

PANTHER PRIDE

School Principal: Lynn Cragg

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

Welcome Back Everyone !!!

This school year is already off to a busy start.

This newsletter is a great tool to let everyone know how much fun school can be, and what all is going on at OSB, but I can't do it alone. Therefore I would like to send out a **HUGE THANK YOU** to everyone who took the time and submitted an article or nomination and to everyone who will submit articles &/or nominations for any of the upcoming editions. Your help is essential and greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Unfortunately, some of the great activities of this month did not make it into this edition, but it gives us all something to look forward to, as they will definitely be addressed in our next edition.

We also **added** a few new sections, including our **"Student Corner"**, which is intended to give our students a voice and to let their writer talents shine. I hope you all enjoy this new section as much as I do.

If you have any comments or suggestions to improve

our newsletter, please feel free to email me at mmattox@osb.k12.ok.us and I will gladly take them into consideration.

Thank you.

"Tentative" schedule for newsletters to be published:

- Oct. 26

- Nov. 30

- Jan. 25

(Dec./Jan. combined)

- Feb. 22

- March 29

- April 26

Your Editor,
Ms. Maggie

Oklahoma School for the Blind

2017 - 2018, Issue 1

September 27, 2017

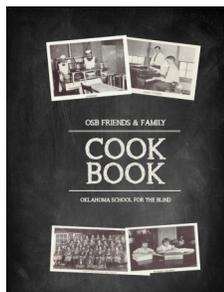
Editor: Maggie Mattox

Special points of interest:

- FCCLA Lead Conference
- Student Corner
- Rec Activities
- Scouts & Venture Crew
- Going the Extra Mile
- Editor's Challenge

OSB's Family & Friends Cookbook

**OSB's
FAMILY & FRIENDS
COOKBOOKS
ARE HERE !!!**



The **print** cookbooks have arrived and are available for purchase!

Please use the attached order form if you would like to purchase a copy in print or another format.

Cookbooks are :
1-4 copies \$12.00/ea
5+ copies \$10.00/ea

You may contact Mrs. Tonya Givens, who has print copies available in her office, or myself to order and receive your copies.

If you are unable to catch either one of us,

please email me at agarnier@osb.k12.ok.us, and I will gladly make arrangements to get the cookbook to you!

**Please include
payment with all
orders.**

Much thanks for your support and to everyone that contributed recipes and their time and talents to this project!

Allison Garner

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Enrollment Weekend a Success

Every year we try to improve our enrollment process to make it easier on everyone. There are many factors and stages involved and it takes a team to put it all together.

I would like to thank Maggie Mattox and all Clinic Staff, Tami, Karla, Kim, and Teresa for their incredible help in facilitating Enrollment Saturday and Sunday this year.

Special thank you goes to Tami Featherston's son Dylin for volunteering his time and services to assist in the clinic!

Parent Surveys confirmed that the process was much more efficient over-all, with less wait time by using scheduled times and extending enrollment into two days.

Belinda Thomas was great to collaborate with and wonderfully facilitated the fun events for the student's return. The popcorn and

movie in our own "OSB Theater", the bounce house, and school dance in the gym was super fun for all!

Thank you to Howard, Lisa, and maintenance staff for their assistance in moving tables, setting up, cleaning up, and making sure our facilities were nice and welcoming for families.

Thank you to all the Direct Care Staff and Teachers that worked outside their regular scheduled days and came in to work Saturday or Sunday to make sure all went smoothly. **It was truly all hands on deck.**

Thank you to Jordan and Coday for helping with the Clinic kiosks, video, and audio.

Thank you to Ana Ledezma for interpreting for our Spanish families. We greatly appreciated your help.

Thanks Jennifer Ogle for getting our cool DJ for the dance.

Ms. Coplen and her daughter provided great entertainment singing to the crowd!

Brenda and the kitchen staff did an excellent job providing delicious snacks and refreshments for families.

Maggie Mattox spent countless hours, organizing, preparing paperwork and setting up stations in the rec. center to help expedite the process.

Enrollment Saturday and Sunday was a success because of everyone's help.

Thank You OSB!

Karen Reed



"Goal" Achievement Award

We would like to try something new but **need the help of our students and teachers** ...

Each edition, we would like to recognize a student (or more) that achieve one of their "goals" during their school day. We are not looking for big milestones, or constantly good grades, but for something they were working hard for and finally achieved it.

Students, we need you to go for those goals ... the stars are the limit.

Teachers, we need you to acknowledge these students by sending their names,

achievements, and maybe even a picture to your newsletter editor.

Thank you.

This editions Nominee:

Cameron Hughes is a Fast Typist. He's been typing 53 to 55 wpm pretty consistently but **TODAY (09/20) he typed 62 wpm**, with only one mistake on his Typing Speed Test!

His goal has been 60 wpm. He couldn't believe he hit 62, so he stood up and did a little "well deserved" victory dance.

Great Job Cameron!

Paul Butler



Jr. / Sr. Fundraiser



Do you want to show some panther pride?

The Junior/Senior class will be selling spirit shirts soon.

