

Oak Hill Academy Newsletter #3 April 2018



Headmaster's Message Joseph A. Pacelli

Reading Is Still Essential

With technology opening so many doors to help with the learning process, it remains clear that good reading skills and habits remain central in the success of students on all levels of the educational spectrum. The process of reading connects all of us to the wonders and experiences of other peoples and places outside of our daily lives. Young children in particular generate internal rules or schemas to better understand and connect what they are experiencing or being taught. It is here where the learner builds knowledge in active response to sensory experiences. All forms of reading serve the children well as they progress towards establishing a solid knowledge base.

The approach that a school must take is to create an environment that fosters a love of reading while structuring a creative learning environment. The reading program must cross disciplines and be of high interest that stimulates the student's imagination. The learning environment must be one that not only addresses the mechanics of the reading process, but also one in which the reader thirsts for more reading adventures.

Reading is a natural human endeavor that helps open the doors to all other learning experiences. At Oak Hill Academy, one of our primary goals has been to promote a love of reading for a lifetime of enjoyment.

Mrs. Larkins
Director of Development

Grandparent/Special Relative Day

Our annual Grandparent/Special Relative Day will be held on **Thursday, May 17 (Grades PreK and 5-8) and Friday, May 18 (Grades K-4)**. Teachers have already started making arrangements for some creative and fun activities. **In order to accommodate the large number of guests, the program will once again be divided into two days according to grade.** Visitors will gather for refreshments in the Scire Student Activities Center at 8:30am and will be treated to a student music performance. Then they will be welcomed by Mr. Pacelli. Next, they will visit student classrooms at 9:40. All guests are free to visit the Upper School history/global studies fair after their classroom visits. Visitors with students in multiple grades are encouraged to change classes during their assigned visit times.

Any guest with special parking needs should contact the school office. **Umbrellas are recommended in case of inclement weather.**

An invitation and reply form has been sent home and has been mailed to those grandparents who have previously attended.

"Great Gatsby Gala and Cash Raffle Results"

"The Gatsby Gala" OHA fundraiser including the Cash Raffle, Gala & Auction, and Ad Journal turned out to be a fantastic event that resulted in **505 raffle tickets being sold**. This relates to **\$12,625.00** being raised for educational technology and improvements of our campus. All of the current families, alumni families, and OHA friends who participated in the raffle were an important element to our success.

And the lucky winners were....

1st Prize \$8,837.50

**Ashley Scharpf
(OHA student, Katherine,
Gr. 2)**

2nd Prize \$2,525.00

**Peter Lore
(Sold by OHA deBruijn Family
- Mr. & Mrs. Jacco deBruijn
Grandfather of OHA student,
Angelina, Gr. 2)**

3rd Prize \$ 1,262.50
**The Fennell Family -
Mr. Michael Fennell &
Ms. Lalena Aria
(OHA student Eva, Gr. 3)
Proceeds graciously donated
back to OHA**

Incentive Prize
**The Gregory Scharpf Family
(OHA Student Katherine, Gr. 2)**

Thank you to all those who participated in the cash raffle. Please find in the attachment a listing of all those who purchased four tickets or more and became eligible for the incentive prize drawing.

The entire Parent Organization, especially chairperson Mrs. Kathleen Bellone, along with the great support of Mrs. Corey Small, and her committee, deserves our highest praise and our sincerest thanks for running an outstanding gala and auction. Their tireless work culminated in an evening filled with fabulous prizes, fine dining and dancing, along with many friendly faces.

The Program/Ad Journal was another attractive and high quality booklet this year that grossed over **\$5,000**. Many thanks to Mrs. Kathy Seetoo and Mrs. Donna McShane for their joint effort.

Finally, I would like to personally thank **every person who participated** in the raffle, ad journal, and gala in any way. Whether you stuffed an envelope, sold a raffle ticket, donated a gift or service, decorated a prize, placed an ad, etc., you helped OHA party in style and pave the way for an even better future for our students!

Mrs. Livingston Lower School Guidance

Gr. 1 - We shared The Enormous Potato by Aubrey Davis. In this story, the farmer plants a potato that grows, and grows, and grows. When it came time to pull the potato out of the ground, he enlisted the help of everyone from his wife to the mouse. With the help of many, the potato was pulled up, cooked, slathered with butter and shared with the townspeople. This was a humorous tale that focused on the value of co-operation and the joys of working together to achieve a common goal.

Gr. 2 - We continued learning about good character traits through our stories from Sippi, the Canine with Character. This month we focused on honesty and making good choices through the story, "Sippi Learns the Meaning of Honesty."

In this story, Sippi and Kate were playing ball, and accidentally the ball went through a neighbor's window. Sippi and Kate made the wrong choice and hid behind a tree when the neighbor came to find out who had broken the window. Then, when Sippi got home, he lied to his father about the incident. Sippi realized he felt much better when he finally told the truth and got the lie off his chest. The moral of the tale is **HONESTY MAKES OTHERS THINK BETTER OF YOU.**

Gr. 3 - From Friendship Fables, I narrated as some of the children took parts in the fable, "Be-Good Bee and Monkey-Around-Monkey Fix Their Friendship." In this fable, Be-Good-Bee needed some help in dealing with angry feelings toward Monkey-Around-Monkey. Be-Good-Bee could always use his stinger to get back at Monkey, but that would not be the way to solve the problem. Bee tried counting to 10 and flying away, but it didn't seem to calm him down. Lastly, he turned to his dad for advice. Dad suggested that he and Monkey talk about their problem. This way, they should be able to come to a solution that is good for both of them.

Gr. 4 - Our folktale this month from Rhinos and Raspberries was "Old Joe and the Carpenter." It is an Appalachian tale of building bridges. Old Joe and his neighbor, who had been friends for years, had their first argument over the boundaries of their land. Rather than talk it over, Old Joe's neighbor dug a creek to divide their land. This angered Old Joe, so he enlisted the help of a carpenter to build a fence along the property line. When Old Joe went to check on the progress of the carpenter, he found that there was not a fence at all, but a bridge that went from one side of the creek to the other. Upon seeing the bridge, his neighbor walked across with his hand stuck out, saying, "Joe, you're quite a fellow to build this bridge. I'd never been able to do that. I'm so glad we're going to be friends again." We discussed the tools we need to make and keep friends. In our relationships, we need to make an effort to "build bridges and not walls."

Mrs. Weikes, Director
Mrs. Bucci, Miss Bonanno
Miss Straub
Pre-Kindergarten

Mother Nature has been reluctantly allowing spring to arrive at OHA in small doses as our Pre-K students are finally enjoying some outdoor play. The arrival of spring provides students with the opportunity to enjoy exciting lessons and activities about insects, life cycles, and baby animals. Our classroom habitat of

butterfly larvae have arrived and in about one week will emerge from their chrysalis to be released a few days later. The large terrarium, in the main office, houses our hermit crabs and offers students many opportunities to observe living things. In late May we will enjoy delivery of our chick eggs and students will become official "chick tenders." Once placed in the incubator, students will take turns rotating the eggs, adding water, and documenting what they observe. Upon hatching, the baby chicks will be placed in the brooder for the children to feed, observe and pet. Quiver farms will then pick up the growing chicks a week after they hatch. Developing an understanding of what all living things need to grow and thrive is a big part of our Pre-K curriculum.

