are consequences for students with excessive tardies, but we're still not seeing the kind of urgency we'd like to see from students to be on time. There are incentives for students to be on time at the pod, class, and individual levels. The pod with the highest average percentage of students on time will receive a Pod Party. The homeroom class from each pod that has the highest average of on-time students to all of their classes will earn a Homeroom class incentive both at mid-term and at the end of the term. Finally, students who have no tardies in a week will earn individual points they can accumulate to redeem for prizes through Ken Garff Success in Education. These prizes range from gift cards to ski passes when students have earned enough points. Ultimately, we want your students to be on time and in class everyday. We appreciate your support and encouragement in this endeavor!

HOMEROOM NO CELL PHONE POLICY

We have learned a lot from our neighbors at PGHS as they have launched their no cell phone policy this year. At PG, students are expected to place their cell phones on airplane mode and in a cell caddy when they enter the classroom and leave their phone in the caddy until class is over. Students can access their phones during class breaks and at lunch. Timpanogos is also considering adopting this policy next year. So, we thought it would be a good idea to give this no cell policy a try during Homeroom. We haven't really policed it, and some teachers have been more consistent than others in their expectations. That said, before we adopt a similar policy, we'd like for students to really see for themselves what their participation is like when they are not distracted by their cell phones. Research shows that their phones are away from students, the greater the impact in the classroom. So, as

of Tuesday, October 22nd, students will be expected to place their phones on airplane mode and in the phone caddy during the duration of homeroom. They will receive some Ken Garff Success in Education points for doing this each day that can be redeemed for prizes. More information about that is forthcoming. Please note that the expectation for student phones is that they are out of sight during all other classes, but they do not have to be in the cell caddy. That said, students are always welcome to place their phones there if they would prefer in all of their classes. We are anxious to do some action research of our own to inform our school cell policy moving forward.

WEDNESDAY STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

Just a quick reminder that on early-out Wednesdays all students go to lunch at 12:45 and buses leave at 1:15. Students are permitted to go home during lunch if they don't ride a bus. That said, we have quite a few students who are staying well beyond 1:15. Wednesday afternoons are when our teachers collaborate with each other and with other teachers from across the district. They are not available to students at this time. We appreciate your help and support in making sure your students have rides home and that they clear out of the school in a timely manner.