

Oak Hill Academy Newsletter #2 December 2013

Headmaster's Message Joseph A. Pacelli

I speak many times of the traits which I feel are necessary for our students to develop as they grow. Beyond the academic skills which are necessary for success in high school and beyond is a whole list of what is being called "21st century skills." All of these point to making the individual productive in society while utilizing personal strengths. Today, I would like to link a few of these together.

Being self-confident is the direct result of trying something often while becoming more capable with each try. Just like learning to ride a bike, we start off unsure, but with each try we get better and better. This is called having a positive mindset. In other words, "When one does one's best, one's best will get better!" Struggling with understanding is good; it gives the student the ability to cope with difficult situations and to be an independent thinker and doer. Sticking to a task with a certain amount of grit allows the child to take on even more challenging endeavors.

Mrs. Larkins Director of Development

Mid-Point in Annual Giving

Soon you will be receiving a reminder about our Annual Giving Program. Annual giving is an important opportunity for members of the OHA community to help us provide that something extra that makes Oak Hill so unique. All private schools count on Annual Giving to bridge the gap between tuition and the actual cost to educate each child at their school. In these current times, please know that no gift is insignificant and every gift is truly appreciated. Thank you to the many current parents, alumni families, grandparents, and friends who have already given. You've shown your commitment to the future of our students.

Admissions Update

Admissions to Oak Hill Academy for 2014-2015 are already in full swing and we have even begun classroom visits

and acceptances for Pre-Kindergarten students. Testing for students entering grades K-8 will begin in January. Some grades may have more applicants than possible openings for September, so please remember **if you intend to send another child in your family to OHA in September 2014, you must apply before January in order to receive preference in consideration for any openings.** Application materials can be obtained through the school office. Also, please remember to recommend Oak Hill Academy to your friends. Our next open house is Saturday, January 11 from 1-4pm and tours during the week are always available. **A Financial Aid program is now available to our current and prospective families for September 2014. Information on requirements and qualifications can be obtained by contacting the school office or on the school website.**

Miss Murray Director of Personnel/Administration

Recognition for Academics and Effort

Upper School students are eligible at the end of each marking period to earn Merit List or Effort Honors distinction. The Merit List is for students who have achieved an average of 85% or better, with no grade below 80%. Effort Honors requires an average of 3+ (at least one effort mark over 3), with no marks below 3. If earned, a notation appears on the bottom of the student's report card for each marking period. At the end of the first semester in January and the end of the second semester in June, an honor roll of First Honors (an overall average of 92% or better with no grade below an 85) and Second Honors (an overall average of 85% or better with no grade below an 80) is announced at our awards assemblies in February and next September. A notation will also appear on the report card in January and June.

The Effort marks on the report cards truly indicate how much effort and energy the student is putting into a particular class. A brief definition of each effort mark is listed on the report card, however, a more complete explanation is printed in the handbook:

- 5 - Superior: Wholehearted application and interest, extra or unassigned work.
- 4 - Excellent: Extra effort, as judged against an individual's ability to produce. Good attitude, work complete and well done.
- 3 - Good: Good attitude, work complete and carefully done.
- 3(-) Acceptable work, but capable of better.

2 - Below Average: Late papers, some missing assignments, lack of care in doing work, inattention, generally less than could be reasonably expected.

1 - Unsatisfactory: Much incomplete work, numerous missing homework assignments, generally poor performance and attitude.

(Oak Hill Academy Student Handbook pp. 3, 12, 13)

Veterans Day

On November 8th, OHA students, faculty, parents and guests were all part of our annual Veterans Day assembly.

This year, the focus of the assembly was "Saluting the Soldier." We explained the history of the draft and spoke of the opportunities that the military can offer soldiers. Explaining all of this was: Arjun Subramanian, Jennifer Miao, Dylan Servilla, Sarah Hempstead, Victoria Huggan, Johnny Langeveld, Alexa Cieri, Michael Egan, Anna Effenberger, Riya Singh, Kristina Taylor, Keira Naharro, Rebecca DeStefano, James Stavola, Erik Wicks, Seth Britton, Sebastian Basile, Victoria Santulli, Ryan Stefko, Lauren Jordan and Lucas Bruckmann.

Four members of the military were our honored guests. Each one of our heroes is in different parts of their military careers. They all spoke of their devotion to the armed forces, protecting the freedoms for the people of the United States and the meaning of Veterans Day. We were very thankful to the following veterans: Major William Edwin, United States Army Reservist (Wade's dad), Mr. Erwin Taper, Korean War vet of the United States Army and Air Force (Linda Vacca's dad and Catherine D'Amico's grandfather), 2nd Lieutenant Tahlia Smoke, United States Air Force (graduated from the Air Force Academy) and Cadet Farrah Smoke, United States Air Force ROTC student (also a current member of Miss Murray's Monmouth University Women's Tennis team).

We were very fortunate to have Mr. David Winters, President of the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund and Mr. Richard Santulli, Chairman of the Board of the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund (OHA parent to Victoria and Stephen), speak on behalf of their worthy cause to aid those servicemen and women who have been injured, especially with traumatic brain injury. Our OHA community raised over \$3000 for the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund.

Mrs. DeVivo's dancers provided such inspiration with their lyrical choreography to two meaningful songs.

Nicole Burgo, Caitlin Antonio, Sara DeCresce, and Charlotte Walsh danced to the Sara Bareilles song, "Brave." The Dixie Chicks song, "Travelin Soldier" brought tears to the eyes of many. Baylor Rodman played the soldier and Isabella LoSordo was the dancer who was mourning the loss of her friend.

Eighth grader Megan Scafaria developed a power point as a tribute to the history of the soldier. She then sang a beautiful rendition of Lee Greenwood's "God Bless the USA." Her kindergarten sister, Kelsey, stood proudly at Megan's side with an American flag.

In a power point tribute and play based on Billy Ray Cyrus's "Some Gave it All," Logan Gruss, Kolby Scire, Christopher Misson, Abigail Cieri and Ryan Gruss all performed. Logan also played the piano.

The "Angel Flight" video was very powerful. The Air Force C130's are large planes that bring home our fallen heroes. They emit smoke that form "angel's wings." Radney Foster wrote a song with the same name. That song played as the images appeared on the screen. It was an emotional time for many people in the audience.

Bagpipes and drums were a part of the assembly for the second time! Seven members of The Pipes and Drums of the Atlantic Watch performed three songs. They marched down the center aisle and up onto the stage! They played "The Marine Corps Hymn," "Scotland the Brave/The Rowan Tree" and "42nd Highlanders."

We were once again very appreciative to Janet and Tom Bender and their Brass Quintet for their participation in the assembly. They performed "A Tribute to the Armed Services," and "Colonel Bogey March". As the song of each branch was played, the veterans in the audience of that particular branch, stood proudly. The Benders also played "Taps" at the conclusion of the program.

Annabel Sparano, Joshua Acheampong, Madison Stavola, Alexey Stout, Lucas Ligato, Maria Giannakopoulos and Lucas Bruckmann told us about the history of Veterans Day and who is veteran.

Finally, we also honored all of our veterans and those veterans who were in the audience.

Miss Murray read a Veterans Day proclamation from President Lincoln and read the veterans names as John Gabriel Bermudez played the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" on guitar. Mrs. Griller

displayed pictures of the armed forces on the screen. As we have done each year, the United States Marines Corps 6th Motor Transport Battalion started the assembly with the presentation of colors. Our kindergarten classes led the school in the reciting of *The Pledge of Allegiance* and the singing of "My Country 'Tis of Thee." We are very thankful to the US Marines for their involvement in our assembly.

Mr. Pacelli and Miss Murray opened and closed the assembly with remarks that honored our veterans for risking their lives for our freedom. The veterans who were in attendance were asked to stand. They were thanked for their service with a lengthy applause.

As usual, Mrs. Tyma's musical groups performed beautifully! The Oak Hill Players played "*Ashokan FAREwell*." They were accompanied by Mrs. Pamela Momyer on piano and Sydney Yan on violin. The Chorus sang "America the Beautiful" and "My America!" They were accompanied by Mrs. Momyer on piano and Sydney Hixenbaugh on flute. Members of Mrs. Tyma's Chorus and Players were (Fourth grade) - Amanda Adams, Olivia Bruckmann, Aarya Doshi, Molly Jain, Ansh Kulkarni, Gabriella Pappalardo, Justin Weber (Fifth grade) - Simar Arora, Ekta Kuruganti, Priya Kuruganti, Kara Pietrowicz, Julia Shaffer, Charlotte Walsh, Sydney Yan, Jessica Yatvitskiy. (Sixth grade) - Catherine D'Amico, Francesca Dodaro, Ryan Gruss, Sloane Hutchings, Michael Zhang, Caitlin Antonio, Stephanie Zhou (Seventh grade) Elizabeth Hsu, Arya Sharma, William Walsh, Luca Ferraro (Eighth grade) - Alec Garbely, Kristina Taylor, Dorothea Wotton, Catherine Curtin, Logan Gruss, Harry Jain, Natalie Petrillo, Sydney Hixenbaugh

Special thanks to Mrs. Kristine Kayser Bermudez for designing the program cover and Mrs. Kathyann Gruss for her work with the power point tribute! Miss Murray was very thankful to Mrs. Tyma, Mrs. DeVivo and Mrs. Griller for all of the work they did in preparing this two hour show with over 120 students performing! Thanks also go out to Mr. Misson, Mr. Deickmann, Mr. Enderly, Mr. Livingston, Mrs. McShane, Mrs. Livingston, Mrs. DiMaggio, Mrs. Hans, Mrs. Preuster and Mrs. Burnham! Thanks also to Molzon Landscape Nursery!



