PANTHER PRIDE

School Principals: Shawna Coplen, Lynn Cragg

http:/osb.k12.ok.us/

3rd Quarter Honor Roll (Elem. & MS) & Students of the Quarter



"A" Honor Roll

Elementary (3-5 Gr.)

Payton Crum Noah Dougan

Middle School (6-8 Gr.)

Julio Valdez Ocie Webster



"B" Honor Roll

Elementary

Dayton Baccus
Treysen Brown
Jaylee Burnside
Julia Cisneros
Angel Cozort
Xerek Hitchcock
Skylar Hopkins
Hunter Kelley

Elementary

Blake Priddy Quanté Sellers Stephanie Story

Middle School

Emileigh Jackson
Kaylie Minter
Skyler Moore

<u>Reminder</u>: High School students do not get quarterly grades, only semester grades. Therefore they are not listed on the 1st or 3rd Qtr. Honor Roll.

Students of the 3rd Qtr.

Elementary - Kyler Harrington Middle School - Julio Valdez High School - Johnnie Davidson

Oklahoma School for the Blind

2018 - 2019, Issue 6 April 10, 2019

Editor: Maggie Mattox

Special points of interest:

- Braille Challenge
- Oklahoma Close Up
- Special Olympics
- Manufacturing Day
- Scouting Update
- History Trip
- Creek County Literacy Spelling Bee

Inside this issue:

Social Services News	2
Word of the Month	2
Braille Challenge	3
Oklahoma Close Up	4
Special Olympics	4
National Manufacturing Day	5
Scouting Update	5
9th Grade History Trip	6
Ask a Senior	6
Prom	7
Wrestling Review	7-8
Creek County Lit. Spell. Bee	8
Birthdays	9
Going the Extra Mile	10
Calendars	11-13
New Hires	14
Save the Date/s	14



Social Services Department - News, Tips, etc.



"Caught Being Good"

- Julia Cisneros offered to help a student with getting her belongings.
- Audrey DeBrosky helped an adult by using "patience".
- Trinity Lewis helped an adult with a chore.
- Josie Cox helped another student to the line for seconds in the cafeteria.

GREAT JOB EVERYONE!!!

Sylvia Sterling, Social Services Dept.

It's never too late to be caught being good....
So keep up the good work students!!
We are proud of you all!

Word of the Month for March-April "Synergy"

by Jake Marsh & Thomas Raines

"Synergy is better than my way or your way. It's our way." - Dr. Steven R. Covey.

Synergy, to put it simply, is cooperation such as a team working together to getting things done. When a team works together to overcome their problems and differences

that is an act of showing synergy. Open mindedness and working with people with different points of view is an important key in having synergy.

In short synergy is vital for building bonds and learning to work together.





A "spy look" into our Elementary

Reading time at Mrs. Eckerson's class...



Page 2 Panther Pride

Braille Challenge

by Richelle Zampella



2019. This year marks the 100th birthday of the Braille Institute, so it was quite a celebration (complete with delicious cupcakes baked by Andrea Hamen)! We even saw some familiar faces of alumni and previous staff members who came back to put their braille expertise to use in the score room.

Altogether, 13 scorers and 11 test proctors were present.

There were 27 contestants competing in 6 categories according to grade level and reading ability: apprentice, freshman, transition 1, sophomore, junior varsity, and varsity.

Apprentice, freshman. and transition 1 took tests in proofreading, reading comprehension, and spelling, and all other groups took speed and accuracy, proofreading, reading comprehension, charts and graphs tests.

Here are the results!

