

PANTHER PRIDE

School Principal: Lynn Cragg

<http://osb.k12.ok.us/>

2nd Qtr. Honor Roll - Elem. & Middle School -

"A" Honor Roll

Elementary

Angel Cozort
Mannon Moore

"B" Honor Roll

Elementary

Dayton Baccus
Khatungi Bryant
Julia Cisneros
Josie Cox
Lorie Cox

Gavin Day
Xerek Hitchcock
Julio Valdez
Katelynn Zampella

Middle School

Garrett Kennedy

1st Semester Honor Roll - High School -

"A" Honor Roll

Morning Star Clark
Andrew Wagon
Seth Wedel
Justin Whitmire
Richelle Zampella

"B" Honor Roll

Logan Deaton
Sara Graber
Gunner Harris
Jacob King
Kaylee Ragon

Thomas Raines
Ariana Richardson
Lorenzo Rodriguez
Halle Stout
Tai Yauri Thomas

Students of the Quarter for the second Quarter are:

Elementary - Lorie Cox

Middle School - Shannon Winter

High School - Ariana Richardson

Oklahoma School for the Blind

2016 - 2017, Issue 4

January 26, 2017

Editor: Maggie Mattox

Special points of interest:

- SCASB
- Cookbook
- Braille Challenge
- Girl Scouts
- Boy Scouts
- Recreation Activities
- Going the Extra Mile

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YOU DID IT!
Congratulations

**COOKBOOK
UPDATE !!!**

Please see **page 5**
for details.



Goal Ball

Team Cyclone has invited us back this year on four dates (February 7th and 21st, March 7th and May 9th).

Sixteen students from grades 5-12 have filled up the bus for our February trips. Wearing elbow and knee pads and sleep shades, we'll learn the rules and some basic moves before we play an exhibition game.

So, if you are getting ready for our trip, here are a few things you might find interesting:

- ◆ The official court is about the size of a standard volleyball court.
- ◆ The two teams play from either end of the court and inside the team area; there are player orientation marks on the sides (wings) and a center line.
- ◆ You score goals, when the ball completely crosses over your opponent's goal line.
- ◆ Each half is 12 minutes long, with a 3 minute break to change ends.
- ◆ When your team has the ball, you have **10 seconds** to roll or bowl the ball to the opposing team.
- ◆ If the ball rolls over the outside lines, the other team gets the ball.
- ◆ The referee blows a whistle to signal when balls are out of play, a goal has been scored and for infractions or penalties.

Faye Miller

SCASB - Jackson, Mississippi

“Who you rootin’ for? OSB!”

Wasn't it great to have the cheerleaders, wrestlers and jazz band share their prep for SCASB with us at the pep rally?

South Central Association of Schools for the Blind (SCASB) is a great way for our athletes and musicians to compete against and interact with kids from **Mississippi, Texas, Louisiana, Alabama and Georgia.**

The activity bus left OSB for Mississippi at 8 am on Thursday, January 19th with 28 middle and high school students for a stop at the **Clinton Presidential Library.**

Clinton was a fan of music and



plays the saxophone. He was even given a gold-plated Yamaha saxophone from Japan. And, one of the big highlights was taking turns being presidential by sitting in the President's chair in the **replica of the Oval Office.**



Friday morning after the wrestlers weighed-in and the band gave us a preview of their performance,

we had time to mingle with other schools.

The Mississippi Student Center is its own building with pool tables and an air hockey table, and had lots of room for students from all the schools to get to know each other.

That night their auditorium rocked with drum lines, choirs and, most definitely, our jazz band!



Our jazz band was raved about at the CEO supper.

(Continued on page 3)

SCASB - Jackson, Mississippi (continued)

(Continued from page 2)

"I really enjoyed sharing our music and listening to what the other schools had to offer." Richelle reflected.

Ariana said that it is too hard to choose just one favorite performance.

Saturday rocked with cheers for OSB!



Kaylee says the cheer squad did great. They worked hard and performed with a lot of energy.

She competed in the individual outstanding cheer routine and thinks that even though she was nervous, she left it all on the mat.



Kinzie's second match was tough through most of the period, then with 6 seconds left in the



period, she got the reversal and pinned her opponent.



Jonathon's exhibition match was, he says, long and drawn out. They kept breaking contact and had to reset. Mr. Culie says to **never give up** and Jonathan took this



to heart as he wrestled in all three periods and finally rolled over his opponent to pin him.