Mr. Bruckmann Communications Director

Web Page Updates:

1. See the "[Experiences](#)" link for student guided tours, photos, past news events and more!
2. Look for the [Summer Institute for the Gifted \(SIG\)](#) catalogs to be coming home soon. This program has chosen Oak Hill to house it as its local location.

Mrs. Livingston Lower School Guidance

November Character Education classes included:

Gr. 1 - I shared Manner Mouse's guide to good manners. This story, which each child received to color, reinforces the good manners that we see the children using each day.

Gr. 2 - [How To Be A Friend](#) by Laurie and Marc Brown is a guide to making friends and keeping them. Throughout the story, character traits that are beneficial to developing and sustaining friendships were highlighted. Each child received a packet to complete that illustrates their thoughts on the qualities of a good friend as well as their own good character traits.

Gr. 3 - [The Flower and the Caterpillar](#) is a story that shows students what can happen when they do not accept differences, and act in a conceited, self-important manner. The story tells of a flower that lives in the forest and bluntly tells the animals their faults. After all, she is so beautiful and does not need any friends. All she needs to do is to look at her own reflection in the pond. Winter comes and the flower knows that she cannot take care off herself. Only the caterpillar offered to help her by spinning a cocoon around the flower. When spring came and the flower saw the ugly caterpillar as a beautiful butterfly, she wanted the butterfly as a friend. However, the butterfly left because she knew that the flower liked her only because of her beautiful outside, not what she was like on the inside.

Gr. 4 - [Rhinos and Raspberries](#) is a collection of folk tales, fairy tales, and fables from different cultures that all have a common theme of tolerance. This month I shared "Raspberries", and American tale of Cooperation. In this story, the children realize the value of teamwork through the actions of animals working together to achieve a common goal.

**Mrs. Weikes, Director
Mrs. Caprara, Mrs. Wood
Mrs. Grobelny
Pre-Kindergarten**

The month of October came to a close with the annual OHA Halloween parade and Pre-K class party. Family members joined the Pre-K for pictures and walked along the parade route as students made their way to the soccer field showing off cute and creative costumes to the rest of the student body. Our class mothers organized a special "black and orange" themed party complete with games, crafts, and delicious treats. The Pre-K staff and students really appreciated the hard work and generous party donations of the class moms and parents.

Respect and honesty highlighted the character traits this month. Stories such as Spookly the Square Pumpkin, Pinocchio, and The Boy Who Cried Wolf, were used to stress these concepts.

On Election Day, Pre-K voted in a mock election on whether to play on Pre-K playground equipment or ride tricycles and bicycles in front of the Student Activities Center. We're happy to announce that democracy is alive and well in the Pre-K. Following a tally of votes, riding tricycles and bicycles won the election.

Teachers introduced Thanksgiving with emphasis on family traditions, giving thanks and giving back. Each student decorated individual turkey feathers to create a cooperative turkey for our dining room bulletin board. Some of our Pre-K moms volunteered to help with many of our holiday projects. One special project was the "shrinky dink" turkey handprint pins. The money raised from the sale of these pins was donated to Ronald McDonald House and the Foodbank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties. Congratulations to the Pre-K for a job well done.

For our annual Thanksgiving feast, students adorned authentic pilgrim costumes which they made in class. Mrs. Weikes led the students in song as they entertained special guests; Mr. Pacelli, Miss Murray and various members of our OHA staff.

The class mothers worked alongside the teachers serving students and staff members from the festive buffet donated by our wonderful parents. The feast was enjoyed by everyone and the contributions made by the parents were delicious. We are certainly thankful for the kindness and generosity extended to

the Pre-K and staff by the class mothers and our parents.

In Language Arts the Letter People included Ms. K with her Kaboom Kick, Mr. D, a Dazzling Dancer, Ms. F with her Fancy Feet, and Mr. O who likes Opposites.

Math lessons included the introduction of coins, learning to print numbers 1-10, recognizing the matching number of objects, and counting numbers into the teens.

Curious George continues on his adventures as he travels to the homes of our Pre-K students. Pictures and journal entries showcase many fun filled activities while visiting with each student.

"Star Student of the Week" continues to shine brightly as students present their individual posters to the class. Family members have been invited to join their children at school. They arrive with a book to read or a fun craft to complete. They also share a yummy "Letter of the Week" snack with classmates. This program strengthens the confidence of students and helps classmates have a better understanding of what makes each of us unique and special.

Music class with Mrs. Weikes offers the opportunity for students to develop confidence and emergent reading skills through rhyming, self-expression, exercise, creativity, and gross motor movement. In addition, these activities help develop focus, memory, and good language skills.

Now that our Thanksgiving feast has passed the focus for the month of December will be on preparing for our Pre-K winter program to be held on Monday, December 16th at 10:00 a.m. in the Student Activities Center. Our holiday singers will dazzle you with their animated finger plays and delightful singing as they present "From Our Lights to Yours."

Lastly, many parents have expressed an interest in our 2014 summer camp. The information for Camp Oak Hill will be mailed after winter break to all students entering Pre-K, Kindergarten, Grades 1, 2, and 3 and 4. We will also continue with our "Leaders in Training" group for our older campers, in grades 5 and 6, who wish to develop leadership skills and counselor training all while having a great time. Those returning campers and new enrollees will be entitled to one free week of camp if enrolling for the entire six weeks. Extended Day camp hours will also be available. Please see Mrs.

Weikes if you have any questions regarding summer at Camp Oak Hill for 2014.

We hope that all of our Oak Hill Academy families and staff members enjoyed a warm and wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.

**Mrs. Schwartz
Mrs. Colbert/Mrs. Gilfillan
Mrs. Lambert
Kindergarten**

Kindergarten wrapped up October with a parade of characters for our annual Halloween Parade. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank our class Mom's for throwing our class a Boo-tiful party!

Halloween wasn't over before we were already preparing for our Thanksgiving Play and Feast. The children have been busy all month getting ready for our performance. From painting their costumes, to "cooking" the food, to learning their lines for the play, the children worked very hard. We give "thanks" for the parents that came in to help out with the costumes and to the DeVona family for the delicious turkey. We are so proud of how well the Kindergarten did during their performance. Our appreciation goes out to Mrs. Tyma for working on the songs with the students. You bring out the best in them!

In Reading we have welcomed four more Letter People. Mr. H, Ms. A, Mr. P and Mr. Z have now joined our family! We were excited to welcome Ms. A as she is our first Letterlight or vowel. We can now make words with her and the children are working hard on their decoding skills. We have also learned several new high frequency words to help us build sentences. Beginning in January the children will start to write their own sentences on their weekend picture. We are off to a good start!

We continue to reinforce several number concepts during our Circle Time. We have introduced the children to the concept of estimating the daily temperature. They need to rely on their knowledge of odds/evens, double numbers and higher/lower to take an educated guess. This is a great way to apply what they know.

In Singapore Math we have completed a chapter on geometric shapes and are currently working on patterns. We reinforce patterns by lining the children up in an AB pattern, clapping out patterns and other fun activities. Patterns are an important concept in learning

numbers so this is something we will continue to do throughout the year.

We are encouraged by progress the children have made thus far and look forward to what lies ahead!

**Mrs. Klopacs/Mrs. Quagliato
Grade 1**

We really enjoy the challenge of our Singapore Math curriculum. We have studied making number stories, making addition and subtraction stories with number bonds, position and direction, ordinal numbers and naming positions. Studying fact cards is very rewarding. Please remember to study these cards each night so we are ready for our FACT OLYMPICS!!

We wrote wonderful stories describing how we celebrate Christmas and Hanukkah at our homes. We wish all our families a wonderful holiday season.

Our trip to Kateri Environmental Center was so exciting. Even though our hike was shortened a bit by rain, we learned about the lives of the Native Americans who lived in New Jersey. History really came alive during our trip as we played Native American games, listened to a story, and put together a colorful necklace.

Our Wordly Wide program is high on the list of favorites. The aim of this curriculum is to enrich the vocabulary of the students by using concept and picture cards, read-aloud-stories and poems, and challenging workbook activities. Please reinforce the vocabulary sheets that come home. Encourage your child to use these words in conversation and dramatization.

**Mrs. Buchner/Miss Colson
Grade 2**

November was a very productive month, full of new and exciting learning opportunities for our inquisitive second graders!

In the reading program we are working on our second unit entitled, "Growth and Change." Besides expanding vocabulary and phonics skills, we are also working on improving the skills of drawing conclusions, summarizing, and making inferences

Although we are in the third year of our Singapore Math Program, we are continuing to learn many new terms and are doing a great deal of hands on activities using number discs, place value blocks and charts, and white boards. We

have reviewed the part-whole concept of addition and subtraction and solved word problems involving mental addition and subtraction within 100. We are currently working on Addition with renaming and will be introducing Subtraction with renaming next. Please continue to practice the addition and subtraction math facts with your child at home on a daily basis and review the other math concepts as well.

The second graders have also been busy practicing their writing skills. Poetry, stories, letters, and journals are just some examples of their activities. We are especially proud of the math books that each of the second grade classes have written and will actually be published in hard cover. Each child worked very hard to write and then illustrate two original math word problems. A cover was also designed for each of the books by a child in each class. The children enjoyed this wonderful experience of actually becoming authors.

