



# 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 special emphasis in mathematics, science, technology, and language arts.

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## Principal's Corner

Dear Students & Parents,

Congratulations to the OSS Team N.U.T.S. who took part in the FTC Greyhound Challenge. They earned the Think Award and an invitation to the FTC Florida State Tournament!

A reminder to parents that Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, is an early release day.

OSS Theatre Club is putting on the 2011 Winter Gala on Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. The Gala will feature songs, monologues, and scenes by students and teachers! Tickets are \$5.

If you would like to get involved with some holiday help at OSS, please see page 4 for opportunities!

I hope everyone has a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Akin

Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today. ~Malcolm X



# OSS N.U.T.S. Cracked the FTC Greyhound Challenge

On November 19, 2011 the OSS FTC Team 5070 N.U.T.S. (Nerds United for Technological Superiority), participated in the Greyhound Challenge; a FIRST Tech Challenge

([www.usfirst.org/ftc](http://www.usfirst.org/ftc)) qualifying tournament. OSS Team N.U.T.S. earned an invitation to the FTC Florida State Tournament to be held February 18, 2012 at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona. Team N.U.T.S. also earned the Think Award.

This judged award is given to the team that best reflects the "journey" the team took as they experienced the engineering design process during the build season.

Our FTC team was also a finalist in the Connect and Inspire Awards. The Florida FTC Affiliate Partner congratulated Team N.U.T.S. for this amazing achievement since they are a rookie team, this was their first tournament and most of the other teams were experienced teams. Team 5070 N.U.T.S. made the OSS family proud; if you see the team, congratulate them and their Robot Pistachio. The team members are:

Carlos Barea, Sebastian Gonzalez, Mohammed Abdullah, Ahmed Rashid, Sammit Shinde, Sebastian Orellana, Devon Sanson, Anthony Faraday and Pruthvi Patel. They are coached by Maribel Barea, Hector Barea, Paul Orellana and Mr. Kaya. Team N.U.T.S. next qualifying tournament would be on December 10, 2011 at Miami Coral Park High School. OSS FTC Team 5070 N.U.T.S. need sponsors to help cover competition expenses, buy additional components to improve their robot, etc. If you know any company or local business that could be interested in sponsoring our team, please see Coach Maribel Barea ([mbarea@earthlink.net](mailto:mbarea@earthlink.net)). Go N.U.T.S.!

Team with Award



Pistachio



Team with Robot



Driving Team



# THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

## NOVEMBER 28, 1520: MAGELLAN REACHES THE PACIFIC OCEAN.

AFTER SAILING THROUGH THE DANGEROUS STRAITS BELOW SOUTH AMERICA THAT NOW BEAR HIS NAME, PORTUGUESE NAVIGATOR FERDINAND MAGELLAN ENTERS THE PACIFIC OCEAN WITH THREE SHIPS, BECOMING THE FIRST EUROPEAN EXPLORER TO REACH THE PACIFIC FROM THE ATLANTIC.

ON SEPTEMBER 20, 1519, MAGELLAN SET SAIL FROM SPAIN IN AN EFFORT TO FIND A WESTERN SEA ROUTE TO THE RICH SPICE ISLANDS OF INDONESIA. MAGELLAN SAILED TO WEST AFRICA AND THEN TO BRAZIL, WHERE HE SEARCHED THE SOUTH AMERICAN COAST FOR A STRAIT THAT WOULD TAKE HIM TO THE PACIFIC. ON OCTOBER 21, HE FINALLY DISCOVERED THE STRAIT HE HAD BEEN SEEKING. THE STRAIT OF MAGELLAN, AS IT BECAME KNOWN, IS LOCATED NEAR THE TIP OF SOUTH AMERICA, SEPARATING TIERRA DEL FUEGO AND THE CONTINENTAL MAINLAND.