Order forms can be picked up in the front office, and everyone will receive a digital form via email.

Shirts cost \$15 and you will have a three-week window to purchase them.

We would really appreciate your support!

Thank you!

Jr./Sr. class

Future Shock - Career Day



Are you ready for life after graduation?

Are you in grades 7-12?

If so, get ready to get ready!

That's right, we'll help you get ready for adult life by giving



essential skills.

Future Shock is planned for **Thursday, November 30th**.

you information on important resources and teaching you



Remember to **“Dress for Success”!**

Faye Miller

Bus Travel

Seniors will participate in a day trip to Tulsa the first week of October to ride Tulsa Transit's fixed-route bus.

This year they will plan a bus trip to Promenade Mall, where they

can do some shopping, travel escalators, and purchase lunch at the food court.

Seniors, you are encouraged to visit tulsapromenade.com

to preview the stores and restaurants.

Be sure to dress appropriately for the weather.

Faye Miller

Elementary Braille Club



The “Elementary Braille Club” is back and had its first meeting on **September 26, 2017.**

Meetings are held **twice per month** from **4:10 to 4:45 p.m.** in the Rec. Center (unless otherwise notified).

Members for 2017-2018 school year are as follows:

Dayton Baccus, Jaylee Burnside, Lorie Cox, Xerex Hitchcock, Hunter Kelley, Skyler Moore, Teague Niebrugge, Kolten Pennington, Quanté Sellers, and Katelynn Zampella

We are looking forward to another fun filled year.

Ruby Barker

Social Services Department - News, Tips, etc.



It's never too late to be caught being good.... So keep up the good work students!!

We are proud of you all!

"Caught Being Good" (Aug. 14 - Sept. 21)

- ◆ Ocie Webster - for helping a student in the cafeteria and for helping clean the Rec. Ctr. after a party.
- ◆ Ben Middleton - for cleaning the Rec. Ctr., for helping younger students, for helping another student with their luggage, and for helping serve food and clean up after the school dance.
- ◆ Allen Alender - for cleaning up the Rec. Ctr. after a party.
- ◆ Lorenzo Rodriguez - for volunteering to take a student to the clinic.
- ◆ John Duong - for helping a younger student and for helping clean the Rec. Ctr. after a birthday party.
- ◆ Tyler Duong - for helping clean the Rec. Ctr. and for offering an adult help in the cafeteria.
- ◆ Emma Saunders - for helping a student go to the clinic.
- ◆ Jacob Nash - for assisting a fellow student travel to a chair.
- ◆ Shannon Winter - for assisting a student in the cafeteria.
- ◆ Kaylee Ragon - for helping a student with food in the cafeteria.
- ◆ Blake Priddy - for helping a student in the cafeteria.
- ◆ Amy King for jumping in to help in Mrs. Leatherman's class.
- ◆ Mrs. Jana Ross for being there "in a flash" during a crisis.

Sylvia Sterling
Social Services
Department

The **2017 Boys Bash** will be held on **Tuesday, October 17, 2017** in Ft. Gibson, with Mr. Paul Butler as our mentor. Permissions slips for 7th grade boys have been mailed out. **Please return them to Ms. Sylvia Sterling.** Thank you.

Word of the Month for ...

August - September:

I am very excited about sharing with you the "Word of the Month" for August and September, which was "**Considerate**".

The definition of "considerate" is: being aware of and respecting other people's feelings. Being considerate is being polite and caring. People like it when you're considerate of their feelings.

We could all probably be more considerate of others: this word means you're thinking of other people, considering them and then treating them decently and with respect.

October:



The October "Word of the Month" is "**Honesty**", which means telling the truth and showing fairness.

Honesty is about what you say...

Honesty is speaking the truth. Saying things that aren't true, or that you think might not be true, or that you are making up to hide the truth are all types of lies. Lying is not honest, because you are saying something that isn't true.

Honesty means you don't say things about people that aren't

true. You don't make up rumors about someone and/or you don't share rumors someone else made up.

Being honest means you admit to your actions, even if you'll get in trouble. You don't deny you did something wrong when you really did it.

Honesty means you explain how a situation really happened. You don't say something happened one way when it really happened another way.

(Continued on page 5)

Panther Pride

Social Services Department (continued)

(Continued from page 4)

Honesty is about how you act...

When you do something you know is morally wrong, or when you have to hide your actions because you know they are wrong, you are not being honest. Being honest means you act in a way that you know is the right thing to do. Honesty includes not hiding the truth (deceiving), not breaking rules to gain an advantage (cheating), and not taking something that isn't yours (stealing) and any other action that you would hide because it is against what you consider morally right.

Honesty is about how you treat yourself...

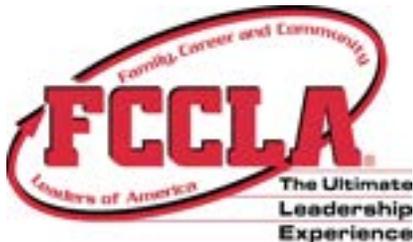
A big part of honesty is what you say and how you act toward others. But another part of the definition of honesty is whether you treat yourself the same way. Being honest with yourself means you really know why you are acting in a certain way or whether what you tell yourself is true. You are not being honest with yourself if you are trying to convince yourself you didn't really do something wrong, or it wasn't that bad, even though you really did it.