We took our first field trip to Kateri Environmental Center where we spent a lovely autumn day hiking through the woods discussing our topic, "Awesome Autumn." The second graders especially enjoyed making the sun catcher necklaces out of leaves that they collected on their hike.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our classroom mothers for making our Halloween parties so successful. Your hard work is always appreciated!

**Mrs. Alexander/Mrs. Pampel
Grade 3**

In Social Studies, we finally completed Felicity Learns a Lesson in which we focused on reasons for the Revolutionary War, Loyalists and Patriots. As part of our diversity studies, students learned the term "tolerance" and that tolerance toward religions in this country was an idea that started in Pennsylvania with William Penn. We continue to learn about immigration as we study Pioneer Life in the 1800's with the reading of Kirsten Learns a Lesson. Students are experiencing how children learned in 1854 by reciting multiplication facts and naming the presidents. No whiteboard is used. Students have to listen and repeat, just like children did in rustic prairie schoolhouses. Ask them what facts they know about schools in 1854. They're reciting those, too!

We watched the Disney movie, "The Miracle Worker" as a final activity for the study of Helen Keller. Now we have just

completed reading Emily's Fortune, a delightful adventure story from the Wild West. Our ending activity was a jeopardy-style game online.

In math we refreshed our multiplication and division skills from last year and then learned how to bar model multiplication/division word problems. Next we tackled multiplying large numbers by a single digit and now we will begin to investigate long division. Students have learned how to solve kenken math puzzles on the iPad. You can download these puzzles to your home computer for free. Next we will try Sudoku.

We have done some explorations about our families' cultural diversity. Each child found out about their own family origins, we plotted where in the world their families came from on a large map. We discussed our findings and some of the children made flags from the countries; these hang in our classrooms. Tony's nonna came to our classroom, along with his mom, and told great stories about the Albanian village located in southern Italy, where she grew up. The children were fascinated by many aspects of this unusual culture and her family's roots going back 400 years in this one place. Our second guest will be Thibaut's mom. She will discuss her Moroccan/French culture with the students. We are still interested in having others share with us as well.

Please ask your child to bring home their workbooks regularly so you can see how they are progressing. Corrections, listed on the front covers, need to be up to date. Once again, please sign tests AFTER corrections have been made. Thank you for your wonderful support.

**Mrs. Crouse/Mrs. Roehrig
Mrs. Tolleth
Grade 4**

The fourth graders went to the Math and Science Learning Center at Rutgers. Two professors engaged us in wonderful discussions, demonstrations, and hands on experiments. One had to do with erosion and its effect on quality of our water. The other was a hands-on activity studying protons, neutrons and electrons. We really enjoyed both experiences.

Graduate students took us around the hands-on center in small groups and we experienced many science experiments. We did hands-on activities involving magnetism, static electricity, and surface tension of soap, motion, centripetal force, electricity, air pressure, and many more.

The favorite was the hair-raising experience with the static ball.

After the Science Center, we went to the Geology Museum at Rutgers to see the skeleton of a mastodon that we read about in our textbook. Lauren gave us a talk about mastodons and woolly mammoths. We saw the difference between the female mastodon's tusk and the male's. We saw first hand the difference between a mammoth's tooth and a mastodon's. The difference taught us about what they ate.

A highlight of the trip was seeing a real Egyptian mummy in her sarcophagus. We will be delving into the ancient world of Egypt later in the school year. The students were given a booklet to fill out answering questions while on a scavenger hunt. The answers were found from the two floors of exhibits in the museum. Each student completed the booklet and received a shark's tooth as a reward. The fourth graders shopped at the Mineral and Rock Shop and came home with many treasures from the earth. The fourth graders really enjoyed this day of learning.

Fourth grade just celebrated Heritage Day on Friday, November 22. This is a traditional fourth grade event that is done in conjunction with our novel study of All-of-a-Kind Family. We began our event by presenting "Our Medley of Customs and Traditions" in each homeroom. We had invited parents, relatives, and friends to share our day. After our speeches, our visitors took a look at the bulletin boards displaying our paper dolls that we each dressed representing our individual heritage. We then all walked over to the SAC for our Heritage Day feast.

The SAC was decorated with an international theme. Festive flags centerpieces donned each table. There was a wonderful display of international dolls. All of our parents deserve a huge thank you for preparing a phenomenally delectable feast that we all enjoyed. We ate and enjoyed each other's company at this wonderful event for about 160 people.

A special thank you goes to our room mothers for all the organizing, shopping, decorating, and cleaning up: Mrs. AbdelBarry, Mrs. Basile, Mrs. Lawrie, Mrs. Lucosky, Mrs. Sainato, and Mrs. Shallcross. Thank you to all the people who helped clean up. We were very appreciative of Mr. Deickmann, Mr. Diaz, Mr. Enderly, Mr. Misson and Mr. Livingston's help with the tables and chairs. We all enjoyed our Heritage Day!

While we are thanking people a fun time was had by all at our classroom Halloween parties. Thank you, room moms!

The fourth graders just culminated their Social Studies unit on the Lenape, the Native Americans that lived here on the land that they called Scheyechbi (Land Along Water).

Writer's workshop has been in full swing. The fourth graders are finishing their Personal Narratives in anticipation of our first Writer's Celebration which is scheduled to take place Wednesday, December 18th. Students experienced a writing community atmosphere where they have learned to rely on their peers for feedback and ideas. Learning how to use a working folder, to include necessary elements in their daily writing, coupled with peer interaction has helped many budding authors bloom. Moreover, students critiqued themselves and each other against a writing rubric which created a sense of both responsibility and accountability. Many new and exciting writing techniques have been learned and applied to the students' stories. Get ready reading audience---we have some wonderful authors!

Mrs. Bordiuk/Mr. Goldfarb Lower School PE

During the second marking period at Oak Hill Academy Lower School Physical Education classes have completed fitness testing and are moving onto different activities. The students are achieving higher levels and hand-eye coordination through various hula-hoop and bean bag activities. The students are additionally gaining proficiency in their respective swimming skills. Students will be tested on their swimming skills during the next few weeks up until winter break. Their third marking period grade will be primarily based upon their swimming skills. The assessment of swimming skills will include adequate floating skills, breathing, rotation, stroke development, introductory diving, and behavior in the locker room.

Mrs. Cahalane Lower School Science

Pre-K students have been learning about chemistry. We have been using test tubes, graduated cylinders, and beakers-mixing together various liquids to see what will happen. Kindergarteners have completed a unit Weather and Temperature. They learned how to use thermometers and created fantastic shade structures for little monsters. First grade students have been learning all

about sound and light waves. They saw sound waves in action using salt and plastic wrap. We used flashlights to learn about translucent, transparent, and opaque objects. Our second grade students have been studying solids, liquids, and gases. They are learning that all matter is made up of atoms and they did some chemistry experiments where they were able to see all 3 phases of matter. Third graders completed a unit on astronomy. Everyone created their own planet and learned about craters using marbles and flour. Students in grade 4 learned about the different biomes of the world. Everyone created an imaginary animal with adaptations allowing it to survive in a particular biome. I love to see their creativity! Please see my website for some fantastic photos.

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

We continue to learn about Great Britain. The Ho Ho room is bursting at the seams with so much British culture. The walls are decorated with pictures of famous landmarks in England, such as Big Ben, the Tower Bridge, the London Eye, Stonehenge, Buckingham Palace and the Royal Guards, the London RED Phone booth, double decker busses, Kings and Queens of past and present and other royal family members. The White Cliffs of Dover, Windsor Castle, West Minister Abbey, the Crown Jewels guarded by the famous "Beef Eaters" and so much more. Students learned all about "Punky Night" or Halloween Eve) and British traditions and folklore of this night of celebration. December has brought us Charles Dickens and all the preparation for the Christmas holiday, the British way. Through the use of the iPads students have been exploring this wonderful country, its history and present day life. It has also been wonderful to see so many students bringing in and sharing items while learning about their heritage and family history.

In January a much detailed packet will be coming home about our annual event called **Littletown Day** which be held on Wednesday, March 12, 2014. All Ho Ho classes will now be meeting every week for the next two marking periods which will give the students ample time to earn those much needed **"tiny bucks."**



Mme Koar
Lower School French

The first grade students' favorite game is tic tac toe. We reserve the final few minutes of each class to practice our numbers. An excellent app is available for numbers on the I-Pad, "les nombres Montessori." Children can advance at their own pace counting from 1-1,000 in French.

The second grades continue to acquire vocabulary about the calendar. We have learned the days of the week, months of the year, and the four seasons. Each month we create a new calendar in French and add the special events of the month. Our song du jour is "Bonjour Monsieur", by Matt Maxwell which can be found on our web site. We also practice learning body parts with another song, "une patate," which is about two potatoes who like to dance.

In third grade we try to include a song in every class. We will be practicing body parts with our song, "Bonjour Monsieur," by Matt Maxwell.

Mme Simon
Grade 4 French

This marking period, we studied the food theme and played our favorite game which is "Around the world". The students really know the vocabulary well. In order to study, I use an Educreation video that you can find on my website. Recently, we have been playing the "Food basket game" and the students are very enthusiastic about it.

Very soon we will be working on a dialog "AU CAFE" which teaches the student how to order in a restaurant.

We often watch videos and photos of French children and we learn about the differences of the life in France and America.

We will also play with the iPads and study with an App called FrenchieTeachie (a free App). The new theme will be the weather.

BON TRAVAIL!