Apprentice

Gold Ocie Webster, Briggs Silver Mykel Eagle, Stilwell Bronze Kesslee Travis,

Muskogee

Transition 1

Gold Lydia Bradley, Stilwell Silver Zoie Zavala, Ardmore Bronze Morgan Hudson, Westville

<u>Freshman</u>

Gold Hunter Kelley, Claremore

Silver Stephanie Story, Tulsa Bronze Quanté Sellers, Oklahoma City

Sophomore

Gold Kaylee Ragon, Tecumseh

Silver Lilith Pederson, Anadarko

Bronze Kolten Pennington, Roff

Junior Varsity

Gold Katelynn Zampella,
Muskogee
Silver Elbin Carrillo,
Oklahoma City

Bronze Julio Valdez, Oklahoma City

Varsity

Gold Richelle Zampella,

Muskogee

Silver Tai'Yauri Thomas,

Oklahoma City

Bronze Ariana Richardson,

Enid

Overall Apprentice, Transition 1, and Freshman

Hunter Kelley, Claremore

Overall Sophomore, Junior Varsity, and Varsity

Richelle Zampella, Muskogee

National finalist results will be released May 1, and the national competition will take place at the University of Southern California campus on June 21-22.

Putting on Braille Challenge is a team effort and takes work from inside and outside OSB. Many thanks are owed to Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Holder, who pour their all into coordinating the Braille Challenge every year. (OSB students deserve some credit, too - from baking the cookies in the gift bags to testing and distributing braille writers for the contestants, they definitely did their part.).

Not to mention <u>our generous</u> <u>sponsors</u> for the event:

Oklahoma School for the Blind Braille Institute of America

Humanware Liberty Braille Frank Dirksen NanoPac

NewView Oklahoma

LS&S

Sapulpa Lions Club

Ruth Kelly Studios donation of

photos

Oklahoma AER

Oklahoma Council of the Blind

Muskogee County OHCE

Thank you all for a great event, and we can't wait for next year!

Page 3 Panther Pride

Oklahoma Close Up

by Thomas Raines



OK Close Up happened from February 19th-22nd.

Students came from across all Oklahoma to spend 3 days exploring current events and how Oklahoma's government impacts their lives. They met with key members of the Legislature, the Executive Branch and the Judiciary to

learn from them and to discuss issues with them.

The OSB students who went this year were:

Jillian Matthews, Kaylee Ragon and Preston Fenton.

They did some pretty interesting things such as:

- debating things going on in the state and creating their own bills to debate on.
- Jillian and Kaylee shadowed a District Attorney (DA) and discovered what a DA does

- Preston shadowed a legislator.
- They had the opportunity to watch a court case about a murder in Enid Oklahoma and learn how the court system works.

If you would like to learn more about OK Close Up check out their website at http://www.okcloseup.com.

Any students interested in attending in 2020 should see Mr. Jackman for more information.

Special Olympics "Track and Field"

By Jake Marsh

On March 27th the OSB Special Olympians traveled to Poteau to compete in their annual Track and Field events.

They had a great time and came home with lots of ribbons!

Below is a list of the results:

Conner Hilton

3rd in 50 m dash and 1st in softball throw

Miracle Jones

2nd in 50 m dash and

1st in softball throw

Kolten Pennington

1st in 50 m dash and 3rd in softball throw

Jacelynn Shields

3rd in 50 m dash and 3rd in softball throw

Koree Wilkerson

1st in 50 m dash and 1st in softball throw

Jacob Nash

1st in standing long jump and 2nd in softball throw

Lane Sutterfield

1st in standing long jump and 2nd in softball throw

Kesslee Travis

1st in standing long jump and 3rd in softball throw

GREAT JOB EVERYONE!!!



Page 4 Panther Pride

National Manufacturing Day

by Jake Marsh

This year OSB participated again in the national event called **Manufacturing Day**.



This was the second year OSB has participated. Manufacturing Day is a national event where students across the country

explore careers in the manufacturing field.

Manufacturing Day's purpose is to give people an opportunity to overcome their challenges and learn about different jobs in the manufacturing business.

On March 13th, students in 9-12 grades went to **NewView Oklahoma's** manufacturing plant in Oklahoma City.

We left the school at 7:45 am and returned at 4:00 pm. Students dressed in business

casual and were prepared for a day of learning about opportunities in the field of manufacturing.