In addition to our regular classroom lessons and activities students are busy completing "top secret" projects for May Day, Mother's Day, and Grandparents Day. Pre-K will play host to our moms and special loved ones in May when they plant flowers around the perimeter of the Center and enjoy an outdoor picnic complete with a tribute to our guests. After attending this year's Kindergarten May Day performance, Pre-K students will deliver handmade May Day baskets to faculty and staff across the campus.

Our school wide character trait for April is "cooperation." Examples of this have been evident in the classroom while working with classmates, teachers, and playing outdoors.

The Letter People continue to excite and motivate students to master their consonants and vowels. Our year-end review of the alphabet will include a Letter People parade with students and teachers dressing as their favorite Letter People characters. The Letter People continue to enhance our Treasures Language Arts program.

Singapore Math lessons during April include graphing weather, measurement, daily calendar activities, coins, geometric shapes and the recognition of numbers and objects 1 through 10. Our classroom iPads provide students with additional reinforcement and practice following the introduction of every new lesson. Individual assessments, group lessons, and one on one meetings with the teacher, confirms that our Pre-K students have also become more confident and better problem solvers since adding ST Math to our present math curriculum.

We are looking forward to several upcoming events in May and June; our visit to Longstreet Farm in Holmdel, our annual Pre-K Family Day at Pt. Pleasant Beach and Jenkinson's Aquarium.

Let's not forget our eagerly anticipated "Doughnuts for Dads" celebration in June.

The year may be winding down however, our Pre-K students are still going strong. Think spring everyone!

Mrs. Colbert/Mrs. Gilfillan
Mrs. Lambert
Kindergarten

Welcome back from break - spring is here!! Every month we take a picture in front of the same tree in our front yard and we have been observing the changes in our environment. The biggest change is that the tree is now blooming and the children have grown so much!

Kindergarten had the opportunity to experience their first Littletown Day. What great life skills they learned in earning their tiny bucks and then getting to spend them. During all that fun, they learned so much about Medieval Times. Our Knights and Princesses did a great job giving rides on our Medieval Ship. Thank you Mrs. Vacca for another wonderful Littletown Day!

Our trip to Huber Woods was very educational. We were able to see a variety of animals up close. We learned how important it is to leave wild animals in the wild where they may grow and flourish in their own environment. We encourage all OHA families to take advantage of the wonderful park system we have in Monmouth County. We learned so much!

We would like to thank the class moms for throwing us a wonderful spring party before we went on spring break. The children had so much fun trying to find all of the eggs during the egg hunt and were thrilled to find special treats inside them!

We have met all of the Letter Lights! Having all five vowels will help us make so many words. The students are doing a great job applying those sounds into their stories that we will see published in the upcoming Reflections. We hope you get a chance to read their terrific stories!

In Math, we are working on number bonds and addition/subtraction skills and will start identifying coins with the children. We encourage parents to let the

children explore and count coins at home.

We have invited the entire school, along with our parents, to watch us perform our Maypole dance on May 1st. This year is particularly special because it is the 25th Maypole performance! The children have practiced for many hours and this is a performance we look forward to every year. Good luck Kindergarten!

In addition to practicing for Maypole, we are busy getting ready for our next big performance. On May 11th, we will honor the Kindergarten mothers with a Mother's Day Tea and spring play. We look forward to spending a beautiful day with them!

Miss Colson/Mrs. Wood
Grade 1

The first grade enjoyed taking on the responsibilities of the Littletown Post Office. On Littletown Day the children stamped the incoming mail, sorted, and delivered the mail to the "residents" of Littletown. They enjoyed visiting the other activities in Littletown and had a wonderful day!

In preparation for Littletown Day, the students learned to write letters and address envelopes. They wrote to their friends and teachers who live in Littletown. We weren't sure if they had more fun writing or receiving their letters! What a wonderful enriching experience for all involved.

We are now journaling and enjoying some very creative writing given the challenge of a variety of sentence starters. We hope you have enjoyed reading the stories! After celebrating the 100th day of school, each student wrote their own "When I am 100 years old" story. They were delightful! We celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday and "Read Across America" day by visiting the Pre-K classes and buddy reading stories with them. Then we had a guest reader visit us remotely from Massachusetts using our Sparkboard.

Our Social Studies lessons have involved world geography discussions. We are learning about the seven continents, the Northern and Southern hemisphere, and what and where the Equator is. It has been interesting imagining that as we begin the season of spring, our neighbors in the Southern Hemisphere just finished summer and are headed into fall! We plan to use our Sparkboard technology to talk to Mr. Wood when he travels to Uruguay this May and we are

compiling a list of questions to ask his colleagues.

Our Singapore Math program continues to excite and challenge our students. Our groups have recently completed units in Length, Weight and Capacity. Projects included using hands-on measuring tools in each area to calculate and compare sizes of many objects – even our own feet! Our capacity activities required a "field trip" to the Commons to fill & compare various containers and describe the differences. We have also learned to use graphs. The students learned to classify objects in sets according to common features. Students read and interpreted data presented by graphs. Some of the skills included finding out which items were the most or the least on the graph, as well as comparing the difference between two items. We then learned to make a tally chart as an alternative method of keeping count of objects or items. We are looking forward to our Fact Family Fun Festival and have been preparing several fun math games to challenge our families!

Mrs. Caprara/Mrs. Savarese
Grade 2

Spring is in the air! We are so excited to share with you all of our special events and amazing activities from this last quarter. In January, we had our very first "State Fair." We opened with a song titled, "Fifty Nifty United States." Next, we shared a slide show featuring all of our hard work throughout this five-month project. Then, we viewed an iMovie that we created of our own "News Broadcasts" reporting about interesting facts and places to visit in our chosen state. Finally, we shared tasty foods from around the country. Thank you all for participating in our "State Fair". In February, all of our second grade friends turned 100 years old complete with grey hair and beards, pearls and bow ties, and canes and walkers. We had fun attending a Senior Social where we enjoyed tea, a friendly game of BINGO, and cutting the rug to 1920's music! In March, our classroom was transformed into a medieval castle on Littletown Day. We were the entertainment for the kingdom. We, as court jesters, told jokes, played games, performed magic tricks and served pretzels. What a fun time for all!

In Reading, we are reading stories in the genre of fiction, expository text, and poetry. The skills we are focusing on are author's purpose, story sequence, rereading to clarify, identifying similes and compound words. In Math, we are working on mental math strategies in

solving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division equations and word problems. In Writing, we have been working on biographies about "Heroes Who Inspire" us to have determination, and perseverance to accomplish anything we set our minds to. We are also practicing how to write in cursive, which is both fun and challenging! We have now begun to collect postcards from around the world and researching fun facts and information about all the counties in our great big world. We are also researching "world trivia of the week" questions that our own classmates have created.

We are looking forward to more fun and exciting activities this year in second grade!

Mrs. Alexander/Mrs. Staley
Mrs. Ricca
Grade 3

We're still waiting for spring to arrive, but that hasn't stopped us from feeling the springtime energy. We are very busy in class with many activities

In math, students are well into the second textbook. We just finished our unit on length and have begun our study of fractions. Remember that fact practice should continue at home throughout the year.

In reading and writing, we have finished Unit 4 where students read stories relating to facing challenges. Students researched present day and historical figures to write a biography. We are currently writing spring themed poems. In novel studies we have just finished the story, The Indian School, where a 10 year old girl learned to speak up for herself and for a native American girl who was forced to give up her culture. The children have been working on creating simile books where they have found similes in the book, described their meanings, and then illustrated the simile.