Mrs. Scheuer
Upper School Guidance

OHA students talked the talk and walked the walk at the 33rd annual Crop Walk held at Red Bank Regional HS on October 20th. Mrs. Vacca, student council members, faculty and students proudly represented OHA and helped reduce hunger in the world.

Our seventh and eighth graders had a blast at the Fall Harvest Dance. The décor was festive, costumes imaginative, snacks delicious and the music rocked! Thanks to student and parent volunteers as well as chaperones for making the evening so special. We had a nice turnout at our Fall Open House. Thank you to students that volunteered as tour guides. Visitors to OHA are always impressed with our faculty, curriculum and facilities but when asked why they chose OHA, parents often mention their experience with our OHA tour guides as one of the top reasons.

October 29th marked one year from Superstorm Sandy's devastating impact along the Jersey Shore. Although we have made great progress, New Jersey, Monmouth County and our Oak Hill Academy families and faculty are still persevering to restore normalcy. In the same spirit in which the **OHA Helps Its Own & Others** was inspired last year, the catastrophic weather event in the Philippines prompted an additional dress down day to aid Typhoon victims. Another fine example of our OHA spirit: kindness, good will towards others and generosity at work!

Oak Hill Academy's Veteran's Day assembly amazed those in attendance. Veterans from all branches of the military, soldiers both active and retired, located all over the country, joined us to celebrate America's greatest heroes. Although many schools close to observe of Veteran's Day, very few take the time to reflect on the significance of the holiday. Miss Murray's tribute to our Veteran's is a daunting task to coordinate but the result is a powerful and moving tribute. The extraordinary traits: duty, honor and sacrifice are conveyed to every member of the audience. Kudos Miss Murray for another outstanding assembly!

In conjunction with the evolving technological needs of our upper school students, our Security Staff scheduled a Cyber Safety assembly held on November 18th in the SAC. The program swiftly identified the perils of social media when the detective from the Middletown Police Department disclosed how she "friended" several OHA students prior to the assembly with her fake Facebook account. Students were informed of their basic responsibilities on line and via electronic messaging as well as the ramifications of improper usage in and outside of school.

Cyber bullying and sexting, via internet or text messaging was also addressed and the legal consequences clearly outlined.

Best tips for students: every key stroke leaves an electronic footprint, do not share passwords, do not let anyone follow you that you do not know and THINK before you post or send. Useful tips for parents: remain proactive, monitor your child's' computer postings and cell phone messages on a daily basis, limit number of pictures posted with identifiable markers and report inappropriate postings/texts to school or the authorities immediately.

One third of the school year is complete. Time certainly marches on! As the second marking period concludes, the bar is reset for the third marking period and preparation towards exams in January. Warm wishes go to our OHA families this holiday season. Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mrs. O'Connor
Grade 5 Literature/LA

We continue working in Unit 3, "Adventures and Disasters," and we hope to begin Unit 4, "Insights from Animals" before the Big Test in Literature in January. Unit 3, Verbs, is ahead of us in Grammar, and we will write about and share our holiday traditions. Winter Haiku snowflakes will adorn our classroom tree if not the Oak Hill deck!

The students will review the related material for the Big Tests and be fully prepared and confident by the week of January Exams.

Mrs. Daly/Mrs. Scheuer
Grades 5 Reading

Fifth grade reading classes have completed a mystery unit involving three continents. The stories of Machu Picchu, the Great Zimbabwe, and the Anazazi of the American Southwest helped students sharpen visual literacy skills including map, chart and graph interpretations. Classes traced the development and disappearance of these civilizations. Video presentations on these unique landscapes provided great class discussions.

Classes are also practicing skills through our *Surprises/More Surprises* reading series. Students are diligently working on skill development while reading great pieces. And, through *discovery education*, students can understand background information on stories presented. Students are proud of their skill mastery!

Have a great holiday!

Mrs. Matson
Grades 5 & 6 Geography

THIS YEAR IS A GEOGRAPHY FAIR YEAR! The History/Geography Fair will be held from May 14 - May 16, 2014. Students will receive instructions and a Planning Schedule before Vacation, and will be asked to make a preliminary Topic choice in January.

The first round of the National Geographic will be held in all History and Geography classes on the first day back to school after the holiday break.

Fifth grade students are now studying landforms, and are looking forward to designing their islands. Sixth graders are making their Africa games. They are continuing their study of Africa in order to have success playing each other's games. The sixth grade will begin learning about India next.

Mr. Bruckmann
Grades 5 & 6 Math

Our fifth grade Math students continued their work in our Singapore math book and moved into Unit 3 and our investigation into fractions. We began by comparing fractions and understanding what a fraction is telling us as well as how it is very closely related to division. The class then proceeded to learn how to add and subtract unlike and like fractions on their way to using these skills with mixed numbers as well. This has progressed into their understanding of what a fraction of a set is and how "of" means to multiply the fraction. They will use this knowledge to convert measurements and finally solve fractional word problems. From there it will be on to the multiplication and division of fractions before we get into a little 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. Students also need to become more independent in terms of being responsible for any work missed. With the lessons, I put on-line, they have ample resources in addition to asking a classmate for notes from class. Also, please use my website as a tool to enhance learning as well. <http://www.oakhillacademy.com/mr-bruckmanns-math-class>. I am looking forward to another exciting and rewarding school year.

The sixth grade class continues to move steadily through our Glencoe series book. We are on the verge of finishing Chapter 5 which means the students

have a solid understanding of integers, fractions, decimals, percents, probability, greatest common factor and least common multiple. We will now turn our focus to more algebraic items as we begin to solve addition, subtraction, multiplication and division equations as well as functions, graphs and equations. Up ahead on our mathematics road is the application of fractions. 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/mr-bruckmanns-math-class>

Mrs. Cotterell
Grades 5 – 8 Math

Grade 5
We completed Unit 2 and are half way through Unit 3. In Unit 2, the students were taught how to solve word problems using the "bar model" method. As adults we know we can solve these problems by using various algebraic equations, but since the students have not been taught algebra yet, we teach them to solve word problems by sketching the bars. When the students were first introduced to solving word problems, they used concrete manipulatives, the second step is to sketch a picture and the final step is to solve a problem algebraically. We are in the second step. We use bars to sketch the details of the problems. The "?" represents the variable. Eventually the students will be shown how to turn these models into algebraic equations. While the students do not love bar modeling, they will all admit that if the bars are sketched properly, it is really quite easy to solve the problem!

Once we finished the bar modeling, the students were in their comfort zone with multiplying and dividing.

Unit 3 is our introduction to fractions. The unit begins with comparison and ordering of fractions and mixed numbers, equivalent fractions, the conversion of mixed numbers to improper fractions (and the opposite) and the addition and subtraction of fractions and mixed numbers. By the time the students take their unit test, they will have solved well over 150 questions! They should be more than ready for their assessment.

Homework continues to play a big role in the classroom. I appreciate all efforts at home to ensure the proper completion of the assignment.

I wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season.

Grade 6
We completed the chapter on statistics which included new topics such as back-to-back stem and leaf plots as well as the dreaded box and whisker plot. The students will not see box and whisker plots again until Algebra 2. Hopefully they will remember enough to make the second time through a little less painful! We completed chapter 4 which lays the foundation for fractions. It includes important concepts such as divisibility, prime factorization, GCF and LCM among others. The concepts of GCF and LCM will come back to the students in Algebra 1 and 2, so it is important they have a good firm grasp of these topics.

The students are continuing to do their homework conscientiously. Thank you for all of your support at home. I wish you and your family a very happy and healthy holiday season.

Grade 7 - Glencoe
This marking period was essentially devoted to Chapter 2 - a study of integers and Chapter 3 - a study of rates, ratios, proportions and percents. Chapter 2 is an extremely important chapter since the students will be using signed numbers not only for the rest of this year but also for future math courses as well. We took our time with each lesson ensuring mastery. The new topics introduced were adding and subtracting matrices as well as solving one and two step algebraic equations with signed numbers. The students are doing an excellent job on their homework.

We also essentially completed chapter 3, though the assessment will be in the next marking period. The most important concept in this chapter is understanding proportions and percents. Proportions can be used to solve so many questions on the SAT and percents are used so often in real life. My goal is for all students to achieve mastery.

Homework continues to play an important role for your child. I appreciate all efforts at home to ensure that homework is being done consistently and completely.

I wish you and your family a healthy and happy holiday season.

Introduction to Algebra
We completed chapter 3 and are midway through chapter 4. Chapter 3 started with the very important concept of distributive property and combining like terms. After several homework assignments and classwork problems,

the students "got it!" We spent whatever time was necessary since these topics are critical in their algebra next year. Once we passed these hurdles, the balance of the chapter was routine. Each lesson has a bit of a twist, but the students handled them quite well. The final chapter assessments were excellent. There were several high level word problems in which the students had to translate the data into two step algebraic equations. I was very pleased with their performance.

Chapter 4 takes familiar topics such as GCF and prime factorization and simplifying and adds lots of twists. Rather than just having whole numbers as they were accustomed to, the students are working with negative numbers and variables as well. This is a great prelude to future math courses. I have put instructional videos online to further assist the students if they have questions.

Homework continues to play a very important role in class. Thank you for your support at home. I wish you and your family a happy and healthy holiday season.

Algebra 2

We continue to work at a staggering pace. We completed 2 chapters and are almost done with Chapter 6 as well. The first few chapters of the book, as with most math books, were essentially a review of Algebra 1. We are now well entrenched in Algebra 2 concepts. Topics covered this marking period include finding the determinant of a matrix, calculating the inverse of matrices, graphing quadratics, simplifying radicals, graphing complex numbers, completing the square, evaluating and graphing polynomial functions, factoring and solving polynomial equations, synthetic division and finding rational zeros!

