



# OBL Times



**Appoquinimink School District**

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### **1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Concert**

**By: Jourdan Lobban**



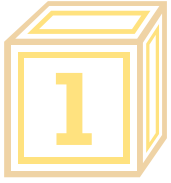
What are the sweet voices we hear in our ears? Why it's the lovely first and second grade, preparing for their concert: Let it Snow! It took place on December 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. They sang many songs such as "Winter Wonderland, Knock No More, the classic Frosty the Snowman, Jingle Drive, Winter Waltz, Blinger's Boogie, Snow Angel, Blizzard and My Favorite Things. They will also read poems by our third graders in Ms.Hamm's enrichment class and Jack Prelutsky, Edgar Allen Poe. Now you may ask who these poets are? Well here's some information about them.

Jack Prelutsky was born on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 1940 in Brooklyn, New York. He grew up in a neighborhood with Jewish, Italian and Irish families. He later married a woman name Carolyn and now they've been married for 31 years and have two dogs and many cats. Now he didn't always like poetry, but when he was 24 years old he drew a picture and wrote a little poem to go with it. An editor name Susan Hirschman liked his poem and has been writing poetry ever since. He's known for starring an appearance on the show "Arthur" in "I'm a Poet" and was the winner of the 2006 Poetry Foundation Children's Poet award.

Edgar Allen Poe was born on January 19, 1809 in Boston, Massachusetts. He was an orphan until he was taken by John and Frances Allen. In 1835 he married Virginia Clemm. During his lifetime he wrote many genres in poetry including horror, gothic, romance, crime and detective fiction and comedy and wrote short stories literature critic. He was more popular in Europe than in America in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Edgar died on October 7<sup>th</sup> 1849 and was buried in Baltimore, Maryland. The cause of his death however is still unknown even to this day, but he will always be remembered for his critiques and lovely poetry.

So brothers, sisters, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends drop everything and see our little angels sing!





## The Awesome First Graders!

By: Shane Phipps

The first graders are working so hard this school year. In writing they are writing Wee Delivers letters and some classes are working on writing text base Polar Animals. Mrs. Zarzycki is working with 3 classes on Colonial America research in her library. In Reading they are finishing up unit 2 called Living in a Community and long vowels. The phonics skills are getting harder and the students are studying harder to become super readers. The first graders are working on author's purpose, cause and effect, story elements and compare and contrast. In math they are working on story problems and adding and subtracting. They are also working on number combinations and are being introduced to a new method called "today's number." They need to think of many ways to make a number such as 10. They can add or subtract to get this number. Finally in social studies they are working on colonial times and they went on a field trip to Hagley Museum to see first hand how our early Americans lived and compare it to how we live today. They all had a great time and learned a lot while they were there. So good luck first graders!

## 2nd grade news

By: Kennedy Blancher



Second grade is working on their math. They are working on things like word problems with problems like  $234+70$ . I do not think when I was in second grade I could do that problem with out doing it up and down. They said that they had to do the math in their head.

Second grade does not have DCAS until the end of the year. We have to do DCAS three times this year. That is a lot in 10 months of school. But I guess they are kind of young for DCAS.

The most difficult subject is writing. They need improvement on their stories. They need more details. Their hand writing is kind of not the best. They are not even trying. When I was in second grade my mom taught me how to do cursive. My teacher takes our recess from us if we do not write neatly. I think that is fair because she wants it a certain way and we are in fourth grade. We should know how to write neatly.

I have heard that if you are not doing good things you flip cards. If you are good you are on green and if you got a warning you go on yellow and you owe ten min. of your recess. If they flip their card to red you owe twenty minutes. In fourth grade when you get a warning you owe twenty minutes. The second time you owe all your recess.

They also were studying insects in there class room. Their teacher had them do an insect project. They had to have a insect for the project. But it also had to be 3-D. I think that is cool. I would need a lot of help from my parents .

