



This issue of the Newsletter was written by the students of Orchard Mesa Middle School.

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Principal letter from Mrs. Vana

I would like to take this opportunity to both review some of the amazing things that our staff and students have accomplished and remind you of some upcoming events.

First, On Monday September 11th, Orchard Mesa Middle School Staff and students began their day with a special ceremony to honor the victims and heroes of the 9/11 attacks 16 years ago. Chayton Moffit, Camden Peterson, and Logan Torbic opened the ceremony with the singing of the National Anthem and the playing of Taps as the flag was raised to half-mast. The Web Crew participated by reminding students and guests about the events that occurred as well reading poems, and honoring our communities first responders. We were blessed to have many visitors and parents attend our assembly. If you have served our nation, or work to serve our community, the students and staff of Orchard Mesa Middle School would like to offer our deepest gratitude for your support, dedication and commitment to the safety of our students, our citizens and all Americans.

On Saturday, September 16th the 5th Annual 5K took place. Close to 100 students, parents and community members participated in helping to not only raise funds for our school, but build a sense of community here at OMMS. Thank you to our amazing PTO members as well as all of you that helped support this endeavor. We look forward to next year’s event and encourage all families to find a way to participate.

Currently, we are in the process of writing our School Improvement Plan. Teachers have been hard at work developing strategies focused on achieving our school-wide goals. On Monday, October 16th, at 6:00 PM we will have our school accountability meeting in the library. I encourage all parents to attend this short meeting to ask questions, and share their comments and concerns.

Upcoming Events

Friday, October 13th marks the end of the first quarter. We would like to invite you to our assembly that morning to help celebrate the accomplishments of our students and enjoy some fun, entertaining activities. When the exact time of the assembly is determined, we will communicate via email and a phone message.

Finally, we will be hosting Student-Led Conferences during the afternoon of October 25th (3:00-7:00) and all day October 26th (7:00 AM-7:00PM). As we move forward with the District 51 Learning Model, student-led conferences is a process that allows students to take ownership of their learning. We are excited to take this step, as it will allow our students and teachers the opportunity to begin to fulfill our shared vision: “Equipping students for Life”.

Thank you for your continued support. Please feel free to contact my office if you have questions, comments or concerns.

Cheri Vana

Student Fees

Paying student fees is essential to the school and it's funding system. All the money collected will go toward all the classrooms for paper, pencils, notebooks, markers, and all the supplies needed to have a successful learner. The money will also go toward electives for drills, saws, wood, paint, paint brushes, sand paper, nets, basketballs and volleyballs, nets, etc.

October Important Dates

NO SCHOOL—

October 16—Teacher Work Day

October 26—P-T Conferences 3-7pm

October 27—P-T Conferences 7am-7pm

October 31—Halloween - School is in session on this day!

End of Quarter 1

The end of the quarter will be October 13th, so make sure that you get down to the office and get your electives changed, since it is one of the only times you will be able to do that. Also, make sure you check your grades on StudentVue, and check for any missing assignments that you can make up or redo so you don't miss the opportunity to get grades changed in order to get the highest grade possible.

5K Recap

On September 16th, our school had a 5k. The top 5 finishers were:

1st: Ammon Bair

2nd: Billy Dudich

3rd: John Ferguson

4th: Carlos Martinez

5th: Tristian Spence

Thank you to everyone who participated! Even if you did just pay the \$10 to help the school.



Message from the Librarian

Scholastic Book Fair:

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the Library Monday, October 23rd to Thursday, October 26th. The fair will be open for students to make purchases during the school day. In addition, the fair will be open during Student Led Conferences on Wednesday, October 25th from 3pm-8pm and ALL day Thursday, October 26th from 7am-7pm. Come and browse the books. There is something for the entire family. It is also a great opportunity for finding holiday gifts. We hope to see you in the library to celebrate books and reading. Not only do the sales from the fair help to purchase essential classroom and library resources, it also encourages and promotes reading among our students.