We are in excellent shape for the midterm. The midterm will cover the first 7 chapters of the book and the final will cover the remaining 7. We are a bit ahead of schedule so if the weather cooperates and we don't miss much school, we should have time at the end of the year to work on geometry.

Mrs. Schroeter **Grade 5 Science**

Changes in the states of matter was the unit studied by the fifth grade this marking period. In the first lab the students observed the melting of ice cubes while recording the temperature every two minutes. After graphing the

results, the classes were surprised to see that while ice melts, the temperature remains the same at the melting point, 0°C, until all the ice has melted. Then the temperature will rise quickly until the boiling point is reached. The lab enjoyed the most was entitled Change of State – Dissolving Seltzer Tablets. In this experiment the students studied the effects of how the number of seltzer tablets dissolved in water affected the size of the inflated balloon (inflation caused by the release of carbon dioxide gas from the seltzer tablet). The level of excitement was high during this lab!! Fifth graders were also very involved in planting crocus bulbs that have been growing in the greenhouse. The students are anxious to bring their plants home when they are ready to bloom this month. After the December holidays the students will be planting tulip bulbs. Hopefully, we will be as successful growing them.

Congratulations also to the fifth grade for their excellent job on the leaf collection booklet! I am so proud of their efforts. I really wanted to keep their booklets.

Mrs. Vacca **Grade 5 Tech**

Students just finished presenting their NJ Firsts through Keynote on the iPads and word document and power point on the computer. All topics were informative, crediting various counties of New Jersey for their inventions. A map of NJ highlighted where the invention occurred, along with pictures of these creations.

Students then composed holiday mail for heroes by composing letters to soldiers expressing their appreciation and support for protecting our country. Letters included some patriotic symbols and holiday cheer. These were all mailed out in time for the holidays, hoping to bring a little smile to those who will be away from their families and friends during this season.

Grades 5 & 6 Math Workshop

Grade 5 Math Workshop

We continue with the 10 minute warm-ups which help to accumulate points towards a dress down day for those who have the highest amount after two marking periods. This marking period's project focused on UNICEF and its importance to the world. This was a brainstorming group activity in which needs vs. wants was discussed. Everyday items we take for granted such as food and shelter vs. luxury items such as our iPads and cell phones. Students were given the task of packing a suitcase

with much needed supplies for children in other countries. Priced items such as water filters, blankets, nutritional supplements, vaccines, jump ropes and basketballs, to name a few, were some of the options they could bring with them. How much could they afford with only \$100? Quantities of items were calculated according to each groups' decision on what to bring. A world map was used to locate the countries that rely on UNICEF and each group then chose the flag of their selected country that they would be sending their suitcase to. This was a great project involving real math skills and their compassion for those less fortunate.

The 3-day a week class just finished presenting their international foods from Japan, Italy, France, China, and the top ten street foods in the U.S. All presentations were interesting, informative, very visual, and some included mini video clips of food preparation.

Grade 6 Math Workshop

Students continue to earn "**bonus points**" through completing 10 minute math challenging warm-ups each class. Points are accumulated through correct answers and also by effort. Students with the top bonus points will receive a free "**dress down day.**" Points are accumulated and tallied every 2 marking periods.

Our radio projects are in their final stage and will begin presentations next week. Students needed to put together a 5 minute radio show that included 3 minutes of music and 2 minutes of information. The radio stations are from all around the world, so each group had to provide a song from that region along with a current event, or local happening in their location. A map and flag of their country makes a great visual for their presentations.

The time for some creativity will continue as students will start their next project called **The Mustang Toy Company**. Students will design a toy, give it a clever name, construct it using numerous geometrical shapes, write a good description, and try to sell their toy to their classmates. They need to complete their rough draft, price their toy to make, and affixed a sale price, thus determining their profit. We will then learn how to write a check, and figure out tax. This is an excellent chance to be creative using their math skills and real life math opportunities.

Mrs. Duffy
Grade 6 English/LA

Our language arts program continues to build vocabulary and grammar skills. In grammar we have completed a unit on nouns and will move on to action and linking verbs while in vocabulary we have 'cycled' through to Unit 6, mastering many enriching words along the way.

To celebrate fall, sixth graders have 'crept' into the literature unit called "Chills and Thrills," filled with ghost tales and spooky stories. The culminating thriller of this unit is the Poe classic "The Tell-Tale Heart."

In keeping with the fall theme, students have also enjoyed writing poems about the season. After brainstorming about the sights, sounds, and smells of autumn, sixth graders created poems full of wonderful images, bringing to life the aroma of pumpkin pie, the brilliance of spice-colored leaves, and the warmth of flannel PJs.

Currently, students are working on a compare/contrast essay, featuring two characters from the literature unit "Finding Your Place in the World." During this marking period, students also enjoyed the novel Old Yeller by Fred Gipson. This story tells of a young boy struggling to be the man of the house with the help of his devoted dog and the mature action the boy must take to protect his family.

Mrs. Daly
Grade 6 Reading

Sixth graders are studying our first novel study, *Freedom Crossing*. This historical fiction story provides an in-depth look at the Underground Railroad, bravery, and growing up. Students love the plot twists and turns as the story progressed. The classes are creating their own *Freedom Quilts* as a supplement to the novel study. During the height of the Underground Railroad, abolitionists would sew quilts with hidden symbols on them to show the runaway slaves the way north. Each quilt square gave hints to the slaves looking for food and shelter. After the patterns were studied, slave quilts were examined through the Smithsonian Museum collection. In groups of four, students then create sixteen-block replicas of the slave quilts. Codes are written and paths to free states or Canada are created. Students really are developing an appreciation for this time in American history.

In addition to the novel study, reading comprehension skills were reinforced this

marking period through our *Heroes/Monsters* series. Popular stories included *The Jersey Devil*, *Frankenstein's Monster*, and many more.

Sixth graders are working hard this year!

Mrs. Palamara
Grades 6 – 8 Math

Math 6 – Glencoe

This marking period focused on statistics – the collecting, organizing, and summarizing of data. Students used frequency tables; found scales and intervals; interpreted line and bar graphs and scatter plots; and analyzed graphs to make predictions. They also made line plots, stem-and-leaf plots, and box-and-whisker plots. They worked with three statistical measures of central tendency – the mean, median, and mode. They also examined ways in which statistics and graphs are misleading.

Math 7 – Gateways

This marking period has been filled with various types of measurement and estimation. The students measured lengths using both customary and metric units. They learned to recognize various polygons and investigated linear measurements associated with them. They learned to use scientific notation to express large and small numbers. They reviewed rounding numbers to a specified number of decimal places and to express results to a reasonable degree of accuracy. They worked on solving equations with "style." They moved on to geometry and learned to name angles and to use a protractor to measure and construct angles. They then used a ruler and protractor to make accurate drawings of geometric figures.

Algebra I

During this marking period students learned how to solve linear equations and to use formulas, ratios, rates and percents. They learned to solve linear equations which involve multiple steps; to solve decimal equations; to solve a formula for a specified variable and to solve real-world problems involving ratios, rates, and percents.

Students are using a variety of methods to explain mathematical reasoning including words, numbers, symbols, and models, and developing strategies that can be used with more complex problems.

Math Team

Congratulations to the OHA Math Team on their 1st place win in the CBA Eighth Grade Math Contest held in October. More than 20 schools participated in the

parochial and private school division. The team scores are based on the total of the five highest individual student scores from each school.

Eighth grader, Harry Jain, won the entire competition coming in 1st place. Rounding out the team were Dylan Servilla, Mayah Shah, Anna Effenberger, Evan Semet, Luke DeCresce, John-Gabriel Bermudez, and Elizabeth Hsu. Kudos to all for a job well done!

Mrs. Billet
Grades 6 & 7 Science

The sixth grade students learned why cells divide, the cycle of the cell, and how body cells reproduce. They also looked at the chemical composition of DNA, how DNA replicates, and how DNA directs the production of proteins. Please stop by Room 16 in the Soler Science & Environmental Center to see the visual display of mitosis and DNA.

In the seventh grade this marking period, the students were introduced to kinematics, the study of motion, and dynamics, and the study of the causes of motion. Newton's three laws of motion were brought in to encapsulate the relationship between motion and force. From forces, students then moved on to the concept of energy, the various types of energy, and laws of conservation of energy.

Señora Dotto
Grades 5, 7 & 8

The fifth grade students have been working on singular and plural definite articles, changing singular nouns and pronouns to plural as well as gender agreement, classroom items, days of the week, months, seasons and colors. We are in the process of studying the four forms of you (tú, usted, vosotros/as and ustedes) and the geography and history of Spain. All this has been reinforced with power point presentations, videos, songs, games, classroom interaction and by logging in to my sites, Weebly, Quizlet and Education for visual and auditory practice.

During this marking period the seventh grade students completed section 2 of Chapter 3, built a lot of vocabulary and expressions, mastered the conjugation of the irregular verbs *to go* and *to do*. Also, we have covered a few interrogative words, indefinite articles, seasons and weather expressions. At this time we are in the process of learning the verbs *to have*, *to come* and clothing vocabulary. All this has been reinforced with power point presentations, audio CD's, videos,

classroom interaction and by logging in to my sites, Weebly, Quizlet and Educreation for visual and auditory practice.