ALTERNATIVES TO THE PHRASE "CALM DOWN"

1. I see that you are having a difficult time, let me help you.
2. Take a deep breath.
3. If you need to hit something, hit this pillow.
4. That can be so frustrating. Let's figure this out together.
5. I see that you are mad. How does that feel in your body?
6. Count to 10.
7. Want to squeeze my hand?
8. How about a big hug?
9. Let's focus on fixing the problem together.
10. If you are feeling sad, you can tell me about it.

FCCLA Lead Conference



Three students from the OK School for the Blind Family, Career and Community Leaders of America chapter recently attended leadership training with other FCCLA chapters and their local officers.

The Lead Conference, one of 6 planned around the state, was held on September 13th at the Tulsa Tech Center in Owasso.

Students attending were: Ariana Richardson, Tai Thomas and Richelle Zampella,

The conferences are designed to train chapter officers to become effective leaders within their local chapters, said Denise Morris, Oklahoma FCCLA adviser at the Oklahoma Department of Career

and Technology Education. They replace local officer training sessions that some districts hosted and are intended to provide consistent training across the state, she explained.

"The Lead Conferences were designed as another piece of leadership training for Oklahoma FCCLA," Morris said. "Chapter officers should leave the conference with the tools needed to move their chapter and its members from good to great."

District officers led the workshops, which focused on teamwork, soft skills/employability skills, traffic safety, National Programs and FCCLA Chapter Involvement.

Oklahoma FCCLA serves approximately 12,000 members in 392 local chapters in junior and senior high schools and on technology center campuses.

Known as the "ultimate leadership experience," participation in FCCLA national programs and chapter activities helps members become

strong leaders in their families, careers, and communities.

FCCLA's mission is "to promote personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences Education," according to the National FCCLA website. It is the only CareerTech student organization with family as its central focus.

FCCLA is one of seven Career-Tech student organizations affiliated with CareerTech programs and with Family and Consumer Sciences.

Allison Garner



From Left: Tai Thomas, Ariana Richardson, Richelle Zampella

Introducing our NEW ... “Student Corner”



Welcome Back OSB!!

We started our year off with fun activities. I hope everyone had a good time. We had a professional DJ who did an excellent job on Saturday at the high school and middle school dance. We danced the night away. It was an amazing experience. Soon Sunday came and we met our new elementary friends. While the elementary students were checking in we watched Beauty and the Beast. It was an extraordinary movie.

Later on that day, we got to play with inflatables. We bounced around like we were on the moon. It was so amusing. After bouncing we had another dance. It was even better than the first one.

We were also introduced to our new principal of the lower elementary students (PreK-3rd), Mrs. Coplen. She is very nice. We also met her talented daughter. She sings and plays

guitar, she likes to play and sing country music. She sang a few songs for us. Mrs. Coplen sang with her daughter. They were both wonderful and had graceful voices.

After listening to Mrs. Coplen and her daughter sing, we had dinner and prepared for our 1st day of school.

We went bowling and swimming the two days that followed during recreation and met new friends and got reacquainted with the old ones. We all shared our summer adventures and thrills.

At the end of the week, we all told our parents about our new experiences, friends, and classes.

If the first week has anything to do with it, it looks like it is going to be a great year at OSB!

Your Secret Reporter

SECRET REPORTER

Who is this “Secret Reporter” ?

Each edition we will have a new “secret reporter”, who will give us a glance into the every day life at OSB. Maybe even some “behind the scene” tales that not everyone knows?
(without giving away his/her identity)



Take a guess...

Who is the secret reporter ?

Turn in your guesses to Ms. Laci Goins at

lgoins@osb.k12.ok.us

The first one guessing correctly wins the challenge and his/her name will be published in our next edition.

Let the fun begin!

Dream Big Then Dream Bigger

Every New Year we set goals for ourselves. Some set a goal to lose weight while others may set a goal to just live a happier life. One way to see that our goals come to fruition is to write them down and let the world know about them.

This recurring column is about setting goals and working to make them come to be.

Each edition will have a featured “Dreamer” who wants to let the

world know what he/she wishes to accomplish this school year.

In this edition we feature **John Duong**, an 8th grader who has big dreams to bring music to the world.

“This year I wished that I can accomplish something.

This year I want to have a concert for the whole school and I just want everyone to enjoy

something.

All summer long I was thinking a lot.

