

OMS-PTSO News

Volume 33

October 2005

Stoughton O'Donnell Middle School

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From the Desk of Mr. Hester

This year is off to a fast start. We have a great group of kids, 975, who are getting used to traffic patterns in the hallways and the variety of food in the cafeteria.

Students are using a new math program called 'Impact Math'. Soon you will be able to view the entire book on line.

Starting in October we will be able to offer a variety of after school activities, such as, Art Club, Homework Assistance, Jazz Band, Yearbook, Student Council, After School Library and Peer Leadership. We are also in the process of adding other activities pending funding.

I would like to thank the PTSO for sponsoring most of these. The students have been great with their assistance in helping the victims of Hurricane Katrina. With help of the teachers we have raised over \$1,000 and donated clothing and other supplies.

Keep an eye on channel 6 for OMS announcements.

A Message from the OMS PTSO

Thank you to all the OMS parents who came to the PTSO meeting on Sept. 13th. It's great to see new faces, as well as "old" ones, and hear everyone's ideas. I think that's really what our meetings are for, for everyone to get together to talk and share ideas and ask questions. For our next meeting we'll also be having Sgt. Bob Devine from the Stoughton Police dept. as a guest to talk with us. We hope you'll join us. For all of you who have signed up to be members of the PTSO, you will soon be receiving an email from me letting you know that our email communications are finally up and running. That way you will be in the loop and won't have to worry about what's Not coming out of your child's backpack or locker! See you at the meeting on the 11th!

-Vicki Burgess
OMS PTSO President

Fall Fundraiser Magazines are Back!

Our fall magazine drive has always been a huge success for OMS. This year we will once again be working with QSP and selling our magazines, renewal subscriptions and other small items.

The kickoff date will be Thursday, October 6th and we will run the drive through Wednesday, October 19th. We have a lot of new and exciting prizes this year and are looking forward to another successful fundraiser to support our school.

Watch for your information packets and order forms in early October!

OMS PTSO School Store

Get your OMS-only customized Wristbands!

Class of 2010, 2011, and 2012 bands will be available at the school store beginning Monday 9/26! Cost is \$3, get them while supplies last!

The School Store is opened approximately every other Monday during school lunches. Students can purchase items during their lunch periods. A schedule of School Store days will be coming soon. Announcements regarding School Store schedule are also made during morning announcements as a reminder to students.

If you are interested in volunteering at the School Store, please contact Lynne Mitchell via email LynneKMitchell@yahoo.com

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FYI

Math Highlights

Maggie Helon, the Math Coordinator for grades K-12, is looking for 2-3 Parent Liaisons from each school to represent and conduct Math Highlights at PTSO meetings. These parents can express a great connection to the new math program, Impact Math. They will also help Maggie with a Parent Night, and a Spring Math Day. If you know of anyone who is interested in being a math liaison, or have any questions, please contact Maggie at M.Helon@stoughtonschools.org or **781-344-7003 x362**. Maggie will be in touch with those interested in being volunteers.

Teachers ONLINE

Teachers need YOUR email addresses. Email is a very effective tool for communication.

Every teacher has an address.

For a list of teachers, go to the ODMS website's Staff List Page at:

<http://baseclasstech.com:8080/ODMS/INFO/StaffList.html>

Each teacher's email format is:

firstInitial_lastName@ StoughtonSchools.org

NURSE'S STATION



Important Notes from your School Nurse:

Welcome to OMS for another, or perhaps your first **September!** And although September and October are exciting months full of outdoor activities, new schedules, outdoor sports, and generally excellent weather, the kids are outside a lot, and September and October are active months for mosquito-borne diseases! These diseases include West Nile Virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus (EEEV); and the peak time for transmission of these illnesses is now.