In English class, students have finished up their capitalization and punctuation unit. They worked at using quotation marks correctly, using commas in a series, capitalizing proper nouns, and correctly writing book titles. We are now moving on to pronouns to finish up our English Grammar curriculum. We'll be learning about subject pronouns, object pronouns, and using pronouns effectively to enhance sentences in writing.

In Social Studies, students have just listened to the historical fiction, Meet Addy, the story of an enslaved girl in 1864 who must escape from the

plantation before the family is sold away and separated. Students gained a beginning understanding of the plight of slave life. They reviewed map skills, too, while reviewing the events of the story. Look for their maps of Addy's escape when you visit the classroom. Now students are entering the world of Samantha Learns a Lesson – and the first years of the 20th century. We will be focusing on immigration and Ellis Island, the many inventions of the period, and the social rules of the time.

We are looking forward to seeing our students grow in this final marking period.

**Mrs. Laffin/Mrs. Forsyth
Grade 4**

We had many exciting events in the fourth grade! Cake Day was celebrated in February. Students learned about the different counties in New Jersey. Then, they baked a cake in the shape of the county. Families attended to put the cake counties together to cover the state of New Jersey. Reformer's Day happened in April due to all the snow days. Students learned about people who enabled change for the better in our world. They presented their researched information by creating a poster, giveaways, and orally prepared answers to questions asked by parents. Fun was had by all and a lot of learning too!

In reading, students continue to focus on making predictions, ask and answering questions, and identifying point of view. They successfully collaborate in small groups to complete projects. Some of the projects were research and design your own campaign for class president, identify a problem and create an invention to solve problem, and write a letter for different purposes. Students participate in book talks to share thoughts and feelings about the book we are reading.

Students learned all about Geometry in math. They successfully defined and classified angles. Students were able to identify different types of quadrilaterals, triangles, and circles. Perimeter and area were calculated on two and three-dimensional figures.

**Mrs. Bordiuk/Mrs. Mee
Lower School PE**

During the third marking period, Lower School PE classes worked on the Jump Rope Unit. Students have developed a better sense of timing and coordination, while simultaneously improving their strength and cardiovascular health. In addition to this unit, students attended

health classes once a week. Topics covered are listed on our web sites. Third marking period grades are based on students' progress in jumping rope, along with overall sportsmanship, conduct, and active participation during PE and health class.

Students resumed swimming the week of March 12; please make sure your child comes to swim class with a towel, goggles, and a swim cap (girls).

The PE department will administer the Presidential Fitness Tests during the fourth marking period, giving students an opportunity to improve upon their fitness scores from the fall.

**Mrs. Cahalane
Lower School Science**

PreK students have been learning about the solar system. Kindergarten students have been learning about animals. First graders have been studying the Earth. Second grade students have been learning about dinosaurs & fossils. The third grade students have been learning about the moon and fourth graders have been studying the layers of the Earth. Please see my Instagram for some great photos! @science_oakhillacademy.

**Mrs. Vacca
HO HO (Heads On, Hands On)**

We had another successful Littletown Day! Thanks to everyone -- students, faculty, parents -- for all coming together to "make it happen!"

Our final unit takes us to **The Everglades** in Florida. This unique land formation is home to much plant and wildlife along with its beauty and diversity. Students will have the opportunity to view upper school students' presentations on the Everglades and video clips and books that will enhance this unit.

**Mme Simon
Grade 4 French**

It is a pleasure to teach the fourth grade. The students retained a lot of material taught by Madame Koar the last few years and the new students have adjusted really well.

We studied the numbers, the alphabet, colors, weather and classroom objects. We are now studying food and then we will study the ER verbs.

The material is learned in a fun way. We use YouTube videos, Educreation videos (created by the teacher), and Kahoot

games. This method of learning is a lot of fun and very engaging. Bon travail !

**Mrs. Scheuer
Upper School Guidance**

The switch was ON in January as students rotated specials - Art and Computers, Music and Drama, Tech and Math Workshop and French and Spanish. Upper school students adjusted to their new schedules without missing a beat.

Our Cash Raffle Kick Off assembly demonstrated true OHA spirit! Corresponding with *The Great Gatsby* theme, teams wearing black and white competed in a Dancing with the Stars-style game. Celebrity appearances via teacher performances were a huge hit with the students.

February holidays provided a great opportunity to reflect upon OHA character traits. Presidents Washington and Lincoln are both widely respected for integrity and honesty. I observe our students finding wallets, change purses, calculators and flash drives on a daily basis. Without teacher direction, students return the items to the owner or the office. OHA students help each other not because someone is watching or for a reward. They help each other because it is simply the right thing to do.

Lip Sync rocked the SAC on both nights. Each year the acts are more dynamic! The faculty practiced long hours and gave two solid performances but the eighth graders stole the show! Way to go Class of 2018! Congratulations to all the performers. You did a great job! Kudos to the cast and crew of *Charlotte's Web*! Mrs. DeVivo and Mrs. Alexander overcame snowstorms, ice, and a revised performance schedule to dazzle audiences with not one, but two amazing performances.

A cyber safety reminder to all students: Do not ask for or send inappropriate pictures via social media. A cyber safety message to all parents: Remember you are in charge and ultimately responsible for your children's accounts. To avoid issues with classmates/friends or legal issues, monitor your children's activity on a daily basis. Check, read, and search for fake accounts. Please stay informed and remain vigilant.

Read Across America, Littletown Day, the arrival of Daylight Savings, and St. Patrick's Day signify...spring is here by the calendar. Now if only Mother Nature will cooperate.

Mrs. Duffy/ Mrs. Grier/ Mrs. Scheuer
Grade 5 Reading

Fifth graders covered a great deal of material in the third marking period! We completed our second novel *The Borrowers* by Mary Norton. Students listened to the audio version while following along in their books. The tiny characters of Pod, Homily, and Arrietty as well "human bean" the Boy come alive via an expressive narration. Mrs. Scheuer's class piloted *The Girl Who Drank the Moon* by Kelly Barnhill. Students gave the book 5 stars and highly recommended it for the 2018-2019 school year. Students completed individual ThingLinks, QR Codes, attached their work to our class Padlet, and recorded book review Podcasts. Both projects linked to Mrs. Scheuer's webpage. In Wonders Literature Anthology, we enjoyed Blancaflor (on mid-term exam), Rosa, Westlandia, The Story of Snow, and Winter's Tale. We continued our work in Surprises! as well as Storyworks magazine and weekly library visits.

Miss Lee
Grade 5 Literature/Language Arts

This school year sure is flying by. It's hard to believe we are already in the 4th marking period! We had a very exciting 3rd marking period in Literature and Language Arts.

In Literature this marking period, we read the novel, *Esperanza Rising*, by Pam Munoz Ryan. We discovered numerous connections between this novel, and our two selections from our Literature textbooks, "The Circuit" and *Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez*. We also made connections to history and learned about The Great Depression and The Dust Bowl. We continue to examine and analyze narrative elements such as point of view, characterization, conflict, and thematic ideas. Our Literature classes are continuously and consistently full of lively, thoughtful, and engaging discussions. More recently, we learned about the poet Langston Hughes through reading a play that was also a biography of his life! To celebrate National Poetry Month in April, we will explore a wide variety of poems and create our own. On Thursday, April 26, we will celebrate Poem in Your Pocket Day by choosing a poem to bring to school and carry around, read, and share with each other throughout the day. I'm looking forward to it!

