

Oakhurst Elementary News

Oakhurst Elementary
PTA
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Kelly Kennedy, Principal

Editor: Debbie Sawa-Szsotak

Heidi Bockover, Asst. Principal

November, 2018

Suzanne Morgan, PTA President

Volume 19, Issue 3

November

October
Character Award
Winner

Cooperation

KaitlinStanford
Athena Hixson
Emerson Nymark
Ashlyn Jones
Audrey Davis
Wesley Staker
Amir Habibzadeh
Darius Jackson
Sterling Pahl
Lupo Pitturru
Kenny Zimmerer
Colten Stanford
Madison Rossicoe
Blake Wilson
Daniel Riley
Cruz Jansen
Johven Carlton
Nora Mazzei
Tatiana Southard
Michael Borland
Kaelyn Panez
Isaiah Christian
Sophia Arellano
Anabelle Simmons
Mia Toigo
Stella Cronin
Jaxon Tellmann
Brady Filipek
NoahTollon
Sarah Harkins
India Perry
Layla Wilson
Karson Nix
Xochitl Rios Pena
Ziraili Kauffman
Christina Hills
Julian Wesselburg
JoJo Welton
Rowan Tacia

Character Word
for
November

Cooperation

A note from our Principal, Kelly Kennedy

November is the time to give thanks. I am most thankful for being able to be the principal at Oakhurst! I am thankful for all the wonderful people that work so hard to make Oakhurst the wonderful school that it is such as our PTA, volunteers and our fabulous staff! It truly takes a community, and we have the best community here at Oakhurst! Thank you for all you do!

Congratulations to **Paula Cheshire** for being nominated as Oakhurst Elementary's Teacher of the Year! Mrs. Cheshire is a wonderful first grade teacher and certainly deserves this honor! Congratulations also to **Erica Meade** for being nominated Oakhurst Elementary's Support Staff Employee of the Year. Mrs. Meade is a valued ESE assistant in our pre-3 unit and deserves this recognition. Congratulations to both of these women!

We celebrated our Principal List and Honor Roll recipients and our students with Perfect Attendance! I am so proud of these students. Thank you also to the parents that helped their students achieve these accomplishments. Here are the numbers! WOW!! I am one proud principal!

87 students in third through fifth grade earned **Principal List!**

136 students in third through fifth grade earned **Honor Roll!**

178 students in Pre-K through fifth grade earned **Perfect Attendance!**

Perfect Attendance is earned by students being here EVERY DAY from bell to bell with no tardies or early pick-ups and no absences. **Over 24% of our Oakhurst students in Pre-K through fifth grade earned Perfect Attendance!** I thank all the families that put such an importance on getting their children here every day ready to learn!

Research shows that:

- Missing 10 percent of the school year, or about 18 days, negatively affects a student's academic performance. That's just two days a month and that's known as chronic absence.
- By 6th grade, chronic absence becomes a leading indicator that a student will drop out of high school.
- The academic impact of missing that much school is the same whether the absences are excused or unexcused.

Thank you also to all the parents that are helping their students with at-home iStation. Do you know what Tier your student is on iStation? Each month your child is tested on iStation and put in a Tier I, II or III. This determines how many minutes they need to complete each week which is anywhere from 30 to 90 minutes. Please ask your child what Tier they are in and help them complete some of those minutes at home! I hope you will join us next Tuesday evening, Nov. 13th, at 5 PM for our next SAC Meeting in the Media Center. All are welcome! We will be discussing National Elementary Honor Society. Please join us!

I thank you for your continued support! I wish you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving!

A note from our PTA President, Suzanne Morgan

Your Oakhurst PTA is in full swing and off to a fantastic start! Our PTA calendar is packed with activities and events - I hope you will join us, get involved and enjoy all that we have to offer.

The Fall Fundraiser just ended, thank you to everyone who participated. We just wrapped up Grandparents Lunch week and we had a great turn out. Thank you to all the Grandparents that were able to have lunch with their grandkids. October has lots to look forward to with National Walk to School Day and All Pro Dads! We will also have a School Spirit Night at PDQ on Oct. 11 and at Astro Skate Oct 24 from 6-8 pm. A flier will be coming home with more information.

Fridays continue to be Spirit Days and students wear their Oakhurst shirts. All spirit gear is available if needed. Also, if you haven't joined our fabulous award winning PTA, please do so! Your support goes a long way and does not commit you to anything you don't want to do. However, if you would like to volunteer, your gift of time helps make Oakhurst the amazing school that it is. If you have any questions, concerns, ideas or thoughts regarding PTA, please feel free to reach out to me personally via email at goofitaz@yahoo.com or (727) 481-1477.

Fall Catalog Fundraiser

Thank you for your support of our fundraiser. The delivery date is scheduled for Thursday, November 8th 2-6 PM on the stage. Incentive dates will be announced soon!

Membership Update

Thank you to those that have already joined Oakhurst PTA this year. We have surpassed last year's numbers already with 370 members!! However, that doesn't mean we have to stop there, we would still love for you to join. The membership fee is only \$5.00 and the benefits are great. Not only are you helping out your child's school, but you get perks just for joining. The winners of the membership contest are:

1st Place—Ms. Langes—5th grade

2nd Place—Mrs. Nickse—2nd grade

3rd Place—Mrs. Kunish—4th grade

The students in those classrooms will be receiving some Oakhurst vintage memorabilia later this month.