This marking period the eighth grade students have continued building vocabulary. In addition, they have studied expressions on how to describe people and family relationships. In grammar they have expanded their study on possessive adjectives and covered over 15 stem-changing verbs **e→ie** and **o→ue** like *empezar, dormir, merendar, almorzar, preferir* etc. In addition, we learned how El Día de los Muertos is celebrated in Mexico and Central America.

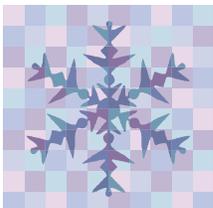
All this material has been reinforced with power point presentations, videos, audio CD's, classroom interaction and by logging in to my sites Weebly, Quizlet, Educreation and Prezi for visual and auditory practice of vocabulary and expressions.

Mrs. Tirella **Grade 7 LA/Literature**

In our seventh grade literature program, we are exploring a new unit called WORKING TOWARD YOUR DREAMS. The theme of the unit deals with setting goals and fulfilling our dreams. Each of the selections including poetry, fiction, and nonfiction focuses on the importance of the process involved rather than reaching the ultimate goal.

As part of our recently finished unit entitled OPEN A BOOK, OPEN A WORLD, we have just completed our first poetry assignment on FREE VERSE dealing with the theme of reading. We learned the process for writing a free verse poem, did some brainstorming, provided a rough draft, and participated in a peer review - all in preparation for the ultimate final copy. This activity provided a great opportunity to develop our creative ideas and share our thoughts on the importance of reading.

Our language arts program continues with building vocabulary skills, including synonyms, antonyms, and analogies. In grammar, we are working on our most challenging unit – **VERBS**. This unit will prove very beneficial for all of our writing activities.



Mrs. Grier **Grade 7 Critical Reading**

As the second marking period comes to a close, the students are busy working on passages that help to improve reading comprehension. Individual skills are zeroed in and stories are read. As each story is completed, the students work is corrected and before moving to the next text, they need to understand the mistakes. This helps to improve their weakness in a specific area and hopefully build upon a stronger foundation.

Mrs. Mayer **Grade 7 History**

The second marking period has been interesting for the seventh grade. We studied and analyzed The Age of Exploration and Colonization of the Americas. Students evaluated the social and economic conditions that existed in Europe, which resulted in the Eastern Hemisphere traveling to the Western Hemisphere. We also focused on the dramatic affect this event had on the planet as a whole. The class is looking forward to learning about the events that led to the Revolutionary War.

Ms. Burke **Grades 7 & 8 Latin**

The seventh graders began second marking period with the study of grammatical gender in Latin nouns. They also deepened their understanding of accusative and nominative case and introduced the concept of declensions. Then, we worked on conjugating verbs beyond third person. As with last marking period, we focused on the areas in which English and Latin grammar and vocabulary meet. Besides grammar, we have again worked on developing translation skills by reading stories about a famous Roman family, the Cornelii. Finally, we have added to our cultural studies by reviewing the Trojan War and the *Aeneid*, by studying slavery in ancient Rome, and by beginning a study of the Roman gods and goddesses that will continue into the next marking period.

In the eighth grade, we continued to work on refining review material from last year, but have also begun a great deal of new material, including fine-tuning the perfect tense and adjectives. They were also introduced to a new tense—the future—which will continue to be studied in the next marking period. We worked on uses of the dative and complementary infinitive, and we spent a great deal of time on translation skills primarily through stories in their *Ecce Romani* textbooks.

Finally, we introduced overviews of cultural and historical topics, such as the Roman army and system of government.

Mrs. Larkins **Grades 7 & 8 Math Workshop**

It was an interesting time to invest in the market for our group of seventh grade stock brokers, but also the opportunity to learn a lot about the current state of our economy. Mrs. Vacca and I were pleased with their pointed questions and enthusiasm. They became a little more aware of current events and learned about how the market works with such concepts as shares of stocks, dividends, P/E ratios, broker's commissions, and yield. We even took the opportunity to talk about how the government shutdown affected the market. When the project was said and done, Hershey proved to be the hot stock! Congratulations to Zach Basile, Adam Demurjian, Kaila Domanski, Catherine Stolbof, and Michael Zylka for coming in first place and earning a dress down day.

With many families traveling over the holidays, it was the perfect opportunity for the seventh grade math workshop students to review their map skills by completing the "Interstate Highway Project." In small groups, students analyzed U.S. highway maps in order to figure out the mathematical system of naming these interstates. We all can brush up on our U.S. geography while answering some interesting mathematical questions. Next time you are on a road trip; don't be afraid to ask your son or daughter for help with directions!

My eighth grade apprentice architects have finally completed their model home construction project. They impressed me with their creative ideas for design and their enthusiasm for the project. Of course, the trick was keeping track of all the costs along the way and to account for extra fees beyond labor and materials such as site improvement, lawyer fees, advertising, permits, etc. Getting the roof to fit properly also proved to be a challenge, but I was pleased with the results.

Another project asked them to interpret graphs in a whole new way. Instead of being given data and creating graphs, students were given a mix of several graphs and were asked to find a relationship between variables that resulted in those graphs. This was much harder than it looked and sparked some creative answers!

The eighth grade also completed a project just after Election Day on how our voting system works and how districting can change the results of an election. Throughout the marking period, the students worked on some difficult warm-up problems and handed in weekly homework.

Mrs. Williams
Grade 8 Language Arts/Literature

In eighth grade Language Arts, students continued their study of vocabulary, while concluding the grammar unit: *Verbs*. Students also continued their writing assignments. Students wrote poems personifying autumn objects. Furthermore, students completed a persuasive essay. Next marking period, students will continue with their writing, vocabulary lessons, and grammar lessons.

In Literature, students concluded the unit on fiction, short stories. They continued active reading by highlighting important words and asking questions. Moreover, students completed the novel: *The Outsiders*. They recorded major events and character descriptions while reading the novel. Also, they examined the plot and analyzed the "outsiders."

Mrs. Daly
Grade 8 Critical Reading

Eighth grade classes have been diligently studying comprehension skills through our new activists, and mass species extinction. Students are tracing the effects of pollutants such as DDT in streams and rivers. Using an interactive timeline, species are examined and recorded. Classes really are becoming more aware of the importance of ecology and creating safe environments for all creatures.

In addition to our weekly news summaries, students are enhancing their writing skills in many ways. Monthly topics are released by *The Asbury Park Press* and students answer writing prompts ranging from musical influences to technology in the classroom to New Year's resolutions.

Classes are working well and are eagerly anticipating the holidays!

Mrs. Schroeter
Grade 8 Science

The eighth grade scientists are now working in the Pearson Earth's Structure textbook. The first chapter covered, "The Earth System," introduced a new ecological approach to the study of Earth

Science. The four main parts of the Earth system that constantly interact are the atmosphere, the geosphere, the hydrosphere, and the biosphere. All of these parts, or spheres, must be in balance. The students have been doing labs related to this topic. Now they have begun the study of Earth's interior, including minerals and rocks. This unit is being taught with a chemistry approach. The students are reviewing chemistry concepts learned last year and applying their knowledge to the chemical compositions of the main mineral groups that make up rocks. The study of the rock cycle will continue this marking period. Eighth grade gardeners planted amaryllis bulbs which are growing quickly in the greenhouse. Hopefully, these bulbs will be blooming by the holidays at the end of December!!

Mr. Pacelli
Algebra I – An Integrated Approach

As we approach Chapter 6, I find that we are right on schedule to finish the book by May and to have some time remaining to do some advanced topics. With Chapter 6 we will be doing a great deal of graphing which we will continue through the end of the year. Our study will start with linear equations, quadratics and absolute value graphs. There are plenty of videos on my website to help students understand the concepts.

Mrs. Vacca
Grade 8 Explorations

Students have just finished presenting their "**Famous Landmarks around the World,**" through either Keynote or power points on the computer. Presentations were interesting and informative bringing us fascinating structures both natural and man-made.

New groups have been formed and once again students are traveling around the world for a taste sampling of international foods. World maps and flags of their country must be included along with other criteria such as traditional foods for specific holidays, unique ingredients, dietary restrictions, cooking styles, and include a sample menu from a restaurant in your country. Prezi (a virtual poster) is a great way to showcase visuals of foods from each region.

Prior to the start of the above project, students composed letters to RCT Ryan Cotterell (Mrs. Cotterell's son) who is attending boot camp in South Carolina in the Marine division. These letters were written as a gesture of kindness to both Ryan and his fellow soldiers to bring a little holiday cheer and encouragement

as they will be not be home during this season. Students also commended Ryan for his bravery and thanked him for wanting to serve our country. The letters also included some patriotic symbols and holiday pictures, hopefully bringing some smiles to the soldiers.

Mme Koar
French Grade 6

The sixth grade students are finishing a small novel, "les Aventures d'Isabelle" which is about an eight year old girl, Isabelle, who visits Paris with her mother. The story has a five hundred word vocabulary and the students are doing well the translation.

We will continue with chapter four in our text, *La Famille et la maison*. We will be able to describe things in our house and family with possessive adjectives. We have learned the verbs, to have (avoir) and to go (aller).

Mme Simon
Upper School French

In the seventh grade we learned the placement of adjectives and the students learned about the BAGS which are the adjectives placed before the noun. Then, we studied the clothing, food themes and a text about 2 teenagers traveling to France and planning their activities. Our class work combines vocabulary, grammar and cultural aspects of the life of French speaking students.

The students also presented dialogs in front of the class. By listening to the dialogs on the website, the students are able to improve their pronunciation tremendously.

