

PANTHER PRIDE

School Principal: Lynn Cragg

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

Blue Ribbon Tree against Child Abuse



Greetings !

Wonderful Blue
Ribbon Tree!
So precious!!!

We appreciate your participation in our Build a Blue Ribbon Tree for Kids campaign!

Thank you so much for participating in this prevention and awareness project. Thanks for helping build awareness. We appreciate

you partnering with us in 2017! **Bravo!... It does take a village...!**

Sherie Trice, M.S.,
CCPS

*CBCAP Grant Coordinator
Family Support &
Prevention Service
Oklahoma State
Department of Health*

Students of the 3rd and 4th Quarter

Students of the
3rd Quarter are:

Elementary
Angel Cozort

Middle School
Benjamin Middleton

High School
Trinity Lewis



Students of the
4th Quarter are:

Elementary
Mannon Moore

Middle School
Johnnie Davidson

High School
Logan Deaton

Oklahoma School for the Blind

2016 - 2017, Issue 7

May 17, 2017

Editor: Maggie Mattox

Special points of interest:

- SCASB
- Jazz Band
- Give Back Day
- Jr. / Sr. Class Trip
- Rec Activities / Highlights
- Highlights at a Glance
- Open House / Ray Kirk Memorial Sensory Garden
- Enrollment Info

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Available Fall 2017 !
OSB FAMILY & FRIENDS
COOKBOOK ...

Order your copy now!
(Order form attached to newsletter.)



SCASB Track & Field at Austin, TX

On April 20th, eight OSB athletes traveled to Austin, Texas for the SCASB track and field meet. This is the first time in at least 17 years that anyone from OSB has been able to participate in the SCASB track and field competition.

SCASB track and field divides the athletes into 2 classifications:

- ◆ **Class A** athletes are the ones with most severe visual impairments and the athletes must wear blindfolds.
- ◆ **Class B/C** are the athletes who have some vision and do not need sighted guides to run.

Our Class A athletes were:

Richelle Zampella, Tai'Yauri "Tai" Thomas and Nicholas "Nick" Jackson-Morrison.

Our Class B/C athletes were:

Malerie Levens, Trinity Lewis, Cameron Hughes, Preston Fenton and De'Poris "Dee" Willis.

The SCASB activities started with a beautiful day on the track at Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (TSBVI).



Trinity L.

Our OSB team competed in standing long jump and shot put for our Class A athletes.

The Class B/C athletes competed in the running long jump and shot put.

After completion of our events, we cleaned up for the performing arts section of the weekend.

In our down time, we were able to socialize in TSBVI's awesome recreation center that is side by side with their Goalball practice gym! We were jealous!



Preston F. (left) & Nick J. (right)

The evening finished up with performances by the SCASB teams.

OSB's small jazz combo of Nick, Tai, Richelle, Malerie, Preston and Dee took the stage to dazzle the crowd, ending with the song "Closer" that had the crowd singing along.



Tai T. (left) & Richelle Z. (right)



Dee W.

Saturday brought us a windy, cold and rainy day for the track events!

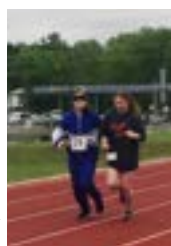


Cameron H. (left) & Preston F. (right)

Despite the weather, we had a great day of competition.

These events included the 1600 meter, 800 meter, 400 meter, and 100 meter for our Class B/C athletes.

The Class A athletes competed in the 800 meter, 400 meter, 200 meter and 60 meter running events.



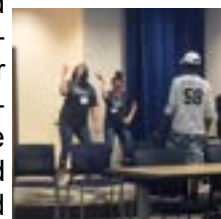
Richelle Z.

All the girls came together to try a different event called the **shuttle**. The shuttle requires the athletes to run in open field like a relay using only the sound of their teammates or their coach to track

where to run. Richelle, Malerie, Tai and Trinity did a great job at this event.

After the track running events concluded, we headed to clean up for dinner, awards, and then the dance/jam session!

Mr. Ferrell and most of our jazz combo enjoyed the night jamming with other students to various songs while Trinity and Malerie enjoyed the dance.



Malerie L. (left) & Trinity L. (right)

Here is the list of our award winners:

- ◆ The all girls shuttle team placed 5th.
- ◆ **Nick** placed 6th in the 200 meter and 60 meter and 3rd in the shot put.
- ◆ **Richelle** placed 6th in the long jump and shot put.
- ◆ **Dee** placed 3rd in the long jump.
- ◆ **Tai** placed 5th in the 400 meter, 4th in both the 200 and 800 meters, and was the **Champion in the long jump**, placing 1st!!!



Congratulations to our team and a big thank you to our administration who let us try something new. We loved the SCASB track meet and hope to do it again!!



Tera Webb

Special Olympics “Bocce”, Tulsa OK

On Friday, April 28, senior student Jacob King represented the Oklahoma School for the Blind at the Special Olympics “Bocce” at Tulsa. He was accompanied and supported by his family and his P.E. teacher Mrs. Tera Webb.

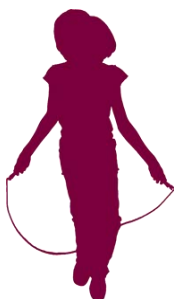
CONGRATULATIONS to Jacob, who advanced to the State Competition, held in Stillwater on May 17.

(Final results were not available at the time of this edition.)

WAY TO GO JACOB !!!



Jump Rope for Heart - Update!



Jump Rope for Heart campaign was held this year at OSB from the beginning of spring break until April 17th. The goal was to raise double the amount of our previous year. This year's goal was to raise \$300. Well, we not only met this goal... we more than doubled the goal we set!!!

**We raised a total of
\$717 !!!**

The following students and staff contributed to this goal:

Nick Jackson-Morrison	\$1
Gavin Day	\$5
John Duong	\$5
Tyler Duong	\$5
Gina Woods	\$5
William Grayson	\$10
Scott Moore	\$15
Shaylin Wells	\$15
Kaylee Ragon	\$15
Halle Stout	\$20

Khatungi Bryant	\$38
Angel Cozort	\$40
Logan Deaton	\$100
Skyler Moore	\$100
Noah Dougan	\$107
Patelin Cogswell	\$111
Hunter Kelly	\$125

Thank you again for all who supported the American Heart Association! I am so proud of OSB and their \$717 donation!