I was thinking that I want to achieve something big. I want to make a difference. I want to be a musician. That’s why I want to do this concert so the High School Jazz band and I can learn a lot more by watching other musicians.” – John Duong



Laci Goins

Student Corner (continued)

Music Is Me

by Ariana Richardson

The sound rings like
bells in my heart,
It hits me... hard,
With a kick start,
It erases the pain that drags me
under so deep,
And makes me forget my
mistakes that I seem to keep,
It shatters the remains of my
sorrow,
And gives me hope of a better
tomorrow,
It heals the whole depths of me,
And tells me I have a reason to
be,
It breaks down these tattered
walls,



That I've built around myself,
And sets me free to fly or to fall,
No longer will devastation and
sadness lie ahead,
But peace, love and joy instead,
It awakens my soul like the
beautiful song of a bird,
And gives me the courage to soar
with the sweet sounds that I have
heard,
It clears my mind of all doubt and
despair,
And gives me the strength,
To lie all my broken pieces open
and bare,
It strips away the barriers that
have clouded my heart for so
long,
And gives peace to my life with
a simple song,

Music is the key,
To being who I want to be,
It lifts me up,
And shows me there's no reason
to be afraid to leap or to jump,
It breaks me down in tears,
Because sometimes,
It makes me see how alone and
broken I truly am and how fast
life can shift gears,
It hurts sometimes,
Striking with a pang to my chest,
But it speaks to me,
Giving me the bravery to take on
the rest,
Music is me,
And most of all,
That's all I'll ever really,
Truly need

Student Council



The OSB Student Council is a very important part of the leadership of our school. It gives

voices to the students and lets their concerns be heard by the administration. Student Council elections are always an important day in each school year.

On the day of elections we had four individuals run for STUCO president. Trinity Lewis, Brianna Brennan, Malerie Levens and Kaylee Ragon nervously gave phenomenal speeches to the 7th-12th grade student body. Everyone was swept away!

After a few minutes of nervous nail biting and everyone at the

edge of their seats, student council sponsor Mrs. Young Mock finally announced the big winners: **Kaylee Ragon** won **president** and **Trinity Lewis** won **Vice President**.

Kaylee Ragon is 15 years old and is from the small city of Tecumseh, Oklahoma. Kaylee maintains high standards for herself and her future. She wants to be a special education teacher for early childhood and hopes to get a degree in physiology. She is involved in FCCLA, DECA, cheerleading, jazz band, academic team, venturing, goal ball, student council, and is secretary of the sophomore class. "I had so many different ideas for the school and I wanted to make them a reality. I felt like I could make some great changes both in

the dorms and school." Kaylee said. Her biggest goal is to make students feel more at home and happy by making changes based on their wants and needs. Outside of school Kaylee enjoys dancing, playing ukulele, singing, volunteering with kids at church, and writing stories and poetry. She even wrote a book for FCCLA and took it to state!

Trinity is 17 years old and is from the big Oklahoma City! Trinity has a huge passion for teaching kids and has a heartwarming desire to be a leader and a role model for younger children. Back at home, she watches football games, babysits, and spends much time outside. "I ran because the

(Continued on page 8)

Student Corner (continued)

(Continued from page 7)



school needs someone who listens and communicates and helps people. I did it for the kids." Trinity stated.

Trinity participates in cheer, academic team, FCCLA, DECA, goal ball, student council, and is secretary of the Jr/Sr class. Miss Lewis is full of energy, always has a great attitude, and gives a caring helping hand. We are more than grateful to have such an amazing Vice President.

We have two amazing leaders to help make OSB even greater. This year will be full of appreciation, smiles, and so many memories.

If you have any concerns or ideas that will help the school, be sure to **email one of these two amazing ladies**, they will work hard to make sure our voices are heard.

Malerie Levens



Sponsor: Susan Young Mock

STUCO MEMBERS

- President:** Kaylee Ragon, Sophomore
- Vice President:** Trinity Lewis, Senior
- Secretary:** Joey Owens, Senior
- Treasurer:** Malerie Levens, Junior
- Parliamentarian:** Dee Willis, Sophomore
- Jr/Sr Class Rep.:** Joey Owens
- Sophomore Class Rep.:** Dee Willis
- Freshman Class Rep.:** Garrett Kennedy
- 8th Grade Class Rep.:** Tyler Duong
- 7th Grade Class Rep.:** Elbin Carrillo

Lower Elem. Principal / Dean of Students Interview



Sometimes it can be pretty scary whether you've moved to a new school for the first time, or you're coming back for your 7th year. It doesn't have to be though!

In honor of the new school year and our new principal/dean, I've sat down with her and asked her a few questions so you can get to know her a little better.

Mrs. Coplen is a graduate of Kinta High School. She attended Eastern Oklahoma State College in Wilburton,

Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, and East Central University in Ada.

She grew up a fairly shy girl. She loved reading, singing, and anything artistic. She said that she had never really thought about being a principal. From the very beginning, she knew that she wanted to be a teacher.

Mrs. Coplen still enjoys exploring her creative side as well as watching OU football, and spending time with her daughter.

Here are some things I bet you didn't know.

Q: "What is your favorite kind of pizza?"

A: Sausage

Q: "What is your favorite ice cream flavor?"

A: "Chocolate, anything chocolate!"

Q: "If you could have one super power, what would it be?"

A: Never grow old!

Now that you know a little more about Mrs. Coplen, make sure you give her warm welcomes to the OSB family!

Kaylee Ragon



Academic Team

Get Your Buzzers Ready!

