



# Oconee County Primary School

## Little Chief News

### September 2016



#### From The Principal's Pen. . .

Hello OCPS Families! Our faculty has been revising the OCPS Purpose Statement to ensure the statement reflects our beliefs. As part of the review process, we would like to solicit comments from our stakeholders. The following link provides you an opportunity to review the statement and give feedback. There are additional questions to answer as we finalize our School Improvement Plan and focus for the year. Our goal is for a minimum of 50% OCPS families to complete the survey. At this time, twelve families have participated. We appreciate your partnership and value your input.

Link to survey: <https://goo.gl/forms/SZvIAX0SxSi5IL672>

QR code



#### Upcoming Events

Sept. 23rd—PTO Teacher Luncheon  
Sept. 29th— Picture Retakes  
Sept. 29th— Curriculum Night 6:00 PM  
Oct. 6th— 1st Grade Breakfast POD 2 7:45 AM  
Oct. 7th— 1st Grade Breakfast POD 3 7:45 AM  
Oct. 7th— End of 1st Nine Weeks  
Oct. 10th— Fall Break  
Oct. 13th— 2nd Grade Bake Sale  
Oct. 13th— PTO Exec. Board Meeting  
Oct. 14th— 2nd Grade Bake Sale  
Oct. 14th— Report Cards Sent Home  
Oct. 18th— PTO Meeting 8:00am  
Oct. 22nd— Fun Run/Fall Carnival  
Nov. 4th— Book Character Parade



#### Super Chief Character Awards

At OCPS we are excited about our Super Chief Character expectations. Our character traits include being Respectful, Responsible, and Ready (The 3 R's). Our Super Chief monthly award ceremony will be based on these 3 R's throughout the year.

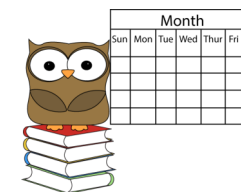
This year we are excited to continue to offer visits to our Treasure Tower to students showing hard work on the 3 R's! The Treasure Tower houses small prizes (but no candy). In order to earn a visit, a student must earn 10 tickets to exchange for a token. Once a student earns a token, the teacher and class celebrate by making a stop by the tower for their prize! Names of students who earn visits to the tower will also appear on our morning news show.

#### September is Attendance Awareness Month

While September is National Attendance Awareness Month, every school day is important. We are fortunate at OCPS that we have good school attendance. Regular attendance helps make children become successful and confident in school. Here are a few suggestions that may be helpful in building the bridge between home and school.

- Set a regular bedtime. Also, children may sleep better without t.v's and video games in their rooms.
- Get items for school ready the night before. Have backpacks packed and clothes ready before bedtime.
- Try to make any appointments after school whenever possible.
- Try to plan extended vacation trips during holidays or during the summer.
- Aim to be on time each day. Tardies and check outs add up to valuable instructional time missed throughout the year.

If you notice that your child is having difficulty with any issues related to school or is overly anxious about school, please give our Counselor, Frankie Broussard, a call. She will be happy to discuss some strategies to make your days easier. We want school to be a great place for your child each day!



## PTO News

The OCPS PTO is off to a great start this school year!

### No-Sell Fundraiser

The fundraiser has been extended a week to help meet our \$13,000 goal. Any donation, no matter the size, helps our schools and has an impact on every child. All money raised during the fundraiser will spent in the next few months and will go toward:

- 1) Playground improvements - outdoor classroom, repair and updates
- 2) Leveled Reading Room - the reading books your child brings home cost between \$50-\$60 for each set
- 3) Technology - iPads for kindergarten and Chromebooks used throughout the school

### School Spirit at OCPS

We are excited that the new OCPS spirit stick will be awarded to the class each week displaying the most school spirit! Remember to wear your favorite OCPS shirt, OC gear, or Warrior blue each Friday!

### Meetings

Thanks to all those who attended our first PTO Meeting/Coffee & Conversations of the year. We hosted a Q&A with Mrs. Adams and Ms. Whitaker. Discussions covered topics including MAP, understanding reading levels, homework, recess and more. All minutes from PTO meetings are posted under the PTO link on the school website ([www.oconeeshools.org/ocps](http://www.oconeeshools.org/ocps)). Our next meeting will be Tues, Oct 18 at 8:00 am.

### Volunteering at OCPS

Help is always needed around the school! Visit the PTO link on the school website to see current Sign-up Genius links. Please consider volunteering in the library. This is a great way to get involved, meet teachers, and possibly see your child in their own environment during the day.



## Title I Tips

Welcome to a new school year at OCPS! As we begin our Little Chief adventures together, there are a few back to school tips that might make the transition into a new school year a little less stressful. First, and most importantly, establish routines. This can't be said enough! Children thrive off of what they know will be expected. Start by setting and sticking to a reasonable bedtime. Researchers at McGill University and the Douglas Mental Health Institute found a link between academic performance, specifically in math and language, and sleep efficiency. The National Sleep Foundation recommends that children ages five to 12 get 10-11 hours of sleep at night. Encourage a morning routine as well. Putting up a task list on the refrigerator is a great way to help keep everyone focused in the morning. If breakfast happens at home rather than school, set a timer for a last chance breakfast call so no one leaves home hungry. Lastly and equally as important, set up expectations for homework time afterschool. This might look like a break first, then homework, or homework first, and free play to follow. Do what works for your family. The establishment of routines usually eases anxiety and promotes confidence in children by offering stability. Set your child (ren) up for learning and success early in the school year by encouraging preparedness through routines.

## Staff Birthdays

### September

Victoria Little-1st  
Kendall Edelen-5th  
Hannah Lewis-12th  
Ashlee Bruce-14th  
Janie Savage-17th  
Jennifer Adams-18th  
Lee-Ann Newberry-18th  
Anne Hardell-27th  
Katie Brimanson-28th

### October

Laura Brewton-3rd  
Kay Hobbs-6th  
Lynda Dunlap-9th  
Jennifer Miller-13th  
Suzanne Worthington-25th  
Jan Ash-26th

## Welcome New Staff Members!



Jennifer  
Adams



Nicole  
Boran



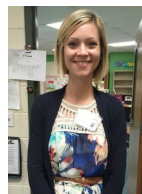
Ashlee  
Bruce



Maria  
Koch



Barri  
Leach



Victoria  
Little



Lee-Ann  
Newberry



Christie  
Stewart



Megan  
Williams