Tera Webb



National Braille Challenge (BC) - Results !!!



Congratulations to Hunter Kelley, Katelynn Zampella and Richelle Zampella!

These three students placed in the **top 10** students nationwide in their BC categories.

They will be traveling to Los Angeles in June to compete in the National Braille Challenge.

HOORAY!!!!



Jazz Band - Update

It's been a great year for OSB's Jazz band!

In the fall, the jazz band played for White Cane Day at Arrowhead Mall and OSB's annual Spaghetti Fundraiser at the Lion's Club in downtown Muskogee. In November the Jazz band was asked to be the opening act for one of NSU's fall Jazz concerts. We had students perform at the Sapulpa bean dinner and for ESA weekend here at OSB.

This spring, the band traveled to Jackson, Mississippi and Austin, Texas to participate in SCASB conferences.

They also represented OSB at the Disability Awareness Day at the State Capitol in Oklahoma City.

They were selected as one of the **outstanding performances** at the Green Country Jazz Festival at NSU, and recently

won the 2017 Class 2A State Jazz band competition at UCO in Edmond, making them the **Class 2A champions for a 2nd year in a row.**

The band received Superior ratings from each of the three judges and placed 2nd out of all the bands in Class 2A and 3A. OSB had the 4th highest score of all 27 bands in classes' 2A-4A.

**CONGRATULATIONS,
WELL DONE!**



The band finished the year with their performance at the annual Spring Concert / Activities Awards

Banquet and is now working to finish recording their latest CD. Watch for it in the coming months.

Congratulations to the OSB Jazz band for all of their success during the 2016-2017 school year.

You've done a fantastic job representing the best of OSB!

Chris Ferrell,
Band Director



Richelle Z. (front),
Malerie L. (back)

OSB's annual "Give Back Day"

On May 2nd, OSB's Middle and High School students and their teachers lent a helping hand around campus and the community to "give back".



Honor Heights Park
Clean Up Crew

Students picked up trash at various parks, cleaned windows and floors, visited with residents of a retirement

community, organized clothing at a local shelter, and gave some love to unwanted dogs at the



Trinity L.

local animal shelter. Our kids were also able to tell the local animal shelter that they raised a little **over \$450** for the shelter during their '**Dimes for Dogs**' campaign.

GREAT JOB OSB!!!

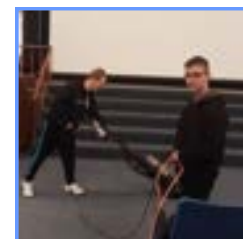
Our annual "Give Back Day" gives students an insight and better understanding of the needs of others and - hopefully - will make them more aware of the work behind clean ups, etc.

Special thanks to all the staff that cooperated to make this day happen. **THANK YOU !!!**

Cheryl Daniels



Street Clean Up Crew



Campus Clean Up
Crew

Updates from our Social Services Department



"Caught Being Good" since March 23, 2017:

- ◆ Joey Owens, Jacob King, Seth Wedel, Ebony Hines, Isaiah Hayes, Halle Stout, Thomas Raines, and Kinzie Peters
 - for helping decorate the Rec center with chair covers, and tablecloths on all tables.
- ◆ Holly Felkins – for using self-control while supporting other students in various areas.
- ◆ Isaiah Hayes, John Duong, Tyler Duong, Ben Middleton, Garrett Kennedy, Halle Stout, and Connor Hilton
 - for helping at “Cookout Night”
- ◆ Tai Thomas, Richelle Zampella, and Malerie Levens
 - for showing maturity and their genuine friendship for another student.
- ◆ Trinity Lewis and Brianna Brennan
 - for being there for a fellow student.
- ◆ Khatungi Bryant and Scott Moore
 - for helping students on the playground.
- ◆ Noah Dougan – for being a sighted guide for a friend.
- ◆ Ocie Webster – for his unlimited help to Miss Amy.
- ◆ Scott Moore – for being helpful to an adult.



Social Services Department
Sylvia Sterling
Jane Thomas

Social Services News

April and May have been fast paced months for the social services team.



Mrs. Sterling and Mrs. Barrett have been quite involved in giving tests, which are required for students in various grades. Mrs. Barrett also worked with students who took the ACT tests for college admission. The students, their teachers, leaders, and test monitors were equally happy when these tests were finished.

Some of our older students have also made field trips to explore our local Technology Center (ICTC), and our local Junior College (CSC), in preparation for their studies next year.

In the classroom, we have continued to study about personality characteristics and attributes which enable students to have successful relationships with peers and adults.

In April, we read the book called **“I can’t believe you said that.”** and our word of the month was



“self-control”. Students heard this word and its definition daily.

In May, our word of the month was/is **“persistent”**. With the end of school ever so close, we all must be persistent in staying on task and completing our work.



The Service Learning class did a nice job in writing a letter of appreciation to the Boulevard

(Continued on page 6)

Social Services News (continued)

(Continued from page 5)

Christian Church, who supplied us with weekend food packs, which we distributed to approx. 20 students every week.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to share a personal note with all of you.



I will be **retiring** on **August 1**,



so my duties will be given to others on campus to carry out next school year.

I want you, parents and teachers, to know that I have found inspiration in the growth steps I have observed all of our students make during this school year. I have worked at OSB for **31 years**, and have worked for

this agency in another position for 7 additional years. I have taken great joy in witnessing your student/s grow in their maturity, and in the skills they learn as time passes. There is no greater thrill than this!

Thank you, parents and teachers alike, for allowing me to be a part of campus life and share things with the students. Working here at OSB has been like living in a large family, who comforts you when you need it, pats you on the back when you deserve it, and who teaches you life lessons when you fall short in a small way. I shall truly miss each and every one of you. Thank you ever so much for treating me with respect, helpfulness, and support.

My favorite High School teacher, Phil Porter, was fond of clichés. One of those, which has been unforgettable to me, is **“plan your work... and work your plan”**.