The second graders also went to a field trip and they learned about insects. I think it is cool but I am really scared of bugs even if it is even a fly I will freak out . They told me that they also eat some of the bugs. I would never I think it would be nasty. This is what is happening in second grade.





## **3rd Grade News**

**By Adam Bonar**

Third Grade really likes using Smart Boards. A Smart Board is kind of like a gigantic I- Pad. In my opinion, I like using Smart Boards because you could touch and slide stuff on the Smart Board. You could also write and erase stuff on the Smart Board. You could even learn new stuff about the Smart Boards. One thing you could learn about Smart Boards is that you could learn more stuff about the Smart Board. If your class has a Smart Board, you might like it.

Third Grade is learning three digit addition and three digit subtraction. When I was in third grade I remember doing three digit addition and three digit subtraction. It's kind of hard when you first learn it. But when you keep on doing three digit addition and three digit subtraction, it gets easier and easier. If you are in Third Grade, you should be learning three digit addition and three digit subtraction.

Third Grade is learning persuasive writing. Right now, they're working on a persuasive piece on going to a restaurant. In my opinion, I think it's a good idea because it's a good way to start thinking about being an advertiser if you want to when you grow up. I just finished persuasive writing in my class a couple weeks ago. If you're doing persuasive writing right now, when you finish, you'll be experts at it. (Because I know I am)

Third Grade is learning Economics is Social Studies. Economics is something that you learn about the community. I remember doing Economics in Social Studies in third grade. In my opinion, I think economics is a good thing to learn.

Third Grade is reading "Because of Winn Dixie" in literature circles. I remember when I read "Because of Winn Dixie" in third grade. After we finished, we watched Because of Winn Dixie the movie. In my opinion, Because of Winn Dixie is a great book. The main characters in Because of Winn Dixie are the dog, Winn Dixie and the girl. (I forget the girl's name) I hope you like "Because of Winn Dixie" if you're reading it as a literature circle book. If you aren't, when you read it, I think you'll really like it.

## **Fourth Grade News**

**By: Angel Chaudery**



The fourth grade is learning loads! In math Ms Gayle's class has finished up basic multiplication and is now working on much harder facts and more thought provoking strategies. Fourth grade is learning about the government in social studies. I asked Melanie Gasmen from fourth grade how she likes it and she said "that once they made posters of 1 quote in the preamble of the constitution and she really liked that". In science Ms. DeCapua's class is observing Bess Beetles. They got to see them and touch the beetles to. Ms. Day's class is having a swell time. In reading they are going to do their first play! They will break up into groups and will act out the parts. In writing Ms. Day's class is doing a lot of descriptive pieces. They are doing writing about their thanksgiving dinner. To prepare for the New Year, Ms. Day's class is writing New Year's Resolutions. The fourth grade had an in school fieldtrip on December 8<sup>th</sup>. In the field trip they got to observe crustaceans. This field trip was an end to the fourth grades science unit, Structures of Life. Fourth grade is having a very fun, but hard year.

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade News**  
**By: Brandon Hoffman**



The whole school just recently started the 2<sup>nd</sup> marking period. In Mrs. Conover's class, they are preparing for a field trip to JA Biztown in Wilmington, Delaware. At JA Biztown, you have a job and have certain things you need to accomplish before the days over and you fill out a checkbook and balance a checkbook. You also get paid a salary when the day is over and then you get to go buy something from one of the stores like Happy Harry's. You get three breaks. There is one lunch break which is 30 minutes long. The other 2 breaks are about 10 minutes long. Once you get there, there is a town meeting and then you have to get to work. Instead of being a kid, you pretty much get to be an adult for the day. It is also very busy and you don't have much free time other than to eat lunch and the 2 other breaks you have during the day. There are 16 different jobs you can do when you're at the field trip. The class is working hard to become citizens of Biztown. Some of the jobs at Biztown are The News Journal, The Phone Company, and The Radio Station. In fact, the Mayor of the fifth grade for the field trip is... Alayna Rivera of Mrs. Conover's fifth grade class! In math, Mrs. Conover's class is adding and subtracting large numbers and estimating in Unit 3 of their math book. For Reading, they're reading a story about being kind in a community in Unit 2 of their reading textbook. All 5<sup>th</sup> graders have to know cursive before going into middle school. In writing in Mrs. Conover's class, they are working on writing in cursive. In RTI, students are working on problem solving, complicated word problems, math 24, math tower, and a new way to solve problems. Mrs. Conover's class also has a student teacher this year, Miss. Scarpati. Unfortunately, it is Miss. Scarpati's last day is on December 8, 2010.