By Richelle Zampella



It's the start of the new school year, and you know what that means:

Academic Team is BACK IN SESSION!

With the vitality and confidence Ms. Goins brings to the team, veterans and newcomers alike are ready to study hard and conquer opponents.

We kicked off the season with our first practice on Monday, August 28, and will continue to hold practices every Monday after school. In addition, a specialized practice will be held every other Tuesday to delve deeper into a specific topic.

This year Mrs. Miller has other commitments and will not be

coaching a middle school team. Since joining the team in 7th grade, I can honestly say that she was an awesome coach; I was really nervous, being the youngest and not knowing the procedures, but she never failed to be attentive to my questions and concerns, and I flourished in no time. She will definitely be missed!

So, although some changes have taken place, one thing is for certain: competing in the OSSAA tournaments is a staple in the academic team season, and the effort we put into every study session and game up until then will be crucial to culminating in our success during these key games.

The first of the OSSAA competitions, District Seeding, will be held on



October 9, 2017 here at OSB. Last year, we scored a total of 2,490 points in 21 games and had 9 wins over the duration of the season. I'd say we have the potential to give an equally fabulous performance this time around.

The members of the 2017-2018 school year Academic Team are:

Brianna Brennan, Garrett Kennedy, Trinity Lewis, Jillian Matthews, Kaylee Ragon, Ariana Richardson, Halle Stout, and Richelle Zampella.

Every one of these members has something valuable to contribute, which makes for an exciting year ahead.

Watch out, everyone ... this A-team is prepared to bring its A-game!!!

Goalball



Team Cyclone has invited students from OSB to return to the Center in Tulsa and play goalball with

them again.

Last year we developed basic skills to determine the location of the ball in order to block it, roll the ball to the opponent's goal, and recognize referee whistle signals.

If your goal is to increase your basic skills and be active during games, come join us for goalball!

We plan to go back to The Center again this year.

We'll announce the dates about 4 weeks prior to each trip, so stay tuned if you are in grades 6-12 and you are interested in playing!

Don't forget to contact Faye Miller, if you haven't already, so she can add your name to the check-out sheet.

Faye Miller



Team getting ready to play...



How to block a ball ...

White Cane Safety Day

White Cane Safety Day

Fun Facts

by Richelle Zampella

1. The day we know as **White Cane Safety Day** is meant to spread awareness of the importance of the white cane and how to assure safety to those using it.

In 2011, White Cane Safety Day was renamed **Blind American Equality Day**.

2. The sighted peers of blind or visually impaired people should use common courtesy

towards them, for example not moving their cane without telling them or jumping over their cane while they are walking.

3. If you have a slip-on tip on your cane and it breaks, **do not use glue** to repair it. Instead, **use dish soap**; when it dries it is adhesive and will hold the tip on. Using glue could be problematic; if the tip breaks again, you might have to purchase an entirely new cane.

4. The first formal training programs using white canes took place during World War II at Valley Forge Veterans Hospital in Pennsylvania and at Hines Veterans Hospital in Illinois.



**White Cane Safety Day is scheduled for
October 10, 2017 @ Woodland Hills Mall in Tulsa.
Please come & join us.**

Cane Quest - Save the Date - Nov. 16 !



On **Thursday, November 16**, contestants will demonstrate their orientation and mobility skills at Oklahoma Regional Cane Quest. Look for our **Scouts** (grades 2-6) practicing skills like human guide,

using their canes properly on stairs, and entering and exiting vehicles.

Our **Explorers** and **Trailblazers** (grades 7-12) will be working on advanced cane skills and street crossings in preparation for the competition.

If you will be in Muskogee and would like to volunteer as a Teammate to our Scouts or a Shadow for the Explorers and

Trailblazers, please contact Faye Miller at 918-680-2935.

Faye Miller



Recreational Activities

Welcome Back Dance - 15 Aug

Back-to-School Dance OSB rocked it again this week!!!!

Students were dancing, laughing, and socializing as well. The food was plenty and delicious! We had sandwiches, pickles, carrots, various tasty dips, chips, cookies, and lemonade. This dance went off literally with a BANG, but ended early due to thunderstorms.



Movie, Popcorn, and Soda Night - 22 Aug



"Hakuna Matata!"

It means "no worries" in Swahili, and it is also Ms. Thomas' motto for this school year.



Students enjoyed theater seating, gourmet popcorn, and ice cold bottle water in our school's auditorium. The seats were comfy, the picture was crisp and clear, and the sound system was immaculate.

Bowling at Green Country Lanes - 23 Aug

OSB students and staff got the chance to take an adventure off



campus to the land of the lanes and pins to bask in the glory of the game of bowling, and to enjoy the best fried food this side of Muskogee!

Happy "August" Birthdays - 29 Aug



Happy Birthday to our students born in the month of August! To celebrate those who are a year older, we sang and ate delicious cupcakes made by our lovely ladies in ILS.

Swimming at the Muskogee Swim and Fitness - 30 Aug

Splish! Splash!

The pool was a blast!! Students and staff burnt off a ton of energy by swimming, playing water tag, and playing Marco Polo at the Muskogee Swim and Fitness. After returning, students enjoyed snow cones and then dropped like rocks and dreamed about the water all night long.



