



OBL Times



Appoquinimink School
District

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Thanksgiving

By Lexie Brown

Thanksgiving is celebrated in many different states and countries such as the United States and Canada. This holiday is celebrated on the last Thursday in November in the United States. In Canada, Thanksgiving is on the second Monday in October. This year it falls on October 11th and November 25th 2010.

Traditionally Thanksgiving Day is a harvest festival. It is a holiday to express thankfulness, gratitude, and appreciation to God, family, and friends. It is a time to celebrate being blessed of material possessions and relationships. We celebrate by having a bountiful feast. This holiday has since moved away from its roots.

In early autumn 1612, the 53 surviving Pilgrims celebrated the successful harvest. They celebrated with Wampanoag Indians, who gave up their lands and cultures for us to become what we are today. Together they shared food and prayers. The custom of an annual national Thanksgiving was proclaimed by Abraham Lincoln in 1863, and continues to the present day.

As November 25th, 2010 approaches, we prepare to celebrate the same traditions the Pilgrims set in place. We will gather with family and friends and give thanks for everything we have today. We will enjoy the wonderful feast and pray for our loved ones. It will be a happy time for all. Once it is over, we will continue our tradition next year, thanks to the Pilgrims and Indians we will always have this special day of thanks called Thanksgiving.



Vendor Fair

By: Lexie Brown & Alexa Kifer

Do you know what the vendor fair is? It is a place where you can buy items from many vendors. It is hosted by the Olive B Loss PTA. The Vendor Fair is on Friday, November 19th, 2010. The Vendor Fair will be at OBL cafeteria/gym. The whole point of the Vendor Fair is to earn money for SMART Boards, some of the events that the PTA sponsor, and much more.

The vendor's that were here this year as well as most from last year were Creative Memories, Computer Explorers, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Miche Bags, Willow House, Stampin Up!, Anissa Cothran featuring Traci Lynn Fashion Jewelry, Tastefully Simple, and Dove Chocolate Discoveries.

Kids could even stop at the library to color and make a simple craft to take home. They hope to see you there! It was lots of fun! If you went, hope you enjoyed it!



First Grade News

By: Jourdan Lobban

The first graders are just finishing up their first unit on animals and animals you would think as pets. Cats, dogs, guinea pigs, hamsters are considered your every day pets in America. Now animals like boa constrictor snakes, warthogs, cheetahs, lions, and tigers are considered as wild animals, so don't think about buying one from a pet store. They are also reviewing the skills of being a good reader such as cause and effect, character and setting and visualizing. In Writing they are hanging up their pumpkin stories and are learning how to have a great beginning of a writing piece and having juicy detail. They want keep the reader wide awake and reading not asleep. In math they are identifying the properties of shapes. They study shapes like triangles, rectangles, octagons, pentagons, hexagons and studying the features.

These little guys are weathermen in Science. They are learning about how the water cycle works with evaporation, condensation and precipitation and how the weather affects the seasons, meaning when the temperature is warm in the summer and its cold in the winter. Last but not least our little historians are studying America in Colonial Times, when colonists came to America for a better life and fought for its independence in the American Revolution. And that's the news with first grade. Keep up the good work guys!

2nd Grade News

By: Sehar Macan-Markar

In 2nd grade they are very busy and are even going on a field trip! Let's find out what they are up to!

In math they are learning how to do addition and subtraction. Also they are just about wrapping up on doing math story problems. So looks it looks like 2nd grade is doing great with their math!

Now in writing the second graders are writing creative writing piece. The writing prompt is about a lonely scarecrow. Also they are trying to add good word choice with their lonely scarecrow prompt. Good luck with that writing piece 2nd grade!

So in science they are learning the lifecycle of a mealworm. Like how they start from a small egg, to a larva and to a pupa. Finally then it becomes a full grown adult! A BEETLE! But shhhhhh the 2nd graders don't know that yet it's a surprise!

In reading they finished unit one! WAHOO! Also they are learning different types of genres like the different fantasy and reality. Also they are doing prediction and sequence, something they learned a bit in First grade, but are doing more challenging stories.