We had a guest presenter; Mrs. Assa came to our class to talk about the importance of learning another language and the importance it offers for future career paths. Her enthusiasm was contagious. Merci Madame Assa. Then her son, Julien, (in Pre-K at OHA) came to speak to the class and the students were impressed by his French fluency. Bravo Julien!

Remember to take a look at my website for information regarding the material that we are learning. This website allows me to update power point presentations, YouTube files, Quizlets and Educations videos that I create in order to enhance the learning process and correct pronunciation. The website also lists the homework and the date of our quizzes. We also played "Who wants to be a millionaire" to learn cultural material on France. Excellent work!

With the eighth grade, we studied the placement of the adjectives, and possessive adjectives. Regarding vocabulary, we studied "la technologie" and soon, we will study "La classe de Madame Bardot va à Paris," a text regarding a class trip to France. Our class work combines vocabulary, grammar and cultural aspects of the life of French speaking students. We now have started to review important grammar rules that are used in every day conversation. Our next project is to listen to conversations and to focus on listening comprehension.

Remember to access the website which is updated on a weekly basis with material such as power point presentation, grammar links, Quizlets, YouTube videos as well as my own Educreations videos and dates of our upcoming quizzes. BON TRAVAIL !

Mrs. Bordiuk /Mr. Rosenfeld Upper School PE

The seventh graders and fifth graders will be starting Health Education for the third marking period. Health Ed. replaces Phys. Ed. and swim for the whole marking period.

The sixth and eighth grade will continue with Phys. Ed/Swim for the third marking period. The sixth and eighth grades will swim EVERY week for the next three weeks until the Holiday break.

Physical Education classes will be starting the Basketball unit along with regular Phys. Ed. games. Swim skills will be evaluated before the Holiday break.

Swim will stop on December 20th and will resume in March 2013. January and February will only be Physical Education or Health depending on the grade.

Mrs. Grier/Library

As the second marking period comes to an end, the children are in full swing using the gifts that the library offers to them. The lower classes continue to explore the various authors and titles of books as well as fiction and non fiction selections. The third and fourth graders continue to define the Dewey decimal system and are encouraged to practice finding such selections on our shelves. As they move through the lower years, the student should be confident in their search of books they will need to research specific topics given in their classes. To date, OHA children have borrowed over 33,000 books. Now that's special!

Mrs. Griller/Computer

Look around the school and in the computer room to see the many wonderful computer projects created.

- The first grade made a coloring book and a flying fish using Kid Pix.
- In second grade they researched a country on the World Atlas website and made a graphic web representing what they learned about that country in Kidspiration.
- In third grade the students continued to work on touch typing and made a five fact chart about what makes someone a good person also using Kidspiration.
- The fourth grade students worked on their PowerPoint presentations about themselves.
- The fifth graders wrote business letters and used the draw tools to make their house in Microsoft Word.
- Sixth graders ran a lemonade stand on cool-math games, tracked their business then created charts showing their results in Excel.
- In seventh grade they made banners reflecting good character education traits and thanksgiving cards for teachers in Publisher.
- The eighth graders developed a website using Publisher and presented it to the class.

During this marking period we discussed cyber safety in all classes.

Miss DiMaggio/Art

First grade learned about the primary colors and how to make the secondary colors. They also learned the slab and pinch methods of ceramics.

Second grade learned about artist Romare Bearden and made a paper collage representing their favorite foods. They also worked with the primary colors while making animals with a Mondrian twist using only horizontal and vertical lines.

Third grade used model magic to create a coil pot. They used their weaving skills to make a paper blanket to tuck in a furry friend and made a silly portrait based on Pablo Picasso and his abstract way of making faces.

Fourth grade used the slab method to make an imprinted ceramic slab dish. They also used the correct facial

proportions to draw self portraits based on Mexican artist Frida Kahlo.

Fifth grade learned the Mexican form of weaving on two sticks called a Gods Eye. They used the slab method of ceramics, studied Jackson Pollock and did a blast splatter painting outside. They also studied female American artist Georgia O'Keeffe and drew enlarged flowers with oil pastels. We also learned about Surrealism and Spanish artist Salvador Dali.

Sixth grade studied Chuck Close and, using the grid method, drew funny face self portraits that were distorted using the iPad. They learned about controversial artist Jeff Koons and replicated his large balloon animal sculptures with model magic. They started their Zentangle which is an easy-to-learn, relaxing, and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. It increases focus and creativity, provides artistic satisfaction along with an increased sense of personal well being. The Zentangle Method is enjoyed all over this world across a wide range of skills, interests and ages.

Seventh grade used the slab method of ceramics, tie dyed t-shirts and, using sharpie and overlapping geometric shapes, created a positive and negative black and white drawing.

Eighth grade used the slab method to make a ceramic slump bowl based on famous glass blower Dale Chihuly. Using sculpey clay they covered pens and began working on their Zentangles. The process of creating Zentangles is a form of "artistic meditation" as one becomes completely engrossed in making each pattern, deliberately focusing one stroke at a time.

All students entered drawings for a greeting card contest for Pier1 Imports and UNICEF representing a joyous celebration. Let's hope for a winner in our school.

Mrs. Tyma/Music

During this Thanksgiving season, the students in music classes enjoyed songs, dances, books and poems that reflect the season. The Kindergarten, first and second graders have listened to Native American music played on an authentic woodland flute and accompanied the playing on a drum made by the Taos tribe in New Mexico.

The Kindergarten classes love to dramatize songs. We've produced scenes about turkeys and ducks, Native American Indians, and Pilgrims. In the fun we experienced high and low voices/sounds, phrasing, and rhythm patterns.

The first graders identified long and short notes in a Georgia Sea Island song about harvesting root crops. We looked at a variety of fresh root crops from a local produce store (rutabaga, parsnip, turnip, sweet potato, etc.), talked about the science of their growth, and then created new lyrics to describe these crops in a way that fit the rhythm patterns in the song. Also, a Sioux Indian lullaby was learned with an accompaniment on the barred instruments that emphasized the concept of beat versus rhythm. As an introduction to sign language, we learned to sign some of the words to one of our favorite Thanksgiving songs.

In second grade, we learned the *Bear Dance* of the Ute Indians and danced it to recordings of authentic Ute tribal music. We created an unpitched percussion orchestration for a poem to serve as our B section for a song about pumpkin pie. The song challenged our musicianship skills with its three-part instrument accompaniment. In addition, we built upon the sign language skills learned in first grade with a new Thanksgiving song.

The third and fourth grade classes enjoyed the Shaker song *Simple Gifts* while working on choral singing skills and their recognition of chord changes in the harmony. The third graders listened to Aaron Copland's "Variations on Simple Gifts" from his ballet *Appalachian Spring* and discovered the ways Copland uses timbre, tempo, and dynamics in this movement. Activities highlighting meter were enjoyed when we created our own lummi stick patterns in the way that children of the Chippewa tribe did years ago. The fourth graders extended their understanding of harmony when they learned a barred instrument accompaniment for *Simple Gifts*. We learned a new note on the recorder so that we could add a descant to this song. In the fifth grade classes we brushed up on our recorder skills to play a song from the Caribbean Islands in calypso style. We are continuing to work on the barred instrument and drum parts which are complex syncopated rhythms. It is a delightful challenge for our listening and performance skills. In addition, we learned new notes on recorder so that we could enjoy a lovely Sioux lullaby as the Native Americans would have on their flutes. We had first experienced this

lullaby as Lower School students, but now we were able to play the barred instrument accompaniment and to work on playing musically.

The sixth graders have finished their first composition by Carl Orff for the barred instruments. It is a very complex canon (like a round) that stretched our musicianship and listening skills as well as reinforcing our understanding of sixteenth note rhythm patterns and intervallic relationships in a pentatonic scale. The students were very surprised to see the complexity of the music score once we had learned it (entirely by ear). After reading Jane Yolen's poetry in her book *Harvest Home*, we are improvising melodies in various tonalities based on the compound meter rhythms used in the poem.

The Chorus and Oak Hill Players received rave reviews for their performance at the Veterans' Day Assembly on November 8th. I appreciate their hard work and how professional they have been in their approach to the performance. Congratulations to Sydney Yan on violin and Christine Hixenbaugh on flute for their contributions to the performances. Thanks to Mrs. Momyer for her work as our piano accompanist for the Chorus.

I encourage you to attend the three family concerts offered by the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. [Shooting for the Stars](#) (on November 20th) presents music inspired by the infinite reaches of the galaxy with music from Holst's *The Planets* and Strauss' *Also Sprach Zarathustra* (know to many as the theme from *2001: A Space Odyssey*, as well as themes from *Star Wars* and *Star Trek*. [Music of the Americas](#) (on February 8th) presents Copland's version of "Simple Gifts" from his ballet *Appalachian Spring* and Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* with dances of Argentina and Mexico. And finally, Britten's *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* will be presented on June 7th in which all the instruments of the orchestra will be presented in [Meet the Orchestra](#). To find more information about these wonderful concerts, go to www.njsymphony.org and view SUBSCRIPTIONS-FAMILY.

Mrs. DeVivo/ Drama

In Pre-K we geared up for Halloween by making pumpkin masks and acting out "*Five Little Pumpkins*." The students also enjoyed hearing the story of "*Stellaluna*" and the reenacting it with their very own Stellaluna stick puppets. Recently, the students made turkey finger puppets and

then performed a Thanksgiving Finger Play. We are now looking forward to our holiday drama activities such as Gingerbread Man puppets, listening to the music of "*The Nutcracker*" and so much more!