When reading *Esperanza Rising*, we learned that Pam Munoz Ryan's ideas for the book came from stories she heard

from her grandmother, other family members, and friends. This tied into our writing project this marking period, which were our historical essays about historical places in Monmouth County or important events in our family histories. It was an awesome opportunity for personal learning and to dig deeply into history. Students' essays were submitted to the annual Monmouth County Historical Commission essay contest for fifth graders. In our grammar studies, we have been studying pronouns, sentences, and adjectives. In the 4th marking period, we will be focusing on adverbs and prepositions. We also continue to make steady progress in our Vocabulary Workshop book, and love looking for ways to incorporate vocabulary words into class discussions and writing projects.

The 4th marking period provides us with the opportunity to look back and reflect on all of the reading and writing we have accomplished this year, especially as we begin preparing for our Final/Big Tests. I commend the fifth graders for their continued enthusiasm and encourage everyone to keep up the great work as we enter this last marking period! You can continue to use the class website and online Sycamore portal to see what we're working on in Literature and Language Arts.

Grade 6 Reading

This school year sure is flying by and it's hard to believe we're already in the 4th marking period!

In Reading this marking period, we read the novel *Freedom Crossing*, by Margaret Goff Clark. As part of our studies, we learned about the Underground Railroad and the history of Lewiston, New York. We ended our studies by writing about the characters, historical connections, or thematic ideas in the novel.

More recently, in our *Heroes* books, we have been reading inspirational nonfiction accounts of people who had strong convictions and stood up for what they believed in. These led into our last book of the year together in 6th grade Reading, Malala Yousafzai's memoir, *I am Malala*. As we read this book together, students will have opportunities to make connections with their Global Studies class.

The 4th marking period provides us with a chance to look back and reflect on all of our reading and writing accomplishments this year. I continue to enjoy reading students' Reading Response Journals every month - thank

you for sharing your reading experiences and connections with me this year! I commend the 6th graders for their enthusiasm and hard work this year, and encourage everyone to keep up the excellent work in this 4th marking period! You can continue to use the class website and online Sycamore portal to see what we're working on in Reading class this marking period.

Mrs. Matson
Grades 5 & 6 Geography

2018 OHA History/Global Studies Fair
May 16-May 18, 2018

Attention Oak Hill Academy students grades 5 through 8! This year we are having our **Twelfth Social Studies Fair**.

It will take place on May 16th through the 18th in the GYM.

The fair is a **COMPULSORY**, non-competitive event. Our goal is to encourage meaningful thought at all levels. This learning experience will also build self-confidence, responsibility, and a greater appreciation and enjoyment of History and Global Studies. **It is strongly recommended that students work alone**, as arranging time to work together is difficult. A maximum of two students may work together, and they **MUST** be in the same History or Geography Class period. **To make things fair, each pair is responsible for twice as much work as one student! Each student must write and submit his or her own conclusion, which MAY NOT be identical to his or her partner's conclusion.**

These projects must include a poster display and/or constructed model or demonstration, or technological presentation, created by the student. The project is a visual display of the entire investigation, as opposed to a report. Material displayed in the project must be labeled or explained. The project or display board must be able to stand on its own and **MUST include the student's name, class period and grade prominently placed!** Students requiring a computer or other device for their display must supply their own. Valuable electronics will be safely secured when the teacher is not in the Gym. Each project will be allotted approximately three feet of space.

MINIMUM RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS BY GRADE LEVEL

Wikipedia should only be used for background information, not a primary resource! It is recommended that a book be used as well as internet.

GRADE 5- three sources per student
GRADE 6- four sources per student.
GRADE 7- five sources per student.
GRADE 8- six sources per student.

FINAL Dates of Project Sections (should have been handed in by now)

By April 24th: The problem or question you are studying. This is late if it has not been submitted!

Should Have Submitted Preliminary Evidence of Research. Student brings in evidence of at least two sources and their notes.

Should Submit Final Research and Preliminary Findings. A neat description or outline of research, work and findings, Record Bibliography!

Should Submit Materials you Have or Will Use in Project Listed and the Procedure you Followed or Are Following. Type or write each section separately and neatly and submit to teacher.

APRIL 30th (Mon.): SUBMIT A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SOURCES.
Follow format of Bibliographic form e-mailed and sent home.

MAY 10th (Thurs.): FINAL CONCLUSIONS / COMPLETE YOUR PROJECT.
The conclusion should be typed or written in correct paragraph form and should be approximately one page long.

Conclusion must be handed in separately to teacher, even if a copy is on display board!

REMEMBER: Each student in a pair must have his or her own conclusion. Conclusions may NOT be identical!!!

MAY 16th (Wed.): Projects Must Be Set Up in Gym Before Homeroom
All projects must be complete, and set up in the Gym by **Wednesday, May 16th**, or risk a seriously lower grade. Student name(s), Grade and Class Period must be visible on all parts of presentation. On Thursday and/or Friday they may be viewed by Special Relatives.

Projects must be removed at the end of the day on Friday, May 18th!

**Mr. Bruckmann
Grades 5 & 6 Math**

Grade 5 Singapore Math

As the second semester began, the students participated in a short unit on Ratios in Unit 6 that will then complete our first book! Then it was on to Unit 7 and a very extensive unit that focuses on Decimals in our second book of the year (5B). Students studied addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of decimals by other decimals as well as multiples of tens, hundreds and thousands. We continued to move at a nice clip. We will embark on Unit 8 which reviews concepts learned throughout the year and are now integrated in converting both standard and metric measures as well as finding the volume of rectangular prisms.

Then it was on to Unit 9 with percent from fractions and decimals using our understanding of the relationship of decimals and fractions. As we continue to pursue our goal of moving through our program, students will then progress to Unit 10 and some work with angles and their measurement and relationship with regard to triangles and quadrilaterals. Please remember that corrections of quizzes and tests is not optional and that homework is a very important step in the process of learning lessons of both that day as well as previous days. Also, please use my website as a tool to enhance learning as well. http://www.oakhillacademy.com/faculty_and_administration/bruckmann/mr_brockmann_s_5th_grade_math_class/

Grade 6

The sixth grade class came and conquered our Singapore 6A books. The final Unit was on Rate and Speed, and then it was time to move onto a look into Integers in Unit 13. Positive, Negative Integers as well as how to add, subtract, multiply and divide will be our focus before we move on to Circles and some geometry. Remember that corrections for the tests and quizzes are due the day following when the test/quiz has been handed back. All students need to be prepared with a sharpened pencil, all three books and a desire to learn and increase their math knowledge. Also, please use my website as a tool to enhance learning as well. http://www.oakhillacademy.com/faculty_and_administration/bruckmann/mr_brockmann_grade_6_math_class/

**Mrs. Cotterell
Grades 5 – 8 Math**

Grade 5

Although the snow days threw us an unexpected curve ball, we still have been able to make great progress this marking period. The students have been working so hard on their fractions and decimals. They learned how to perform all four operations with fractions and have just started to learn the operations with decimals. If your child comes home and says they played a game in math, it is quite true. Students can play many easy games to help them learn how to work with both fractions and decimals. Some of the games they played were rolling fraction dice, around the world on the white board and war with decimal flashcards. We learn through play and the students have fun. This group is such a pleasure to teach. We will be working hard through 4th marking period right to the last day!

