



Open Classroom Community News

From the Principal



Greetings -

Over the next two months we will be in the midst of preparing for some of the seismic upgrades that will be taking place over the summer. There are a number of things that will need to happen this spring in order to expedite the work process and take advantage of the summer months.

The intention this summer is to get as much of the “dirty work” done as possible. This work entails building concrete walls, creating a new space for an upgraded electrical system, some trenching for the new service, etc. As a timeline for these projects comes into focus I will share with you any information that may affect our day-to-day school operation. I am not expecting any interruptions to our school day but there will likely be some staging and equipment issues that may affect parking or the use of some of the outdoor spaces.

This week the contractor will be blocking off a portion of the playground to begin some work. This won't affect recess but it will affect the access to the playground on the west side of the building – that gate will be locked. Over spring break they will be working to cut a trench that will carry the new electrical service. Again, this work should not affect our day to day operation.

As I hear about upcoming work I will continue to share it with you in as timely a manner as possible. While this process will take patience, flexibility, and probably a sense of humor, in the end we can celebrate learning in a safer more comfortable building.

Chris Gesteland
Principal Open Classroom
801-578-8144

Happy School Library Month from your Library



The School Library Month theme this year is "Create your own Story @ your library". To celebrate, we will be taking on the Six-Word Memoir project. Here's how it works: using only six words, write your story. To help students get started, I am asking **you** to write **your** memoir first. Scribble it down on a scrap of paper, or

decorate an entire page. The only requirements are that your memoir contains six words and has your name on it. Memoirs may be dropped off in the library or emailed to jjhogue@gmail.com. If you need help with inspiration, you can search "six-word memoir" online or come into the library to browse through the compilations we have purchased, *Not Quite What I Was Planning* and *I Can't Keep My Own Secrets*.

By modeling a passion for reading and writing, we can instill in our children a life-long love of literature. Please consider being a part of what can be an amazing learning opportunity for all of us.

OC Bulletin Board

This coming Friday, April 15th, from 9am-Noon, we will be building 4 raised beds among the trees on the south side of the school.

Our goal is to assemble all for beds and get them in place. We may or may not have soil delivered and be able to fill them.

If you would like to help, please come on down to the playground Friday, April 15th.

Also stay tuned for more OC garden events.

This is another reminder that this Thursday in the gym is the New Family Meeting where every single committee besides steering, community support and co op reps need to send a representative to speak and sign up members for next year. EVERY committee must send someone. PLEASE!!!

DATE April 14th
TIME 6:30 Pm
PLACE OC GYM



The O.C. Rummage Sale will be Saturday, April 30th from 8-2. You may start bringing your donations to the school right away. All donations should be placed on the stage.

There are still some items from the musical up there so please keep donations separate. We welcome donations from anyone—so ask your friends, family, neighbors. Please only bring items in good condition. One man's junk is another man's treasure, but garbage is always garbage.

Starting Friday this week (4/8) there will be labels on the stage for the different categories of items. If you have time, please sort your donations and place them in the appropriate section. That makes setting up so much easier. Also, we will need lots of coat hangers and will welcome donations of those as well.

It is really tons of fun. Once you go thrifty, you'll never go back!

Co-oper Challenge:

Healthy snacks are an important part of the day for kids at the OC. Many students need a little extra energy to stay focused and learn. When it is your turn to bring in snacks, challenge yourself to find a complex carbohydrate- or protein-based snack with low amounts of added sugar. When purchasing prepared snacks, check to see that sugar content is below 8 grams of sugar per serving and avoid artificial ingredients. Just for fun, try serving snacks on party napkins or plates. While co-oping, talk to students about what healthy snacks are and try asking kids about their favorite healthy snack ideas, such as their favorite fruits and vegetables. Here are some home-made snack ideas that can be good for school or for home:

Fruity kebabs – thread pineapple, grapes, melon balls, dried fruit, strawberries, or mango chunks onto skewers or toothpicks. Chunks of cheese could be added as well.

Crudités platter – choose a selection of veggies such as sliced carrots, snap peas, broccoli, cherry tomatoes, baby corn, bell pepper, and serve with a guacamole dip.

Yoghurt lollipops – mix berries with natural yoghurt, place into small paper cups, with a craft stick in the centre, then freeze until ready to eat.

Celery logs – peanut butter spread onto sticks of celery with raisins sprinkled on top.

Savory kebabs – thread alternate pieces of lean ham, cucumber, mozzarella, and tomatoes onto skewers or toothpicks.

Any dried fruit – cranberries, apricots, bananas, kiwi, strawberries, raisins, pineapple, or mango, served in small portions.

