



Osan Middle School Thunderbirds

Providing a Setting of High Expectations
to Engage and Motivate All Students in a
Successful Learning Environment

Volume 2, Issue 17
Friday, 11 March 2011



Parent Connection

Parents:

In last week's issue of the Parent Connection our school goals were outlined. This week, we are sharing the two interventions/tactics we will utilize to accomplish our goals. These interventions are used in all classrooms.

First, Cornell notes are used to promote critical thinking across the curriculum. The Cornell note-taking system was devised in the 1950s by Walter Pauk, an education professor at Cornell University. Cornell notes is a widely respected means to promote higher order thinking and processing of information. Three instructional strategies are embedded in the Cornell system: Activating prior knowledge, presenting information in conceptual clusters, and processing information via note-taking and summary-writing.

Second, we will use assessment to guide and differentiate instruction. This means that we will consider how students perform individually and collectively on assessment items that are linked to curriculum standards. If students show a weakness in a particular curricular area, then we know to redouble our effort in that area. Used in an ongoing manner, formative assessment is a powerful strategy.

We are confident that these interventions/tactics will enable us to reach our goals and ensure that your children are well prepared for an exciting future.

Onward!

Jeffrey W. McGee, Principal

Stay Connected by regularly visiting our website: www.osan-ms.pac.dodea.edu/

Also, if you have not already done so please register on Gradespeed to view your child's grades.

General Sharp Awards

General Walter L. Sharp, Commander United Nations Command and Combined Forces Command, United States Forces Korea will host the Sharp Awards on 8 April.

Two outstanding OMS Educators will be recognized at this prestigious event. Please extend congratulations to: **Sharon Manuel** and **Laura Votipka**.

You Can't Hide That Thunderbird Pride!

TerraNova Tips

Tips to help your child perform at their best:

1. Plenty of sleep
2. Healthy breakfast
3. Arrive at school early
4. Good luck wishes!

Women's History Month

The women's history month essay contest is accepting submissions. The initiative that our students have shown has been outstanding. As we will, please continue to encourage your child to be an active learner by taking advantage of these opportunities. Hard work pays off!

Calendar of Events

- 11 Mar:** Educator's Day, No School
- 15-18 Mar:** TerraNova Testing
- 18 Mar:** Early Release (1000) Staff Development
- 21-25 Mar:** Spirit Week
- 25 Mar:** School Dance



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The Nurse's Station

Hydration concerns shouldn't stop when the temperature drops. In fact, dehydration can be just as common in the winter as in the summer. Since your body is not sweating as much, it's easy to overlook the signs of dehydration. A dehydrated body can lead to exhaustion, muscle fatigue, cramps, loss of coordination and even stroke. Dehydration can also leave your body more susceptible to common colds and flu, which are both more prevalent in the winter. Always remember to drink plenty of water, especially when exercising or working outdoors. You should be drinking at least eight 8-ounce glasses of water a day. Remind your children everyday how important it is to drink water.

World Language Competition

Scrappy OMS students participated in the annual World Language competition this week hosted by OAHs. Our students performed very well!

Korean I: Jessica Roque (Gold), Ryan Woodall (Silver), Richard Roberts (Bronze), Alyssa Cook (Honorable Mention)

Korean II: Sara Mason (Gold)
You Can't Hide That Thunderbird Pride!

TerraNova Test Schedule

Monday: Regular School Day (No Testing)
Tuesday: Reading
Wednesday: Math
Thursday: Language Arts and Science
Friday: Social Studies

Each morning (Tue-Fri) a snack will be provided. Testing will occur in the morning and will conclude by 10:55.

Afternoon classes will meet as follows:

Tue: B5, B6, B7
Weds: A2, A3, A4
Thurs: B5, B6, B7
Fri: Early Dismissal (10:00)

Wild West

Wild West Night at the Officer's Club is Saturday, 12 March sponsored by the Officers' Spouses Club. The OSC is a vital community supporter that contributes to the quality of life we all enjoy on Osan.

From Our PTO!

The OMS PTO is in need of snack donations for our TerraNova testing as well as a few volunteers to assist in passing our snacks to students from 0730-0830 on 15-18 March. If interested please contact Katie.Hampton@pac.dodea.edu



Mathlete Jonas Knudsen

Sixth grader Jonas Knudsen recorded the highest individual score in the MathCounts Pacific Area competition in February. This past week, he competed against other top scorers from DoDDS Europe and the Americas. We are very proud of Jonas and the wonderful teachers who prepared him. You Can't Hide That Thunderbird Pride!

Women's History Month Committee Presents
Women's History Month Essay Contest



Rules:

- Each Entry must include a Student Entry Form.
- Each Entry must begin with a title page containing: Official topic – “Our History is Our Strength” – Honoring an Influential Woman in My Life; Number of Words; Writer's Name; School Name; and Grade.
- Essays must contain 200-300 words (Middle School) and 300-500 words (High School). (Word count does not include any bibliography, footnotes, or cover page.)
- Any quotation or copyrighted material used, must be properly identified using a bibliography and footnotes or proper citation.
- Open to all OMS, OAHS, and MS/HS Home-Schooled Students.

Incentive:

Certificate, \$50 Scholarship (First Prize), and \$25 Scholarship (Runner-Up). First Prize and Runner Up winners in each of the Middle School and High School categories.

Deadline:

1-23 March (Winners announced 28 March)

Submissions may be displayed at the Community Center from 28-31 March.

POC: Stacey York (010-6873-0146)

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
ESSAY CONTEST**

"Our History is Our Strength" – Honoring an Influential Woman in My Life

STUDENT ENTRY FORM

Please print.

Student's Name

OMS, OAHS, or Home School

Grade

Name of Supervising Teacher

Essays may be selected for public view at the Community Center. If you wish to allow your work to be displayed, then Parental Consent is required. Please have Parent sign below and provide a good contact number.

Parent(s) Signature

Parent(s) Printed Name

Phone

Teacher Verification:

I have read the attached essay and verify that it reflects the above-named student's original work.

Signature _____ Date _____

This Entry Form must accompany essay submissions.
Contest Dates: 1 March – 23 March, 2011 (Submit entries to School POC by EOD 23 March.)