Grade 6

Two concepts have dominated the 6th grade class this last marking period: circles and integers. The study of circles came at a perfect time so the students were able to fully understand what Pi is and have fun taking part in the Pi day activities. The students' study of Pi began when I brought in several circular objects and they had to measure the objects using a cloth tape measure. I took some great pictures and posted them on my Instagram account @oakhillacademy-nj-math if you want to view them. The Singapore program delves into much more than just finding the area and circumference of circles. The students learned how to find those for semi circles, quadrants and fractional parts as well! Once circles were done, we began our study of integers. We had fun playing a game of war with regular playing cards to help firm up the students' understanding of the rules. Integers are easy; the trick is to keep the rules straight. Since your child will be working with integers for many more math years, it is very important that the four operations be mastered.

Grade 7 – Periods 1 and 5

The snow made this marking period a bit of a challenge in that we seemed to miss some continuity with our lessons, but the students remained focused and worked extra hard to understand the subject matter. We finished two chapters and began a third during this marking period. The students began the 3rd marking period with a study of all foundational concepts: divisibility rules, prime factorization, greatest common factor, least common multiple, simplifying.

These were then applied to adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions in the next chapter. Chapter 7 was quite challenging – even without the snow thrown into the mix! Solving both equations and inequalities with positive and negative fractions and decimals is quite complicated. The students held their own and made it through! Chapter 8 is all about proportions. The students will learn how to use proportions to solve a variety of problems.

Grade 8 – Algebra 1

We completed Chapter 5 and are half way through with Chapter 6. Chapter 5 was challenging. Virtually every lesson was a new concept. The students learned about slope, intercepts, slope intercept form, point slope form, parallel and perpendicular lines and standard form! The key to success in this chapter was a diligent and careful approach to each evening's homework. I have to say the students as a whole were quite happy to see chapter 5 end! Chapter 6, though dominated by new concepts, is more in their comfort zone. They began by solving addition/subtraction inequalities and quickly moved on to multiplying and dividing inequalities with positive and negative numbers. They are doing a great job on their quizzes and homework. We have two more chapters to cover before we see this year end, so we will be working hard right until the last day.

Grade 8 – Geometry

We continue to be making great progress in this class. They dealt with the snow and did not miss a beat! This hard working group of students kept plugging along and succeeded beautifully! We completed three chapters during this marking period and are essentially done with the 4th chapter as well. My hope is to sneak in some days of review for their upcoming high school placement tests. We began our review this week of some standardized cumulative Algebra 1 concepts as well as a standardized cumulative review of Geometry. The students are doing quite well on these. We will continue doing this as often as possible over the next several weeks. We covered triangles in depth – including the basic trigonometric functions. The students had their first taste of the law of elevation and depression as well as the Law of Sines and Cosines. They also have spent a significant amount of time on circles and are doing quite well with them. We will be working hard right until the last day. I'm sure these students are looking forward to the upcoming summer when they can rest a bit after all of this hard work!

Mr. Clapp **Grade 5 Science**

The fifth graders have switched from Space Science to Earth Science. We are now looking at what makes up most of our natural world all around us. Our first topic is minerals and with that, we will start to look at the different properties of minerals and identifying minerals based on their characteristics. After this, we are going to start looking at the different types of rocks and the minerals that make up all of the rocks we see every day. We just went on a field trip to the Sterling Hill Zinc Mining museum. We went on a tour that showed us how mines worked and saw some awesome minerals and rocks that could be found there. Soon they will not only know about minerals and rocks in the natural world, but they will know about the minerals and rocks that are useful in their everyday life.

Mrs. Vacca **Grades 5 & 6 Math Workshop and Explorations**

Students in grade five continue to work diligently on their challenging math warm-up worksheets, helping to reinforce math concepts. Bonus points will be tallied at the end of this marking period, designating a free dress down day for those with the most accumulated points.

Students have been busy working on a project called: **"Sports Mathematics."** While researching the sport itself, the main objective is how math is used in the sport whether from scoring, to dimensions of playing fields, stats, equipment sizes, to how many players. This all involves math in some way. Presentations should be interesting and fun to watch.

Students have been working very hard on their **Famous Landmarks Around the World** project and presentations are underway. From the "Christ the Redeemer" statue in Brazil, to Mt. Rushmore, the White House, Sandy Hook Lighthouse in NJ, to the Oriental Pearl Tower in China, the Kremlin in Russia, all are informative and visually pleasant to watch.

Sixth grade students continue to complete challenging math warm-ups and hands on math activities, including Roman Numerals and games such as SET. These bonus points will be tallied at the end of this marking period and those students with the highest accumulative points will earn a free dress down day.

The "Million Dollar" project presentations have just started and it has been interesting to see college choices, home selections and vacations, as well as how generous students are with the balance of their inheritance. Some worthy organizations have been mentioned as to the importance of making monetary donations to such good causes.

Students have also been working on a project entitled: "Land Reclamation," a reclaimed land or artificial island. Included in their research was the description of the land and where it is located, what technique was used to create this new land, and what was the purpose of this effort to create new land. After watching a video clip on various locations, students made their selections of interest.

Research has started on such locations as the Polders in the Netherlands, the Hoover Dam, the Maldives, Dubai, and the Gully in the Black Hills of South Dakota. These presentations should be very informative, especially the techniques used to create these new land formations.

Mrs. Palamara **Grades 6 - 8**

Math 6

In the Unit on Rate, students extended their understanding about rate to situations with changing rates. They also learned about speed as a special case of rate. The main mathematical ideas students learned about rate is that one quantity changes with another. For example, distance changes with time or amount of gasoline needed changes with distance traveled.

In the Unit on Circles, students extended their understanding of perimeter and area of figures with only straight sides to those that include curved sides where the curves are parts of a circle. In particular, students learned the concept of circumference and area of circles and they acquired the knowledge on how to compute the circumference and area of circles given the radius or diameter. Students wrapped up the marking period starting the Unit on Negative Numbers. In the Grade 5 text, students learned addition and subtraction of integers. In this unit, students extended their knowledge of negative integers to include multiplication and division.

Grades 7 & 8 Algebra

In Chapter 5, students learned how to write linear equations and apply them to real life situations. They wrote linear equations in slope-intercept, point-slope and standard form. They found the equation of a line using two points and they found equations of parallel and perpendicular lines.

In Chapter 6, students wrote, solved and graphed linear inequalities in one variable and used inequalities to model real life situations. They solved compound inequalities, absolute value equations and inequalities and graphed linear inequalities in two variables.

Students began Chapter 7. Thus far, they have solved systems of two linear equations and graphed the solutions to systems of linear inequalities. They solved linear systems by graphing, substitution and linear combinations.

Grade 8 Algebra

In Chapter 9, students learned to evaluate square roots and simplify radicals, graph quadratic functions, and solve real life problems using quadratic models. They solved quadratic equations using square roots, graphing, and the quadratic formula. They learned to use the discriminant to determine the number of solutions to a quadratic equation.

Students began Chapter 10 and identified, computed with, and factored polynomial expressions. They learned to add, subtract and multiply polynomials. They learned about special products of polynomials and wrapped up the marking period factoring quadratic trinomials.