Trail Mix - Trail mixes are easy to make and store well in a sealed container. Items to include: low-fat granola, whole grain cereals, peanuts, cashews, almonds, sunflower seeds, pumpkin seeds, and dried fruits like raisins, apricots, apples, pineapple, or cranberries.

Water should be the main drink served to kids at snack times.

Dear Co-operators,

The Physical Activities Committee is pleased to announce PLAYSTATION choices during each recess. Initial PLAYSTATIONS will include hula hoops, jump rope, tether ball and four square. In order to get the "ball rolling" we will need co-operators support. We need co-operators' from each class to sign up to be in charge of a station during recess time. Look for the orange sign-up sheets this week outside of your child's classroom in the hall. There will be one sign up sheet for each grouping of classes that are out at recess together. Co-operators will be able to collect equipment from the closet under the middle stairs. Along with the equipment, instruction cards for each activity will be available for co-operators to learn the rules of the game and any variations or suggested alternative ideas that might exist (i.e. specific techniques, chants and songs, other creative ideas). The idea is that the co-operator or co-operators at each station will help guide the activity and encourage creative play. We will be launching the new PLAYSTATIONS when we come back from Spring Break (week of April 25th). Let's get ready for some recess fun!





Go Green & Xeriscape Bake Sale

Please come and support Denise & Erin's class in our service learning project by bringing your sweet tooth to our bake sale. The funds received will help us to xeriscape a portion of the front parking strip for all to enjoy.

When:

Friday, April 29, 2011

Where:

Across from the gym

Time:

1:05 p.m.



OC Community News

The OCCN is published approximately every two weeks during the school year. Please feel free to submit parent or student announcements, articles, photos, artwork and important dates for the Open Classroom.

Please send any submissions to
oc.communitynews@gmail.com

**Upcoming deadlines are
Mondays, April 25 and May 9**

THE ART COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE ONE AND ALL TO THE ANNUAL

Open Classroom ARTstroll June 3rd

Each child is encouraged to create a display of all the Art they have created, over the school year (and also anything they have created at home) to contribute to the display in their classroom Gallery, which they will design.

Each classroom will set-up their Gallery to be viewed during the Art Stroll from 5-9pm. Also on the schedule, for that night, is our Talent Show. Please join us for a fun night, I'm sure we have some comedians in the house! Use your imagination and step on stage to dazzle the audience... ..although they may be somewhat

distracted by the amazing donations on display for the silent auction.

Oh yeah... The SILENT auction! Classrooms go wild creating the theme baskets to donate. If any of you, yes you, have some amazing art, handcrafts, services, consultations, etc... you would be willing to donate to help us raise funds for the school, we welcome all of these!

More details to follow, but please mark your calendars! It is always a fun event!

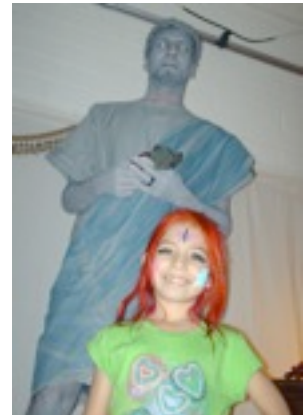
Thank you - Beverly Hill, Art Committee Chair

The Annual OC Culture Fair

Friday, April 8



Photos by:
Joey Gillett, Amber Kosmas,
and Denise Mavor





Help Fight Against Thalassemia

Thalassemia is a blood disorder that Cooley's Anemia Foundation is raising money for further research in Gene Therapy, Heart Failure, Osteoporosis & Diabetes. This will help children living with Thalassemia live longer.

Join Us at the Walk-a-thon to keep our kids alive

May 1, 2011, From 11AM - 12PM
 Memory Grove Park
 135 East North Temple
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84101
 Register or make a donation at :

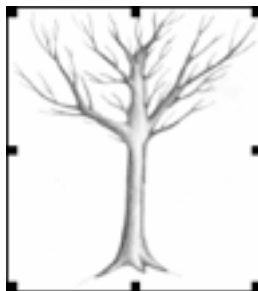
<http://www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/amber-kosmas/care-walk-2011>

Coffee & food will be provided by:
 Green House Effect Cafe'

Sponsored by:



Attention!!!
O.C. Knitters,
Crocheters & Weavers
Help us turn this...



Into THIS....!



We're "Yarn Storming" one of our trees
and we need more pieces (almost any size will do!!)

Please bring your donations (any size, any color - acrylic yarn works best) to Rachel in the cafeteria/kitchen!

(For more great images & inspiration google "yarn bombing" or "knit graffiti" or check out this great book by Mandy Moore and Leanne Prain)