**Winter Holidays Around The World**  
**By Chris Caceres**



There are all kinds of winter holidays around the world like Christmas, Kwanzaa and Hanukkah. All type of people celebrate them. But some people don't celebrate anything, that's ok too.

Some holidays like New Year's Day, celebrates another year around the world. The start of the Christmas season starts with something called Advent. People usually celebrate it in church. Its when you have four candles four each week leading to Christmas. Hanukkah started at sundown on December 1<sup>st</sup> and ended on the 9<sup>th</sup>. A cool winter holiday that another country celebrates is Omisoka. It is a Japanese holiday. Which starts at the end of December.

In Canada there is a winter celebration called Boxing Day. It takes place on December 26th. Boxing day is also known as the Feast of St. Stephen. People around the world are very busy with the variety of holidays around the world.



## Holiday Shop

By: Sehar Macan-Markar

Would you like to get all your holiday shopping done in one place, instead of going to billions of stores and walking endless amounts of footstep? Well now you can if you go to OBL'S holiday shop!

Need some new games for you Wii or Nintendo? Well look no farther! The Holiday shop will have awesome Wii and Nintendo games, such as Scrabblenauts, I spy a Spooky Mansion, Disney Wii Sing Along, and math and typing games. If you like spooky games, singing games, or even math and typing games, you can buy them from the holiday shop!

Does your mother sister or aunt like jewelry? Well the holiday shop has it! They have jewelry that everyone will enjoy! Some jewelry like a bunch of beautiful necklaces from peace sign to guitar to purple butterflies and just plain silver necklaces. Either way you will love all of it!

But that's not all! There is a lot of other great items at the holiday shop like silly bands and Eagles gloves to support your team and stay warm! But if you want to find out what else there is don't ask me head down to the holiday shop!

## Ms. Vukich's interview

By Melanie Gasmen

Ms. Vukich is a new 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher who seems really pleasant. She is easy to talk with, so she is also serene. Her students must have been thinking that Ms. Vukich is an awfully kind and gentle person.

I was astonished when I asked Ms. Vukich how long she was teaching. This was her very 1<sup>st</sup> time Teaching! It all started when she was at OBL! Congrats to Ms. Vukich! Ms. Vukich got interested in schooling ever since the age of 8 or 9. That means she wanted to teach since 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Ms. Vukich is lucky, her wish came true. Besides, she likes to be a leader (just like me) and loves to work with kids. So of course, when she was a kid Ms. Vukich still had an interest in education. Ms. Vukich's favorite subject in school is social studies. Social studies is my least favorite subject, yet I'm guessing I have very good grades on the focus.

When Ms. Vukich is out of school, she would usually travel to the beach and have an enjoyable relaxation. She also likes to enjoy films in the movie theater (like some other teachers in the school) and create arts n' crafts (just like me). I think Ms. Vukich has an interesting life.