The time has come for me to plan a healthy and balanced life while at leisure.

I hope to be physically active in the water, with swimming lessons or water aerobics, and I would also like to try my hand at writing for short publications such as newsletters and magazines. After my brain has rested a bit, I also hope to tackle learning more things with the help of a computer.

So, don't be surprised if you see me on Facebook soon. I will also be able to keep in touch with OSB through the website.

Best wishes to you all, and please keep in touch.

Jane Thomas,
Social Services Specialist



Middle-Upper Elementary “Good Behavior” Field Trip



On May 10th the elementary students of Mrs. Barker, Mrs. Eckerson, and Mrs. Leatherman

went to Incredible Pizza in Tulsa for their annual **“Good Behavior Trip”**.

All were treated to a buffet, game card to play games and to ride the rides.



The trip was wonderful.

Thank you to all the staff who supported us on this trip. We look forward to this event every year.

Laura Leatherman

Annual "Easter Egg Hunt"

On Tuesday, March 26th, the **Lions Club** generously invited our elementary students to attend an Easter Egg Hunt at Civitan Park.



The following students were the lucky winners of a prize for finding a "squishy ball" in their egg:

Khatungi Bryant, Lorie Cox, Katelynn Zampella Gavin Day, and Josie Cox.

The elementary staff and especially the students would like to thank the Lions Club for all the effort they put in to make it such fun for the students.

THANK YOU LIONS !!!

Elementary Teachers



We had a marvelous time searching for **hundreds of eggs!**

The Lions also gave out prizes to the kids that found special eggs and gave everyone a treat and drinks afterwards.



It was a fun day and everyone had a blast on the playground!

Congratulations!

The students got to stay and play in the park until about 3:30 p.m., before we all walked back to the school.



Jr. / Sr. Annual Class Trip

The Juniors and Seniors had a much deserved break this week with a field trip day.

A few even got smooched by the one and only **Hornsby.**



riding go-karts with Mr. Bynum, and/or playing laser tag with Mrs. Webb.



The group enjoyed snacks and late lunch/early dinner of pizza.

The kids had a blast and many won prizes. It was a great day!

Cheryl Daniels



Students started the day off with delicious waffles, omelets, and iced coffees at **IHOP**. Some even had peaches and ice cream topped pancakes!

The Driller's came from behind in the 9th inning to win!

Go Tulsa Drillers!



The day really got rolling when they took in a **Driller's Baseball Game** at the OneOk Field.



The group moved on to **Andy B's** for bowling with Mr. Carden and Mr. Jackman,

playing games with Ms. Goins and Ms. Daniels,



Lorenzo R.



Seth W.

Goalball



Are you tough enough to have played goal ball with Team Cyclone?

If you were on our last trip to “The Center” in Tulsa, you had to be tough. We endured a hailstorm on our way to Tulsa, before we had even put on our knee and elbow pads! The excitement continued in Tulsa, as we split into 4 teams and played a couple of games. The improvements of skills the kids demonstrate as they play are evident as they react to whistles

and score goals against each other. Even Team Cyclone was impressed, and their coaching tips are more specific and help us understand more of the nuances of the game.

Here’s what some of the kids had to say:

Elbin: *The good thing about goalball is that you meet new people and make friends. I really like goalball because I want to be a famous goalball player someday. It is the best sport, and is now my favorite sport!*

Ben: *Goalball has helped us meet new people while doing a sport and being more active. These things are important because we get all of these*

opportunities to do something new, fun, and entertaining, which can help us in the real world.

Ariana: *Goalball was such a wonderful experience for me. It gave me the chance to get out and be active and actually play a sport that I really enjoyed.*

Richelle: *Playing goal ball was a great experience. Team Cyclone was very helpful my first time playing, and having my friends there made it even better. I had so much fun that I would love to go again and even have a team at OSB.*

Thank you Team Cyclone !

Faye Miller

Creek County Literacy Spelling Bee

Congratulations

to Richelle Zampella, Kaylee Ragon and Brianna Brennan!

Thanks to our sponsor, the Sapulpa Lions Club, the girls competed in the **19th Annual Creek County Literacy Spelling Bee** at Sapulpa High School on Thursday, April 13th. They are the **OSB Braille Bees** and have brought home **1st place** Schools trophy. **This is our 4th trophy in the 4 years** we’ve competed.

By spelling words such as lassitude, lascivious, nullifidian and pococurante correctly, they

earned 172 points, more than the other 5 schools teams in Round 1 to earn the Schools Trophy.

In the Ultimate Stinger (final) round, the OSB Braille Bees and the Sapulpa Public Library team, The Wannabeezzz, were the last two teams standing. The Wannabeezzz ultimately took home the overall Spelling Bee trophy on the word Bezaleel.

Congratulations to our OSB Braille Bees - **1st place Schools** and **2nd overall!**

Well Spelled!!

Faye Miller



From Left: Brianna Brennan, Kaylee Ragon, Richelle Zampella

Boy & Cup Scouts - Updates

BOY SCOUTS - TROOP 672

The year is winding down for the scouts. We had a great time this year with camping, pinewood derby races, and more and are looking forward to more adventures next year.

Anyone wanting to join scouts next year, **sign up** will be at the **beginning of school** and the **fee is \$26.00**. We hope to see everyone back and maybe even some new ones.

April 21-23 scout troop 672 went to camp Garland at Locust Grove. The theme was **"Around the World"**. Troop 672's country was Mexico and the boys had a great time teaching skills of water purification, introduction to Spanish language and peso money and how it works. The boys did a great job with their presentation, earning the troop **1st place** for teaching skills.



CUP SCOUTS - PACK 672

On May 2nd cub scouts did a pinewood derby race with pack 618 here in Muskogee. Gavin won **3rd place overall**, Xerek,



Gavin D. & Marcella B.



Quante S.
& Marcella B.

Quante, Kolten and Noah won novelty awards.