2nd grade went on a field trip to an insectarium. The name is pretty explanatory itself. It's a museum about insects. So if you're a parent of 2nd graders you better like insects! They are going to do a lot of learning and discussion about insects.

Terrific 3rd Grade!

By Melanie Gasmen

Third grade was my best year in OBL. All the third grade teachers are, of course, terrific! I am really wishing to go back to third grade to remember the fond memories.

I have spoken with some of my friends from third grade. They're studying many of the things I studied when I was in the third grade. I'm guessing sooner or later they're going to have the in-door pioneer field trip. My friends are studying water, in science. Someone in Mrs. Hamms' class told me that her class had already gone to Hagley Museum to study how the water flows there on Friday, November 5th. "Third grade is easy and fun", Angela Abad said. "Because I mostly learned it when I was young." I think she is a very smart girl.

Angela's class did something I never learned in third grade. In writing they are researching nocturnal animals. I really love nocturnal animals. Especially since I always wanted to see the "Flying Fox". Maybe I'm able to learn about it if I find it in the library.

I'm kind of wishing to stay in third grade. Mostly because my third grade teacher, Mrs. Wright (she is always right!) was really stupendous! I really, really miss her. She was the reason why third grade was my best year in OBL.

Fourth Grade News

By: Adam Bonar

Fourth Grade is learning multiplication facts in math. Mrs. DeCapua's class works hard on their math and multiplication. The fourth grade sometimes uses their six, seven, eight, nine, and tens multiplication tables with their hands. The six is the pinky finger, the seven is the ring finger, the eight is the middle finger, the nine is the pointer finger, and the ten is the thumb. You put both of your palms facing you. If you put your middle finger on your left palm against the ring finger on your right palm, your doing 8×7 .

Fourth Grade is having an in-school field trip on December 8th 2010. They are going to learn about aquatic life. It is a hands-on field trip. So they are going to touch aquatic animals from the aquatic life. One animal is crayfish. If you are in fourth grade, you are also going to touch aquatic animals and have an in-school field trip.

Fourth Grade is learning about crayfish and beetles in science. Mrs. DeCapua's class gets to touch and pick up crayfish. The crayfish in Mrs. DeCapua's class had babies. I think Mrs. DeCapua's class is the only class whose crayfish had babies. If you are in fourth grade you get to touch and pick up crayfish too.

Fourth Grade is learning Japanese in foreign language. Mrs. DeCapua's class learned Japanese words, Japanese sentences, and Japanese songs. They also got to learn about Japanese life and got to actually eat some Japanese food. The Japanese food was seaweed, rice, and Japanese candy. Mrs. DeCapua's class was going to have wasabi but it was not fresh. If you are in fourth grade, you had Japanese food too and learned the Japanese words, Japanese sentences, and Japanese songs.

Fourth Grade does enrichment every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. When I go to Mrs. DeCapua's class for enrichment, I'll learn about digital photography. What I do know about digital photography is that you take pictures with a digital camera and that you put the pictures you took on the computer. If you are in fourth grade, you should be doing enrichment.

Fifth Grade News
BY Kennedy Blancher

The fifth grade teachers are preparing their students for DCAS by having the students go on the computer so they can work on their typing and their reading skills. They are also working very hard on math with their students on showing them how to use the tools that the computer offers for DCAS. They are practicing the necessary skills in math so that they are successful on the test.

Mrs. Conover told me what field trips they are going on this year. The first one they are going to is the Orchestra, they said that one was pretty loud. They also went to JA Biz Town. They have not gone there yet but it sounds busy! They will be going on a field trip to Ashland Nature Center. Also to Fort Delaware. This is so cool because I went there before. It has a boat ride you can go on and when you get to the other side they show you what happened in the middle age years.

This one is my favorite! Fifth grade is going to Washington D.C. I use to live there before I came to Delaware. It was so awesome but it was busy . Most of my family lives there.

It sounds like Fifth grade is going to be very busy this year. After all they are the seniors of OBL. You will have to wait until our next issue to see how they did on the DCAS and find out what they are working on in December.

