



News from Orcutt Academy's K-8 Campus in Los Alamos

2017-2018, Edition 20 | Week of January 22, 2018

Principal's Message

With the colder, more overcast weather we are having in our area, both children and adults may be staying inside a little more. That leads me to remind parents about their crucial role in helping children learn to read. Here are some quick tips on how you can support your child's growth as a reader:



1. Read, read, read to your child. I like this quote by Emilie Buchwald: "Children are made readers on the laps of their parents."

2. Take your children to the library to check out books. The Santa Maria Public Library and its Orcutt and Los Alamos branches are open most weekdays and on Saturday mornings, and they have all have a good selection of children's books. You may want to get a book or two or even a DVD for yourself, too.

3. Ask your child to read to you. For a child, there is nothing more magical than being able to read to his/her mom and dad. You will appreciate the moment, too.

4. Take time to make sure your child has a book he/she is interested in. Says Frank Serafini, "There is no such thing as a child who hates to read; there are only children who have not found the right book."

5. Build your child's vocabulary. Pick out interesting words and teach them to your child. You both can put the words to use in conversation.

6. Encourage your child to re-read favorite books and poems. Re-reading helps kids read more quickly and accurately.

Helping your child become a better reader can be one of the most rewarding things you get to do as a parent. Here's wishing you the best on this very worthwhile venture!

Joe Dana, Principal

Hard at Work in the Garden



Though we are in the middle of winter, OAK-8 students have been hard at work in our school garden under the direction of our garden educator, Mrs. Fenske. Students have been weeding and clearing planter beds and getting the garden in shape for planting.



Weekly Planner

Monday

Hot lunch: Chicken & Rice Burrito

OAK-8 hosts a **campus tour** for prospective parents this morning at 9:15. The tour will begin in the cafeteria.

Tuesday

Hot lunch: Domino's Pizza

The **Orcutt Academy School Advisory Council** meets this afternoon at 5:00 at Orcutt Academy High School.

Wednesday

Hot lunch: Mexican Food Bar/Beef Tacos or Gourmet Salad

Today is a **teacher collaboration day**, with dismissal at 2:00 p.m.

Students and staff are **wearing orange**, the color of leukemia, on Wednesdays to show support for OAK-8 student Jill Mott.

Our **basketball teams** open their season this evening at home vs. Blochman School. Game times are 5:30 (girls) and 6:30 (boys).

Thursday

Hot lunch: Chili Cheese Fries

Today and every Thursday is "**College Day**" at OAK-8. Students and staff are invited to wear college apparel to school to reflect a college-going culture.

Friday

Hot lunch: Teriyaki Chicken with Rice or Gourmet Salad

Today and each Friday is a "**Blue and Silver Day**" at OAK-8. Students and staff are invited to wear school colors to show school spirit.

We have a **student awards assembly** this morning.

Today marks the **end of the Second Quarter for grades 7 and 8**. Second Quarter report cards go home on Friday, February 2.

Coming Up

Monday, January 29: The OAK-8 basketball teams visit St. Mary's this evening at 5:30 (girls) and 6:30 (boys).

Wednesday, January 31: Today is a teacher collaboration day, with dismissal at 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 31: Today at 4:00 p.m. is the deadline to submit online enrollment applications for the Orcutt Academy for the 2018-2019 school year. If you have children not attending OA whom you wish to enroll, please be sure to meet this deadline.

Wednesday, January 31: OAK-8 hosts Olga Reed in basketball this evening at 5:30 (girls) and 6:30 (boys).

Friday, February 2: Second Quarter report cards for grades 7 and 8 go home today.

Wednesday, February 7: Today is a teacher collaboration day, with dismissal at 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 7: The Orcutt Academy Enrollment Lottery for 2018-2019 takes place tonight at 6:00 at Orcutt Academy High School.

Wednesday, February 7: The OAK-8 basketball teams host St. Louis this evening at 5:30 (girls) and 6:30 (boys).

Friday, February 9: Mrs. Lovell's and Ms. Carricaburu's classes will be attending a Bulldog Bound event at Allan Hancock College this morning.

Friday, February 9: The OAK-8 PTSA is organizing a Family Fun Night at Chuck E. Cheese in Santa Maria this evening from 3:00-9:00. A PTSA general membership meeting will take place at the restaurant.

Monday, February 12: We have no school today. It is the Lincoln's Birthday holiday.

Wednesday, February 14: Today is a teacher collaboration day, with dismissal at 2:00 p.m.

Monday, February 19: We have no school today. It is the Presidents' Day holiday.

Wednesday, February 21: Today is a teacher collaboration day, with dismissal at 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 22: The OAK-8 basketball teams visit St. Louis this evening at 5:30 (girls) and 6:30 (boys). The games will be played at Arellanes Junior High School in Santa Maria.

Friday, February 23: We have a student awards assembly this morning.

School News

Reminder for families: If your child will be out of school for a predetermined reason and you are requesting an independent study packet, please be sure to give Reyes and your child's teacher at least one week's notice and preferably two week's notice. Teachers need adequate time to put together work for a packet. If not enough notice is given, we may not be able to issue a packet and the absences may be termed unexcused.

The Orcutt Academy has begun taking **enrollment applications for the 2018-2019 school year**. The application is online, and can be accessed via the Orcutt Union School District website [here](#). If you have other children whom you would like to enroll at OAK-8 or Orcutt Academy High School, please note that you will need to fill out an enrollment application for each child.

Everyone is invited to subscribe to this email newsletter, the "OAK-8 Update." Parents can subscribe at multiple email addresses, and grandparents and other family members also are invited to subscribe. The newsletter will come out each weekend during the school year. To subscribe, please email Mr. Dana at jdana@orcutt-schools.net.

OAK-8 Bus Schedule

Following is the OAK-8 bus schedule for 2017-2018, as revised in October 2017 to include a new morning stop at the Lakeview Junior High School Gym. Parents of Transitional Kindergarten and kindergarten students are requested to let Mrs. Cole know which bus/bus stop their children will be using in the afternoon; that way, Mrs.

Cole can make sure the students get on the correct bus. Our complete schedule follows:

Morning

- 7:40 - Pine Grove School (front of school on Bradley Road)
- 7:50 - Alice Shaw School (on Dahlia Place by side parking lot)
- 8:00 - Kmart Shopping Center (on west side of Kmart building)
- 8:05 - Lakeview Junior High School Gym (in front of gym doors)
- 8:25 - OAK-8 (on Helena Street in Los Alamos)

Afternoon (3:00 Dismissal - Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays)

- 3:00 - OAK-8 (on Helena Street in Los Alamos)
- 3:25 - Kmart Shopping Center (on west side of Kmart building)
- 3:25 - Alice Shaw School (on Dahlia Place by side parking lot)
- 3:35 - Pine Grove School (in parking lot)

Afternoon (2:00 Dismissal - Wednesdays)

- 2:00 - OAK-8 (on Helena Street in Los Alamos)
- 2:25 - Kmart Shopping Center (on west side of Kmart building)
- 2:25 - Alice Shaw School (on Dahlia Place by side parking lot)
- 2:35 - Pine Grove School (in parking lot)

Afternoon (1:30 Dismissal - First Day of School, Parent-Teacher Conferences, Last Day of School)

- 1:30 - OAK-8 (on Helena Street in Los Alamos)
- 1:55 - Kmart Shopping Center (on west side of Kmart building)
- 1:55 - Alice Shaw School (on Dahlia Place by side parking lot)
- 2:05 - Pine Grove School (in parking lot)