



# ORLANDO SCIENCE SCHOOLS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

The mission of the Orlando Science Schools (OSS) is to use proven and innovative instructional methods and exemplary reform-based curricula in a stimulating environment with the result of providing its students a well-rounded middle school and high school education in all subject areas. OSS will provide rigorous college preparatory programs with a special emphasis in mathematics, science, technology, and language arts.

Date: 11/16/2012  
Issue 117



## Principal's Corner

Dear Students & Parents,

As Thanksgiving approaches, I just wanted to say how thankful OSS is to have such wonderful families. It is sometimes hard to find the right words, so I am borrowing a few from poet Joanna Fuchs to express how I feel.

### *You've Made A Difference*

*As Thanksgiving Day approaches,  
Our blessings we recall;  
The things we are most thankful for,  
We recollect them all. You are really special,  
In all you say and do.  
You've made a difference in our lives;  
We're thankful now for you.*

Please check out page 2 to read about our can tab collection to help those in need at the Ronald McDonald House, the 2012-13 report card schedule and check out page 3 for upcoming and past events.

As OSS and OSSCS grows, we need help from our parents to make our outside area more conducive for our student activities. Please read page 4 for more information. Check our gummy lunch menu on 5, help out Hurricane Sandy victims on 6, page 7 offers up some of our students talent, and this Thanksgiving is an opportunity to help those in need, so "gobble" on down to page 8 to learn more.

Last but definitely not least, page 9 has some online learning tools and page 10 invites you all to book a home visit.

Keep checking OSS website for more information throughout the year for updates and events!! Also, please check your emails daily, Ms. Beece will try to send out important data as soon as she gets it.

We hope everyone has a wonderful weekend!  
Sincerely,

**Nzcati Sahin, OSS principal**

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# Happy Thanksgiving



## CAN TABS



Please drop off your can tabs to the jar on Ms. Becc's desk.

We are collecting these tabs for Ronald McDonald House.

In April, along with many other Orange County schools, we will join the Ronald McDonald House in the "2012-13 School Pop Tab Recycling Contest".

The tabs collected will help families with sick children.

This will be an ongoing collection throughout the year.

**TAKE A FYLER AND COLLECT AT WORK AND SAVE A LIFE**

### **2012-2013 School Year Report Cards dates for parents**

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Progress Report Card: September 26, 2012

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report Card: October 23, 2012

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Progress Report Card: December 5, 2012

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report Card: January 15, 2013

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Progress Report Card: February 20, 2013

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report Card: March 19, 2013

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Progress Report Card: May 1, 2013

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report Card will be mailed by June 11, 2013

### **PTC Dates**

1. October 26, 2012
2. January 18, 2013
3. March 22, 2013



## OSS Upcoming Events

### 1. Thanksgiving Break, November 19<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup>

**Always check the OSS website and PVO tab for all events!!!!!!!**

**\*\*Make sure you check your emails\*\***

## *Week In History*

In 1954, Ellis Island, the gateway to America, shuts its doors after processing more than 12 million immigrants since opening in 1892. Today, an estimated 40 percent of all Americans can trace their roots through Ellis Island, located in New York Harbor off the New Jersey coast and named for merchant Samuel Ellis, who owned the land in the 1770s.

On January 2, 1892, 15-year-old Annie Moore, from Ireland, became the first person to pass through the newly opened Ellis Island, which President Benjamin Harrison designated as America's first federal immigration center in 1890. Before that time, the processing of immigrants had been handled by individual states.

Not all immigrants who sailed into New York had to go through Ellis Island. First- and second-class passengers submitted to a brief shipboard inspection and then disembarked at the piers in New York or New Jersey, where they passed through customs. People in third class, though, were transported to Ellis Island, where they underwent medical and legal inspections to ensure they didn't have a contagious disease or some condition that would make them a burden to the government. Only two percent of all immigrants were denied entrance into the U.S.

Immigration to Ellis Island peaked between 1892 and 1924, during which time the 3.3-acre island was enlarged with landfill (by the 1930s it reached its current 27.5-acre size) and additional buildings were constructed to handle the massive influx of immigrants. During the busiest year of operation, 1907, over 1 million people were processed at Ellis Island.

With America's entrance into World War I, immigration declined and Ellis Island was used as a detention center for suspected enemies. Following the war, Congress passed quota laws and the Immigration Act of 1924, which sharply reduced the number of newcomers allowed into the country and also enabled immigrants to be processed at U.S. consulates abroad. After 1924, Ellis Island switched from a processing center to serving other purposes, such as a detention and deportation center for illegal immigrants, a hospital for wounded soldiers during World War II and a Coast Guard training center. In November 1954, the last detainee, a Norwegian merchant seaman, was released and Ellis Island officially closed.

Beginning in 1984, Ellis Island underwent a \$160 million renovation, the largest historic restoration project in U.S. history. In September 1990, the Ellis Island Immigration Museum opened to the public and today is visited by almost 2 million people each year.



# OSS and OSES Outdoor Area

Dear Parents,

OSS and OSES are working hard for our children's future and we need your help to make the outdoor play area as inspirational as the growing minds of our students.