Mrs. Duffy **Grade 6 English/LA**

During the fourth marking period, sixth grade students enjoyed reading the suspenseful and engaging novel The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle by Avi. This story tells of a young girl's struggles (including being accused and found guilty of murder) which begins when she boards a brig called the Seahawk. As the only passenger, and only girl, on a voyage across the Atlantic during the early 1800s, Charlotte finds herself questioning all that she has learned in her short life in regard to class, race, and gender.

In language arts, students studied lessons on modifiers, combining sentences, capitalization, and punctuation. These skills enrich their writing and were helpful in crafting an epilogue to The True Confessions of

Charlotte Doyle and a descriptive piece, detailing a city, beach, or desert scene.

Mme Simon **Grade 6 – 8 French**

Grade 6

During the first marking period, we studied the ER verbs, the verb to be, how to make questions and answers as well as the classroom objects and family vocabulary.

The students had many chances to practice their speaking skills as they presented a dialog from memory in front of the entire class.

We are now studying a text about friends going to a restaurant. We always have the opportunity to reinforce the material with games such as KAHOOT and SOCRATIVE. The students use devices to answer questions from games that I created. These games are very engaging and students answer the questions in real time that are projected on the big screen. They love to see their name appear on it!

It is a pleasure to see the enthusiasm of the students during our classes. Great job!

Grade 7

During this marking period, we reviewed the ER verbs, irregular verbs, how to make questions and answers and the clothing vocabulary associated with the placement of the adjectives. We also studied a text about the meals in France and cultural facts about French eating habits and restaurants.

The students have the opportunity to reinforce the material with games such as KAHOOT and SOCRATIVE. The students use devices to answer questions from games that I created. These games are very engaging and students answer the questions in real time which are projected on the big screen.

On Friday, April 20th we will have our French event about CARNIVALS in the French speaking world. Students will present countries where a carnival is being held. During that event we will watch presentations, have games and a French food tasting. Good job !

Grade 8

In the eighth grade, we have mastered quite a lot of regular and irregular verbs, vocabulary and speaking exercises.

We studied the passé composé (past tense) which is quite a complex tense. The students are able to relate to events that occurred in the past while creating stories and expressing themselves in writing and orally.

In my French class, we combine the study of grammar, vocabulary, and the practice of speaking skills. We are introduced to a lot of culture from the 33 countries where French is the official language all around the world.

On Friday, April 20th we will have our French event about CARNIVALS in the French speaking world. Students will present countries where a carnival is being held. During that event we will watch presentations, have games and a French food tasting.

Sra. Dotto **Grades 5, 7 & 8 Spanish**

Grade 5

In fifth grade, students have been studying polite expressions, colors, numbers 0 to 199, singular and plural definite articles, changing singular nouns and pronouns to plural as well as gender agreement, classroom items and the four forms of you – *tú, usted, vosotros and ustedes*. This material has been reinforced with classroom interaction, songs, games, videos and by logging in to my sites Weebly and Quizlet for visual and auditory practice.

The students really enjoy these sites and their pronunciation is getting better each day. Over all, the children have adjusted very well to the study of Spanish and are very eager to learn.

Grade 7

In seventh grade, we have spent a few weeks re-examining material covered last year including subject pronouns, how to say time, the verbs **gustar, ser**, over 30 - **ar** regular verbs, questions formation, indirect object pronouns and how to clarify with indirect object pronouns. We just finished learning a good amount of – **er** regular verbs and mastered the conjugation of a few stem-changing verbs like **querer** and **jugar** and the irregular verb **ir**. We also completed Chapter 3A. In this Chapter, the students acquired a lot of vocabulary and expressions that have to do with every day activities. All this material is reinforced with power point presentations, videos, classroom

interaction, audio CD's, songs, and by logging into my sites Weebly and Quizlet for visual and auditory practice.

Grade 8

In Spanish, the eighth grade students have learned a great amount of vocabulary, identifying food items, talking about meals, offering help, taking an order, making a polite request in a restaurant and commenting on foods. In grammar, they mastered the usage of direct object pronouns with singular and double verbs, the difference between the verb *ser* and the verb *estar* (both verbs mean "to be," but are used under different circumstances), learned the conjugation in the present tense of the verbs *probar*, *calentar*, *mezclar*, *pedir*, *servir*, *desayunar*, *tomar* and *cenar* plus the imperfect subjunctive of the verbs *querer* and the conditional of the verb *gustar*.

All this material is reinforced with power point presentations, classroom interaction, audio CD's, videos and by logging in to my site Weebly and Quizlet for visual and auditory practice.

Mrs. Tirella Grade 7 LA

In Language Arts this marking period, we have just completed a unit on Capitalization and Punctuation in grammar. We have begun a unit on the various types of Pronouns that will benefit our essay writing for future assignments.

We are continuing our lessons in *Vocabulary Workshop* and will soon complete the textbook. We will revisit the words again when we prepare for our June exam.

Mrs. Tirella / Mrs. Matson Grade 7 Literature

In Literature, we are delving into the world of Poetry. We will focus on the Elements of Poetry and read a variety of poems that we will analyze. We will also emphasize the various literary devices as we enjoy our investigation of different types of poems.

Our next unit will focus on the Pulitzer prize-winning play version of *The Diary of Anne Frank*. We will emphasize the Elements of Drama as we read the play together in class and focus on the background of the setting of World War II and the Holocaust.

Mrs. Scheuer Grade 7 Critical Reading

The third marking period proved to be very informative and entertaining! We continued our work in Vocabulary with Classical Roots units nine through twelve. Studying Latin and Greek roots certainly enhances word attack and deciphering strategies. I encourage students to retain their vocabulary Quizlet cards for future review, as these words will likely appear on ERB, PSAT, SSAT, and SAT assessments.

In our novel study, *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park students learned the difficulties our main characters, Nya and Salva encountered obtaining clean drinking water in South Sudan. Upon completion of the novel, students created individual ThingLinks and QR codes and attached their work to our class Padlet. Afterward students paired up to create a book review in the form of a Podcast. Both projects can be viewed and heard on my webpage.

Congratulations to Victoria Tackett! Victoria won our March Madness bracket challenge. Victoria selected Michigan versus Villanova in the Final and selected Villanova as the winner. Way to go, Victoria!

Mrs. Billet Grades 7 & 8 Science

The sixth grade class just finished a unit discovering patterns of heredity and how inherited changes can influence evolutionary trends. Both simple and Mendelian heredity patterns of multiple alleles and polygenic inheritance were explained. We investigated evidence for evolution by looking at fossils, embryology, and DNA relationships.

You can see our fossils on display in Room 16 in the Soler Science Center

The seventh grade continues its study of physical science by studying electricity. Electricity not only provides us with light, but also heat, refrigeration, and power to run countless electrical devices we use every day. Where does electricity come from? How does it get to our homes, schools, and offices? How can you control it by flicking a switch or pushing a button? We learned the answers to these questions. We used our kits to build series and parallel circuits.

Mrs. Vacca Grade 7 Explorations

Second semester classes have just finished presenting their Pyeongchang 2018 Winter Olympic athlete projects. Students had researched their athlete prior to the opening ceremonies and then kept track of their athlete's performance records during the Olympics. Presentations were informative and interesting with some very personal stories of the athlete's struggles along with victories. Action video clips were exciting to watch!

