



From The Office Of The Principal

Yolanda Alvaro

Important Dates:

- **Jan. 15-** Student holiday
- **Jan. 17**—NHS Informational Meeting
- **Jan. 19,20** - Decathlon Team Competition
- **Jan. 23-27**-San Patricio A & H Show
- **Jan. 30-** Senior Cap & Gown orders
- **Jan. 31**—ELA Benchmark English 1
- **Feb. 1-** ELA Benchmark English II
- **Feb. 6** -Parental Involvement Conference
- **Feb. 13**—TSI Testing
- **Feb. 14**—NHS Blood Drive
- **Feb. 19**—Teacher Workday No School

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Happy 2018 everyone! We hope all of you had a wonderful Holiday with family and friends. Each New Year is marked by resolutions and opportunities for a fresh start for students, parents, teachers, and administrators. The New Year is a time to set goals, make new resolutions and work hard to achieve them. We here at Odem High School are here to help you stay informed and supported as we all focus on making the best of this year.

It is hard to believe that we are already halfway through the school year. The first semester was filled with memorable events and programs. Winter sports are now in full swing. Award's Night, Prom, and Graduation are right around the corner which is hard to imagine. Our students and staff have done a magnificent job of keeping these special events in perspective and continuing to focus on the real task at hand: maintaining high academic expectations and providing quality learning experiences for all students.

While it may seem a bit early, January is the time we start to discuss next year's plans with students. Our counselor will be meeting with students about the process and various requirements at the local and state level. At this time students will also be made aware of the requirements for colleges and universities. We encourage you to talk to your students about their plans and all the options available to them as well as the requirements needed for them to achieve their goals.

With those goals in mind, it is imperative that parents and the school work cooperatively to meet the needs of our students. A key component is communication between parents and the school. If you have specific questions you are welcome to contact us. We are here to help with questions or concerns. As we start the new semester, please encourage your student to finish strong, to finish well, and to finish with pride. We at Odem High School know our students are the best and we want to continue to support them in any way we can. As always, we look forward in continuing to work with you and your children during the spring semester and we appreciate your continued support of our school. We are truly blessed to work in a community with such fantastic families who share our school's vision and priorities.

Dear Odem-Edroy ISD Parents:

With respect to all students and staff on our campuses, we will no longer be accepting Valentine's Day deliveries. In the best interest of all of our students, the factors determining this decision are listed below.

- Educational Disruption for both teaching and learning
- Not all students receive deliveries and this presents multiple problems
- Safety issues on our buses with oversized objects, balloons, etc.

Thank you very much for your understanding, support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Yolanda Alvaro

Odem High School Handbook Addendum

A copy of the Odem High School Attendance Procedures Handbook Addendum will be sent home with your child. Every parent is required to acknowledge receipt of the Handbook Addendum by signing the acknowledgment receipt. Once returned it should be placed with the existing student handbook in your possession.

Handbook section revised pursuant this addendum:

Section II: Other Important Information for Students and Parents (pg. 27)



ODEM HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

3rd Six Weeks

Volume 1, Issue 1

Form
Traci Pogue



ESL/ELL—Empowering ELL Parents and Families at Home.

All parents can be helpful in their children's literacy development, regardless of their language, education, or literacy level. Parents who speak little or no English can contribute to their children's education in valuable ways. English language learners may benefit when they develop solid literacy skills in their first language before learning to read in a second one. Through Spanish, they are developing key language and literacy skills that may enable them to become excellent readers in English. Here are some suggestions:

1. Storytelling
2. "Read" wordless picture books
3. Say rhymes and sing songs
4. Make frequent trips to the library
5. Engage in meaningful conversations
6. Watch educational children's television programs together.