Preston wrestled at 152. In his first match he came out fast and took his opponent to the ground in the fireman's carry. Then he tried a half-Nelson. His coaches were yelling, "Go for the cross-face cradle!" It took Preston 15 seconds to get him locked in the cradle. He rolled his opponent over and with his knee to his side, Preston pinned him in less than 30 seconds.

Cameron pinned his first opponent in 15 seconds by getting him in the cradle from the feet. He fought hard through all his matches, doing an incredible bridge during one match to keep from getting pinned. He left Mississippi with a silver medal.



Wrestling Team scores

The wrestling team brought home 4th Place with 66 pts.

Individual Scores

(In the order of weight classes.)

Kinzie Peters	3 rd Place
William Winston	4 th Place
Conner Hilton	3 rd Place
Nathan England	2 nd Place
Cameron Hughes	2 nd Place
Preston Fenton	2 nd Place
Tai Yauri Thomas	4 th Place
Jonathon Phelps	2 nd Place

Cheerleading Awards

Team Awards

Compulsory	5 th Place
5 minute routine	4 th Place
Dance	5 th Place

Individual Awards

Outstanding Individual	
Kaylee Ragon	4 th Place
Mascot	
Jacob King	6 th Place



Great Job Everyone!

Faye Miller



Updates from our Social Services Department



"Caught Being Good" since December 9th, 2016:

- ◆ Thomas Raines, Joey Owens and Halle Stout for being "Creative" in solving a problem as team members.
- ◆ Blazen Sitterly for being "Creative" by acting as a friend and protector.
- ◆ John and Tyler Duong, Benjamin Middleton, Johnnie Davidson, Dee Willis, and Shannon Winter for helping with serving food at the Panther Pride Dance.
- ◆ The Cheerleading Team for cheering for us and showing us their routine at the dance.

Social Services Department
Sylvia Sterling
Jane Thomas

Character Building & Word of the Month for February



January and February are two of the most challenging months of the school year. This is the time when we must buckle down after a festive and joyous holiday season, which began with Halloween and ended with the celebration of a fresh new year on January 1st, 2017.

Since returning to school on January 3rd, our students have repeatedly heard the meaning of the monthly word "Creativity", meaning to develop fresh, new ideas. We have also been waiting to examine the book "Our Fantastic, Elastic Brain, Stretch It And Shape It," as a means to understand just how much brain power we have, and how much we can bring our brain power, and our creativity up from the post-holiday doldrums. We are each called upon to perk our spirits back up into being lively

and productive students and adults once again every January.



The word for February is "**DETERMINATION**", which means, accepting a challenge to excel in work and play. Determination is simply **not giving up**. No matter how hard things get, or how badly you want to just give up, you keep on going.



The book, which will help our students develop self-discipline and confidence in their personal abilities, is called "I Can Do This." We will read of numerous examples of students proving to themselves and to



others that they can accomplish those things which they commit to practice and honing their skills from a beginner level to that of a polished expert.

Using the ideas of being creative and determined, there are almost no limits to what our students can do! So, enjoy a look at the achievements of our students as we begin the second half of this busy school year.



Jane Thomas,
Social Worker



OSB Family & Friends Cookbook



**Attention
all cooks
& cookbook
fanatics!**

We are excited to announce that OSB will be putting together an **OSB Family & Friends Cookbook!** We need your recipes, though! (*typed only*)

**Recipes will be collected
through March 17th.**

Send your prize winning recipe to osbcookbook@osb.k12.ok.us, (*please use format as shown below*) **OR** look for a link on the OSB website and/or Facebook page to submit your recipe online.

Please take the time to proof-read your recipe. All recipes will be printed as submitted.

**Don't forget the deadline
is March 17th!**

If you have questions or concerns, please send an email to: osbcookbook@osb.k12.ok.us and we will get back to you at our earliest.

Allison Garner



Top of Form

Name of Recipe:

Submitted by:

Phone Number:

Email:

Category:

(Appetizers & Beverages; Breads & Rolls; Breakfast; Main Dishes - Entrees; Salads, Soups, & Sandwiches; Vegetables & Side Dishes; Sweets; More)

Serving Size:

Ingredients:

(Please list ALL ingredients in their PROPER order: 1,2,3, etc.)

Method:

(Please include size and type of container, time - preparation and/or cooking - and temperature)

Comments:

Students Deliver Donations to the VA Hospital



Thursday, January 19th, 2017
OSB students **Morgan Hudson, Thomas Raines, and Johnnie Davidson** took a trip out to the Jack C. Montgomery Veteran's

Medical Center to deliver items collected for the patients.