Meet Ms. Leasure

By Melanie Gasmen

Ms. Leasure is a new teacher at OBL, so that's why I picked her to interview. I never knew she was a teacher for 1st grade. When I first met her she was beautiful and very nice. I was nervous at first, but then I liked her.

Ms. Leasure's students must have been very proud of her. What she does in her free-time is that she goes to the movies a lot. She also bought a new house, perfect for herself to live in, so she is really busy about that. As she told me about her house and her furniture, I think her furniture is really nice and cozy. Hopefully she'll be done with that in no time.

Right now Ms. Leasure is teaching her class weather, geometry, and animals. I remember doing weather in 1st grade, but I don't remember learning geometry and animals (probably because it was a long time ago).

Ms. Leasure thinks OBL is a fun and great place for her. She is really proud of her students also. Ms. Leasure told me that she wants to be promoted but yet also wants to stay with her students. Ms. Leasure is a very dedicated teacher.

Music

By Alexa Kifer

Are you wondering what happening in music? Well I will tell you. You know what First grade is up to? Their doing a variety of rhythms. Students have been singing and playing many different instruments. Some of the songs they learned are Charlie Over the Ocean, The Frog Song, Down By the Bay, and Shortin` Bread. Congratulates to the Alexander Servia and Saanvi Venkatesan for being the music student of the month. Good job First Grade!

In second grade they reviewed the differences from macro and the micro beat and have learned about rhythmic ostinatos. They have also taught about the style of Turkish music and played instruments to Adana Ya Gidelim. They learned the chant to Riddle Ree and the songs Sally Goes Around the Sun, Postman, Up the Hickory, Hickory Dickory, Hickory Dock, and Miss Mary Mack. Both second and first are having a concert on December 8th Andrew Park and Jessica Chaplin Are also Music students in the month. Good luck on your concert!

In third grade the have beat activies and identifying the resting tones in the song Old Joe Clark. They used Who`s Taping at the Window. They have been composition using the songs Frog in the Millpond and Ding, Dong Diggidiggidong . Music students of the month are Shreya Mehta and Eliza O`Brien.

In Fourth grade they started there year with the song Haul Away Joe as they focused on resting tone activies and the multimetric songs including A Sailor Went to the Sea, Ocean Waves, Song of Pirates , Bubble Gum, Coffee Grows on White Oak Trees and A Rig Jig Jig . The music students of the month in 4th grade Delany Gilbert and Adam Bonar.

In Fifth grade we started with African songs. But then we found out we got to go to a Chase Center going to see Scheherazade. Personally I loved the show because it entrained me with the acrobats and the beautiful music. The News Journal came to Ms. Simpson class while they were in music and interviewed them. The music students of the month in fifth grade are Nathaniel Rambo and Mason Faust.



Election Day _____

By Chris Caceras

Votes! Votes! Votes! Who has the most votes? It all depends on the people on Election day. Do you know what Election Day is all about? Election day this year took place on the 1st Tuesday of November. The candidates who are the people who are runner up and trying to win are the ones who the people vote on.

On Election day the people of America go out and vote for the ones they want to win. But the only way you can vote is if you`re a citizen of the United States of America and if you are eighteen and over. One of the biggest stories in America is the race in Delaware. The two candidates are Chris Coones and Christine O`Donnel. All of America was mostly based on them. But in other states there was more competition.

Usually there is voting for all kinds of subjects in the white house. There`s congress, senate, representatives and the president every four years and also you can vote for more.

But who are the choices are in two parties? Democrats and Republicans. But there are a couple more. But the whole point of Election day is the votes. If no one votes how do we know who won? So the people of the United States of America vote, but your not forced to vote. Some people don`t vote for anyone if they don`t think both parties aren`t going to do a good job. So don`t forget to vote on Election Day!



The OBL Fall Festival

By Chris Caceras

Something spooky is wandering at OBL . It's the Fall Festival and everyone in the school is going to dress up in a costume. Boo! People are going to dress up in scary, funny and pretty costumes.

What they do at OBL is amazingly creative!

At OBL they have a half a mile path called "the walking club path". It happens on the Friday before Halloween. Anyway the students of OBL walk with their neat costumes on. Each class goes one at a time for every grade.