We have a dream of children running on lush green grass, students enjoying lunch on a sunny day at picnic tables, laughter emitting from kids as they slide down slides and giggles while they play on a jungle gym.

Please help make this vision come true by donating to our cause. We are need of financial help with the project costing \$40,000.00. The progress is going very well in completing our outdoor space and we have received many wonderful donations from our parents.

Please take this flyer to your work and enlist your companies to take part in this goal of enriching our playground facility.

Sincerely,

*Yalcin Akin, Ph.D*

Executive Director / Principal  
Orlando Science Schools  
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Orlando, FL 32804  
Phone: (407) 253-7304  
Fax: (407)253-7305



# CHARTER SCHOOL MEALS

## November Breakfast (Elementary and 6<sup>th</sup> grade only)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Banana Muffin Yogurt Diced pears Assorted milk	Breakfast Breaks (cinn. Toast)  Assorted milk	Cinnamon Roll (CINI MINI) Cheese stick 100% fruit juice Assorted milk	Breakfast Break (honey nut)  Assorted milk	Apple Frudels Cheese stick Diced fruit Assorted milk

## November Menu Lunch 2012 (All Grades)

Monday 11/5	Tuesday 11/6	Wednesday 11/7	Thursday 11/8	Friday 11/9
Chicken Tender Sliders  Green Beans Sweet potato wedges Granny smith apple  Assorted milk	Beef Teriyaki Nuggets (4ea)  Brown Rice w/Teriyaki sauce (4oz) Baby carrots (1/2 c) (2pk) Mandarin Oranges  Assorted milk	Hot Dog on Bun  Potato smiles Cinnamon apples  Assorted milk	Chicken Patty Goldfish Bread  Broccoli Fresh Peaches  Assorted milk	Turkey and Cheese Sub Sandwich  Garden Side Salad (1c)=1/2 c Mixed fruit cup  Assorted milk
Monday 11/12	Tuesday 11/13	Wednesday 11/14	Thursday 11/15	Friday 11/16
Beef or Turkey Burger on a Bun  Deli Roasted potato Fresh pears  Assorted milk	Tangerine Chicken (4oz)  Grain Brown rice Steamed carrots coins Fresh grapes or 4oz juice  Assorted milk	Turkey Cuban Sandwich  Garden side salad/Garbanzo bean Plums (2ea)  Assorted milk	<u>Holiday Dinner</u> Turkey/Gravy (2M)  Glazed sweet potato Mashed potato Frozen fruit sidekicks Dinner roll Assorted milk	Grilled cheese sandwich  Green beans Pineapple Tidbits  Assorted milk
Monday 11/26	Tuesday 11/27	Wednesday 11/28	Thursday 11/29	Friday 11/30
WG Southwest Burrito Lil Bites (4bits)  Peas and Carrots Blue Raspberry applesauce  Assorted milk	Chicken Nuggets (4oz)  Mashed Potato (4oz) California vegetables Fresh orange Assorted milk	Italian Deli wraps  Side Salad(1c) (w / Garbanzo beans Apple slices  Assorted milk	(1 thigh- 1 breast- 2 legs- 2 wings) Montego Bay Chicken  Yellow brown rice Green beans Frozen fruit sidekicks Assorted milk	Fajita chicken (4oz) Shredded cheese (1oz) On loco bread  Popeye Salad (Spinach- state bid) Fresh banana Assorted milk

### Lunch

**\$1.80 elementary**  
**\$2.50 middle/high**

**Breakfast**  
**\$1.25 elementary and 6<sup>th</sup> grade only**

**Let's Help Out and have a Dress Down Day too!!!!**

**Orlando Science Schools is sponsoring a fundraiser to raise money to aid in relieving Hurricane Sandy victims and families.**

**Beginning on Monday, November 26th until Friday, November 30th, OSS is selling a dress down day for \$3.00. The dress down day is a way for OSS faculty, students, parents, and friends to come together and show their support to all of those affected by Hurricane Sandy. All proceeds of the dress down day will be donated to relief efforts in the tri-state area. By purchasing this dress down day, each individual will be helping out both our immediate and extended community. More details will be forthcoming via the morning announcement, hallway flyers, and school website.**

**OSS STUDENTS SAY**

# "Pick"ture This!



Borrowing a line from William Shakespeare, What 's in a name? It 's true, a rose would still look, smell and feel like a rose whether we called it a rose or something else. However, not any noun seems fitting for this most cherished floral specimen. We hear the name of "the thing" and, immediately, an image of "the thing" comes to mind. This November, Ms. Killian's Eighth Grade Language Arts Class is critically analyzing the effectiveness of word-picture relationships in an effort to comprehend technical writing elements. Students are depicting concepts as: Topic Sentence, Four Elements of an Effective Paragraph, and The Five Stages of the Writing Process. The objective: Students conjure up a visual that coincides with a technical writing term; these terms are pertinent because they foster effective student writing skills. Instead of taking notes and memorizing these concepts, students think out-of-the box in an effort to learn the "message" behind each term and to apply that "message" to real life scenarios. At Orlando Science School, students, like Shakespeare, are alluding to real life concepts in order to visually represent "the term" given in class. Students are comparing Topic Sentences to Traffic Signs, and Paragraph Elements such as Unity to the Yin-Yang symbol.