At NewView we took a tour of the manufacturing plant, ate lunch with the employees, learned about hiring practices at NewView, and learned about other programs NewView has to offer.

The Wild Life of Scouting

by Raven Decker & Trinity Lewis

Well, this past February there was a big change to where girls are now accepted into Boy Scouts, and they are now called **Scouting**.



Anyone who wants to, can now join either **Scouting** (formerly Boy Scouts - **all ages**) or **Venturing Crew** (**14 or older**), also part of Scouting.

On March 25, the day we got back from Spring break, Scouting was going to have a heart-to-heart fundraiser and a banquet, but it was canceled

because they didn't have anyone to do the fundraiser. So, the Venturing Crew and Boy Scouts were canceled.

In March, the Venturing Crew and Boy Scouts were supposed to go and participate in archery on a Sunday, but it was canceled due to the weather. They are in the process of rescheduling this event.

On April 27, there was going to be a campout, but it got canceled as well.

The Venture Crew are currently looking into having a campout with the Boy Scouts in the Tulsa area, during which they are planning on taking a class on how to fly an airplane. After the class, they will be able to experience flying.

The Cub Scouts are having a **family campout** sometime in April and daily club meetings.



The membership fee is \$25 per year and members can sign up anytime, but it is preferred to sign up before the beginning of August.

A SCOUT IS



Page 5 Panther Pride

Cherokee Heritage Center - History Trip

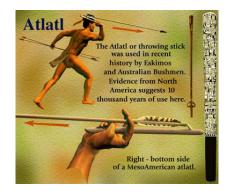
by Thomas Raines

The ninth graders went to the Cherokee Heritage Center in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

There was a statue of Sequoyah and they learned about how the Native Americans lived.

They learned several things on their trip like how they dressed and made tools.

They also learned about a few weapons they used, a standard bow and arrow, spear and a weapon called an **atlatl**.







ATLATL

A spear-thrower or atlatl is a tool that uses leverage to achieve greater velocity in dart-throwing, and includes a bearing surface which allows the user to store energy during the throw.

It may consist of a shaft with a cup or a spur at the end that supports and propels the butt of the dart.

Ask a Senior

by Tai Thomas

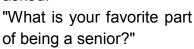
In this issue of "Ask a Senior", four questions were presented to the seniors.

- Q: Ms. Goins asked: "What piece of advice would you give, now that you are getting closer to graduating?"
- A: Malerie responded by saying, "One thing I've learned my senior year, that I wish I could have learned sooner, this is the time of your life when you should be making selfish decisions. Think about what would make you happy and will spark your interest nature. Don't let anyone's opinions about your next

chapter in your life affect what you want to do in your future.

- Q: Mrs. Maggie asked: "What is one of your most memorable moments at OSB?"
- **A:** Nicholas responded with, "Going to the fair during the elementary years."
- Q: Anonymous asked: "How do you all keep your grades up?"
- **A:** Ariana answered by saying, "I turn in my work on time, give thorough answers, and proofread."

Q: Trinity Lewis asked:



A: Thomas Raines replied: "it's almost over."

Thank you for reading "Ask a Senior."



Page 6 Panther Pride

Prom

by Newspaper Staff

The theme of this year's prom was "Rustic Romance".

It was held at the Eight Ten Ranch and Cattle Co.



It was beautiful!

Every table was covered in white tablecloths with burlap runners, white chairs neatly tucked under the tables, and on

the center of the table was piece of cedar with wood mason jar filled babies' with



breath and fairy lights.

You could tell that it was going to be a good night, dinner was Gino's catered bv Italian Restaurant and we had special cupcakes from Cupcakes by Lynda! They were delicious.

We were able to take a beautiful picture behind the venue with the pond in the background. As the dance began, sparkling candlelight shinina was as everyone danced the night away.

Baba Kareem stopped by for her annual visit and predicted the futures of the Seniors.