IT TOOK 38 DAYS TO NAVIGATE THE TREACHEROUS STRAIT, AND WHEN OCEAN WAS SIGHTED AT THE OTHER END MAGELLAN WEPT WITH JOY. HIS FLEET ACCOMPLISHED THE WESTWARD CROSSING OF THE OCEAN IN 99 DAYS, CROSSING WATERS SO STRANGELY CALM THAT THE OCEAN WAS NAMED "PACIFIC," FROM THE LATIN WORD *PACIFICUS*, MEANING "TRANQUIL." ~WWW.HISTORY.COM

## OSS Upcoming Events

Early Dismissal Days- December 7<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>

Winter Gala December 15<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm

Winter Break December 19<sup>th</sup> - January 2<sup>nd</sup>

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

## Important Events and Dates in Science Olympiad

- 1- 4th Annual Florida Invitational Science Olympiad --- January 21, 2012, Orlando Science Schools – Award Ceremony will be at Orlando Science Center.
- 2- Regional Science Olympiad --- February 11, 2012, Cypress Creek High School
- 3- State Science Olympiad --- March 24, 2012, UCF
- 4- National Science Olympiad --- May 18-19, UCF



1. The OSS Drama and Art Clubs are in need of fake Christmas trees to use as props in the school's Winter Gala. Trees will be borrowed and given back after December 16<sup>th</sup>. Anyone who would like to lend a fake Christmas tree should contact Ms. G. There will be a reward.
2. The OSS Drama and Glee Club will be holding a Winter Gala to help celebrate the winter holidays and exhibit some of the amazing talent we have here at OSS. The Winter Gala will be on Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased from Ms. G. Tickets are expected to sell out so get yours soon.
3. Service learning Club is sponsoring the "Toys for Tots" drive. Please bring in new, unwrapped toys to help those in need. You may drop them off at the front desk.
4. The holidays are right around the corner and the Parent Volunteer Organization would like to do something special for our teachers and staff. They work extremely hard for our students and are always going above and beyond the call of duty for us.  
Let's show our appreciation by sending in gift cards by Wednesday December 14<sup>th</sup>. You can drop them off with Ms. Becc at the front desk. Please do not give them directly to teachers as we'd like to present them in a special way on Friday December 16<sup>th</sup> before they leave for the winter break.  
Also, if anyone would like to donate a gift card but is unable to get to the store to purchase them, a monetary donation would be fine. We can purchase the gift cards for you.  
Let's really show our teachers, staff and administration how much they mean to us!!!!!!!



### **OSS COLLEGE NIGHT WAS A SUCCESS!**

OSS hosted a college night for 8th, 9th and 10th graders and their parents with special guest, Annie Richardson (Under Graduate Admission Team / Sr. Assistant Director) on Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.

After a delicious dinner, participants had a chance to obtain vital information from Ms. Richardson about what the second-biggest university in the nation is looking for from a candidate.

Afterwards, Mr. Sahin talked about high school graduation requirements and the course path that is being planned to offer our students.

Please check our web site to download the presentation showing the course path.





## **CMP/ SCIENCE OLYMPIAD THANKSGIVING BREAK CAMP WAS AWESOME!**

We had an amazing Thanksgiving Break Camp at Lake Louisa! OSS students spent time with their friends and teachers at the CMP/ Science Olympiad Camp. Students studied SAT- Mathematics Reading and Vocabulary with Mr. Sahin and Mr. Yalcin. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade team was the winner of the SAT Vocabulary contest. The Science Olympiad students studied their events and enjoyed it a lot. They also played *Taboo* and other board games together which inspired team spirit. The night ended with delicious barbecue cooked by Mr. Omay and Principal Sahin.

On the second day of camping, the students made a camp fire and sang camp songs. The marshmallows were so delicious after they were on fire. Dilan Patel was the winner of the Camp Chess Tournament and Andrew came second. They received their prizes from Mr. Akyalcin. Camila was so happy when her friends and teachers surprised her with a birthday party! They all enjoyed that night and ate birthday cake together.

On the third day of camping, students competed with each other by building the highest spaghetti tower. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade team built the highest tower and they acclaimed that they will build the highest tower in the world one day!

On the last day of camping, there was a Lake Louisa Super Bowl! OSS vs. NSS! Orlando Science School Football players played football versus another school from Tampa in the same camp area. Students were so happy to play a friendly game against another school. Both teams did great job!

In the afternoon, students, parents and teachers had a big Family Picnic. They all gathered and ate the delicious barbecue by Mr. Duman. Students played beach soccer when the food was being cooked. They all studied and spent great time at the Camp! Some of the students are looking forward to being next OSS Camp!