## Night Owls

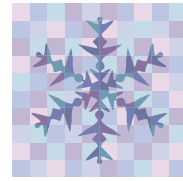
By Alexa Kifer

Did your friend go but not you? Do you want to go to night owls? Well this is perfect. I will tell you the inside scoop on night owls! First it was Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6-9 which you probably already knew. But when you first came in to the school you give your snack to the teacher standing there. Then you check in with the teacher and go in to the cafeteria and wait till you get your pizza and get some juice. Then when everyone ate their pizza we divided in to groups by grades. I know that 4<sup>th</sup> grade was in Mr. Ciccone's lab to play on the computers. 5<sup>th</sup> grade went to the media lab and also played on the computers. 2<sup>nd</sup> grade made drawings on the winter murals. 1<sup>st</sup> graders made a stocking magnet and played with play dough. Also we all watched a movie 5<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders watched Camp Rock. 1<sup>st</sup> grade watched Finding Nemo and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade saw High School Musical. It was 3 hours. I think every one enjoyed it. There will definitely be a next night owls. If you went, hope you enjoyed it!



## **This Years Snow Predictions**

**By: Jacob Grant**



This years snow predictions are not very high for Delaware. We're in the winter battle zone. That means that were not going to get a lot of snow and were going to get no where near 70 to 77 inches. That doesn't mean we get a free pass. We are still going to get a fast start in early December. If not we will get snow.

The worst snow will be from the top of Iowa to Washington., the top of California, most of Nevada, Utah, and the top of Colorado. The warmest winter is going to be down south and up to the bottom of Maryland. It's going to very dry at the bottom of California and Arizona.

The wind chill is going to be a big factor this winter. This winter it is going to be a lot colder because of the wind chill. This is going to be one of the coldest winters ever is what I think. This year if it snows I think it will blow into snow drifts and cause more trouble. The wind is going to be the big issue of the winter.

The best thing about this winter is you most likely won't have to shovel the snow. For some people it is good and for some it is bad.



## **Winter Sports**

**By Chris Caceras**

Winter sports is filled with all kinds of exciting sports. But some of them are really hard, because most of the ice or winter sports really deal with keeping your balance. Some winter sports are snowboarding, ice skating and skiing. But some sports deal with team work such as broomball and snowball fight.

All the winter sports you have to be really talented. But some of the sports you don't even have to be talented but it is still teamwork and its fun. BUILDING A SNOW MAN! It's a sport amazingly. About a year ago the winter Olympics was on.

One of the popular boy's winter sports of all time is snowboarding. The popular girl sport is ice skating. Both sports are great winter sports to do.

Snowboarding involves descending a slope that is covered with snow on a snowboard a rider's feet using a special boot set onto mounted binding. The development of snowboarding was inspired by skateboarding, surfing, and skiing in the in the 1960s and the 1970s and became a Winter Olympics in 1998.



## Winter Break

By: Adam Bonar

One thing you could do on Winter Break is celebrate Christmas. On Christmas you can get and give presents. Christmas is a holiday for Catholic, Christian, or half Catholic people to celebrate. Santa Claus or St. Nick goes every Christmas Eve to give us presents. If you are half Catholic or Catholic you should celebrate Christmas.

Another thing you could do on Winter Break is celebrate Hanukkah. On Hanukkah, you have a Menorah. You put eight candles on the Menorah. You celebrate eight days of Hanukkah. That's why you have eight candles. Jewish people celebrate Hanukkah. Since I'm half Jewish and half Catholic, I celebrate both Hanukkah and Christmas. Hanukkah is spelled two ways. Hanukkah and Chanukah. If you are Jewish or half Jewish, you should celebrate Hanukkah.

Another thing you could do on Winter Break is celebrate Kwanzaa. Kwanzaa is a weeklong celebration. African Americans and African heritage celebrates this holiday. It is celebrated from December 26 to January 1 every year. Kwanzaa was first celebrated in December 26, 1966. Ron Karenga celebrated Kwanzaa and is the creator of Kwanzaa. If you're African American, you could celebrate Kwanzaa.

Another thing you could do on Winter Break is play in the snow. You could have a snowball fight. If there is enough snow this year, if you want you could have about a 6 on 6 game if you want to. You could also make a snow fort. It will take a lot of work but it will be worth it. Another thing you could do in the snow is have a snow race if you want to. In my opinion, I would love to have a snow ball fight and make a snow fort.