Dining Out for Elementary at Golden Corral - 6 Sept

OSB's elementary students feasted at the local branch of Golden Corral. This feast included everything a young person can imagine, all at one place! Such as: cotton candy, candy drizzled with chocolate, fruit drizzled with chocolate, and last but not least chocolate drizzled with chocolate.

Once back at school, it was discovered that some of middle school and high school students had gotten a hold of coffee ice

cream and went to the rec and danced till they dropped.

Impromptu S'mores Night - 12 Sep

Several students mentioned how the weather was **perfect for a fire and s'mores!** So without further ado, we introduced our **impromptu s'mores night!!** After dinner and study time was completed, we had a nice and relaxing evening outside beside a roaring fire and enjoyed delicious graham crackers, chocolate, and gooey marsh-mallows.



Swimming at the Muskogee Swim and Fitness - 13 Sept

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!!!

OSB staff and students journeyed to the local Swim and Fitness gym and had a great time floating, swimming, completing water acrobatics, and playing Marco Polo games.



Movie & Popcorn Night - 19 Sep



OSB staff and students got to see a blast from the past in the form

(Continued on page 12)

Recreational Activities (continued)

(Continued from page 11)

of the hilariously funny movie Megamind.



Megamind is a CGI super hero/comedy movie about a bad guy that just wanted to be a hero. The students laughed the rest of the night away with witty remarks and great background music.

Shriner's Circus in Tahlequah OK - 20 Sep

OSB staff and students went on an adventure out of town to the best show in the world, **The Shriner's Circus!!!!!!**

This show had everything!

Cotton candy, snow cones, popcorn, soda, hot dogs, elephant/camel/pony rides, tigers doing tricks, death defying motorcyclists in the dome



of doom, a man literally shot out of a canon, elephants completing tricks on raised platforms, dogs flipping



backwards, men towering over the crowd while balancing on gravity defying pipes and boards and many other breathtaking acts.

The students were wide awake with sugar and wonder for all the ride home.

A big **"THANK YOU"** to Mrs. Cragg and her family, for getting us tickets!



Letterman Jackets



Several of the High School Students have

requested information about how to order Letterman Jackets.

Per their request I have contacted Neff, the company we use to order the patches they receive at the Activities Awards Dinner to put on the jackets.

Our representative from Neff is **Pamela Garcia**. She has assured me that they would love to make these Letterman Jackets for our students.

The basic cost of the jacket for the school is \$95. If you want leather

sleeves it is a \$58 upgrade.

The "P" for the jacket is \$11, but many of the students already have this letter and they can be added by a local dry-cleaner.

The right chest embroidery is \$5 and script name on back is \$18.

The **total for a Jacket**, without the leather upgrade, will be **around \$120, plus tax and shipping.**

If you are interested in purchasing a jacket, **please contact Pamela directly.** Please mention your child attends the Oklahoma School for the Blind when contacting Pamela.

Pamela's contact information:

Pamela Garcia
Neff Direct Sales Representative
Neff Company
Phone: 800-232-6333, ext. 5757
Fax: 866-898-6333
Email: pgarcia@neffco.com
Website: www.neffco.com

Neff has provided sizing jackets for them to try one here at school. If you would like them to try one on please have them come see me.

Thank you.

Laci Goins,
Academic Team Coach

Cup Scouts, Boy Scouts & Venture Crew (new)

Boy Scout troop 672 and the new Venture Crew started the year off with a camporee at Mabee Scout Reservation at Locust Grove, OK.

The camporee consisted of various competitive activities and the troop and venture crew were very successful.



The troop brought home the Baden Powell award, nature identification award and the width & distance award. And the Venture crew received the width & distance award.



After the activities were successfully completed, we ended the day/evening with mega zip (zip lining),



campfire - where the troop and crew did a song and a skit - and an ice cream social before returning back to camp.



The troop and crew also did a service project at Cedar Church in Locust Grove.

A big thank you to our new charter partner Kiwanis club. Thank you Mrs. Young Mock.

Also a big **THANK YOU** to our leaders,

- ◆ Jana Ross, Linda King and Jacob King for the cub scouts "pack".
- ◆ Ana Ledezma and Jacob King assistant scoutmasters for the troop.
- ◆ Linda King for her leadership and for being committee chair.
- ◆ Barbara Collins for starting the Venturing crew this year and to her husband, Marc, and her mother, Nita, for being her assistant leaders.

Another big **THANK YOU** goes to Tommy & Johnnie Davidson for donating a trailer to the troop to help keep camping gear inside. It needs some work but it's going to be great when it's all done.

Cubs, troop and crew are all selling popcorn.



Anyone that reaches **\$1000.00** in sales gets to go to the Incredible Pizza party. Good luck guys and girls.

Popcorn sales not only help the pack, troop and crew with food, crafts and snacks, but it also helps with items needed like winter sleeping bags etc.



YES, YES, YES!
We also sell **BLUE & GOLD products** again, starting **October 5th** through **October 23rd**.