In Kindergarten we continued working on pantomime and good audience skills. We also read a variety of *Aesop's Fables* such as "*The Boy Who Cried Wolf*," "*The Ants and the Grasshopper*," and so many more. After acting out each fable, we discussed how the lessons in these stories teach us about having good character. In the weeks leading up to Halloween we played drama games such as *Witch's Brew*. They each pantomimed an object that could be found in the witch's cauldron and the audience guessed what it was. There were frogs, worms and many other gross items! ."

First graders also enjoyed a wide variety of Halloween drama games such as *Witch's Brew*. The students also performed a Halloween themed reader's theater script based on the story, "*The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything*."

In second grade, the students also took part in some Halloween activities. The students recently finished reading a play entitled, "*A Native American Welcome*," which tells the story of how Squanto helped the Pilgrims when they first arrived in America. The students also learned to play the *peach stone game*. It is a traditional game played by the Native Americans at their Green Corn Festival and they taught it to the Pilgrims on the first Thanksgiving.

The students read quite a few plays in third grade. First, they read a Halloween play entitled "*The Ugly Pumpkin*." This play deals with the theme of acceptance. In the end, we found out that the ugly pumpkin was really not ugly at all, just different. He was a squash! The students also had fun playing a new drama game called Press Conference. We also read a play entitled, "*Squanto's Home*" and learned what it was like when the Pilgrims came to America from the Native American's perspective.

Fourth grade students completed their costume and set designs for "*CSI: Mother Goose Land*," and they look great! Around Halloween, the students enjoyed working in groups and making costumes out of newspaper. The students also had a brief lesson in Charlie Chaplin and the silent movie era. They had fun devising and performing silent (pantomime) skits to music. We also read a Thanksgiving play entitled

"Fish Heads and Snake Skins" which focused on the Pilgrim's very first days in America and the origin of the Mayflower Compact.

Seventh grade students read an abridged version of William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." After reading the play in its original language, the students then worked in groups to modernize the language and perform these original skits. We also played Shakespeare and The Globe Theatre Jeopardy!

The eighth grade students have been working in groups writing and rehearsing original character education youth theatre plays. Upon completion, the plays were video taped and the students enjoyed watching one another's creative works. Their plays will be showed to the lower school students throughout the year and feedback will be given.

DRAMA CLUBS

Congratulations to all of the members of the **Upper School Dance Ensemble!!!** You're performances in the Veteran's Day program was incredible! Sara DeCrese (5th), Charlotte Walsh (5th), Nicole Burgo (7th) and Caitlin Antonio (6th) performed a modern lyrical number to "Brave" by Sara Bareilles and Isabella LoSordo (7th) and Baylor Rodman (8th) performed a dramatic lyrical number to "Travelin' Soldier" by the Dixie Chicks. Bravo...so proud of all of you!!!

The **Forensics Team** attended the Rumson Country Day School's Forensics Festival on November 16th. We had so many winners! Seth Britton (8th) and Zach Basile (7th) won a top 3 spot in 8th and 9th Grade Dramatic Pairs, and OHA took 2 of the 3 top spots in 6th Grade Dramatic Pairs. Those winners were Sophia Littman and Rebecca DeStefano and Claire Falletta and Summer AbdelBarry. Also present and scoring excellent marks were Maya Shah (8th) and Alec Garbely (8th). No date has been announced yet for Ranney, but we are looking forward to it

Fourth Grade Charades continues to meet on Tuesdays. The last day for this club is December 10th. We will celebrate with a little party!

AUDITIONS for the **Upper School Play** are just around the corner. They will be held in the SAC from 2:20-3:45 on Tuesday, December 17th. Vocal auditions will be held the following day in the SAC 2:20-3:30 on Wednesday, December 18th. To be included in the cast you **MUST** audition. Vocal auditions are only necessary for those students

that wish to be considered for a singing role. Permission slips are due December 16th.

Mrs. Vacca/Mr. Goldfarb Student Council

The 33rd Crop Walk was once again a huge success, thanks to all those who walked, donated food items, and pledged money. It was a beautiful day. Oak Hill pledged/donated \$1,321.00 along with the additional \$174.60 collected from the sale of Crop Walk stickers and braided bracelets. Way to go OHA! Also, over 14,000 plus pounds of food were collected at the walk. Thanks to everyone for your participation.

Thanks also for all the spare change that went into those tiny orange boxes marked UNICEF, as we were able to mail a check for \$250.00 of which Mrs. Crouse's class personally collected \$111.25. WAY TO GO 4C!!!!

Last Wednesday we held a dress down day for the victims of the typhoon in Haiti. Thanks to all those who contributed more than the 1 dollar amount. We were able to send a check in the amount of \$980.30 to this much devastated region of the world.

Student Council welcomes our Homeroom Representatives for grades 5-7. These students are randomly selected as liaisons to inform their homerooms as to what transpires during student council meetings. They are an integral part of the student council as they can also bring feedback from their homerooms to the meetings.

The Winter Wonderland Dance will be held for the seventh and eighth grade students in the gym on Friday, December 6th from 7:30-10pm. Students must wear sneakers or soft soled shoes and admission is \$5. Parents, please remember that you must come to the gym to pick up your child. No student will be permitted to leave the gym without adult supervision.

The Holiday Mitten Tree and Food Collection week started this Monday, December 2nd and will go through the following week. Please help to decorate the tree with much needed items such as scarves, hats and mittens, for those less fortunate. Non-perishable food items will be collected on the stage in the gym. A note will be going home for each grade level with regard to holiday gift items for various organizations. Remember that these gifts will put a smile on a face!!!!

Also, thanks to everyone who ordered from **Innisbrook**. Our total profit was \$1,617.58. This money helps fund the rides on Littletown Day, dances, and year-end gifts to the school. Remember that you can shop all year long from www.innisbrook.com, click on GO to: SHOP, our school #105201 and place your order. Your items would be delivered right to your home, how convenient. Wishing Happy Holidays to all!!!

ATHLETICS

Fall Athletics

Boys Soccer – Mr. Misson's team finished the season with a 10-3 record. We outscored our opponents 43-19. The team was seeded fourth in the playoffs and lost to a tough Manalapan 7 team (#13) team, 5-1. The following 8th graders will be missed: Griffin Cole, Andrew Denton, Brycen Greco, Matthew Jaworski, Ryan Kasakove, Aiden Picadio, Nick Robertson, Evan Semet, Jack Stryker and Andy Thermos.

Girls Soccer – Mr. Bruckmann's team finished the season with a 9-4 record! The team qualified for the playoffs as the #7 seed, but lost to a talented St. Mary's squad (#10). The following 8th graders will be missed: Colleen Egan, Alana Marie French, Sydney Hixenbaugh, Kristina Taylor, Natalie Petrillo, Victoria Santulli, Dorothea Wotton and Riya Singh.

Intramural Tennis – Mr. Goldfarb's group finished up tennis three weeks ago. The students in grades 5-8 had six weeks of doubles play, instruction, and games!

Cross Country – Mrs. Gilfillan, assisted by Mrs. Scheuer, had a large group of runners all year. The team improved throughout the season, besting their times at practices. A number of our runners did very well at The Run for the Roses meet in November!

Medal winners were:

In the 3rd/4th grade race for girls, Lauren Soler placed 4th and Audrey Yan placed 11th. Declan Picadio placed 5th in the boys race! In the 5th grade girls race, Sydney Yan placed 2nd and Jordan Codispoti placed 15th. Congratulations to William Hurley who was the WINNER in the 5th grade boys race!! Mason Garber placed 2nd, Peter Jaworski 9th, Ryan Peduto 10th and Timothy Shallcross 14th. In the 7th grade boys race, Gregory Doaln placed 4th and Jessica Abbott placed 15th in the girls race. In the 8th grade race, Andrew Denton place 9th!

The following 8th graders will be missed: Harry Jain, Andrew Denton, John Gabriel Bermudez, Luke Johnson, Aidan Picadio, Evan Semet.

Winter Athletics

Boys Varsity Basketball- Mr. Bruckmann's team (assisted by Mr. Rosenfeld) opened their season against Eisenhower on December 4! The season continues with games the week of December 9th. Please check the website for schedules and updates!

Girls Varsity Basketball – Mrs. Porzio is getting her team ready for their opening game on December 12th vs. Little Silver, away at 3:45. The girls have been working hard in preparation for their season.

Girls JV Basketball – Mrs. Scheuer has a nice turnout for the JV team this year. These 5th and 6th grade girls have been working hard to improve their fundamentals. While the schedule is not complete, yet, the first game will be later on in December.

Cheerleading – Mrs. Wood has been working hard with the largest number of girls that we've ever had on the squad! They will be leading the cheers at our home games.

Scorekeeping - If you'd like to learn to control the basketball scoreboard and keep score, please see Miss Murray!

Boys JV Basketball - Mr. Misson's 5th and 6th grade boys will open the season in a few weeks. They have been working hard and are eager to get the season going! The schedules will be out shortly.

Swim Team – Mrs. Schwartz and Mrs. Bordiuk have started their practices. The first meet of the season (there will be six) will be held on December 19th vs. Neptune. Meets will be held in January and February.

Hoop Shoot

OHA will be holding our annual Hoop Shoot contest on December 11th during physical education classes. The Red Bank Elks Club sponsors this nationwide contest of 25 foul shots. Winners in each age group will advance to the next level. The tentative date is December 22nd at the Salvation Army on Newman Springs Road.