The items, which included travel sized toiletries and socks, were taken to the Rehabilitation Ward where they were greatly appreciated by the staff.

Our guide, Tony, told our group the

purpose of the hospital and expressed his appreciation.

Good job giving back, OSB!

By Cheryl Daniels



Braille Challenge



It is fantastic to report that there will be **32 contestants** to celebrate our 15th year doing Braille Challenge contests!

On **Thursday, March 2nd**, these contestants will demonstrate braille reading and writing skills vying for those Gold, Silver and Bronze medals!

Students can compete in 1 of 5 categories, at grade level or as a transition student. The top ten students from across Canada and the United States are invited to the National Braille Challenge, which is held in Los Angeles each June. Last year Richelle Zampella scored in the top ten students out of 213 other junior varsity students and went on to win 2nd place at Nationals. Her sister, Katelynn, scored in the top ten students out of 260 students. This year, there are over 51 regional events.

There is no “one person” who makes our Regional Braille Challenge successful. It depends on the numerous volunteers and staff who bring all the elements of a successful event together. Each department at OSB contributes to the success. From the volunteer proctors, who are in the testing room with each level and monitor the tests, to the people behind the scene who print certificates and organize prizes.

Our Regional Braille Challenge also wouldn't happen if our score room wasn't filled with fast and talented braille readers who score each test that the contestants complete.

This year we will have almost a dozen scorers that will score the 112 tests. **That's right, 112 tests!** Contestants at the Apprentice and Freshman levels will take 3 tests each and Sophomore, Junior Varsity and Varsity levels will take 4 tests each.

We also depend on our generous sponsors. Their donations purchase our gift bags, prizes, medals and t-shirts. Our school also supports Braille Challenge by making sure we have space, personnel, and resources available to pull off a big event.

This year's sponsors are:

Braille Institute
Oklahoma School for the Blind
Humanware
Seedlings
National Braille Press
NewView Oklahoma
Sapulpa Lions Club
NanoPac
Frank Dirksen
Oklahoma AER
OK Council of the Blind
Liberty Braille
Muskogee County Lions Club

Look for more information in next month's newsletter. But, if you can't wait, please contact me at **fmiller@osb.k12.ok.us**.

Faye Miller

OSB Braille Club

The Braille Club meets **every two weeks** from 4:05 p.m. until 4:45 p.m. in the Rec. Center.

The students are having fun learning to play Jeopardy and how to respond to statements or questions in the form of ‘what is’ etc.



We use the Jeopardy game to help increase knowledge in the area of rules and applying the rules to the contractions.

Our **next meeting** will be on **February 7th**.

Ruby Barker,
Braille Club sponsor

Girl Scouts - Troop 11224

Greetings from OSB Girl Scouts, this is Barbara Collins, leader for Troop 11224. We will have an exciting remainder of the year in scouting.



We begin **Cookie Sales February 4, 2017 until March 19, 2017**. Keep an eye out for a Digital Cookie email from council. Be sure to complete the online information and establish a cookie ordering system for your daughter. It's simple and it allows people to order online and pay with a credit or debit card.

We will be horsing around by the log cabin at **Camp Swannie March 2-5**, traveling a time warp at **Camp Polly March 30-April 2**, getting our game on at **Camp**

Wah-Shah-She April 6-9 and from now to then we will be selling cookies, planning campouts, learning new ceremonies and perfecting our outdoor cooking skills.



If you are interested in assisting our troop at **meetings** or **events** feel free to contact me at 918-781-8200 Ext. 8236 or via email bcollins@osb.k12.ok.us.

Donations Needed for Campouts

Please leave the following donated items in the **box outside of A2 Dorm:**

- ◇ SM & LG coffee creamer bottles w/lids
- ◇ LG plastic coffee ctrns w/lids

- ◇ M Plastic peanut butter jars w/lids
- ◇ Plastic tablecloths
- ◇ Old gulf wax or candles (unscented)
- ◇ SM tuna fish cans w/lids (safe opened only please)

Remaining 2017 Meetings are:
(Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 pm in A2 Dorm)

- January 31
- February 7, 14, 21, 28
- March 7, 21, 28
- April 4, 11, 18, 25
- and May 2, 9

Thank You.

Barbara Collins & Carla Cotney
Troop Leaders
Troop 11224 Oklahoma School for the Blind



Media Center Update



Come and get your **Panther Pride Jewelry** in the Media Center!