Ms. Lewent Grades 7 & 8 Latin

The seventh graders continued to work on differentiating among the five noun cases, with an in-depth focus on the ablative and genitive cases. The classes also delved into greater depths of passage translations using the present tense of regular and irregular verb conjugations. Students studied the Greek and Roman gods, the significance and origin of Roman names, the treatment of Roman slaves and the founding of Rome. Additionally, students progressed smoothly through several chapters of from *Ecce Romani IA*, translating many passages and picking up new vocabulary and English derivatives with each new lesson. They also participated in the Introduction to Latin National Latin Exam in March. Finally, students continued to build upon their assortment of classical influences with great success!

The eighth graders focused on learning all six of the Latin verb tenses in active voice: adding future, pluperfect and future perfect tenses to their repertoire of verb conjugations. Additionally, classes worked on discerning the dative and the ablative cases in context of specific translations. Students also acquired a great deal of new vocabulary words as they move toward completion of the Latin II textbook come June. Students spent time converting verbs to and from all the different tenses as well as translating a number of passages from which follow the stories of several characters they met in their seventh grade Latin IA books. Additionally, they worked on their translation skills through many stories. Culturally, classes reviewed Rome's early Republic, Roman hospitality and Latin expressions used in modern English. Students took the Latin I National Latin Exam in March. Students continued to collect and explain various classical influences found in our everyday society.

Mrs. Daly
Grade 8 Literature

This marking period, the eighth graders successfully finished *Romeo and Juliet*. Through plot development, the classes analyzed characterization and themes while studying the original text of the play. Using iambic pentameter in couplet form, student pairs wrote scene summaries for each of the acts. In addition to dissecting the play, students studied Shakespeare's Sonnet #18 and wrote their own versions of "Shall I Compare..." After the play's ending tests, the classes viewed *West Side Story* as a comparison/contrasting version of young love and decisions.

Our focus is now on *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. This classic story won the Pulitzer Prize in 1960. Set in the 1930s, the novel's themes help students explore this part of history through a young narrator's eyes.

Mrs. Daly/Mrs. Mayer
Grade 8 Language Arts

The eighth graders have successfully completed the final drafts of the research paper. Students collectively learned the stages of formal writing through a lengthy and diligent approach to mastery. Individual topics were well executed and beautifully written. Topics included medical research, the dangers of texting while driving, social issues, and historical perspectives. Well-Done, Classes! Our last marking period will focus on grammar, writing, and poetry!

Mr. Pacelli
Advanced Algebra I

After covering radical and rational expressions, our class moved right into an in-depth study of quadratic equations that featured numerous application problems. Next came exponential functions and logs. We covered the idea of inverse functions, composite functions, and graphing.

We will complete our work for the year with a chapter on conic section followed by an introduction to trigonometry.

Mr. Clapp
Grade 8 Science

The eighth graders are still on the human body, but this past marking period has had us learning about the circulatory and respiratory systems. They all now know how oxygen and blood cycle throughout our body. Right now, they are working hard on another body systems project where they will be teaching a lesson on a

specific body system to the class. Next marking period will focus on the nervous system and the brain. The year will cap off with a pig dissection to show what all of the body systems together look like.

Mrs. Larkins
Grade 8 Math Workshop

It was March Madness for the eighth grade this marking period as we entered into our college basketball project. We investigated the mathematics behind the process of a tournament and got to make our picks for the NCAA men's basketball tournament. We used this 64-team tournament to answer some questions on probability and statistics. Congratulations to the students who won our in-school pool! Next, the students took on an alias and received their very own W-2 forms. With a new identify and income, they were required to file their own taxes. We examined how taxes are collected and spent by our government and then each student completed their own EZ tax form. It was an eye-opening experience for all of them!

Now it is on to the biggest (and usually favorite) project of the year...the fantasy baseball project. Let's play ball!

Mr. Rosenfeld
Upper School P.E.

The upper school enjoyed a terrific third marking period! Health finished up for sixth and eighth grades and at the end of the marking period returned to the gymnasium for Physical Education.

While waiting patiently for Mother Nature to cooperate to get outside, students participated in a variety of indoor games and began the second round of the Oak Hill Physical Education fitness testing. Testing will continue and many students have already improved on their fall testing results that include push-ups, curl-ups, flexibility, the shuttle run, and the mile run. There is no doubt that there are some very fit students at Oak Hill Academy. As the weather improves, we will be heading outside for ultimate Frisbee, tennis, and pickle ball.

Upon returning from spring break swim classes resumed. Swim will be once a week until the end of the school year.

Miss DiMaggio
Art

First grade used the letter Y to make a Y tree using sharpies and watercolors. They drew self-portraits and made pinch pots in ceramics.

Second grade worked in large groups to make an oversized replica of Eric Carle's characters. They used the pinch method in ceramics.

Third grade used watercolor pencils, and followed the color wheel in the color collision project. They used model magic to make a coil pot, and worked in small groups to make a Monet inspired tissue paper collage.

Fourth grade drew self-portraits after learning about female artist Frida Kahlo, and used the slab method of ceramics.

Fifth grade drew creative color wheels, learned about Wassily Kandinsky and drew a Non-Objective drawing with sharpies and watercolors. They learned about Romare Bearden and made a collage of buildings and city scenes. They drew close up flowers with oil pastels based on Georgia O'Keeffe.

Sixth grade drew buildings in one point perspective. They learned about Henri Rousseau and drew jungles using watercolor pencils. They also drew funny face self-portraits while learning about Chuck Close and the grid method of drawing.

Seventh grade learned about Georges Seurat and used tiny dots to make a painting using the pointillism technique. They used acrylic paint in their texture painting.

Eighth grade used pastels to draw their name in a graffiti style after learning about Keith Haring. They used tiny words and no lines to make a picture called micro calligraphy. They drew portraits, painted a beach using watercolors, and used liquid watercolors in our blown watercolor pictures.

Most classes entered the Doodle 4 Google contest and we hope to hear good news soon!

Mrs. DeVivo
Drama

Pre-K and Kindergarten embraced the cold weather this marking period by acting out stories such as "The Snowy Day," "The Mitten," "The Hat," "The Biggest Snowman Ever," and all of the books from the "Snowmen All Year"

series. The students played charades and performed a variety of winter pantomime activities such as making snowmen and snow angels, skiing and one of their favorites having a snowball fight! We also pretended that we were in the Olympic Winter Games and acted out figure skating, bobsledding and snowboarding. The students made snowman masks and learned a snowman finger play. Now that the snow has finally melted and Spring is on the way, the children are looking forward to reenacting books by Eric Carle like *"The Very Hungry Caterpillar," "The Mixed up Chameleon"* and *"Brown Bear, Brown Bear"* just to name a few.

First grade had a great time making Paper Bag puppets. They created so many wonderful characters such as rabbits, football players, unicorns, Harry Potter and Star Wars characters! Once their puppets were complete, the students brought them to life in entertaining puppet shows!

Second grade also made puppets this marking period. They made paper tube puppets. Their creations and puppet scripts were fun and unique as well. Some puppets that came to the puppet stage were penguins, mermaids, political figures, robots, princesses and a variety of cute animals! The students learned about proper play script format and how to structure a story and write dialogue.