As always it was

fun to see her again and the Juniors can't wait to hear their futures next year.

The QUEEN was Ms. Malerie Levens and KING was Mr. **Conner Hilton**



We also had special guests. Director Melinda Fruendt and Jody Harlan, from DRS. joined us in the festivities.



The Jr/Sr class would like to thank the **UAFS** Delta Gamma Sorority for coming and serving dinner and dancing with us and the Oktaha Student Council for helping with the cleanup.

We would also like to thank the **Prom** Committee organizing everything.

It was a night to remember.

Wrestling Review



by Tai Thomas Well. the wrestling season has come to an end.

All of the wrestlers put their best foot forward by being a "student first and an athlete second."

Everyone had positive showed excellent attitudes, team support, and represented the school well off campus.

Let's have a recap of the season:

➢ On Tuesday, November 27th, the Panthers traveled to Henryetta to duel Henryetta the Hens Wilburton and Diggers.

The five competing wrestlers Tyler were: Duong, William Winston, Elbin Carrillo. Kentrell Wallace, and Tai Thomas. William and Tai both won one of their matches.

In December. the wrestlers traveled to Hulbert

(Continued on page 8)

Page 7

Wrestling Review (continued)

(Continued from page 7)

Tyler and Tai both received forfeits.

- > On January 8th, for homecoming, the **Panthers** dueled Okmulgee. The wrestlers who competed were Tyler and John Kentrell Wallace. Duong, England, Nathan Dee Willis and Allen Alender.
- John Duong ended the night with a win. Tai and Preston received forfeits.
- The Panther's last match was at Holland Hall in Tulsa.

Great Job Everyone!



Creek County Literacy Spelling Bee

by Kaylee Ragon

On Thursday, April 4th, *OSB's Braille Bees* headed back to Sapulpa for another successful year of spelling! This year's team consisted of first-timers Levi Smith and Mrs. Miller, as well as myself. After meeting with some members of the Lions Club, who sponsor us year after year, we settled in and got ready for the first round.

Successfully spelling words like "surreptitious," "voluptuous," and 42 others put us ahead of our competitors in the first round, winning the school's trophy for the 6th year in a row!



After being informed of our victory, we prepared to face off in the "Ultimate Stinger Round", where - even though we got out fairly early - we continued spelling along to challenge ourselves.

A huge thank you to the Lions who sponsor our team every year. It's a lot of fun and really pushes us to step out of our comfort zones, and of course learn new words we didn't know existed!

I think I speak for Levi and I both when I say the biggest thank you goes to Mrs. Miller, who stepped in at the last minute, studied all night the night before the Bee, and helped us when we fell a team member short the day of the event. She puts in so much time and preparation for us, but

being a speller on top of it was just icing on the cake.

Levi commented: "My first time was definitely an experience! I had mixed feelings at first, but Kaylee and Mrs. Miller really helped me understand the game. Mrs. Miller and I were in charge of helping Kaylee as she spelled the words on a whiteboard for our monitor to check and keep score. In the end, we walked away with the school's trophy, ready to come back next year!"



Levi S., Kaylee R., and Mrs. Miller

Page 8 Panther Pride

Birthdays April

Students

Willis, Dee	4	2
Shepherd, Chris	4	4
Moore, Skyler	4	6
Gentry, Mikel	4	10
Wade, Austin	4	11
Phillips, Rayce	4	20



Staff

Timmreck, Christine	4	1
Ferrell, Chris	4	4
Ramsey, JoAnnette	4	7
Cragg, Lynn	4	13
Gamble, Whitney	4	16
Mattox, Maggie	4	18
Johnson, Shawndra	4	27
Oale. Jennifer	4	30

Birthday^s May

Students

Bloemer, Anthony	5	1
Winston, William	5	8
Eagle, Mykel	5	9
Hunter, Rudy	5	16
Ritchie, Liam	5	19
Hudson, Morgan	5	21
Carrillo, Elbin	5	23
Valdez, Julio	5	28