So, gather up your change, support our cubs, troop, and Venture crew, and BUY, BUY, BUY !!!
(Payment/s can be made at time of order or at time of delivery.)

THANK YOU OSB !!!

Becky LaRue



Venture Crew

The scouting community is sad to say that Sunday, September 17th, 2017 **Donovan Caldwell**, a great scout and a wonderful person, along with four of his friends, lost their lives in a car accident.

Donovan Caldwell came out and helped our troop. Donovan will truly be missed.



GOING THE EXTRA MILE - August-September 2017



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

Every year Jeana Jones coordinates Secret Pal and Biggest Loser. We appreciate all your work as it brings us closer together, helps us reach personal goals, and makes us a happier, healthier team. Thanks, Jeana!

I can't thank Chris Ferrell enough for all of his help working with me on displays. He has given up many plan periods to make our displays for White Cane Day more appealing.

Thank you, Allison Garner, for the OSB Family and Friends Cookbook. The vintage photos, kitchen tips and hints, and hundreds of recipes will keep us eating well for years to come!

I can't wait to spend another day with Becky LaRue. She stepped in to help us for Bus Travel, so we can take our seniors to Tulsa. Thank you, Becky, for re-organizing your day to help us out!

Linda Graber, thank you for your time and expertise to organize a White Cane Day event at Woodland Hills Mall this year. It is a big change and I know it took a lot of extra work. Thank you for taking that extra time to show-off our school.

Mark Miller, thank you for sharing your sunflowers. We enjoyed watching them grow taller than we are, and now the

kids will LOVE harvesting their own seeds!

Faye Miller

Thank you Miles for always being right there to help. The kids wanted to make s'mores, Miles brought his fire pit, built us a fire and stood by it (it was hot) helping all the kids roast their marshmallows. Miles is always one of the 1st ones to step in and help and appreciate that a lot.

Thank you Karen for always being so sweet to the kids. Karen will sit and talk fairy tale stories with Miracle for hours and if you know Miracle she has some good stories. Karen patiently helps her make up stories of "Paw Patrol" or "Dinosaurs Train" for the longest time. But Karen isn't just good with Miracle, she connects very well with all the kids. I've recently got to work close with Karen and she really does care for these kids.

DCS staff

Thank you to Mrs. Admire and Ms. Isom for making the students delicious cupcakes for the Rec Birthday event in Aug. Thank you for all your hard work.

Thank you Maintenance Team, for all the extra things you do for us all!

Lisa, William, and Tressy, thank you for helping me wax, buff, and clean rugs. I greatly appreciate you.

Brenda and the cafeteria ladies, thank you for ordering supplies for activities, making snacks for dances, and being very helpful no matter the stress. Thank you so very much.

Tonya, thank you for being a lovely person that helps me

whenever you can with kindness and supplies.

Maggie, thank you for all your madness & skill with the newsletter and anything else you apply yourself too.

Mrs. Garner, thank you for the beautiful rug.

Mrs. Webb and Mr. Culie, thank you for letting us use the gym for workouts after school.

Mr. Miles for helping me with cool activities like s'more and fire pits.

Miss Nancy and the Panther Den, thank you for all your hard work and deliciousness.

Mrs. Echelle, Mrs. Coplen, and Mrs. Cragg for allowing us to use the auditorium for movie nights!

Belinda Thomas

Thank you to Tami Featherston for pushing for improvements to the clinic to make it more welcoming. Tami has accomplished so much in here and her ideas make it easier for the kids.

Kimberly Politte

Thank you Sandy Harrison for interpreting during an IEP meeting. You did an excellent job!

Karen Reed

Thank you Tonya & Ronna for helping me out when I don't see the end of the tunnel and for proof-reading my newsletters.

Maggie Mattox

Thank you guys for going the extra mile.

It is highly appreciated.



Birthdays

August

Students

Treysen Brown	Aug. 8
Ocie Webster	Aug. 12
Kaylie Minter	Aug. 20
Jaylee Burnside	Aug. 22

Staff

Karen Bryan	Aug. 2
Dennis Read	Aug. 2
Rhonda Hines	Aug. 6
Robert Miller	Aug. 10
Munekia Moore	Aug. 10
Patricia Perceful	Aug. 11
Jamie Allenbaugh	Aug. 19
Ruby Barker	Aug. 21
Lisa Yochum	Aug. 26



September

Students

Madilyn Gray	Sept. 3
Samantha Six	Sept. 18
Malerie Levens	Sept. 20

Staff

Karen Reed	Sept. 4
Jordan Tinsley	Sept. 4
Miles Beverage	Sept. 8
Avonda Harris	Sept. 14
Chris Carden	Sept. 19
Coday Stewart	Sept. 21
Howard Ashwood	Sept. 24
Shawna Coplen	Sept. 26
Jennifer Eckerson	Sept. 26
Teresa Young	Sept. 26
Cassie Shelton	Sept. 28

October

Students

Preston Fenton	Oct. 5
Teague Niebrugge	Oct. 10
Kolten-Scott Pennington	Oct. 19
Lorie Cox	Oct. 25
Richelle Zampella	Oct. 25
Noah Dougan	Oct. 27