The Cups would like to send out a **BIG THANK YOU** to:

- ◆ Mike and his son Dusty for making sure the cars got done before the race. You guys did an awesome wonderful job and we couldn't have done it without you.
- ◆ Marcella for helping keep score.
- ◆ Jeremy Jackman and Steve Loftin for helping.
- ◆ Pack 618 for coming out and racing with us.
- ◆ Troop 672 for helping with refreshments and at the track.
- ◆ Trey Reeds of Fort Gibson for the use of the track.

Thank you all very much, we couldn't have done it without you guys.

I would also like to **thank each and every one for their leadership** in cub scouts, boy scouts and venturing crew.

Marcella Bynum - secretary

Amy Morgan - Den Leader for cub scouts

Linda King and Anna Ledezma for being my right hand at every

camp out, bringing stuff that was forgotten. We couldn't have done any of it without all of you.

We have a new member to our scout family, Barbara Collins. She is going to take over the **venturing crew** next year. The crew will consist of girls and boys 14 years or older.

Pack 672, troop 672 and venturing crew would like to thank everyone from OSB for your help and support.

Quote: "Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart." Elizabeth Andrew

HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE BACK NEXT YEAR.

Becky LaRue,
Scout Leader



Kolten P. & Marcella B.



Noah D. (front)

Modern History - Guest Speaker

On Monday, May 8, we had a special guest speaker in our Modern History class. Ms. Maggie spoke about the Berlin Wall and cultural aspects of Germany. The students asked many questions and seemed genuinely



From Left: Malerie L., Ariana R., Jillian M., Ms. Maggie (back), and Richelle Z.

interested in getting a more personal perspective on some historical events.

Jeremy Jackman

These are the students' comments...

Ariana: What I liked about Mrs. Maggie's visit was learning about the different traditions and holidays that they celebrate in Germany. I don't exactly remember what holiday it was, but there was one holiday that people in Germany celebrate on December 6. They put a big boot out on their porch that night and if they were good that year, the next morning it's filled with candy. If they've been bad that year, then it's filled with coal the next morning. I would love to do this tradition. I really enjoyed Mrs. Maggie's visit. It was really interesting and she can come speak to us again sometime.

Jillian: I enjoyed hearing about the different economies between the sides of the Berlin Wall. One side was under Soviet control, and one side was capitalist. This made for a drastic change in the economies of the two sides. On the west side of Germany, there was capitalist control and it was easy to obtain things. However, on the east side, things were a lot worse. It was hard to get everyday things and foods that we are used to. There were no luxuries; if one wanted something, they would need to rush to get it

because it wouldn't be long before it was gone. If someone from the east side wanted a car, usually their parents would sign them up when they were young in hopes that when they grew to the legal age of driving, they would be able to get the car. The cars were small and quite inefficient; the maximum speed was maybe sixty miles per hour. They had a foul odor that made it to where they could be smelled long before they were seen. It was very difficult to get from one side to the other; no one could get out, and when people got in they were under constant surveillance on the road. When the wall came down, people from the side that had a communist government were amazed at the variety of goods that could be easily purchased.

Conner: Thank you Ms. Maggie. I just want to thank you for coming and talking to us about your childhood. Your topic was awesome. What I liked about your topic was that you talked about the different foods and you gave us a lot of background information. I learned a lot of good information about Germany.

Taiyauri: The topic that I enjoyed most about Mrs. Maggie coming and talking to us about Germany, is how the Berlin Wall came. I find it fascinating how the government thought that they could divide people up with a wall. I'm glad the people came together and rioted*) the wall down.

***) editors' comment:** *The wall did not come down due to a riot. People just celebrated their new freedom by climbing onto the wall that day and the following days.*

Richelle: I really enjoyed hearing about the conditions on each side of the Berlin Wall from Miss Maggie's perspective. It would be stressful having relatives living in

communist-controlled East Berlin in worse conditions; I would want to help them in any way I could. Some people were even desperate enough to risk a run from East Berlin to West Berlin, which I didn't know before.

Preston: Something that interested me about our guest speaker was hearing about when the wall came down and hearing that people were sitting on the wall hanging out and talking and how people kept coming in with their cars that you could smell from a mile away.

Malerie: I very much appreciated Ms. Maggie coming to visit our class. I learned a lot about what it was like before and after the Berlin wall was destroyed. It is so much more interesting hearing these kind of things from someone that has actually been there and experienced these things, rather than reading it from a history book. It was so cool to hear about how different it was there, than it was here and what their struggles were.

Nick: I learned more about how people were separated from their families. They had to write letters to talk to their families. And if one part of Russia wanted bananas, the other side had to send it to them.

***) editor's comment:** The banana's topic was referred to East and West Berlin. The Eastern side would get bananas occasionally but supply wouldn't last long due to a high demand.

THANK YOU CLASS & Mr. Jackman, I really enjoyed coming to you all and talking to you.

Ms. Maggie

Recreational Activities - April & May

Mar 29 - Happy March Birthday and Karaoke Night

OSB students celebrated all of our birthdays in March and then spent the rest of the night singing and rocking out to great tunes and spending time with friends.



Matt N.



April 3 - Jr. High/HS Dining Out at China King

Middle School and High School were excited to escape to a far orient land to sample great tasting cuisines from the Forbidden City. Students had a great time hanging with friends and eating till they burst!

April 4 - Movie, Popcorn, and Soda Night

Students got to enjoy a relaxing night of tasty popcorn, free soda donated to us from the Lion's Club, and watched a new movie, **HOP!**



April 5 - Round Up Club Spring Outing

OSB students and staff ventured to the Muskogee Round Up Club to Easter egg hunt, play games, eat delicious hot dogs and bologna, and pet all types of animals! They had a miniature horse, a calf, several types of herding dogs, horses, and a barn cat named Tim. It started raining out of nowhere and we had to leave early, but we all got to see the most beautiful rainbow on the way back to OSB.



April 10 & 17 - Cook Out & Outside Rec

OSB students and staff enjoyed hamburgers grilled by Mr. Miles and spiced up with a seasoned salt and garlic seasoning, with fresh veggies, chips, and chocolate "no bake" cookies. After eating till we popped, we went outside to enjoy the nice weather!



John D.

April 11 - Kite Craft Night

Students got to design, color, and build a kite to give away to loved ones, or keep and fly during the kite flying night, or take home and spend time with family and friends during National Kite Flying Month!!!!