From
Jana
Kieschnick

Gifted children are so diverse and do not exhibit all characteristics all of the time. There are common characteristics that many gifted individuals share:

- Rapid learner; put thoughts together quickly
- Excellent memory
- Unusually large vocabulary and complex sentence structure for age
- Exhibit unusual emotional depth and complexity
- Thinking is abstract, complex, logical and insightful
- High energy level
- Concern with worldly events
- Highly developed curiosity
- Aims for perfection
- Keen sense of humor
- Vivid Imaginations
- Creative
- Responds and relates to older children and adults

Anyone wishing to refer a student attending Odessa-Edroy ISD in kindergarten through twelfth grade this school year can go to the OEISD website and print a form or go by the student's campus office and request a copy of the referral form. This form must be returned to the school counselor by January 16, 2018.

From Lisa Flores

CTE

CTE News!

This spring semester, we have 8 students who will begin the Phlebotomy Tech Training Program. Students will receive all training at Odessa High School. So what is a Phlebotomy Tech? Phlebotomists play a vital role in the operations of the clinical laboratory. Phlebotomy is the procedure of puncturing a vein to collect blood either for analysis or transfusion. A phlebotomist is the individual who collects blood by venipuncture to assist in the assessment of a patient's medical condition. After successfully completing the program, students will earn a certificate in order to be eligible to sit for the national examination through the MedCA. Entry level pay in our area range from \$11 to \$14 per hour. We are so excited for our 8 high school students!



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From Yolanda Alvaro, Director Special Ed./Dyslexia

Special education is specially designed instruction, support, and services provided to students with an identified disability requiring an individually designed instructional program to meet their unique learning needs. The purpose of special education is to enable students to successfully develop to their fullest potential by providing a free appropriate public education in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Parents who have children in Special Education play an important role in their child's education. It is imperative that we work together as partners to develop an appropriate IEP for your child. Odem Edroy ISD offers services to meet the needs of each student in the least restrictive environment ensuring access to the general education curriculum. We believe in inclusive education to the maximum extent appropriate. Years of research has consistently demonstrated that the inclusion of students with disabilities in general education classrooms results in favorable outcomes.

At OEISD we have great staff that is equipped to ensure that every child, regardless of needs and abilities is empowered to achieve to his or her potential. The goal of our program is to assist students in developing into self sufficient young adults. We have high expectations for all of our students regardless of their disability. Our staff works diligently to increase student engagement and decrease time off task as students take more ownership of their work. We realize that in Special Education there may be acronyms or terms used that you may be unfamiliar with, for this reason we encourage you to ask questions during your meeting as well as contact us if needed. We look forward to working as partners with you to ensure your child is receiving the best education to the maximum extent appropriate. Feel free to contact our department should you have any questions.

Dyslexia is one of the most common learning disabilities affecting Texas. This lifelong disorder can be detrimental to a child's education or an adult's professional development by inhibiting interpretation of spoken and written language.

With proper diagnosis, individuals can be taught appropriate, systematic and structured methods of learning that enable them to excel in their school and work environments. The dedication and understanding of family, teachers, and coworkers can greatly help those with dyslexia achieve success.

To raise awareness of this learning disability, **October** has been designated Dyslexia Awareness Month. It is vital to communicate the importance of an early diagnosis and to provide the necessary assistance and guidance to those affected by dyslexia.

From Dr. Lidamar Yruegas ELAR CS



This year our district has adopted Reading Plus, a program which promises to simultaneously develop the three domains of reading. Research shows that students who complete a 100% of their weekly assignments will achieve significantly larger gains in reading fluency, vocabulary development and enhancement of their comprehension skills. Please encourage your child to utilize this program both at school and at home. Together, we can help them develop into lifelong readers who see reading as a valuable means of gaining knowledge and joy.

From Sonia Gamez SCI CS

Science is all around us. Children have a natural curiosity about the world around them. From observing and finding patterns in nature to helping with meal preparation, families are encouraged to help foster critical thinking skills at home that will greatly promote scientific thinking.