## Join Million Meal Challenge Orlando

**Are you looking for a meaningful and fun service opportunity close to Thanksgiving?**

Join 4,000 neighbors for the Million Meal Challenge Orlando event from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 18, 2012.

At the **Million Meal Challenge Orlando** event, you'll find:

- 4,000 people packaging 1 million meals in three 2-hour shifts over the course of the day.
- **Local hunger agencies onsite to collect grocery items, new volunteers and clothing for your neighbors in need.**
- Fun! This event is an exciting way for the Orlando community to take action together, show your team spirit and get involved in the fight against hunger.
- If you can't join us for the meal packaging (we provide all of the ingredients), drop by to bring your Thanksgiving donations for your local hunger agencies. Learn how you can help them help others throughout the year.

Orlando Science Schools encourages all of its students (K-12) and their families to attend this community service event. Please go to [www.mmorlando.org](http://www.mmorlando.org) to find more details about event and registration. OSS have created a team, so you can register under the team name of "OSS". Please note that our shift is between 3pm-6pm. A volunteer staff member will be there to organize our team. Since we will represent OSS in this community service event, please wear your school shirts during the event.



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Sunday, November 18, 2012**  
Rosen Shingle Creek  
9939 Universal Blvd.  
Orlando, FL 32819





Dear Parent/Guardian,  
Below you will find the access and detail information for our online FCAT resources.  
These websites will help your student achieve better FCAT scores!



Study Island is an online resource that reinforces what is being taught in your student's class, but it approaches it in a different way. As students answer questions in Study Island, they're learning, engaging in peer tutoring and they feel like they're playing a video game! This promotes students' acquisition of skills while making learning interactive and fun.

The web address is: [www.studyisland.com](http://www.studyisland.com)



FCAT Explorer is an online practice program made for Florida's public school students by the Florida Department of Education. It features four practice programs created especially for middle school students: Reading Island, Reading Boardwalk, Math Navigator, and Science Voyager.

The web address is: [www.fcatexplorer.com](http://www.fcatexplorer.com)



Florida Focus Achieves is a Florida Department of Education website offering online mini-assessments for reading, math, and science. For each "Focus" in reading and each "Benchmark" in math and science, Focus offers a 5-item test and a 5-item retest. Currently mini-assessments are available for 5th, 7th, 8th, and 11th grade science and for all math benchmarks (grades 3 through 9, Algebra I, and Geometry) and reading (gr.3 -10)

The Web address is: <http://focus.florida-achieves.com>

Your student has the same password and username for all these three online resources. If you lose your username and password, please contact the front office phone extension 100. Should you have any questions or problems accessing these sites, please contact Mr. Yalcin at [Yalcin@orlandoscience.org](mailto:Yalcin@orlandoscience.org)

**Please remember that your student's password and username were sent e-mail and the hard copies of letters were handed in to your students.**

**In addition, all the usernames and passwords of Online Resources are as same OSS Connect Username and Password.**

Sincerely,  
OSS Administration

## OSS HOME VISITS

We are very happy with the degree of parent involvement we have in our school. In order to make our student, parent and teacher connection even stronger, OSS teachers researched and came up with the idea of home visits. Experience and research from all over the United States indicates that the interaction with a student's family at their home is a very effective way to help students achieve academic and behavioral progress.

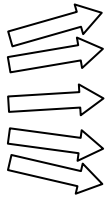
If you would like to schedule a home visit or learn more about it please email Mr. Kaya.

### Some feedbacks about home visits from our parents.

- When we chose to enroll my daughter at OSS we were very excited as the school seemed like a closer community than the public schools that our daughters have attended. The Home Visit program is a perfect example of this concept, that families and faculty working together can provide a better education for our children by communication and interaction. Please stay in touch and let us know how we can help make OSS an even better place.
- Good Morning Mr. Sahin, I wanted to thank you and Mr. Altintas for taking time out of your schedules to visit my home yesterday. I think the home visit was beneficial and I now better understand what is in store for my daughter this school year and what is expected of her.
- Teachers make a lasting impression on a child's life and this visit showed your love and concern about my son and the next generation; with the help of good parents and good teachers we can make a difference. I have not seen such dedication and care from a school in a long time.
- We know this takes a lot of time from your personal family and this does not go without notice. With the efforts this school has shown it will be a leader in no time. Keep up the good work we look forward to many more years of building a foundation as solid as a rock.
- I wanted to send a note to let you know that we enjoyed our home visit. The home visits are a great idea and facilitate good communication between faculty, students, and parents. We had the opportunity to get to know more about upcoming events and the curriculum

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# To



Increase student attendance rates.

Increase student test scores.

See school-wide positive behavior

Decrease suspension and expulsion rates.



Support Home  
Visits

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