April 12 - A Night at the Roxy

The Night at the Roxy was an event organized to help raise donation money for the Boy Scout Troop 672 that consists of students from our school. Students were able to leave campus, sit in comfort, have popcorn and soda, and listen to the amazing singing and instrument playing of unexceptionally talented musicians. Our students thank the Roxy, and all parties involved for allowing us to have such a wonderful evening.



April 18 - April Showers Dance

Students got to dance and hang out with friends



during this simple but entertaining event. The kids danced and had so much fun that they literally fell asleep in chairs throughout the



Kinzie, Preston, Chris

Mission accomplished!

April 19 - Swimming at Muskogee Swim and Fitness

Staff and students had an excellent time swimming the night away during this event! The students enjoyed themselves so much, that they wanted to go swimming again in May. Let it be so!

April 20 - Outside Rec & Kite Flying Night - CANCELLED due to weather !

April 25 - Happy April Birthdays

Happy Birthday !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
We changed this event up a little bit by going outside and having a great time enjoying the pleasant weather while eating our amazing cupcakes! Happy birthday to everyone!!

April 26, May 1, and 8 2nd Annual Minecraft Tournament

Below listed students signed up and brutally competed for the initial try outs of the **2nd Annual Minecraft Tournament.**

Tyler Doung, John Doung, Gavin Day, Josie Cox, Emma Sanders, Garrett Kennedy, Khatungi Bryant, Noah Dougan, Xerek Hitchcock, Kolton Pennington, Ocie Webster, Dayton Baccus, Benjamin Middleton, Nathan England, and William Winston.
- Lorie Cox participated as a judge.

(Continued on page 12)

Recreational Activities - April & May (continued)

(Continued from page 11)



Nathan (left) & Tyler (right)

The **first round** instructions were to build an upside down pyramid, with a garden inside, a glass roof, and a water source inside the pyramid that creates a waterfall on the west side of the pyramid. The contestants competed at random.

The **second round** competitors were instructed to build a three story giant doll house, with a living room, kitchen, three bedrooms, two bathrooms, and a storage room. Outside competitors had to have a swimming pool, five trees, and a garden.

I applaud each and every student that signed up to participate within the 2nd Annual Minecraft Tournament!



Gavin D. (left) & Xerek H. (right)

Each build demonstrated the creativity and personality of the student that was building it. It was an amazing sight to see.

Final Rounds are to be battled out as follows:

Khatungi vs. John – for 3rd place

Tyler vs. Garrett – for 1st & 2nd place

The prizes are a colorful glowing Minecraft sword, a Minecraft glow in the dark Wall Torch, and a book titled “The Diary of the Farting Creeper”.



Lorie C.

The 1st place winner gets to choose the prize he wants and so on.

The *Semi-Final and Final* were scheduled to be held on May 16 but unfortunately had to be rescheduled. Therefore the winners’ names are not available at this time.

May 4 - Movie at the Park



Due to storms and constant rain, we had to bring the movie indoors to our comfy Rec Center. The movie for the night was **Moana**. This movie was a tale that spoke of adventures across the seas, battling monsters, saving princesses, and finding oneself. The students loved this movie. Thank you to Michael Gentry for letting us borrow his copy for this event.



May 7 - Ice Cream Sundae Sunday

OSB students and staff enjoyed our quiet Sunday with a homemade ice cream sundae! We had our choice between vanilla, chocolate, light vanilla, and black walnut. There were whip cream, cherries, chocolate sprinkles, rainbow sprinkles, and salted crushed nuts. There were two different types of syrups, chocolate and caramel. We even had bananas! Unfortunately, there wasn’t enough for seconds, but the kids still had a great time!

May 10 - Swimming at Muskogee Swim & Fitness



Due to popular demand, OSB went swimming once again!!! The kids got to swim, floated with floaties, dived and picked up items from the bottom of the pool, and just had a great time!

May 15 - End of the Year Dance



It is that wonderful, yet sorrowful time of year folks!

The End of the Year dance is upon us. The snacks and food items were superb, the dance electrifying, yet all felt the profound sense that it will be a few months till we will dance, play, and be merry again with each other. **Fear not!!!!**

OSB will be having **SUMMER SCHOOL “STEM CAMP”!** from the 4th to the 16th of June, and it will be chalked full of crazy and fun things to do while students get to spend time with each other.



Malerie L.



Scheduled Rec Activities:

- June 4** **Open Rec / Social**
Pizza dinner (4:30 pm)
Snow Cones Night
- June 5 Summer of Fun Dance
- June 6 ESR Bowling
MS/HS Tie Dye, Movie & Popcorn
- June 7 Swimming at Muskogee
Swim & Fitness
- June 8 ESR Tie Dye, Movie & Popcorn
MS/HS Bowling
- June 11** **Open Rec / Social**
Pizza dinner (4:30 pm)
Ice Cream Sundae
- June 12 Inflatables & Picnic
- June 13 Roller Skating
- June 14 Swimming at Muskogee
Swim & Fitness
- June 15 Round Up Club Outing

Recreational Highlights at a Glance for the SY 2016 – 2017 !

- **Various Dances**
Masquerade Ball,
The Haunted Dance,
Autumn Leaves Dance,
Winter Social,
Panther Pride Dance,
Homecoming Dance,
Valentine's Day Dance,
Braille Challenge Dance,
April Showers Dance,
End of the Year Dance
- **Swimming**
- **Bowling**
- **Movie and Popcorn Nights**
Beauty and the Beast,
How to Train Your Dragon,
Home,
Zootopia,
Secret Life of Pets,
Finding Dory,
Frozen,
The Good Dinosaur,
The Polar Express,
Hop,
Moana
- **Dining Out at**
KFC, McDonald's, Long John Silvers, China King, and Golden Corral
- **Trivia and Riddles**
- **Bingo**
- **Skating**
- **Monthly Birthday Parties**
- **Board Game Nights**
- **Ice Cream Sundae Sundays**
- **Arts and Crafts**
Masquerade Ball Masks,
Thank You Letters,
Turkey Magnet Making Night,
Seasonal Tea Making Nights,
Hot Cocoa Making Night,
Winter Ornaments Craft Night,
Sun Catcher Craft Night,
Kite Craft Night
- **Halloween Costume Contest**
- **Round Up Club Outing**
Fall & Spring
- **Shriners' Circus**
- **Fall Festival**
- **Cane Quest Knighting Ceremony**
- **Woodland Hills Mall for MS/HS**
- **Elementary Dining Out and Wal-Mart**
- **Christmas Village and Festival**
- **Alpha Theta Pizza Party for Middle and High School**
- **Alpha Theta Bingo Party for Elementary**
- **Karaoke Nights**

- **Cook Outs**
- **Outside Rec**
- **Concert at The Roxy Theater**
- **2nd Annual Minecraft Tournament**
- **Fellowship to Toby's Store**

What an **AWESOME** year it has been.

