

December 7, 2018

### From the Administration

Happy Holidays to you all!

Merlin Hamblin, our custodian, is retiring after working at the school for 15 years. His last day is December 10th. We are grateful for his outstanding service to the school and community. It will be different without seeing him here every day. Thank you Merlin and happy retirement!

Last week I talked about reading. This week I would like to talk about math.

Along with reading, math is a key to the future success of all children. Math gives them the bases they need to be successful in any business whether it is customer service, accounting, business, plumbing or carpentry. All jobs use math even if it is simple addition to complex geometry. It's in everything. Our kids learn basic math to algebra while here at Oak Hills. One skill that many kids struggle with is knowing their math facts. This creates a problem when it comes to harder skills such as division and fractions. If the students don't know the facts then they struggle to understand other math processes that are taught by the teacher. Frustration and discouragement are a result of the lack of knowing the math facts which leads to further concerns down the road. We as educators see this over and over where kids are upset because of the lack of math fact knowledge. As I mentioned last week about gifts; here are some math gift ideas that would help with this concern; flash cards, a computer program that will target these skills, and then time and routine. Establish a routine everyday where you quiz your student on these facts. We really need your help with this! We are developing a plan to help our students in this area, but if you would take a few minutes every day to quiz your student on their math facts it would really enhance their progress.

Sincerely,

Mike





Our PTA puts on a very successful Spelling Bee. We have great spellers at our school. You can find the list of words on our website under School Information — What's New - or by clicking the link below. Getting a head start on practicing these words will "bee" helpful when the Spelling Bee takes place in late January.



https://thegoodspray.net/dav is-county-spelling-bee/



M – Chicken Strips

T – Nachos

W – Pepperoni Mini Calzones

Th – Popcorn Chicken

F – Hamburger



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#### PTA News

The Christmas Choir is going strong and performances are December 12th and 13th at 7pm. We invite all to come and watch our singers in action. There will be a bake sale and an option to purchase shirts, hats and cinch packs, which will make a great Christmas gift ①

Last day to register for the School Musical is December 20<sup>th</sup>. Please bring your registration and payment to the front office.

For those of you who love to shop on Amazon, please consider shopping at Amazon Smiles. This is a program that can benefit our school. It is much like the Smith's program. Amazon Smiles donates money to our school because of your purchases. Go to <a href="mailto:smile.amazon.com">smile.amazon.com</a> (or your Amazon account), accounts & lists, AmazonSmiles Charity lists - search for Oak Hills Elementary PTA. Happy shopping!

Thank you,

Terra Lechtenberg, PTA President

#### Looking Ahead...

**December 12-13**th – Christmas Concert at 7pm

December 20th - EARLY OUT

**December 21st** - January 1st - WINTER BREAK

January 4<sup>th</sup> – Popcorn Friday

January 9<sup>th</sup> – PTA Meeting @ 11:30

January 10th - End of Term

January 11<sup>th</sup> – NO SCHOOL – Professional Day

January 18<sup>th</sup> – Spirit Friday

January 21st - NO SCHOOL

January 30<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup> - Parent Teacher Conference

January 30<sup>th</sup> – Grandparents and Goodies

#### ATTENTION!

Last day to register for the School Musical is DECEMBER 20<sup>th</sup>.

http://Oakhillsmusical.outerim.com

#### Counselor's Corner

For the month of December we will be focusing on "Respecting others." Part of this includes noticing others who are experiencing different challenges in their life, and providing support and understanding. In my guidance lesson, I will read a story titled A Monkey on Ken's Back. The message in the story tells us that everyone has challenges and nobody is alone in the world of challenges. Challenges often bring on big difficult feelings that are hard to manage. When others around us can notice, respect, and offer help it can make a HUGE difference. My challenge is to notice others who might be experiencing a hard thing, and show respect and understanding by offering to help or by giving an act of service.

**Shannon Struebing** 





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### Project Lead the Way...

Project Lead the Way, also known as PLTW, is a program that develops STEM curriculum for schools in the US. This program provides new and exciting learning experiences for our students. Many of our students are currently working on this hands-on learning tool. With this program the students have been putting together VEX Robots in a group of 3-5 students per robotics kit. Below are some examples of some of Mrs. Strong's Fifth Grade class participating in this hands-on learning opportunity.









Top left: Makenna Cone, Luke Wright and Roxton Werrett working on their Vex Robot. Top right: London Czech, Caroline Cannon, Zack Lucy, Mason Leger and Ara Terry. Bottom right: Ryan Bleazard, Miguel Gavarrett, Brooklyn Dodge and Brealynn Steadman show Mr. Page all about their project. Top left: Students hard at work in Mrs. Strong's Class.







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### You will make our yearbook amazing and memorable!



Document every event with camera phone or regular camera and send your pictures via email, text or let me know you've got pictures and I'll figure out how to get them from you!

Email: melsiesahm@gmail.com

If you would like to help with the yearbook, whether helping with pictures, design, distribution, advertising, or being a classroom photographer, I'd love the help/ideas. Text me your name, number and how you'd like to share your creativity and talents @

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