Knights of Excellence (Student of the Month)



Every month we have several teachers select a student who excels in their classroom (in order to celebrate them). Our September Knights of Excellence:

- Mrs. Florian's- Tiyala Holton
- Mr. LaDuke's- Angelyne Hean/ Monia Ortega
- Ms. Trager- Zara Nolan
- Mrs. Belden- Michael Creech
- Ms. Kallemeyn- Chayton Moffit
- Ms. Smith- Bailey Schmidt
- Mr. Tholl- Brittani Velazquez
- Ms. Fox- Adelina Henderson
- Ms. Haifley- Vanessa Kime
- Ms. Sawyer- Alyice Jones
- Sandy/Brandi- Cody Braden

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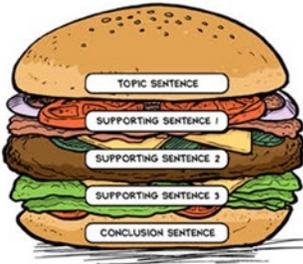


Fahrenheit 451

In 8th grade we're going to start reading Fahrenheit 451. The book is titled Fahrenheit 451 due to the fact that paper burns at 451 degrees Fahrenheit. The book takes place in the 24th century (2300s). Throughout the book we're going to be comparing the situations or rather moral lessons to our own lives.



7th Grade Paragraphs



In 7th grade ELA we're going to be learning how to do the Burger Paragraph. In the Burger Paragraph you learn: the intro statement, concluding statements as well as the most important: evidence/middle statements. The buns correspond to the intro statement and the concluding statement. The middle part (the best part!) goes along with the evidence. The purpose of this is to show you that more evidence is good. The Burger Paragraph shows us how we need to organize our writing so it makes sense and is well written. A 7th grade burger is one "juicy double-bacon cheeseburger."



9/11 Reflection



Last month we had remembered 9/11 through an assembly. At the assembly we had WEBcrew read/write poems, we had a guest paramedic that served during 9/11, and we also had Chayton Moffit and Cayden Peterson play trumpets while David Williams sang the national anthem.

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Parent Teacher Conferences

We are having our first Parent-Teacher Conferences of the year soon! The conferences are on the 26th and 27th of October. Conferences will be student led this year. On the 26th, conferences will start at 3pm and go all the way until 7pm; the 27th conferences will start 7am and end 7pm. This means that the students will be presenting their work, why they earned the grade they got, and what they are doing well in and what they need extra practice in. Students will be presenting all of their work for all of their classes in advisory this year. The students will be gathering information from their tests and from ParentVue, so that they can take ownership of their work.



Days Off in October

The 16th of October is a day off due to the fact that it's a teacher work day. We'll also have off on the 26th and 27th for parent teacher conferences.



Volleyball Results



Volleyball has just started for the 7th and 8th graders this year! The first game for the 7th and 8th graders was against Holy Family and the most recent game was against GMMS. The 7th and 8th put up a great fight against Grand Mesa Middle School, 8th grade A team, 23-25/25-12 and the 7th grade A team 25-21/25-11. Better luck next time OMMS volleyball teams! The next game was against East Middle School, The C and B OMMS teams lost both sets, but the A team put up a great fight, but lost two sets. out of three. DeBeque Middle School, September 19, 8th grade A team lost both sets and so did 8th grade B team but the 7th grade team won! Plateau Valley Middle School, September 21, West Middle School, September 26, Redlands Middle School, September 28, and Mt. Garfield Middle School, October 2, until the District Tournament.



Legos and Boxtops

Legos and Box tops

The library is also collecting Legos. If you have Legos that have no use anymore, please donate them to the OMMS library. Legos are for a 'creative space' in the library.

If you have boxtops please donate them to the library. They will be in a crate.



Wednesday War

The 7th Graders are 3 chapters in on Wednesday Wars. Wednesday Wars is about a boy named Holling Hoodhood who thinks Mrs. Baker, his 7th grade ELA teacher, "hates his guts." Holling figures out a lot about Mrs. Baker and who she actually is, as well as himself.