October 2016 Weekly Announcements

Thank you to all the parents that I met with during parent teacher conferences.  I enjoy spending time discussing student successes and future goals.  As always, feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.  I'm available to help.  Here are upcoming announcements:

1.  Field trip forms need to be turned in this week by Tuesday, I'm still missing a few.  I will send home a reminder in the assignment notebook.

**2.  Monday, 10/31 OTE Celebrates ‘Fall Festival’:**  The *parade starts at 2:30pm* – weather permitting, parents can meet us on the playground starting at 2:15.  *Parties start immediately following the parade.* Students may wear their costumes to school.  However, any hats, masks, or props that must be carried, may only be put on during the parade.  ***With the recent issues with clown sightings, we are asking that students don’t come in clown costumes or attire.***  We also ask that costumes not include toy/facsimile weapons and costumes and face paint not portray blood and injury. *Please remember that we do not have available room for middle school students so don’t forget to make pick up arrangements for them if you are helping out or attending our parties.*  Due to safety protocols, parents will be asked to sign in on this day, however to help expedite the process we will have sign in tables available at the playground gate entry(prior to the parade), gym door and front door to pick up your visitor stickers.

**3.  Monday** will be a Day 3 on the specials schedule.  **Tuesday is** an **Early Dismissal day (2pm dismissal).**   School will be dismissed at **10:35am for morning kdg**. & **2:00pm** for all other students.  PTO Community Service invites you to an onsite after school activity in the Cougar Café from 2-2:45 Tuesday.  An adult must be present. **Tuesday** is also **Picture Retake Day**. **Thursday** morning 5th grade Mathletics will meet with Mrs. Minkoff in the library.  Friday is an OTE School Spirit Day.

4.  Picture Retakes:  **Fall pictures Retake day is Tuesday, November 1.** Students will need to return their packet and give it to the photographer when they go for re-takes.

**5.  Community Service** is working with The Giving Brick, a non-profit organization that collects used Lego Bricks, sorts them, cleans them, and returns them to official sets. The sets are donated to children through CASA of Jackson County, MO. CASA volunteers serve as court advocates for children in the foster care system.  Please bring ANY old Legos in any condition. No need to bring instructions or sort them by size. Just fill a bag and drop them off **Monday, October 31** or bring them to the event on **Tuesday, November 1**. Sign up at [**http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0448abae2ea1fb6-thegiving**](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/qSH_ld1H6SEzAfIx7pkvJQ%7E%7E/AAAAAQA%7E/RgRZ85-uP0EIAOwCoMR15sZXB3NjaG9vbG1YBAAAAABCCgADLmwSWHMC76pSGXJ3YXJyZW5AYmx1ZXZhbGxleWsxMi5vcmcJUQQAAAAARDtodHRwOi8vd3d3LnNpZ251cGdlbml1cy5jb20vZ28vMTBjMDQ0OGFiYWUyZWExZmI2LXRoZWdpdmluZ0eoeyJzZXF1ZW5jZSI6IjAiLCJzZW50VGltZU1zIjoiMTMzNDU3Mzk5IiwidXNlcmlkIjoiMTYxIiwicGVyc29uaWQiOiIxNzEyNzUiLCJlbWFpbFNvdXJjZSI6IkNVU1RPTUVSX0pPQiIsImpvYmlkIjoiMTc5NDI3IiwiZW52IjoicHJvZCIsInNoYXJkaWQiOiI3IiwiY3VzdG9tZXJpZCI6Ijc4NSJ9)  for this early release activity and details.   There will be a clearly marked bin in the entrance area for Legos.

6.  Don’t forget to attend the **3rd Grade Musical, “Freddie the Frog and the Jungle Jazz”** Thursday, **Nov. 3 at 7pm** at OTMS Gym. Mrs. Stroud and our third graders have been working very hard and cannot wait to share this with you.  We look forward to seeing you there

7.  Save the date for the next **OTE skating party at Skate City, Friday, November 4 from 4-6**. We hope you can make it to support your school as we have a blast!

**8. Head Lice Alert:**  Please check your child for head lice at home and report any positive identification of head lice to your school nurse. Please understand that the identity of any student with head lice is considered confidential.  You may have questions about how to identify and treat head lice. Please go to the [district’s website](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/IzmSOYms93N81nPcTrXBAg%7E%7E/AAAAAQA%7E/RgRZ85-) for more details.   Keep in mind that head lice can be spread by sharing personal articles such as brushes, helmets, hair ties, pillows, etc. Also be aware that in places where children congregate, the chances for transmission of head lice are much greater.  As always, we appreciate your continued support and cooperation.  If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our school nurse.