All

Stretch bracelets	\$1 each
Key Rings	\$3 each
Blue Panther Jewelry	\$5 each
Charms	\$0.50 each

Support our Panthers !!!



Barbara Collins,
Media Specialist

Boy Scouts - Troop 672

Boy and Cub Scouts are doing a **food drive February 5th - 11th**.



The "**Scouting for food**" food drive is aimed to help the community food bank. The scouts' goal is to fill up the back of my truck (Ms. LaRue) with non-perishable food items, e.g. peanut butter, canned chicken or tuna, canned soup, stew, or chili, canned vegetable or fruit, rice and/or pasta, or any other non-perishable food items. So, **show your support - help the scouts meet their goal!**

Boy Scouts

February 2nd - 5th the boy scouts will have a weekend full of fun.

Thursday night February 2nd the scouts will be staying the night at the Three

Rivers Museum for a great "**Night at the Museum**". We will have pizza and pop (\$5.00 for a large slice of pizza and a drink) for dinner, followed by a movie with popcorn and hot chocolate.

Thanks to Sue, the museum will be doing a scavenger hunt inside the museum, which will help us to get a **merit badge for genealogy**.

Friday, after clean up, the boy scouts will go and tour the USS Batfish submarine in Muskogee. After the tour the scouts will have lunch and head to Camp Fred Darby scout camp to set up tents and prepare dinner.

Saturday the merit fair starts at 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, lunch will be provided at the fair.

Sunday the scouts will leave the camp and go to Boulevard Christian Church for a non-denominational scout Sunday. After service the scouts will return to OSB.



Cub Scouts

February 20th the cub scouts will attend the "**Blue and Gold Cub Scout Banquet**" at

Bethany Presbyterian church in Muskogee. The theme is "**Knights of the Round Table**". Cubs will do a skit or song, play games and enjoy some good food.

Summer Camp !!!

Scouts also need to start thinking about summer camp.

Campership forms will be send out soon to help with the costs.

Boy scout camp will be held **June 11th-25th** and costs \$265.00 without and \$132.50 with campership per scout.

Cubs scout camp will be held the weekend of **June 16th - 17th** and costs \$30.00 without and \$15.00 with campership per scout, plus \$20.00 per extra family member.

So mark your calendars!

Becky LaRue,
scout leader



Homecoming - January 31st, 2017 !!!



Homecoming is scheduled for **January 31st @ 6 pm** in the OSB gym, with a wrestling match to follow.

Come join us and support your Panthers !!!



Recreation Activities



05 Jan 2017
- Trivia and Riddles Night -

The competition was fierce during this exciting game of Trivia and Riddles. The two teams fought tooth and claw verses shield and spear against each other. The teams were Team Tigers and Team Spartans. The two team captains Tai Tai (Tigers) and Mathiew (Spartans) kept their teammates motivated to do their best.

After barrages of random trivia questions and riddles from literature, movies, and games, only one team could win.



Congratulations to Team Tigers! The score was 48:43. Team Tigers have won the opportunity to suggest one future Rec activity of their choice!!!!!!



10 Jan 2017
- Sun Catcher Craft Night -

The Rec was alive and covered in paint for this awesome craft night!

The students were able to come down and pick out a sun catcher and paint it with paint markers. The stencils that were available were: dragons, trolls, mermaids, fairies, unicorns, Pegasus,

butterflies, wizards, lizards of four different types, and ponies.

Each sun catcher exemplified the personality of the student that made it and were elegant and very beautiful.



11 Jan 2017
- Bingo Night -



Bingo Night was a night filled with laughter as students and staff played Braille Bingo!

The prizes consisted of different flavors of soda, and the first five winners of the blackout won a one dollar bill so they could buy candy.

Kids of all ages played, laughed, and just had a great time hanging out together.



18 Jan 2017
- Panther Pride Dance -

OSB had an amazing Panther Pride Dance in celebration and Spirit de Corp for the upcoming trip to SCASB!

The Cheerleading team did their full routine and got all the students involved. We cheered for the Wrestling Team and the Jazz Band as well. We danced to great music, ate fabulous food, and danced till bedtime.



19 Jan 2017
- Movie and Popcorn Night -

Students that did not attend SCASB enjoyed a quiet, relaxing evening in the Rec watching **"How to Train Your Dragon"** while eating tasty popcorn.

The kids said that they loved the movie.



Belinda Thomas,
 Rec. Activities Coordinator

GOING THE EXTRA MILE - January 2017



Following employees were nominated for their devoted support of our students, staff and school...