Parents should review with their children the following steps to reduce the chance of infection:

- Avoid outdoor activity during peak mosquito hours! The hour of dusk and dawn are PEAK mosquito times during each day. Take extra care to use repellent and protective clothing if outdoors during this time of day.
- Long sleeve clothing can help reduce bites! When possible, wear long pants and long sleeve shirts when outdoors, especially in the evenings. Kids especially, seem to love to wear shorts, but long pants can truly make a difference!
- Apply mosquito repellent when outdoors; the most-effective products contain DEET, Picardin, or Permethrin. Always follow instructions on product labels for use. DEET products should not be used on children under 2 months of age, and concentrations should not exceed 30% for children OR adults. Permethrin can only be used on clothing, and should not touch the skin, so extra care is required if you're repellent contains this ingredient. More natural products, such as "skin so soft" by Avon products have also been proven effective. Always wash off any product when returning to your home after use of any repellent.

This year, some areas of Massachusetts are experiencing significant levels of mosquito borne diseases. More information on mosquito borne diseases is available on the website <http://www.mass.gov/dph/wnv1.htm>.

-Mrs. DeNapoli, RN, BSN
OMS Nurse

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EVENTS

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR October 26th – 28th (Wednesday – Friday)



OMS DANCE

The first OMS Dance of the school year will be coming in late October! The date will be announced during school morning announcements and will be posted to the website. There will be separate dance times for the 6th grade and 7th/8th grades. We'll keep you posted!

October

DAY	DATE	EVENT/ACTIVITY
Tues	10/4	Rosh Hashanah - No School
Wed	10/5	Rosh Hashanah - No School
Thurs	10/6	QSP Fundraiser Kick-off
Fri	10/7	Term I – Mid-term warnings / notices issued for Grades 6 - 12
Mon	10/10	Columbus Day -No School
Tues	10/11	OMS PTSO meeting – 7:00
Thurs	10/13	Yom Kippur – No School
Wed	10/19	SPEDPAC @ High School
Wed	10/26	Scholastic Book Fair
Thurs	10/27	Early Dismissal / Parent Conferences
Thurs	10/27	Scholastic Book Fair
Fri	10/28	Scholastic Book Fair

November

DAY	DATE	EVENT/ACTIVITY
Thurs	11/10	End of Term I – OMS & SHS
Fri	11/11	Veteran's Day – No School
Mon thru Fri	11/14 To 11/18	MCAS Retest week
Thurs	11/17	Early Dismissal
Tues	11/22	Term I Report Cards issued
Wed	11/23	Early Dismissal
Thurs	11/24	Thanksgiving – No School
Fri	11/25	No School

October 2005

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

November 2005

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

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NOTICES

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Special Education Parent Advisory Committee

There will be a Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SPEDPAC) meeting on Wednesday, October 19th at 7pm in the School Committee room. Everyone is welcome. If you can not attend but would like more information email Pat MacNeil at pat.macneil@verizon.net.

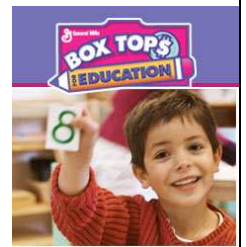
Box Tops and Labels



Please keep sending in those box tops and Campbell's soup labels!

For information on eligible products and labels, check out: <http://www.labelsforeducation.com/eligibleproductsEN.aspx>

For more information on the box tops and also how to donate money to the school when buying online (a great and painless way to donate, especially with the holidays coming up!), please go to: <http://www.boxtops4education.com/>



PTSO Bulletin Board

We're looking for 1 or more people to help with the PTSO bulletin board! You can be as creative as you'd like with pictures, notices, decorations, and whatever ideas you have to make it fun and interesting! The bulletin board is located just outside the main office. If you're interested or have any questions, please contact Vicki Burgess at oms.ptso@verizon.net

Remember to Use

<http://www.baseclasstech.com>

Our website contains the latest dates, events, agenda's, subcommittee information and much more. We have a new look and encourage feedback via the Contact Us form. The ODMS & SHS news is now available on ONE website. Be sure to tune into Comcast channels 6 and 98 for more school announcements as well.