Secondary Age:

- Explore science during family vacations; such as hiking trips or beach vacations.
- Explore measurement and chemical reactions through cooking and baking.
- Visit museums, planetariums, zoos, and galleries.
- Watch the news for medical breakthroughs and scientific explorations.
- Investigate careers in science.

We also encourage students to incorporate technology time with science-based concepts and simulations. The integration of technology will enhance student interest and build on instruction obtained in the classroom.



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Form
Tony Ramirez
Social Studies CS

Students at Odem High breathed a sigh of relief as the first semester wound down in December. Students in U.S. history classes spent some time on the causes and effects of the Great Depression. They also studied the impact that President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal policies played in helping to provide much needed help to Americans during this ordeal. Students also completed a pictorial time line on the eras that they had covered in class during the first semester.

From
Armando Huerta
Athletics Director

With the first semester behind us, all fall sport accolades have been received and basketball is in mid-season. Many of our HS athletes were selected to the fall All-District teams. HS volleyball placed 3 ladies on the first team, 3 on the second team, and one honorable mention. 2 students were selected to the State All-Academic team. Football placed 15 players on the first team, 11 on the second, and 4 honorable mention. 14 football players made the all-academic team, with 7 of those making the All-State academic team. For details on these accomplishments, please visit www.odemowlsathletics.com. As mentioned previously, basketball is in mid-season on all levels. Girls current records are as follows: 7A (5-0), 7B (4-1), 8A (4-1), 8B (5-0), 9th (1-2), JV (10-3), Varsity (21-6). Boys records are as follows: 7A (6-0), 7B (4-2), 8A (6-0), 8B (4-2), JV gold (8-5), JV blue (10-2), Varsity (14-9). HS programs have just begun their district schedules. We would like encourage all Odem High School students and their families to take an interest in and join our athletic programs. We would also like to thank everyone currently involved and supporting those programs. For more information on our athletic programs please visit our school website or www.odemowlathletics.com.

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From
Clarissa Moreno
**Parent Involvement
Coordinator**

News

Great jobs parents, we had a successful 3rd Six Weeks. Congratulations to OIS students, they won the Odem Can Food Drive and HS won second. OEISD staff would like to thank you for sending your child to school on time and ensuring they are prepared for class. Lets keep up the great work! We have events coming up, so stay updated by using Living Tree. We will share strategies to help make us awesome parents, so please come and support OEISD.

Updates

I will be sending out a letter and a flyer detailing information about the Parental Involvement Conference taking place on February 6, 2018 from 8:30am-1:00. If you are attending, I will be sending out an message about a meeting time.

Events to Attend

Elementary

- Parental Involvement Conference
2/6/18

Intermediate

- Parental Involvement Conference
2/6/18

Junior High

- Parental Involvement Conference
2/6/18

High School

- Parental Involvement Conference
2/6/18

Resources

Stay Smart Texas shares how to promotes the role of parents in making any time a learning time. Click on the link and explore the site.

<http://startsmarttexas.org/about/tv-spots-pbs/>

, Human Trafficking, Behavioral Problems in Adolescents, What to Do If You Are Worried about Suicide. (Available in Spanish)

<http://www.esc16.net/page/>



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Form
Dr. Veronica Gutierrez
Curriculum Dept.

Greetings!

In our everyday lives, understanding math enables us to manage time and money, and handle everyday situations that involve numbers (for example, calculate how much time we need to get to work, how much food we need in order to feed our families, and how much money that food will cost).

Be positive about math!

- Let your child know that everyone can learn math.
- Let your child know that you think math is important and fun.
- Point out the ways in which different family members use math in their jobs.

Encourage your child to give explanations.

- When your child is trying to solve a problem, ask what he or she is thinking.
- If your child seems puzzled, ask him or her to tell you what doesn't make sense. (Talking about their ideas and how they reach solutions helps children learn to reason mathematically.)

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 361-368-8121 ext. 232 or gutierrezv@oeisd.org.