Staff

Karla Cunningham	Oct. 3
David Likins	Oct. 8
Donald Baccus	Oct. 21
Mark Miller	Oct. 25
Rob Culie	Oct. 25
Carla Cotney	Oct. 26



October 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
29	30	31				

Schedule of Events

Date	Time	Event
Mon, Oct. 9		Academic Team - OSSAA District Seeding
Tue, Oct. 10		White Cane Day at Woodland Hills Mall, Tulsa <i>w. student demonstrations & Jazz Band performances</i>
Wed, Oct. 11	9:30 am	Firefighter Clown Safety, Muskogee Civic Center <i>(PreK-2nd grades)</i>
Tue, Oct. 17	all day	FCCLA District Meeting, Tahlequah
	3 pm-?	Jazz Band @ Blind Boys of Alabama Concert in Oklahoma City
Wed, Oct. 18	all day	Special Olympics "Bowling", McAlester
Tue, Oct. 24	6:30 pm	OSB Fall Festival

Upcoming November Events:

Tue, Nov. 7	School Picture RETAKES (8-9 am) Spaghetti Fundraiser Dinner @ Masonic Lodge, Muskogee (6-8 pm)
Wed, Nov. 15	Panther Prowl Race
Thur, Nov. 16	Cane Quest
Nov. 20- 24	THANKSGIVING BREAK—NO SCHOOL !!!
Sun, Nov. 26	Dorms Open / Bus Routes run
Mon, Nov. 27	Classes Resume
Thur, Nov. 30	Future Shock Career Day - all High School students



Recreation Activities



OCTOBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Dorms Open Open Rec	2 Boy Scouts 5:30-6:45 pm Workout Room 6:30-7:00 pm Open Rec to follow	3 Movie and Popcorn Night for 13 and older 6:30 pm	4 Happy October Birthday Party 7:00 pm	5 Home Going	6	7
8 Dorms Open Open Rec	9 Boy Scouts 5:30-6:45 pm Workout Room 6:30-7:00 pm Open Rec to follow	10 Movie and Popcorn Night for Elementary (12 and under) 6:30 pm	11 Karaoke Night 6:30 pm (until over)	12 Home Going	13	14
15 Dorms Open Open Rec	16 Boy Scouts 5:30-6:45 pm Workout Room 6:30-7:00 pm Open Rec to follow	17 Open Rec 6:30 pm	18 Monster Skull Craft Night 6:30 pm Open Rec to follow	19 Home Going	20	21
22 Dorms Open Open Rec	23 Boy Scouts 5:30-6:45 pm Alpha Theta Pizza Party for MS/HS 6:30 pm	24 THE FALL FESTIVAL!!!! 6:30 pm	25 Round Up Club Autumn Outing 5:00 pm	26 Home Going	27	28
29 Dorms Open Open Rec	30 Boy Scouts 5:30-6:45 pm Workout Room 6:30-7:00 pm Open Rec to follow	31 Halloween Costume Competition 6:00 pm The Monster Bash 6:30-8:45				

Recreation - 918-781-8200 - Ext. 8278

ALL Calendars are "subject to change". - Please visit our website <http://osb.k12.ok.us> for updates.

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:

New Hires:

Shawna Coplen, Lower Elem. Principal/Dean of Students
Sarah McClendon, Library Tech
William "Billy" O'Neal, Construction/Maintenance Tech.
JoAnn Ramsey, LPN
Dennis Read, Business Manager
Kimberly Thomas, Teacher



Retirement:

Rozann King, Business Manager,
October 1st



UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS !!!

Look for following articles in our next edition ...

Space Camp ◊ Silver Spur Ranch ◊ DECA Fall Leadership

SAVE THE DATE/S !!!

- ♦ Tue, Oct. 10 White Cane Day
- ♦ Wed, Oct. 18 Special Olympics "Bowling"
- ♦ Tue, Oct. 24 OSB FALL Festival
- ♦ Tue, Oct. 31 Halloween - Costume parties (EL classrooms, Rec. activity)
- ♦ Tue, Nov. 7 Spaghetti Fundraiser Dinner @ Masonic Lodge w. Jazz Band performance
- ♦ Wed, Nov. 15 Panther Prowl Race
- ♦ Thur, Nov. 16 Cane Quest
- ♦ Thur, Nov. 30 "Future Shock" Career Day (MS & HS)

Will you accept the EDITOR'S CHALLENGE ?

To spread some positivity I would like to introduce a new challenge each edition of the newsletter. In this edition I would like to challenge everyone to "**LEND A HAND TO SOMEONE**". I challenge you to do little things like hold a door open, help carry something, help with chores, etc. Just something "hands on". Let's make a difference...



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	
Digital (PDF) not screen reader friendly		\$12	
Digital (PDF) screen reader friendly; 4 volumes		\$12	
		Subtotal	\$
		Discount	\$ -
		TOTAL ORDER	\$

Total Enclosed \$ _____

- Payment due upon order. -

Please make checks payable to OSB FCCLA.