Another thing you could do on Winter Break is visit relatives. In my family, we visit relatives all of the time, especially on winter break. When I'm at my relatives, I talk with my family, and I have matzo ball soup. Matzo ball soup is really good. Most of the times when I'm there, before I leave to go back to my house we play charades. I always have a good time at my relatives.



Do you have any ideas for our newspaper? Do you like to write fictional stories? If so, please contact one of the newspaper advisors, Mrs. Barngett, Ms. McDonald or Mr. Ciccone.



## **Jump Rope for Heart**

**By Melanie Gasmen and Angel Chaudery**

In December a very exciting event took place in the OBL gym. The special occasion is called Jump Rope for Heart. In there each grade level comes and jump ropes!

All students take home a sponsor envelope shortly before Jump Rope for Heart. In the envelope students can put in money. That money will go to people with heart problems and will go to buy physical equipment for the students. Heart problems are caused when you eat a lot of foods high in cholesterol (or fat). Sometimes the cholesterol builds up in your arteries so the empty space where the blood goes becomes thinner. That makes the heart work harder to try and pump the blood.

Jump rope for heart is so much fun! While each kid jumps there are always the greatest hits in music. During the middle of the event, the teachers get one mystery jumper, as in they pick one of the adults who work in the school, and then dress up that person, so none of kids can figure out who it is. The person who can guess who it is will get a prize.

We asked a few teachers what they thought about jump rope for heart. Mr. Ciccone said, “I love the program, it’s really great that we’re all getting so much exercise while having so much fun. Plus it’s awesome that we raise money for a good cause.” We also asked Mrs. Bobik what she had to say. Mrs. Bobik said “that because of jump rope for heart kids have more awareness that there is this disease out there and with jump rope for heart kids have a chance to help.”

Jump rope for heart is a great program that features MANY cool things plus we help people!

## **Meet Ms.Cintora**

**By: Alexa Kifer and Jourdan Lobban**

Senorita Cintora was born in Guanajuato, Mexico. She came to the United States when she was just a year old. During her youth she traveled back and forth from Mexico. She came back to Mexico at the age of 10 and came back to the United States when she was just 15. Ms.Cintora learned French as a sophomore in high school and later started teaching. She not only teaches here, but she also teaches at Brick Mill, Townsend, Cedar Lane and Silver Lake and this is her second year teaching. Before we close out here’s a juicy fact: Ms. Cintora studied French in France. Hasta luego, amigos!

# Winter Word Search

By Lexi Brown



## Word Bank:

COAT

COLD

GLOVES

HATS

HOTCOCOA

ICE

ICESKATING

MOUNTAINS

SCARVES

SKIING

SLED

SNOW

SNOWBOARDING

SNOWFLAKES

SNOWMAN

STORMS

WHITE

WINTER

Y Z C H R E S N I T L M K S Y C G C V V  
W P O D Z T H E G B F B T C L S N X P Z  
G Y A D E L S G K P Z P K A B K I F D L  
H O T C O C O A N A O V G R Q T T D W D  
G U N R S O F B N I L R I V E R A U M M  
E T S M L F R Y J V I F U E T O K P V C  
S C P P Z N W I H J N K W S G S S X H L  
G N I D R A O B W O N S S O N O E Z J H  
Q C O L B S T H Q V U Z Y I N T C X A J  
B C Z W F R Z K V H W S A H A S I T O F  
F J Q B M Q I Y N J B T L M H B S I G E  
D O H M K A F E M P N V R W S W R C T W  
G F P C H R N J B U K X X X S P K I M C  
O H W C O L K P O W D A T R M V H D B Y  
U S E V O L G M I K V Z U F R W I C X U  
A W C V H J D N A A D M W F O O K V L U  
N O K X M V T S N O W F W P T R J O H P  
X E Y D W E Y D N Z V U V S S Y T D I T  
U C L R R N S R E T G Q R C R D E W Z P  
Q Z E U E L A T W V P B K F N D Q E Z F