Fun filled with lots of activities and companionship.

OSB ROCKS !!!



"A Monster big Thank You" to our Ms. Belinda Thomas. Great Job!



2016-2017 OSB HIGHLIGHTS & EVENTS at a Glance

As the end of the school year approaches quickly, let us take a look back at some of the events and activities that were going on throughout the year...

September:

- ◆ FCCLA Leadership Conference
- ◆ Space Camp, Huntsville, Alabama
- ◆ Boy's Bash

October:

- ◆ White Cane Day/s (2 days)
- ◆ National Manufacturing Day (HS)
- ◆ Western Heritage Day - Ranch (Elem. & MS)
- ◆ OSB Fall Festival
- ◆ Special Olympics "Bowling"
- ◆ Firefighter Clown Safety (Elem.)

November:

- ◆ Spaghetti Fundraiser
- ◆ NSU Optometry Trip (MS)
- ◆ Veterans' Day Assembly
- ◆ Future Shock Career Day (HS)
- ◆ Jazz Band at NSU Tahlequah

December:

- ◆ FCCLA District Star Event
- ◆ Oklahoma Regional Cane Quest
- ◆ Elementary Caroling
- ◆ Elementary Christmas Program

January:

- ◆ SCASB Mississippi (Wrestling, Cheerleading, Jazz Band)

- ◆ Wrestling Homecoming

February:

- ◆ Sapulpa Annual Bean Dinner
- ◆ MAEC and Engineering Competition
- ◆ OSB Spelling Bee
- ◆ Muskogee High School Musical

March:

- ◆ Oklahoma Regional Braille Challenge
- ◆ Green Country Jazz Festival
- ◆ Disability Awareness Day
- ◆ Spring Tea
- ◆ Special Olympics "Track"

April:

- ◆ Easter Egg Hunt (Elem.)
- ◆ Ray Kirk Memorial Sensory Garden Dedication & Open House
- ◆ SCASB Texas (Track, Performing Arts - small Jazz Combo)
- ◆ State Jazz Band Contest
- ◆ Prom
- ◆ Special Olympics "Bocce"

May:

- ◆ Give Back Day
- ◆ Jr. / Sr. Trip
- ◆ Jazz Band Spring Concert
- ◆ Good Behavior Trip to Incredible Pizza (Elem.)
- ◆ Field Trip to Honor Heights Park (Elem.)
- ◆ Parkview's Got Talent
- ◆ High School Blow Out
- ◆ Air Space Museum, Tulsa (MS & HS) - 05/22
- ◆ Graduation - 05/24

Additional:

(over various weeks / months)

- ◆ Spin Class
- ◆ Goalball

Community Projects throughout the school year:

- ◆ **Ms. Daniels's Service Learning Class**
 - ◆ Coat Drive
 - ◆ Reading Program (to Elem.)
 - ◆ VA Hospital Donations Drive
 - ◆ Valentines for Veterans
 - ◆ Dimes for Dogs
- ◆ **Boy Scouts**
 - ◆ Operation Christmas Child (Shoebox Project)
 - ◆ Scouting for Food
- ◆ **Middle & High School (all)**
 - ◆ Give Back Day

This list may not be a complete listing of all events and does ***not*** reflect all the great activities that were offered after school hours, either through our awesome Rec. program and/or our various Clubs, e.g. Braille Club, Boy Scouts, Cup Scouts, Girl Scouts, Running Club, Student Council, etc.

What an exciting and fun filled year it was.

"THANK YOU" to everyone who helped make it happen.

Ms. Maggie

Prom: A Night to Remember

On April 26th we held our annual Jr/Sr Prom in the Gymnasium. The night began with the students meeting at the West Lobby and parading through the school so everyone could see them in their finest attire.



The gym was transformed into a magical site by Mr. Bynum and several helpers. Mrs. Plunkett



made delicious snacks for us to enjoy throughout the evening and it was DJ'd by DubSquared (Mrs. Webb).



Everyone looked great and danced the night away. Logan Deaton was crowned Prom King and Patelin Cogswell was Prom

Queen. It was truly a Night to Remember.

Laci Goins



Patelin C. & Logan D.

Parkview's Got Talent - Talent Show

On Tuesday, May 16th at 6:00 pm the Annual "**Parkview's Got Talent**" talent show, sponsored by the Jr/Sr class, was held in the auditorium. This year we had a wonderful turn out of participants and everyone enjoyed the show.

The night kicked off with Brianna and Trinity doing a cowgirl skit and teaching us how to dance to Copperhead Road. Their skit and dance brought the energy up and started the night off right. They were followed by Kaylee who played her Ukulele and sang "I'm Yours" and "Iris". Her talent shined on those two songs.

Xerek was the next performer. He sang a beautiful song by Plumb called "Need You Now". Mathiew followed Xerek with the classic song "Simple Man".

Next was the first of two "Battles". Cameron and Preston had a "guitar battle". Both of them showed extraordinary skills and of course we couldn't declare a winner, so the battle ended with a tie.

We needed to calm down after that heated battle, so Trinity did a peaceful ballet to "Let It Go" before Ariana took the stage. Ariana sang "Count on Me" while playing her ukulele, then she was joined by Tai to sing "Home to Mama". The girls sang beautifully.