The third graders have been rehearsing a Reader's Theatre script entitled *"LIVE: It's Fairy Tale New."* Additionally, they worked in groups, to create fairy tale commercials that will be performed along with this play. Some products up for sale in these commercials are *"The Pigantor Grill"* for the Big, Bad Wolf, *"Fairytale Footwear"* for all the Princesses, and even a commercial for a new TV Show called *"Dancing with the Fairies."* There are so many wonderful commercials! The students wrote their commercial scripts using persuasive writing, and then made the prop/product. This play and commercials will be presented for their parents in May. (*May 1st - 3R and May 4th - 3S & 3A*)

The fourth grade has been introduced to the world of improvisation. They have enjoyed playing improv games like *"Press Conference," "Improv Ball Toss,"* and *"Improv Freeze Tag."* They also read some plays in class that tied into this year's HoHo theme, Medieval Times. The students read and acted out *"The Court of King Arthur's Arithmetic"* which stressed the important role that math plays in our everyday lives. The other

play the students enjoyed acting out was *"The Sword and the Stone."*

The fifth and sixth grades entered drama in the early part of the year. They spent the first part of the marking period brushing up on improvisation and story building skills by playing a variety of Improv games and acting out various Improv scenarios. The students also learned about monologues. They were asked to write and then perform an original, personal monologue in front of the class. Some students talked about vacations, family members, funny memories and pets just to name a few. It was a great way to break the ice and for everyone to get to know each other better and feel more comfortable around one another.

On March 6th, the sixth and seventh grade students went on a field trip to CBA to see their spring musical *"Fiddler on the Roof."* It was wonderful! Our pre-show lesson included background information about *"Fiddler"* including details about the plot, characters, composer and lyricists as well as the play's historical, social and political significance.

Moving forward, the students in sixth grade are doing research projects on musical theatre. Some students are researching current plays like *"Hamilton"* and *"Dear Evan Hansen"* while others are going back to older musicals such as *"The Sound of Music"* and *"South Pacific."* They will give their presentations in the 4th marking period.

The school play, *"Charlotte's Web"* was performed on Friday, March 23rd and it was just *terrific, terrific, TERRIFIC!* Bravo to the cast and crew!!!

Mrs. Griller Computer

Congratulations to Owen Drudy (Kindergarten) and Isabella Thackeray (6th grade) who have won the Cybersecurity Poster contest at the NJ state level and are now moving on to the National level.

We would like to thank Dimiti Giannakopolous and Ian Girgis whose invitation designs were used for Littletown day. We would also like to thank the designers of the Tiny Bucks. Allie Lin designed the \$1, Daniel Atshuller designed the \$5, Kate Schweikert designed the \$10 and Will Plank designed the \$20.

As students transition between Art and Computers, we have a new set of students learning the same great computer skills that those who took computers in the first half of the year have learned.

All grades have participated in a Cyber Safety Presentation. We discussed what to do and what to avoid whenever connected to the Internet.

The first graders have been working on their eye hand coordination and building dexterity, while making beautiful pictures in Tux Paint and learning the parts of the computer.

The second grade classes programmed their Lego robots to move and make sound and learned the keys of the keyboard.

Third graders began learning about how to hold their hands when typing and what fingers should be used when typing certain letters. They also created the Littletown Day invitations and a Wordle about themselves.

Fourth grade students have been given their Google accounts, learned about Gmail and created acrostic poems about a country using Docs.

In fifth grade, the students have learned the basics of Microsoft Word. They wrote a business letter using templates, wrote a three-paragraph MLA essay with specific formatting and made a picture using the draw tools.

The sixth grade classes learned the basic features and terminology of Microsoft Excel. They put together a spreadsheet with the count of beads in 10 bags and then created charts depicting that count. They also learned the basics of HTML programming.

While learning about the features of Microsoft Publisher the seventh graders created brochures and banners. In the brochures, they provided information about a black history in honor of black history month. Their banners are hanging around the school teaching us all about good character traits.

In eighth grade, the students completed their resume and continued improving their typing skills. They also made a CAD design that was printed on our 3D printer.

Mrs. Vacca/Mrs. Savarese
Student Council

“**Movie Day**” for the fifth and sixth grade students took place on Wednesday, February 7th in the SAC. An afternoon of a good movie, **Cool Runnings**, food and drinks was a fun time for all.

I want to thank everyone for their donations to the **American Heart Association**. We were able to send a total monetary donation of **\$472.50** in February to such a worthy organization.

Our “**Rock your socks**” dress down day for the month of March was held on Tuesday, March 6th in recognition of **National Down Syndrome Day** which is on the 21st. The Apolito family belong to a non-profit organization that supports activities, outings, and workshops for children with Down Syndrome and their families, called Network-21. Monetary donations collected to the amount of **\$330.25**

The Spring Fling Dance for 7th and 8th graders will be held on Friday, April 27th from 7:30-10PM. Admission is \$5.

Just a friendly reminder: All Dress Down Days for the entire school are \$1.00 whether it is for a specific organization or for OHA. The money collected for an unspecified organization helps pay for Littletown Day rides, movie day, dances and year-end gifts to the school. Please remember to bring your dollar when you dress down. **THANK YOU!**

Calling all 7th grade students! May is election time for the upcoming Student Council 2018-2019 school year. A detailed packet will be coming home in the next few weeks.

ATHLETICS

Girls Basketball

The winter seasons ended in mid-February with the highlight of the girls basketball team making the play-offs! After defeating #1 seed Red Bank earlier in the season, the #1 seed emerged victorious in the first round defeating our Lady Mustangs 33-17. It was a great run and the team finished 9-7. The 8th graders showed tremendous development over their four years with Mrs. Porzio at the helm, and they will be missed: Addy Basile, Sara Braunstein, Kimberly Cannon, Cakie Dym, Anna Hindermann, Madison Lucosky, Hailey O'Donnell and Paige Lane.

Boys Varsity Basketball

The boys varsity basketball team had a tough season finishing with a record of 4-12 and included a sweep of Red Bank during the season. Mr. Misson and Mr. Bruckmann will miss the contributions of 8th graders: Louis Ambrosio, Billy Attardi, Pierce Blankenbaker, Douglas Cannon, Shane Gazdus, Daniel Mooney, Daniel Shallcross, Wyatt Slagle, Alexey Stout and Justin Weber.

JV Boys Basketball

Mr. Rosenfeld and the JV Boys basketball finished with a 2-1 record and swept Ranney in both meetings this winter. They will continue to work on their skills as they prepare for the varsity level in the years to come.

Scorekeepers

The true unsung heroes behind the scenes at all home basketball games, our student-scorekeepers, do a professional job of keeping the clock and the official scorebook. Numerous officials have complimented our group game after game. Eighth graders who will surely be missed for their dedication are Olivia Bruckmann, Alex Mitchell, Paige Lane and Wyatt Slagle.

Swim Team

Coached by Mrs. Bordiuk and Mrs. Mee, our swim team competed hard despite our numbers. At the Ranney Invitational, our season finale, 8th grader, Elizabeth Wright, set TWO Meet and Oak Hill School records in the 50M Freestyle and the 200M Freestyle! What a way to end a career! Seventh grader, Aaron Lee, also captured a medal finishing 3rd in the 50M backstroke. Great effort by all swimmers. Graduating along with Elizabeth Wright are Adam Holden and Ansh Kulkarni.

2018 Oak Hill Academy Summer Programs

The 2018 Oak Hill Academy Summer Programs are on-line as well as in the office. We have streamlined our [Summer Program Registration Process](#) so that it is easier for you to register. Check out the [Summer Programs page](#) for more information regarding individual programs. http://www.oakhillacademy.com/experiences/2018_summer_programs