Snap! To add on to all of that during the parade for the kids. The parents and PTA take snap shots at the kids too.

But the best part for the students of OBL is after the parade! After the parade the kids go to their classroom for a big celebration. Halloween decorations, candy and all kinds of treats and decorations. All the kids in OBL have a huge BLAST!

But most of the time while your eating your yummy snacks there might be fun activites but most of the time your class would just watch a movie. But at the end of the day when the OBL kids are done with the party they pack up and go home in a Fall Festival style. That's what they do at a OBL Fall Festival!

HAPPY FALL FESTIVAL!!!



OBL's Fall Book Fair

By Brandon Hoffman

The Book Fair came to Olive B. Loss and everybody was previewing and getting ready to buy books. The book fair was from October 28th to November 5th. On Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday is when your class went shopping for books. The Family Nights were on Thursday the 28th of October and Thursday the 4th of November. It took place in the library. Some of the most popular books are Diary of a Wimpy Kid 5, Framed, the Percy Jackson Series, Guinness World Records of 2011, Sabotaged, and The adventures of Ook and Gluk, the new book in the Captain Underpants series. There is also a supply table with pencils, erasers, pens, bookmarks, pencil sharpeners, games, pencil bags, notebooks, computer games, hand pointers, and posters. The book fair profits are going to buy more Smartboards for classrooms.

DCAS

By: Adam Bonar

One thing students do in DCAS is of course take the test. What I think of DCAS is that it is a good test. It is a good test because of three things, you do a lot less writing, it only takes a couple hours instead of a few days, and it helps other students learn more. Students from 2nd – 5th grade take DCAS. Since I'm in 4th grade, I know what tests 4th graders take. The tests I know so far are math and ELA. If you're in 2nd through 5th grade, you should be taking DCAS sometime in the school year.

Another thing students do in DCAS is that the students take training tests first. They take a training test first so they know what to do when they take the real test. I think taking a training test before you take the real test is a good idea because it's a good thing to do so the other students will remember what to do when the students take the real test. I think that because if they didn't give the training test to the other students, you wouldn't know what to do.

Another thing students do in DCAS is that students take practice tests after they take training tests. I think that's a good idea because you could review the things that you have to remember for the real test. If they didn't give the practice test, the students that are taking the test, will not have a good memory of what to do for the test.

The students do the test at around the beginning and the middle of the school year. I don't know if the other students who didn't take DCAS yet do the test at the end of the year. Since I'm in 4th grade, I know when I'm doing it. As a matter of fact, I did the test already. So if you're in 4th grade, you probably already did DCAS.

The 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students at OBL do DCAS. The 1st grade students at OBL do not take DCAS. I do not know why but I think it's because the 1st grade students at OBL are not ready for such an important test to the Appoquinimink School District. If you are in 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade at OBL, you should be taking the test at some time in the school year.

Test Taking Tips

- Get a good night sleep, and don't cram. Brains don't function properly when they are sleep deprived.
- Take them time to carefully read all directions. Many kids lose valuable test score points because they simply do not follow directions. Take the time and follow the test directions.
- Skip over questions you don't know. Kids should do the questions they know first, and then tackle the harder ones later. Getting a few early questions right helps to build confidence, which lessens stress. Also, in the event your child might run out of time, he / she will have at least gotten credit for all of the easier questions.
- Bring an extra pencil or pen and an extra calculator to answer math problems if appropriate. Also, bring scratch paper to write down notes and brainstorming ideas during the test.
- Relax and take a deep breath. A bad grade on the test is not the end of the world. Encourage your child to their best and not worry about the grades.
- Arrive early for school. There is nothing more stressful than arriving late for a test. We recommend showing up at least 15 minutes earlier than usual to avoid worrying about being late.

· **Tips taken from:** http://math-and-reading-help-for-kids.org/articles/Test_Taking_Tips_for_Kids.html



The Local Football Teams By Jacob Grant

The fall is a very popular football time. The Eagles are doing very well with Michael Vick. Vick's last start he won against the Redskins, the score was 59 to 28 Eagles. The best start so far I think and some sports insiders think so too. Vick is a fantastic weapon. At the same time DeSean Jackson is playing very well to. Jeremy Maclin had one touchdown. Right now the Eagles are fighting for first place.