Staff

Plunkett, Brenda	5	4
Sanders, Karen	5	6
Brooks, Tonya	5	9
Brice, Nancy	5	12
Adams, Linda	5	15
Webb, Tera	5	15
Sterling, Sylvia	5	16
Woods, Gina	5	17
Bynum, Michael	5	18
Reeves, Darlus	5	25
Johnston, Ronna	5	29
Charles, Samantha	5	30

Page 9 Panther Pride

GOING THE EXTRA MILE -



Following employees / staff members were nominated for their devoted support of our students, staff and school:

Mr. Jackman and Mr. Carden were a huge help to me getting my B-1 boys ready for the prom. This was truly "going the extra mile". Thank you.

Cammeron Brice

Thank you ...

- Mrs. Helen for helping our ladies get fashionably ready for Prom and ironing countless tablecloths for Prom.
- Mrs. Tracy for making the ladies stylish and ready for Prom.
- Ms. Jennifer for glamming up the ladies and straightening out the gentlemen for Prom.
- Mrs. Christina for making our ladies sassy for the Prom.
- Mrs. Harris for stitching, prepping, and trans-

- porting the ladies to get pampered for Prom.
- Mr. Howard for transporting our lovely bunch to and from the Prom.

Munekia Moore

Thank you ...

- Prom Committee and Hospitality Committee for all you do. You do make a difference.
- Cheryl Daniels for organizing Give Back Day and all the other great projects our Service Learning class did throughout the school year.
- Faye Miller and Sherry Holder for organizing Braille Challenge.
- Faye Miller for filling in last minute at the Creek County Spelling Bee. to allow our students participation after they ended up falling short of a team member, the day before the event. Referring to the students, Mrs. Miller studied all night, so she would be ready to help our kids. Thank you Faye.
- Dennis Read and Tonya Givens for always helping out where needed.

- Chris Ferrell for all the hard work with our Jazz Band, so they can proudly represent OSB at various events.
- Tera Webb for practicing after hours for SCASB Track and for taking the students to SCASB this weekend.
- M. Moore, J. Hurst and Mr. Butler for taking the kids to SCASB this weekend.
- Laci Goins for organizing our annual OSB Talent Show.
- Brenda Plunkett and our AWESOME kitchen crew, who work very hard to offer us a variety of "international" foods for lunch. You guys ROCK!

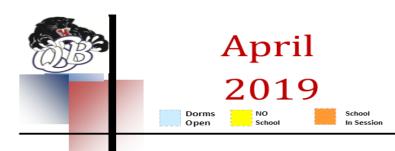
Maggie Mattox

Thank you guys for going the extra mile.

It is highly appreciated.



Page 10 Panther Pride

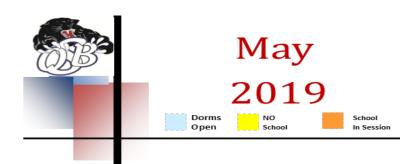


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Schedule of Events

Date	Time	Event		
Apr. 4		Creek County Literacy Spelling Bee		
Apr. 11-14		SCASB "Track", Talladega, AL		
Apr. 16	2-4 pm	Elementary "Easter Egg Hunt" (PreK-5th Gr.) @ Civitan Park		
	11 am - 8 pm	FCCLA PI Meeting - OSB FCCLA Hosting		
Apr. 22	NO SCHOOL—DORMS OPEN—BUS ROUTES RUN			
Apr. 23		State Jazz Contest, Edmond, OK		
Apr. 26-27		Jazz Band to Branson, MO		
Apr. 30	all day	PreK-2nd Gr. "End of Year" field trip to Peek a Boo Petting		
		Zoo, Gore (Adams, Thomas, and Charles' classes)		
	all day	Upper Elementary field trip to Incredible Pizza, Tulsa		
		(Eckerson, Leatherman, Gamble, and Barker's classes)		

OSB Talent Show



5:30 - 8:00 pm

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			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		