1. **Save the Date for our 2016 Veteran's Day Assembly**!  We hope you will join us **November 11 at 9:00a in the OTE gym**.   Please **RSVP by 10/31** for any Veterans that will be able to attend so that we can honor them at the assembly.  Please send in the name and address of any soldiers that you know who are deployed.   Wear Red, White & Blue to support our Veterans.   We are looking forward to a great assembly! Thank you for your help.
2. The OTE office would like to remind you of the importance of your student being to school on time.  Please call the absence line 913-239-7005 or e-mail the OTE office [oteos@bluevalleyk12.org](mailto:oteos@bluevalleyk12.org)  if your student will be **absent** or **late** for any reason.  School hours are:   **Students may enter the bldg at 8:20am.  Students proceed to class after the first bell at 8:25am.  Students are considered late after the tardy bell rings at 8:35am.  \*Please note students arriving after 8:35am must be signed in by a parent or guardian and receive a pass before proceeding to class.**
3. **"Take Stock" in OTE..  Invest in your child's future with just one Annual Donation!** Take Stock in OTE helps deliver invaluable resources for your children's education and elementary school.  All donations are 100% tax deductible and 100% of all donations stay at OTE.  Help us reach our goal this year by contributing to "Take Stock" today!   Our goal is 100% family participation, the recommend donation is $75 / family.  However, all donation amounts are welcome and appreciated!  **It is easy to invest in "Take Stock"!**

* Donate via credit card at [www.otepto.membershiptoolkit.com](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/X1A9CRMwhd3gDPiURujNDQ%7E%7E/AAAAAQA%7E/RgRZ85-uP0EIAOwCoMR15sZXB3NjaG9vbG1YBAAAAABCCgADLmwSWHMC76pSGXJ3YXJyZW5AYmx1ZXZhbGxleWsxMi5vcmcJUQQAAAAARChodHRwOi8vd3d3Lm90ZXB0by5tZW1iZXJzaGlwdG9vbGtpdC5jb20vR6h7InBlcnNvbmlkIjoiMTcxMjc1IiwiZW1haWxTb3VyY2UiOiJDVVNUT01FUl9KT0IiLCJzaGFyZGlkIjoiNyIsInVzZXJpZCI6IjE2MSIsInNlcXVlbmNlIjoiMCIsImVudiI6InByb2QiLCJzZW50VGltZU1zIjoiMTMzNDU3Mzk5Iiwiam9iaWQiOiIxNzk0MjciLCJjdXN0b21lcmlkIjoiNzg1In0%7E) .
* Donate via check with one of our donation envelopes found in the OTE entrance atrium.
* Donate via appreciated stock or make a grant from a foundation or donor advisory fund.
* Double your donation for free with gift matching at your employer (check with your employer for eligibility).

            Please contact Kristin Freeman at [klfreeman13@hotmail.com](mailto:klfreeman13@hotmail.com) with any questions.

See everyone Monday!

Joyce

October 21, 2016

 Here are the upcoming announcements:

1.  Grade Cards were available yesterday at 4:00.  Remember you are always able to access Parent Vue to review grades, missing and late assignments.  Please let me know if you have any questions.  Celebrate successes and discuss how to improve by reviewing homework and studying for tests.

2.  Field trip forms will be due by Wednesday.  If your child needs another copy, please have them ask me.

3.  I will not be sending any weekly homework over your long weekend. Enjoy sharing a great book with your kids. If you need recommendations, ask me at conferences.

4.  I am looking forward to discussing your child's progress with you at conferences this upcoming week. We will be discussing ELA and math goals, grade cards, reading levels, and technology.  Your conference time is located on the report card under the comment section. If you have not scheduled one yet- please go to the conference tab and review schedule. Email me the time and I will confirm back to you.

5.  Due to conferences, students will not attend school on Thursday (Oct. 27) or Friday (Oct.28) . Enjoy your long weekend. I will not be sending any weekly homework.

6.  In your child's Friday folder, you will find a parent letter from me, Fall MAP scores and KS state assessment scores from 3rd grade.  If you have questions, please bring them with you to conferences. 

**7.  Next week OTE is observing Red Ribbon Week (October 24-26), our theme, "YOLO Be Drug Free!"**

  Each day we’ve planned an activity for students/faculty to show support of a drug & violence free life.  Monday you will see Red Ribbons hung around the OTE campus in honor of this campaign.  We ask that everyone join in and be apart of this exciting week:

**\*Monday (10/24):**"Respect Yourself, Be Drug Free"

We are asking the children to **wear red** to show your support for Red Ribbon Week.

* \***Tuesday (10/25):** **Wear your favorite team gear**

We ask that students team with us to show their support of a drug free life.

\***Wednesday (10/26):** **Wear Tennis shoes** to “walk out” on drugs.