The New York Giants are fighting for first along with the Eagles. Their last game they lost to the Cowboys and their new coach. The Giants are having some good games and some bad games. Eli Manning is a very good fantasy weapon and Brandon Jacobs. The Giants next start is against the Eagles to battle for first and the Giants are going to face Michael Vick. The Giants better prepare them selves for Vick.

The Baltimore Ravens last start was ok but they lost to the Falcons 21 to 26 Falcons. The Ravens scored one touch down in the 3rd quarter and two in the 4th quarter. The Falcons out played Joe Flacco and the Ravens.

The Pittsburgh Steelers are very good this year and are wining a lot. There on a winning streak. The Pittsburgh Steelers have the 4th best defense in the league. Hines Word returns to practice to try and play in there next game. This year I hope the Steelers make it to the play offs and go to the Super Bowl. Right now the Steelers are in first place right. The Steelers are trying to hang on.



The Local Hockey Teams By Jacob Grant

The biggest concern in the NHL is the cross checking. Danny Briere cross checked a player. Briere got suspended for cross checking a New York Islanders player. Right now Ian Lapperie is out with an injury. Jordon Stall is out with his right foot infection and has gotten surgery. Evgeni Malkin is out with a lower body injury.

Right now the Penguins are one of the best teams. The Flyers are one win and two losses, but their not in first or second place. The Devils are very bad so far because their not scoring and their in last place.

The Flyers stadium name got changed to the Wells Fargo Center, because Wachovia got bought. The Penguins stadium is the same as last year, The Consol Energy Center. The Devils stadium is the same the Prudential Center. The Prudential Center can hold 17,625 people. The Wells Fargo Stadium can hold 19,537 people. The Consol Energy Center can hold 18,087.

The nick name for Sydney Crosby in Philadelphia is you can't spell Crosby with out cry. The nick name for Ian Lapperie is Lappy. The Sergei Bobrowskis nick name is Bob. There are even more but these nicknames are the main.

This year I think the Flyers and the Sharks will be in the Stanley cup. In the conference championship the eastern conference will be Flyers and the Penguins. In the western conference will be the sharks and the Black Hawks. What do you think?



NBA

By Shane Phipps

Over the last couple of weeks, this is what has been happening in the world of the National Basketball Association.

When the Heat versed the Boston Celtics it was a low scoring game between the two teams .The score of the game was the Celtics 88 and the Heat 80. Normally the scores in the 100's for a basketball teams of professionalism. In the game, LeBron James scored 31 points, Chris Bosh scored 8 points and Dwayne Wade scored 13 points. The Heat are 6-4 and the Celtics are 8-2. If you would ever want to attend a game to see the Heat, this is unbelievable; it is cost \$25,000.00 for two courtside seats at the Miami Heats basketball court. On November 26, 2010, the Heat lost to our hometown team, Philadelphia Sixers with a score of 90 to 99. Look in our next issue for updates on our Sixers and other local team in basketball.

The 107th World Series!

By Shane Phipps

Did you watch the 107th World Series of Baseball? Well if you didn't, the two best teams in the playoffs were the "San Francisco Giants and the Texas Rangers". They were the two best teams in the playoffs because they fought their way to get to the "World Series". Before these two teams get to play each other, they have many playoffs between other baseball teams on the National and American sides of baseball. The San Francisco Giants played against our home team, the Phillies and the Texas Rangers played against the New York Yankees. As the teams gear up to play, they get a few days to practice and prepare for this huge upcoming event. They play the best of seven games, so the first team to win four games wins the World Series.

The score of the first game was SF 11-7. The second game was SF 9-0. The third game was Texas 4-2. The fourth game was SF 4-0. The last game of the "World Series" was SF 3-1. The series was SF 4 and Texas 1. It was the first time in franchise history that the Rangers went to the "World Series". Also it was the second time the Giants went to the "World Series" in franchise history. The first time they won the "World Series" was in 1954. The SF Giants were lucky that they won the 107th "World Series". Maybe the Phillies will make the World Series again next year. We will have to wait and see!