May 1	all day	Give Back Day
May 7	6-8 pm	Spring Concert & Activities Awards Assembly
May 8	all day	Jr./Sr. Trip
	all day	Upper Elementary trip to Honor Heights Park
May 15	1:30 pm	Elementary Awards Assembly
May 16	LAST DAY OF S	SCHOOL !!!
	9:30 am	MS / HS Awards Assembly
	12:00 pm	GRADUATION - followed by Reception
May 17		Professional Development Day

Page 11 Panther Pride

Recreation Activities APRIL 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Satur- day
	Boy Scouts from 5:30-6:45 pm Open Rec 6:45 pm	2 Outside Rec. 6:30 till dark Open Rec	3 Outside Rec. 6:30 till dark Open Rec	Home Going	4 5	6
Dorms Open Open Rec	Boy Scouts from 5:30-6:45 pm Open Rec 6:45 pm	9 Outside Rec. 6:30 till dark Open Rec	Swimming at Muskogee Swim & Fitness 6:30-7:45	Home Going	1 12	13
Dorms Open Open Rec	Boy Scouts from 5:30-6:45 pm Open Rec 6:45 pm	16 Outside Rec. 6:30 till dark Open Rec	17 Bunny Hop Dance 6:30-8:45	Home Going	19	20
21 EASTER SUNDAY	Dorms Open Open Rec	23 Outside Rec. 6:30 till dark Open Rec	Skating at Muskogee Skate Center for MS / HS 6:30-8:15	Home Going	5 26	27
Dorms Open Open Rec	Boy Scouts 5:30-6:45 pm Happy Birthday for April & May Followed by Open Rec	30 OSB Talent Show 5:30-8:00 Followed by Open Rec				

Recreation Activities MAY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Satur- day
			Outside Rec. 6:30 till dark Open Rec	Home Going	3	4
Dorms Open Open Rec	Boy Scouts from 5:30-6:45 pm Open Rec 6:45 pm	Spring Band Concert & Activities Awards Assembly 6-8 pm at Honor Heights Park Open Rec 6:30	8 Outside Rec. 6:30 till dark Open Rec	9 Home Going	10	11
Dorms Open Open Rec	Boy Scouts from 5:30-6:45 pm Open Rec 6:45 pm	14 Outside Rec. 6:30 till dark Open Rec	Rec CLOSED for Graduation Prep	16 GRADUATION DAY & Home Going	17	18

SUMMER BREAK until August 12!

Enrollment Sunday = August 11!

Don't forget SUMMER CAMP !!!

Oklahoma School for the Blind

3300 Gibson Street Muskogee, OK 74403

Toll Free: (877) 229-7136 Voice/TTY: (918) 781-8200 Fax: (918) 781-8300

It takes more than sight to have vision!

Please check out our website at:



OSB Employee / Staff Changes:

Change in Position:

Jerry "Brent" Webster, Material Management Officer, effective March 1

New Hire:

Kim Slaten, Independent Living (ILS) instructor, effective March 4

Welcome on board.

Glad to have you!



UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS !!! - Save the Date/s !!!

Apr. 22 NO SCHOOL - Dorms Open - Bus Routes Run -

April 23 State Jazz Contest, Edmond, OK

April 27 Jazz Band to Branson, MO

April 30 Lower Elem. Field Trip to Peek a Boo Petting Zoo, Gore (Adams, Charles, Thomas)

Upper Elem. Field Trip to Incredible Pizza, Tulsa (Eckerson, Leatherman, Gamble, Barker)

May 1 Give Back Day

May 7 Spring Band Concert & Awards Ceremony

May 8 Jr./Sr. Trip

Upper Elem. Field Trip to Honor Heights Park (Eckerson, Leatherman, Gamble, Barker)

May 15 Elem. Awards Assembly

May 16 MS & HS Awards Assembly and Graduation - Last Day of School

May 17 Professional Development (all staff)

(Please see main calendar for times.)