Dr. Veronica Gutierrez
Curriculum Director/Math Instructional Coach

Form
Esmeralda
Martinez



What are "major life activities"?

Major life activities include, but are not limited to: self-care, manual tasks, walking, seeing, speaking, sitting, thinking, learning, breathing, concentrating, interacting with others and working. As of January 1, 2009 with the reauthorization of the Americans with Disabilities Amendment Act, this list has been expanded to also include the life activities of reading, concentrating, standing, lifting, bending, etc. This may include individuals with AD/HD, dyslexia, cancer, diabetes, severe allergies, chronic asthma, Tourette's syndrome, digestive disorders, cardiovascular disorders, depression, conduct disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, HIV/AIDS, behavior disorders and temporary disabilities (e.g., broken writing arm, broken leg, etc.). Conditions that are episodic or in remission are also now covered if they create a substantial limitation in one or more major life activity while they are active. Students who are currently using illegal drugs or alcohol are not covered or eligible under Section 504 of Education regulation for Section 504 is the requirement that disabled students be provided with Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). These regulations require identification, evaluation, the provision of appropriate services, and procedural safeguards. An eligible student is a student who is regarded as having a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits a major life activity such as learning. Major life activities include walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, working, caring for oneself, and performing manual tasks. The disability must substantially limit learning activities for the student to be eligible for 504 educational services. If you have any questions, please contact me at 361-368-3881 x 239.

From
Lisa Perez
District Nurse



Message From the School Nurse:

A few friendly reminders.....

Please do not send your child to school if he/she has or has had:

Fever more than 100 degrees within the last 24 hours (**must be fever free without medication**)

Two episodes of vomiting or diarrhea within the last 24 hours.

Continuous coughing not relieved with cough medicine.

Odem-Edroy ISD does not allow school personnel, including the nurse, to give any medication without a District Medical Form signed by the parent and a doctor. This includes all over the counter medications. These forms are available on-line and in the school nurse's office.

Since students need to be picked up when they become ill at school we need current telephone numbers. Please inform the school immediately of any change in your current telephone number(s) so we may be able to contact you when needed.

Thank you in advance for working with us to keep students and staff healthy and in school.



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Form
Leigh Ann Ray
Parent Liaison -

Birth - 3



EARLY OWL LITERACY

Early Owl Literacy is a program for Odem parents and their 0 to 3 year old children. We use our time together having fun while practicing literacy. This class provides a free book as well as opportunities to participate in monthly field trips and activities, that promote early literacy. Two of our recent field trips were; a trip to the library to see Mr. Kippy and a play day at TAGS Gym in Portland during there "Toddler Time" gymnastics. **YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US ON FEBRUARY 13th FOR VALENTINE'S ACTIVITIES, STORIES, and a PARTY for all of our guest.** Come join us for a good time and a head start in literacy for our youngest Owls! For more information, email Leigh Ann Ray at rayl@oeisd.org



From Melissa Vela
District Coordinator

Odem High School--- UIL 3rd
six weeks

The spring semester has begun at Odem High School and UIL academic activities are underway. The cast and crew of the One Act Play have been thru two rounds of auditions and rehearsals have begun. This year OHS will be performing "The Leading Ladies" by Ken Ludwig. The OAP cast will perform at a practice clinic on February 20th and will compete at district competition on March 8th in Goliad.

Parents encourage your children to participate in one of the numerous UIL academic events on campus. For more information on sponsors and events please contact me at school 361-368-3401, ext. 100 or via email velam@oeisd.org

We look forward to an exciting competitive spring meet.

From Debbie Serrano



The libraries continue to be busy with patrons. Students at elementary, intermediate and junior high campuses are doing well with the AR program. Students are rewarding at the end of each 6 weeks for reaching or surpassing their reading goals.

Every library has added several new books to their collections in order to keep up with the students' interests and reading levels.

