



Ormondale Press

A monthly newsletter to connect with our community.

Be Respectful! Be Responsible! Be Safe! Be Kind!

Dear Families,

Happy New Year! I hope that all of you had a wonderful holiday season and a relaxing winter break. The last few days of school prior to break were very busy for all of us here at Ormondale. The Winter Concert was just superb. I hope that you enjoyed it as much as I did. There is something about small children singing their hearts out that melts my heart and brings tears to my eyes. In the days leading up to vacation, I certainly enjoyed watching the excitement build in your children as they anticipated the holidays and a well deserved break. While the first few days of the break were busy for me - yes, I am one of those crazy people who does their shopping at the last minute, and after all these years I am ready to own that I actually like that harried feeling - the two full weeks were a nice time to catch up with family and friends, relax and unwind. But, I was happy to come back to school on Monday to see the kids and hear about their adventures.

We started our first week back with a Cultural Arts Assembly that was arranged for us by our PTO. We were treated to a show by a group of Chinese Acrobats that was truly awesome. The children were enthralled! Thank you to Sally Aalfs for arranging our assembly programs this year and to our PTO for funding them. The students and staff really do enjoy these programs and the kids always learn something from them. Our life skill this month is PERSEVERANCE. With this performance, we were able to demonstrate to the students what you can accomplish when you persevere.

With the break going until the 9th, January is actually a short month for us and we have a lot going on. You will notice that next week our first, second and third grade students will be participating in NYTC Testing. This assessment, through the New York Teachers College is associated with our reading and writing curriculum, Readers' and Writers' Workshop. Our teachers will use this information to compare it to the beginning of the year assessments that they did when school started in order to report progress to you via your students' progress report and during Parent/Teacher Conferences. Progress Reports will be sent home with your student on Friday, February 3 and Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for the following week. Please look for information from your teacher as to how to schedule your appointment.

Here is to a great month with few rainy day recesses!
Lynette Hovland

Calendar Reminders

*This month our Life Skill is **PERSEVERANCE**
January's Super Food is **CAULIFLOWER***

Monday, 1/9/17 - School Resumes

Tuesday, 1/10 - Cultural Arts Assembly

Monday, 1/16 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day - **HOLIDAY**

Tuesday, 1/17 - NYTC Testing - grade 3

Wednesday, 1/18 - Spring Musical Auditions

12:45- 1:30 for grades K and 1

1:30 - 3:00 for grades 2 and 3

Auditions will be held in the Music Room (Rm. 28)

School Board Meeting

6:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Annex at Corte Madera

Thursday, 1/19 - NYTC Testing - grade 2

1st grade Field Trip to CuriOdyssey (Pellegrini/Trefaro)

Friday, 1/20 - NYTC Testing - grade 1

Wednesday, 1/25 - School Board Study Session

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. at the Annex at Corte Madera

Thursday, 1/26 - Kindergarten Registration Begins

Kindergarten Parent Orientation at 8:30 a.m. in room 8

1st grade Field Trip (Andrighetto/Bloom-Smith)

Tuesday, 1/31 - Thursday, 2/2 - Science Fair/Invention Convention

Tuesday, 1/31 - School Site Council Meeting

3:15-4:15 p.m. in room 8

Spring Musical Auditions

This year, our Spring Musical will be **Alice in Wonderland**. Mr. White will be holding auditions on Wednesday, January 18. Auditions will be held in the Music Room (Room 28). Kindergarten and first grade students will audition from 12:45 to 1:30 p.m. and second and third grade students will audition from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. There will be no supervision for students from dismissal until 12:45, therefore you must pick your child up and bring him/her back for the auditions. Mr. White will be teaching all of our students the songs from the show and everyone will participate in the musical. The auditions are for students who would like a speaking part in the show. The audition will involve students singing one of the songs that Mr. White has taught in class.

As the Spring Musical involves all of our students this is truly a community event. We rely heavily on volunteers to assist Mr. White with rehearsals and preparation for the performance. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Mr. White. You can email him at cwhite@pvsd.net or leave a message for him at 851-1777 ext. 2628.

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Principal's Book of the Month

This month our life skill is PERSEVERANCE. In honor of January being Science Fair/Invention Convention month, I chose to continue with the STEM theme when selecting the book for this month. The book that I selected is The Most Magnificent Thing by Ashley Spires. It is the story of a little girl who wants to create something but when she first tries, it does not turn out the way she envisions. Like most inventors, she must persevere in order to get the end result that will work to solve her problem. The story is beautifully illustrated and I have heard lots of positive comments from our students about this little inventor.

I am grateful to Mr. Keegan for writing this grant and to the Portola Valley Schools Foundation for funding it. I am

Counselor's Corner

Happy New Year Ormondale Families!