**What is Red Ribbon Week all about?**  Red Ribbon week is an alcohol, tobacco and other drug and violence prevention awareness campaign observed annually in October in the United States.  In 1988, the National Family Partnership organized the first Nationwide Red Ribbon Campaign & continues to do so annually.   Its mission is to lead and support our nation’s families and communities in nurturing the full potential of healthy, drug free youth. The Red Ribbon has touched the lives of millions of people around the world. In response to the murder of a DEA Agent, parents and youth in communities across the country began wearing Red Ribbons as a symbol of their commitment to raise awareness of the killing and destruction caused by drugs in America. Today, the Red Ribbon serves as a catalyst to mobilize communities to educate youth and encourage participation in drug prevention activities.

 I look forward to meeting with everyone during conferences and hope you all have  a wonderful fall weekend.

Joyce

The weekend has flown by and I hope everyone had a chance to get outside and enjoy.  Here are the upcoming weekly announcements.

1.  It's Day 5 on the specials schedule.

2.  Tomorrow is the start of United Way Penny Wars!!  Please have your kids bring silver coins in 1 bag and pennies in another bag.  It's so helpful when sorting the money into the different containers.  The money does not need to be counted ahead of time, BUT this would be good practice :)    Below is more information.

1. **Monday, October 17th** kicks off our annual **United Way Penny Wars**.  Penny Wars will be held for all grades, kindergarten through 5th.  Each morning this week, students are invited to bring coins and place them in their grade level’s bucket.  Grade levels will compete against each other to see who can accumulate the highest value.  But, here’s the tricky part: silver coins add to a grade level’s total and pennies subtract.  So, third grade students would want to add silver coins to their grade level’s bucket then add pennies to second grade’s bucket.  This would add value to their total, but subtract from second grade.  Even though we’re competing against each other, the most important thing to remember is that all this money will go to a great cause.  We will be collecting through Friday 21st!

3.  C3PO will be tomorrow after school.  Remember to wear your shirts!

4.  Grade Cards will be available online on Friday, October 21 after 4:00pm.

5.  Thank you to all of those who have already signed up for a parent teacher conference.  I appreciate and so do the kids.  If you have not signed up for conferences, please view my conference schedule. Click [HERE](http://www.bluevalleyk12.org/education/components/form/default.php?sectiondetailid=47041&)!

6.  The parade and Fall party will be on Monday, October 31 at 2:45. The parade begins at 2:30. Just remember as you are choosing costumes the following:

Students may wear their costumes to school.  However, any hats, masks, or props that have to be carried, may only be worn/used during the parade at 2:30pm.  We also ask that costumes not include toy/facsimile weapons or that costumes and face paint do not portray blood and injury.

Here are additional announcements from Mrs. Moore:

**Here are announcements for the week starting 10/17:**

1. **Monday** will be a Day 5 on the specials schedule.  C3PO Club will meet in the Art room immediately after school.   Don’t forget to have students wear their C3PO Shirts. **Wednesday,** Mrs. Dykman & Mrs. Bird will meet with the **Reading is Fun Club** immediately following dismissal in the library.  Also Wednesday evening at 7pm, please come out and support our **5th grade** in during their **Band Concert at OTMS.**
2. **Monday, October 17th** kicks off our annual **United Way Penny Wars**.  Penny Wars will be held for all grades, kindergarten through 5th.  Each morning this week, students are invited to bring coins and place them in their grade level’s bucket.  Grade levels will compete against each other to see who can accumulate the highest value.  But, here’s the tricky part: silver coins add to a grade level’s total and pennies subtract.  So, third grade students would want to add silver coins to their grade level’s bucket then add pennies to second grade’s bucket.  This would add value to their total, but subtract from second grade.  Even though we’re competing against each other, the most important thing to remember is that all this money will go to a great cause.  We will be collecting through Friday 21st!
3. **Tuesday,** Mrs. Bird in the LMC we will celebrate *October Birthday Book* participants as they have lunch in the library and pick out their Birthday Book.  Click [HERE](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/AofSk1IrLOvcDyuM4fPWGA%7E%7E/AAAAAQA%7E/RgRZ5SDZP0EIAKv1ZH8w9BtXB3NjaG9vbG1YBAAAAABCCgACWe0DWN1kIA9SGGRtb29yZUBibHVldmFsbGV5azEyLm9yZwlRBAAAAABEYGh0dHA6Ly9ibHVlLnNkcC5zaXJzaS5uZXQvY2xpZW50L2VuX1VTL290ZXMvP3JtPUJJUlRIREFZK0JPT0tTMiU3QyU3QyU3QzElN0MlN0MlN0MyJTdDJTdDJTdDdHJ1ZUepeyJjdXN0b21lcmlkIjoiNzg1IiwiZW1haWxTb3VyY2UiOiJDVVNUT01FUl9KT0IiLCJzZW50VGltZU1zIjoiLTgxNjM3OTA4MCIsInVzZXJpZCI6IjE1MiIsImVudiI6InByb2QiLCJzZXF1ZW5jZSI6IjAiLCJzaGFyZGlkIjoiNyIsInBlcnNvbmlkIjoiMTcwNTUxIiwiam9iaWQiOiIxNzgxOTYifQ%7E%7E) for more details about this wonderful program that helps fund new books for the OTE Library.
4. Make dinner a selfless act by joining us for OTE Night at Chick-Fil-A, **Wednesday 10/19.** Please support PTO by enjoying dinner from ***Chick-****Fil-A.* 20% of sales will go back to support OTE activities. Plan now to eat out on Wednesday and help us reach our goal.
5. **Thursday** is **5th Grade Mathletics, 8:15am** in the LMC with Ms. Dawn.  This is an invitation only event.
6. **First quarter Grade Cards will be available online starting Friday, October 21 at 4:00pm.**Grade cards are only available through your ParentVue account.   If you haven’t already, please make sure you sign up for a ***Parent/Teacher Conference***with your child’s teacher.
7. **Parent Teacher Conferences:**   Conferences will be held ***Monday, October 24 from 4-8pm, Wednesday, October 26 from 4-8pm and all day Thursday, October 27 from 8am-4pm.*** There will be no school on Thursday or Friday ( 10/27 &  10/28) due to conferences. Contact your child’s teacher to schedule a conference.
8. **Monday, 10/31 OTE Celebrates ‘Fall Festival’:**  The *parade starts at 2:30pm* – weather permitting, parents can meet us on the playground starting at 2:15.  *Parties start immediately following the parade.* Students may wear their costumes to school.  However, any hats, masks, or props that must be carried, may only be put on during the parade.  We also ask that costumes not include toy/facsimile weapons and costumes and face paint not portray blood and injury. *Please remember that we do not have available room for middle school students so don’t forget to make pick up arrangements for them if you are helping out or attending our parties.*  Due to safety protocols, parents will be asked to sign in on this day, however to help expedite the process we will have a sign in table available at the gate entry(prior to the parade) and front door to pick up your visitor stickers.
9. **Save the Date for our 2016 Veteran's Day Assembly**!  We hope you will join us **November 11 at 9:00a in the OTE gym**.   Please RSVP for any Veterans that will be able to attend so that we can honor them at the assembly.  Please send in the name and address of any soldiers that you know who are deployed.    Thank you for your help!
10. **"Take Stock" in OTE.. Invest in your child's future with just one Annual Donation!** Take Stock in OTE helps deliver invaluable resources for your children's education and elementary school.  All donations are 100% tax deductible and 100% of all donations stay at OTE.  Help us reach our goal this year by contributing to "Take Stock" today!  **Want to learn more about Take Stock in OTE?**  Click the following link to check out a video sharing  how Taking Stock in OTE supports us:  [https://youtu.be/NtDa503kHVw](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/slzx1h-Qo4IaudF8_KooxA%7E%7E/AAAAAQA%7E/RgRZ5SDZP0EIAKv1ZH8w9BtXB3NjaG9vbG1YBAAAAABCCgACWe0DWN1kIA9SGGRtb29yZUBibHVldmFsbGV5azEyLm9yZwlRBAAAAABEHGh0dHBzOi8veW91dHUuYmUvTnREYTUwM2tIVndHqXsiam9iaWQiOiIxNzgxOTYiLCJlbnYiOiJwcm9kIiwidXNlcmlkIjoiMTUyIiwic2hhcmRpZCI6IjciLCJwZXJzb25pZCI6IjE3MDU1MSIsImVtYWlsU291cmNlIjoiQ1VTVE9NRVJfSk9CIiwiY3VzdG9tZXJpZCI6Ijc4NSIsInNlbnRUaW1lTXMiOiItODE2Mzc5MDgwIiwic2VxdWVuY2UiOiIwIn0%7E)

Have a great week OTE!

October 7, 2016

The book projects were factastic and they are all on display in the library. As tweets from authors come in, Mrs. Bird will forward to me. A big shout out to the parents that volunteered on the bookfair committee, THANK YOU! Here are the announcements for next week:

1.  Monday is a Day 1

2.   NO SCHOOL this Friday, October 14. Teachers have Professional Development.

3.  I assigned a Study Island for math this week. The assignments are due on Thursday, Oct. 13.

4. Grade cards will be available on October 21st for the first quarter. Map scores will be sent home at that time.

5.  I appreciate everyone that has signed up for fall conferences.  I can't wait to discuss student goals and the wonderful things we've been working on.

6   Recently, there have been kids coming to school without their materials in their binders.  They say their parents took it out.  If that's the case, please do not take out anything/throw away materials from your child's binder.  We work with them on organization in 4th grade.  Materials come home in the Friday folder that may stay at home, unless it's a sign and return request.  Thank you!

I hope you have a fantastic Fall Weekend.