The elementary library will be hosting a book fair for elementary and intermediate students, Feb 5-9th. Students will be visiting the book fair at the elementary library during their music time on Monday and Tuesday to browse and fill out their wish lists. Students will be able to come by before and after school and during their music time the rest of the week to make their purchases. In addition, we will have a family night on Tuesday, February 6 from 5-7pm. Families are invited to attend and receive a small treat.

All families are invited to the book fair to help support all OEISD libraries.



ODEM HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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From
Joey Avila
Technology Dept.



What's new at OEISD Technology? 3D Printing! We now have four 3D printers at our district and we cannot wait to see how our students will use them to learn and create in the classroom! As we continue integrating new technology we will keep you posted, have a great day.

From
Debbie Serrano
District Librarian



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From
Janie Luna
Cafeteria Dep.,



lunaj@oeisd.org

361-368-8121 x 264

Food Service Newsletter

During the months of January and February we will be focusing on Whole grain rich. As of school year 2014-2015 all grains that school served had to be whole grain rich. Odem Schools currently offers ALL whole grain rich products with Breakfast, Lunch, and it's A-La- Carte items.

Why should I eat more whole grains?

Eating 3 or more servings can decrease the risk of having a stroke, developing type 2 diabetes, and heart disease. They may also help you reach and maintain a healthy and weight.

Most Americans eat 1 or less serving of whole grains per day.

What is whole grain rich?

The food items contains at least 50% whole grains.

The item has 8 or more grams of whole grains per serving.



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From
Yvette Maldonado
Custodial Dept.



Why a Clean School Can Impact Student Success

With the Flu Season being so aggressive this year, our number one priority is to keep our four campuses highly cleaned and sanitized to prevent the spread of the flu virus.

We know clean schools lead to increased student attendance because students are healthy and well.

Remind your children to always flush and to always wash their hands.

Together, we can impact student success with clean schools and hands.

Yvette Maldonado

maldonadoy@oeisd.org

From Arnold
Maintenance
Dept.



The 3rd Six Weeks has ended, and after spending time with family and friends during the Christmas Holidays, the maintenance department is ready for the 4th Six Weeks!

We continue working very hard on resolving our A/C and Heating issues throughout the district. We appreciate everyone's patience on this issue.

Grounds, football field and any maintenance problem that arise continue to be on our daily tasks. Our main goal is to keep our district clean and up and going.

We continue to ask for your assistance in observing the district's cross walks by stopping in these areas. We also ask that you observe the "SLOW" signs painted/displayed throughout the district. Also, please note the new Directional Signs painted on the Junior High School/Football Stadium parking lot. These signs help with the daily flow of traffic in a safe way. Slow and Safe driving around Owl Square ensures the safety of all our students/faculty and staff.

If you see a light out around the campus, please e-mail us at villgasf@oeisd.org so we can tend to those safety/security notices as soon as possible.

OEISD Maintenance Dept.
Arnold Maldonado
361-368-8121, ext. 266

From
Roel Arguelles
Transportation
Dept.



The Transportation department has rolled once again through the 3rd Six Weeks and enjoyed the Christmas Holidays along the way with Student Safety being our number one goal.

Before every route or extra curricular activity we run our daily inspections on all the buses to make sure they are safe to run.

A friendly reminder to all parents/guardians of our bus riders: If you have a **change in your child's drop off destination**, the campus office where your child attends school, **must** have a written note with a parent signature and be approved by the school office personnel by 2:30 p.m. on the day of the request. Once we receive the note from the campus office that same day, we copy the note and hand it to the driver before they depart. After ten consecutive days of not using the bus service, that service may be discontinued. For the safety of our students, please observe this very important traffic rule: When a school bus has the stop sign out and the red lights flashing, on a two-lane, undivided roads, drivers are required to stop in both directions.

OEISD Transportation Dept.
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361-368-8121, ext. 266