We had several actors in the house. Lori, Angel, and Ocie did a skit for us called "The Invisible Bench." It was one of the best parts of the night.

After the skit it was time for another "Battle". Garrett and Elbin battled it out singing this time. Garrett started the battle with "Yesterday" and Elbin finished it with "Jefe de Jefes". Both of these guys did a great job and once again we had to declare it a tie.

After that heated battle we needed a little fun so Khatungi took the stage and taught us all how to "Whip and Nae Nae." By looking at crowd participation, we all had fun and needed a little practice with our whips.

Next up was Isaiah and he gave an awesome rendition of "Wagon Wheel". He was followed by Halle

who showed off her Hoola Hooping skills. She Hoola-Hooped for at least 5 minutes straight and even walked across the stage and down the steps while hoola-hooping! It was amazing and the crowd kept cheering her on.

We ended the night with Richelle and Tai playing their saxophones. They played "Sound of Silence" together and then Richelle closed the show with a classic tune "You Don't Know What Love Is".

Overall it was an exciting night with a wonderful show of talent from the students at Parkview. The Jr/Sr Class would like to thank everyone who donated. We will use the money to help buy decorations for graduation. We would also like to thank Mr. Butler for accompanying many of the singers and Mr. Ferrell for running the sound.

A big **THANK YOU** goes out to everyone who participated and supported Parkview's Got Talent!

Laci Goins

Open House & Ray Kirk Memorial Sensory Garden



On April 21, 2017 OSB held their annual OPEN HOUSE, as well as their **Ray Kirk Memorial Sensory Garden** Dedication ceremony, followed by a very nice reception.



Our kitchen staff did an **OUTSTANDING job** with the snacks and refreshments **THANK YOU LADIES!!!** (*Rhonda H., Betty C., and Tonya B. not pictured*) and many staff and students came together to decorate our Rec. Center fitting to this occasion.



Brenda P.
(supervisor)



Shawndra J. & Susan M.

GREAT JOB OSB !!!

As part of this special day, some staff and students worked at our demonstration tables, at which they showed off gadgets available to visual impaired individuals, to help with everyday tasks, such as reading a box of cake mix, identifying color, using an APEX, and many more. The students did a great job explaining and demonstrating the gadgets to the visitors.



Chandler C.

specialized areas, such as the Assistive Technology Lab, our Library (with many braille books), our Robotics Lab, the dorms, etc.

Job well done!

Ms. Maggie



Susan M.



Sandy H.

Well done!

Other students showed interested visitors around the campus and pointed out some of our



Kinzie P., Kaylee R., Logan D., and Garrett K.



Ray Kirk's family

2017 - 2018 ENROLLMENT - Important Information !



We continuously strive to improve our services to you and your student/s, but **we will need your help** to be successful.

Please expect our 2017-2018 enrollment package within the next days.

To improve waiting times for the physical part of enrollment, we

ask that you **please COMPLETE & RETURN** the enrollment package **as soon as possible**, so that we have most of the information already on file at time of your arrival.

We will also contact you prior to school start to schedule a time for your student/s enrollment to be able to minimize wait time.

Please ensure that we have a working phone number for you

on file, so that we can be successful when attempting to contact you.

Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you!



GOING THE EXTRA MILE - April-May 2017



Going the Extra Mile...

Thank you Laci Goins for purchasing (*with her own \$*) the Guest Sign In Book for the Ray Kirk Memorial Sensory Garden dedication.

Rozann King

A HUGE "THANK YOU" goes out to ...

... Mr. Miles for cooking seasoned hamburgers for the cookout for the Rec. The kids loved them and so did I!

... Mrs. Harris, Ms. Goins, Mrs. Bryan, and Ms. Marcella for helping set the Rec up for the Sensory Garden Luncheon. It was beautiful and it wouldn't have been possible without all of your help. Thank you again.

... Mr. Culver, Mark, Mike, Brent, Andrew, Howard, Tressy, William, and Lisa, thank you all for helping clean the Rec, move things around to prepare for the Sensory Garden Luncheon, and with the clean up after it was completed.

... Brenda and all of the lovely ladies that cooked/prepared the amazing food for the Sensory Garden Luncheon. The presentation was superb, the food was delicious, and everyone loved it!!! Also, thank you for all the food you all prepare for any dance, social, or luncheon!

... Donald Baccus, thank you for coming in four hours before your shift and judging the 2nd Annual Minecraft Tournament! It is extremely hard to judge this competition, and you were great at it and fair with scoring. Thank you again.

Jay Stevens and Becky LaRue for organizing an amazing evening out for the kids at "A Night at the Roxy". It was delightful to see our students dance, sing, clap, and join together for the energetic anchor. We all had a lovely time, thank you so very much again for this event.

Belinda Thomas

Thank you Mark Miller for working outside with a student and letting him run some equipment. - *"Thank you, Mr. Mark Miller, for letting me start the weed eater and for working with me. I really liked it and it was a lot of fun. - Gunner Harris" -*

Also, thank you to the Hospitality Committee, Jeana Jones, Laura Leatherman, Jennifer Eckerson and Ruby Barker! Everyone enjoyed the special treats on special days and we appreciate the thoughts, efforts, and care you put into making everyone feel special. Thank you!

And thank you to everyone in Food Service who prepared dinners and snacks for what seemed like endless trips and on-campus activities this year. I appreciate the tasty and healthy meals you put together for us!

Faye Miller

Thank you Lisa Yochum for all the extra effort put into the cleaning of the recreational center and an employee's office.

And thank you Jeana Jones for getting a bulletin board ready for "Prevent Child Abuse Prevention" month at the last minute.

I further would like to say thank you to ...

...Carla Cotney, Laci Goins, Belinda Thomas, Karen Bryan, and Nancy Brice for helping decorate the Rec Center with chair covers, and tablecloths for all tables.

...to all our ILS / Work Study Employees for doing a super job of making our students independent.

...and to Jamie Allenbaugh for being there for a student in need.

Sylvia Sterling

Thank you to Faye Miller, Kathy Adams, Maggie Mattox, Jane Thomas, and Chris Ferrell for the endless hours helping with the cookbook! Your time and talents are appreciated!