I hope that you had a fantastic break!

Ormondale is starting 2017 with some new Ormondale Honors swag. In addition to pencils and erasers, Ormondale students now have the opportunity to earn Ormondale themed pins to represent their school pride and celebrate how respectful, responsible, safe and kind our school is!

Next week, all the teachers will be handing out Ormondale Honor lanyards to each of our students. When students earn three Ormondale Honors, they can bring them to the office to have them signed. Once their three Ormondale Honors are signed, students will be able to choose one of eight Ormondale pins to add to their lanyard. The goal is to have students earn enough Ormondale Honors to collect all eight pins. As always, please remind your children to hold on to their Ormondale Honors as they will need three Ormondale Honors to attend our next Celebration on January 24th.

In their classrooms on Tuesday, teachers will have the students label their lanyards but if your child comes without the proper labeling, please have them write their name on their lanyards so they do not get lost.

Thank you and here is to a fantastic month!
Tamryn Miller

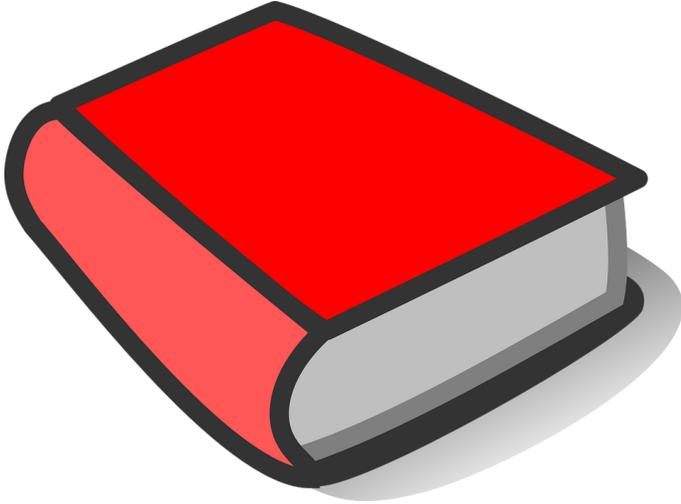
From Our School Secretaries....

Cold and flu season is in full swing! The number of cases of the flu reported in San Mateo County is on the upswing. Please help us keep Ormondale students and staff as healthy as possible by keeping the following in mind:

- Children who have been ill must be fever, vomit and diarrhea free for 24 hours prior to returning to school. Virus' can still be active during this period.
- If we contact you because your child is ill, please try to come to school to pick him/her up as soon as possible.
- If you are unsure of whether your child is ill in the morning, error on the side of caution and

enjoying helping the children make a connection to our monthly life skill through literature.

Ms. Hovland



Kindergarten Registration

Registration for Transitional Kindergarten (TK) and Kindergarten for the 2017-2018 school year begins on **Thursday, January 26**. A Parent Orientation followed by a school tour will be held starting at 8:30 a.m. in room 8. Please share this information with your friends or neighbors who have children who will be entering school next fall.

In order to be eligible for Kindergarten, a child must be five years of age by September 1. Children born between September 2 and December 1 are eligible for Transitional Kindergarten.

The following documents are required for registration:

- Proof of residency (copy of Property Taxes or Notarized Lease)
- Birth Certificate
- Immunization Record to date

Parents of eligible students should bring the above listed documents to school and will receive paperwork to fill out. Once paperwork has been turned in, parents will receive instructions on how to start a registration account for their child in order to complete online registration.

Once a family begins the registration process we ask that it be complete by April 1, 2017.

keep them home. You can always bring them in later.

- Remind your children to wash their hands frequently but especially before eating. We do the same here at school!

On our end, we work to ensure that classrooms have appropriate cleaning supplies so that teachers and maintenance staff can keep desktops clean. We provide kleenex and teach the proper way of covering one's mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing. We also emphasize hand washing.

Working together we may not be able to avoid the flu all together but we certainly can help to minimize the impact.

Thank you!
Ms. Denise and Ms. Evelyn

Science Fair/Invention Convention

Mark your calendars for the 34th Annual Science Fair/Invention Convention to be held January 31 - February 2.

Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, January 31 - Drop off and set up projects in the MUR before school and at dismissal.

Wednesday and Thursday, February 1 and 2 - Students visit the Science Fair with their classes.

Thursday, February 2 from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Family Night at the Science Fair. Parents visit the fair and students explain their projects and answer questions.

If you would like to help Ms. Rusch with setting up the fair or writing feedback notes on projects, please contact her at jrusch@pvdsd.net.

More information about the Science Fair can be found on our school website on the Science page.