A huge thanks to Mr. Brice for being so appreciative and supportive of all the staff that were on routes in winter weather. All students got home safely and that was our goal, but Mr. Brice went above and beyond by even asking staff to text when they got home safely. He was very appreciative and sent a heartfelt thank you text to all that transported that day and for that we thank you, Mr. Brice!

From DCS

Thank you, Patsy, for taking the time to reward my students with spending time with you. They work extra hard to spend time with you because of your pleasant nature and kind words.

Faye Miller

I need to recognize Mrs. Barrett for helping with a fix on a cheer uniform. She really helped us out by fixing both a skirt and a pair of pants!

And to Chris Ferrell for helping with all the music needed for SCASB competition.

Tera Webb

Tami Featherston is continuously going above and beyond to assist the students with any need they may have, whether it is medically related or not. When a student got hurt, her quick thinking set in and to help get the student safely out of the way and off the ground, she bent down and picked them up. She has done similar acts for staff members too, promptly addressing issues and making sure they get the attention they need. She never stops caring.

Kim Politte

Thank you to Ronna Johnston for going beyond the call of duty by helping out in different departments.

Sylvia Sterling

I would like to nominate Ms. Belinda Thomas for serving as a wonderful role model for those around her. Not only does she do an exceptional job at planning recreational activities for the students but she also does a variety of extra tasks. These tasks include, but are not limited to: helping with the switchboard in the evenings from time to time and tutoring students after school. She is always willing to lend a hand when she can.

Ana Ledezma

Thank you to the ladies in the kitchen that made great and tasty food for the Panther Pride Dance.

Belinda Thomas
& Sylvia Sterling

A huge thank you to Tonya Givens, Ronna Johnston, Patsy Perceful, and Belinda Thomas. These ladies were a tremendous help in December by making sure that OSB's children had their Christmas wish lists distributed, the Thank You notes were mailed, and they also went shopping for those who donated gift cards or money. Thank You.

Jane Thomas

**Thank you guys
for going the
extra mile.
It is highly
appreciated.**





February 2017

Dorms Open
 NO School
 School In Session

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				

Schedule of Events

Date	Time	Event
Thur., Feb. 2		Sapulpa Bean Dinner
Tue., Feb. 7		SPIRIT DAY !
Thur., Feb. 9		MAEC Math & Engineering Design Competition , Muskogee Civic Center
Wed., Feb. 15	10:30 am	OSB Spelling Bee at OSB auditorium
Thur., Feb. 16		Open House

Upcoming March Events:

Date	Event
Thur, Mar. 2	Braille Challenge
Mon., Mar. 6	8th grade trip to ICTC campus
Mar. 13-16	SPRING BREAK - NO SCHOOL - CAMPUS CLOSED
Sun., Mar. 19	DORMS OPEN
Mon., Mar. 20	CLASSES RESUME
Wed., Mar. 22	Special Olympics "Track & Field"

Recreation Activities

FEBRUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes-	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Home coming Dance at 6:30 to	2 Home Going	3	4
5 Dorms Open Open Rec	6 Boy Scouts from 5:30 to 6:45 pm	7 Movie and Popcorn Night at	8 Spring Tea Making Night	9 Home Going	10	11
12 Dorms Open Open Rec	13 Boy Scouts from 5:30 to 6:45 pm	14 Valentine's Sweetheart Dance at 6:30 pm	15 Happy February Birthday Party	16 Home Going	17	18
19 Dorms Open Open Rec	20 Boy Scouts from 5:30 to 6:45 pm	21 Alpha Theta Pizza Party for HS/JH at 6:30 pm	22 Bowling at Green Country Lanes	23 Home Going	24	25
26 Dorms Open Open Rec	27 Boy Scouts from 5:30 to 6:45 pm	28 Open Rec at 6:30 pm				

Recreation - 918-781-8200 - Ext. 8278

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:

Changes:

NONE

New Hires :

Howard Ashwood Police Officer
Start: February 1st



Happy Birthday !!!

February Birthdays

Students

Genevieve Fitzgerald	Feb	6
Justin Whitmire	Feb	7
Adan Duran-Gonzalez	Feb	25

Staff

Barbara Taylor	Feb	2
William Grayson	Feb	9
Rozann King	Feb	17
Susan Young Mock	Feb	18
Brian Culver	Feb	18
Donna Admire	Feb	21
Sherry Holder	Feb	21
Amy King	Feb	21
Laci Goins	Feb	24