Membership forms can be found in the front of your child's agenda or the front office. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our Membership Chair, Denise Rohrs, at rohrrsd@gmail.com



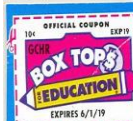
Join us for inspiration, togetherness, and a morning cup of coffee on November 16th at 7:30 AM in the cafeteria.



Thank you to the students who entered. Winners will be announced during our "Oakhurst Gives Back" evening on November 14th. Winners will move on to Pinellas County PTA for further consideration.

OAKHURST GIVES BACK—NOVEMBER 14TH—6:00-7:30 PM

Details will be coming out soon for our annual Oakhurst Gives Back Night. This is a great evening for families to show how much they care about other community organizations. This is one of our most popular events, please mark your calendar to attend so our kids learn the importance of giving back to others.



Thank you to everyone who sent in Box Tops, we raised \$1,118.90!! The top 3 classes who will receive a popsicle party are: Ms. Cheshire, Ms. Weingart, and Ms. Livingston. Keep cutting those Box Tops, there will be another challenge in January.

Our Fall Festival will be rescheduled sometime after the new year. All entries for tickets will be held for the new date and entered in the drawing.



Thank you to the following volunteers, your help was truly appreciated!! We tried to remember everyone, but if we missed your name it is unintentional and please know that we are grateful for your help!

October Mustang Round Up:

- Jamie Gingras
- Jill Pahl
- Lee White
- Pat Stethem
- Jennifer Conlen
- Nicole Henn
- Cyndie Griffith
- Robie Brosseau

October SPIKE:

- Audrey Dennery
- Maribeth Kennedy
- Denise Rohrs
- Stacy Stanford
- MaryAnn Siores

October All Hands:

- Tracey Dylong
- Sarah Beesley
- Fran Markowski
- Krystal George
- Cyndie Griffith
- Maribeth Kennedy
- Stacy Stanford

All Pro Dads:

- Shane Cress
- Ricky Jimenez

Grandparent Lunch Week:

- Tracey Dylong
- Jennifer Conlen
- Jill Pahl
- Tammie Swartzbeck
- Lela Johnson
- Maribeth Kennedy
- Michelle Bello
- Kristina Miles
- Natrina Shultz
- Nicole Henn
- Illiana McClellan
- Jessica Cress
- Audrey Dennery
- Mary Ann Siores
- Denise Rohrs
- Wendy Banull



CAREER WEEK & GREAT AMERICAN TEACH-IN

NOVEMBER 12-16, 2018

Oakhurst will be celebrating Career Week by combining it with the Great American Teach-In as we highlight jobs, careers and education. Here is our calendar of events:

Tuesday, November 13 – Transportation Day

Various vehicles will be displayed in the P.E. Field for classes to view.

Monday, November 12 - Friday, November 16 – Guest Speaker Days

Grade levels may be visited by speakers from the community sharing about their careers/jobs.

Wednesday, November 14 – Great American Teach-In & Family Speaker Day

Parents are invited to visit their child's class and share about their careers.

We would like to invite parents to visit our school on Wednesday, November 14 and talk with our students about their careers. You can share with a class for as little as 15 minutes or as much as 30 minutes about your job or career, the special clothing or equipment used and the training/education that prepared you for your job. Anything you can bring to share visually will help students better understand the work you do.

To get involved, please complete the form below and return it to your child's teacher **NO LATER THAN Tuesday, November 6**. Your child's teacher will contact you to schedule your visit during Career Week. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Debbie Shepherd or Mary Hart at 588-6801 or smithhartm@pcsb.org.

**OAKHURST ELEMENTARY
GREAT AMERICAN TEACH-IN & CAREER WEEK
PARTICIPATION FORM
NOVEMBER 14**

NAME _____ JOB/CAREER _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ (HOME) _____ (CELL/WORK)

E-MAIL _____

CHILD'S NAME _____ TEACHER _____

PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER BY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6th



TOYS FOR TOTS

“Toys for Tots” is able to provide families that demonstrate a financial need with gifts for up to five children, ages infant-12 years old. The number of gifts provided is based on availability at the time of your scheduled appointment. If you are interested in receiving assistance from the “Toys for Tots” program this holiday season, go to <https://t4tpinellas.ptapta.org/pre-registration> and register. A unique email address is necessary to register for the program. The system will send to the email address used a unique link for registration.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FROM OCTOBER 1 – NOVEMBER 10.



Your voice matters. Don't forget to vote on November 6th. Do your research ahead of time to make informed choices. While you don't have to discuss your choices with your child, it's very important that they know that you are exercising your right to vote so bring them along to the polling station, if you can.

Sign up for the latest news regarding educational/ children's legislative issues. You will only receive emails during legislative session.

<http://cqrcengage.com/npta2fl/home?0>



Thank you to everyone who attended our PDQ and Astro Skate Spirit Nights. Your support is truly appreciated!!



SPIKE is so proud of our 528 awesome Super Hero Readers!! The SPIKE trophy was awarded to the following teachers for 100% participation:

Mrs. Annand	Mrs. Cheshire
Mrs. Barber	Ms. Lacina
Mrs. Fulle	Mrs. Foley
Ms. Gonzales	Mrs. Bulger
Mrs. Smith/Mrs. Ragozine	

Check out our award-winning website www.oakhurstpta.com

To submit an article to the newsletter please contact the front office at 727-588-6801