Allison Garner

Thank you, Allison Garner, for taking on a gigantic project known as "OSB Family & Friends Cookbook". I had the pleasure to proofread some of the recipes and I think I gained 10 lbs just from reading, but I can't wait to try numerous of those recipes out at home. THANK YOU.

Also a huge Thank You, to Laci Goins, for being so dedicated to our school and students. I've seen you spend

numerous hours at school (outside your regular hours)



(Continued on page 18)

GOING THE EXTRA MILE - April-May 2017 (continued)



(Continued from page 17)

to work on graduation stuff or the yearbook, practice with students for fundraisers like the talent show and just invest in these kids as much as you possibly can. You are a great role model.

Maggie Mattox

I want to thank all of those who have helped transport our students to home and back to school. This is a very difficult task that you perform. I appreciate the time you give to make this happen and want you to know how important to our OSB family you are.

Cammeron Brice

I would like to acknowledge Laura Leatherman for all the planning of the field trips this year for the middle and upper elementary students. She has done a magnificent job, and our trips have been fun and exciting. She never complained, just asked for our input. Thanks Laura.

Ruby Barker

I want to send a huge "Shout Out" to all our amazing staff & teachers, that have spend many extra hours to allow our students to participate in after school activities, such as Academic Team, Wrestling competitions, Jazz Band performances, Scout clubs, Goalball, Spelling Bees, Braille

Challenges, Special Olympics, Running Club, Track practice, Talent Shows, Fundraisers, and many more events and activities that took place throughout the year. **You guys ROCK!** Thank you.

I also want to give praise to our tired less crew in the kitchen, that never fails to give a smile or a kind word to students and staff, whether it is during our regular lunch times or at special events. They always take care of us in a really great way and with a big smile on their faces. Who says school food can't taste good? Apparently they haven't eaten at OSB yet. Thank you ladies, you are greatly appreciated.

And last, but not least, a huge **THANK YOU** to ALL our "behind the scenes" workers, such as our Administrators, our IT guys, our Clinic staff, all of Maintenance, our Social Services crew, our DCS workers, our drivers and everyone else, I may have forgotten to list. We couldn't get through the school year without your help. It takes a team to keep everything going. **THANK YOU.**

Maggie Mattox

I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the following people for their help in making the Sensory Dedication Reception a true success: Belinda Thomas for providing input and ideas, cleaning the Rec. Center, moving furniture, getting all the work study students busy on decorations, chair covers, etc. Brenda Plunkett and kitchen staff for preparing the delicious foods, trying out new recipes, and the beautiful presentation! Avonda Harris for helping with the decorations and

pitching in to help make sure everything came together. Jeana Jones for helping out with last minute bulletin board decorations. Maggie Mattox for preparing signs and a fantastic program guide. Maintenance guys for taking care of Rec. Center work order lists on short notice. Custodians for help in clean up. Coday and Jordan for help with rolling video in the Rec. Center during the reception. And anyone else that may not be mentioned. Your help is very much appreciated!

Karen Reed



Happy Birthday !!!

Students

William Winston	May	8
Mykel Eagle	May	9
Halle Stout	May	14
Morgan Hudson	May	21
Elbin Carrillo	May	23
Cameron Hughes	May	23
Ebony Hines	May	28
Julio Valdez	May	28

Staff

Brenda Plunkett	May	4
Karen Sanders	May	6
Tami Featherston	May	6
Tonya Brooks	May	9
Nancy Brice	May	12
Tera Webb	May	15
Sylvia Sterling	May	16
Gina Woods	May	17
Michael Bynum	May	18
Darlus Reeves	May	25
Kimberly Politte	May	25
Ronna Johnston	May	29

Students

Kinzie Peters	Jun	1
Johnnie Davidson	Jun	2
Nathan England	Jun	5
Katelynn Zampella	Jun	5
Benjamin Middleton	Jun	10
Gunner Harris	Jun	19
Andrew Wagon	Jun	25
Shannon Winter	Jun	25
Brittany Bales	Jun	26

Staff

Paul Butler	Jun	4
Marcella Bynum	Jun	7
Jamie Wassom	Jun	7
Tressy Anderson	Jun	10
Susan Mills	Jun	15
Bobby Carter	Jun	19
Belinda Thomas	Jun	25
Laura Leatherman	Jun	29

Students

Gabby King	July	5
Jillian Matthews	July	12
Lydia Bradley	July	20
Blake Priddy	July	21
Mannon Moore	July	24

Staff

Cheryl Daniels	Jul	7
Kathy Adams	Jul	11
Ann Page	Jul	18
Sandy Harrison	Jul	20
Tonya Givens	Jul	27

Students

Isaiah Hayes	Aug	4
Treysen Brown	Aug	8
Chandler Caveny	Aug	8
Ocie Webster	Aug	12
Jaylee Burnside	Aug	22

Staff

Karen Bryan	Aug	2
Rhonda Hinds	Aug	6
Robert Miller	Aug	10
Munekia Moore	Aug	10
Patsy Perceful	Aug	11
Jaime Allenbaugh	Aug	19
Ruby Barker	Aug	21
Lisa Yochum	Aug	26

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:

Retirements

June 1, 2017

- Susan Mills, Food Service Specialist

August 1, 2017

- Janie B. Thomas, Soc. Services Specialist



OSB Summer Camps

(Grades 1-12) &

OSB Literacy First
Reading Program

June 4 - 16



Important

Enrollment "by appointment"

(you will be contacted to schedule
your appointment time)

1st Day of School/Classes:

August 14





OK School for the Blind Friends and Family Cookbook Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number(s) _____

E-mail Address _____

Note: Purchase **5 or more** of any item, or a combination of 5 items and receive a **\$2.00 discount per item** (i.e. 4 print books + 1 electronic pdf = \$50)

Format	Quantity	Amount	Total
Print		\$12	
Braille		\$12	
Electronic (PDF)		\$12	
		Subtotal	\$
		Discount	\$ -
		TOTAL ORDER	\$

Total Enclosed \$ _____

- PAYMENT DUE UPON ORDER -

Please make checks payable to OSB FCCLA.