



THE BULLDOG BULLETIN

Home of the 🐾 BULLDOGS 🐾

MAY 2021

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Issue 5

Principal's Message

It's hard to believe that we are bringing the 2020-2021 school year to a close. It has been a year full of challenges and new experiences for teachers and students alike. We have learned to adapt and navigate the world of virtual learning as well as find creative ways to celebrate our students while maintaining their safety. Our Band and Chorus students recorded performances to be shared, while our Dance team performed for students during their lunches. Our Rotary partners continued to recognize our Students of the Month, but in a virtual setting.

We will be offering learning opportunities over the summer for both enrichment and remediation to help students prepare for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year. Information on these programs will be made available in the coming weeks.

We hope that students will have a safe and restful summer, balancing their break with ways to keep skills sharp and ready for learning next year. We look forward to seeing our returning 6th and 7th grades and wish our 8th graders all the best in their high school careers and beyond.

Sanjay Brown

Principal

College Park Middle School Vision

Our school is a positive learning environment that enables and inspires all to acquire the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to succeed in a rapidly changing, multicultural world.

"Our goal is for students to learn and achieve. We invite you to give your input on our instructional program. You may request an Administrative Feedback Survey for any administrator who is assigned the responsibility for evaluating the performance of instructional personnel by contacting your principal."



'College Park Middle School'

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Media Center

Students should check the 2021 CPMS Summer Reading Canvas course for announcements about the 2021 OCPS Summer Reading Challenge: Tails and Tales! Students across the district will be logging their reading minutes in Beanstack (located on Launchpad). You can also download the Beanstack app to your mobile device if you prefer. Last summer, one of our own Bulldog Readers won a Kindle as one of the middle school students with the most minutes logged in Beanstack. There will be more exciting prizes awarded at the end of the challenge this year, so be sure to track each and every minute of reading!

Looking for a good book to read this summer (and beyond)? OCPS recently launched Sora, a new option for students to access free eBooks and audiobooks, including over 100 titles in Spanish. The Sora app is located in the Library Research Tools folder on Launchpad. Sora supplements the district's Destiny Discover eBook collection and offers a dynamic rotation of titles for all grades and reading levels for both school assignments and pleasure reading. Sora titles in the OCPS collection are simultaneous use, so every student in the district can have access to the same book at the same time.

All students also have a free Virtual Library Card from the Orange County Library System. This account is completely separate from any personal library account already created, and will not accrue any overdue fines associated with it. Your student can access the Virtual Library Card on Launchpad or by visiting www.ocls.info/vlc. The library card number is the Student ID and the password is the student's date of birth (YYYYMMDD). With this account, students have free WIFI access at any library location, study help, e-books, language learning tools, magazines, downloadable music, and more.

Any outstanding library books can be returned to the front office during the summer. To check what books are currently checked out to you, just click on Follett Destiny in the Library Research Tools folder on Launchpad.



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Academic Competitions

Science Olympiad Excels at the State Level Competition. Students in the Science Olympiad classes represented College Park Middle at the state level competition early in April. Teams successfully medaled in 3 different events: Mouse-Trap Cars, Game-On, and Crypto-Zoology.

Robotics Teams are Regional Competition Qualifiers! Two teams in our Robotics Program will be representing College Park Middle School at the First Lego League Regional Robotics Competition!! The Running Thunder and Ally & The Aces teams will compete against 24 other regional teams for a spot at the state level competition. Moreover, Ally & The Aces team were awarded the Project Breakthrough Award for their innovative idea of refurbishing existing area parks into multi-generational parks at the 1st competition of the year in April.

Wellness

As the year comes to a close please remember that at this point Covid is still here – please be mindful of washing your hands, keeping the mask on and keeping your distance. The CDC is due to come out with some updated mask suggestions so please follow closely. Take care of yourselves, get out in the sunshine when possible, take deep breaths, drink lots of water, eat healthy, eat fruit and remember that you come first, take care of you!

STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.




cdc.gov/coronavirus

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Social Studies: 8th Grade – U. S. History

During the final half of the 4th-9 weeks, students will study the **Civil War** and **Reconstruction**. After decades of tension between northern and southern states over slavery, states' rights and westward expansion, the Civil War in the United States began. During the next 4-weeks, students will be able to explain the **causes, course, and consequence** of the Civil War through:

- Abraham Lincoln's Presidency
- The Civil War – Course and Consequences
- Reconstruction

At the end of the 9-weeks, students will be able to identify, describe, and summarize the Civil War and Reconstruction policies and practices.

Teachers: Barbara Shackelford and Norma Alvarado-Stark

Science

The 6th grade Comp. Science and Life Science teachers will be working on Body Systems, Immune System and Infectious Agents, Interaction of Body Systems and Homeostasis and Sexual Health Education.

The 7th grade Comp. Science teachers will be working on Development of Scientific Knowledge, Evidence of Evolution, Biotechnology and Sexual Health Education.

The 7th grade Earth/Space Honors Science teacher will be working on The Hydrosphere, The Atmosphere Weather and Climate, The Atmosphere Severe Weather and Interactions of Earth's Systems.

The 8th grade Comp.3 and Physical Science Honors teachers will be working on Statewide Science Assessment (SSA) Review. The SSA test is on May 10th.

Language Arts

6th and 7th Grade

As we close out the year and testing season, 6th and 7th grade Language Arts will be reading novels to practice the skills gained throughout the year and read for enjoyment. 6th Grade will be reading *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park and 7th Grade will be reading *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers. *A Long Walk to Water* is based on the true story of Salva, one of 3,800 Sudanese "Lost Boys" airlifted to the United States in the mid- 1990s. The story has a strong emphasis on different character perspectives and the theme of perseverance. *Monster* is the story of a young man who finds himself in prison after being convicted of a crime and how he deals with the consequences. This story focuses on character development and how an author can play with structure to create meaning within their work.

8th Grade IB Language and Literature

8th Grade IB Language and Literature will end the year with a novel study. Through character's thoughts and changes in Terry Trueman's *Stuck in Neutral*, we will explore identity, normalcy, and what makes a life worth living.



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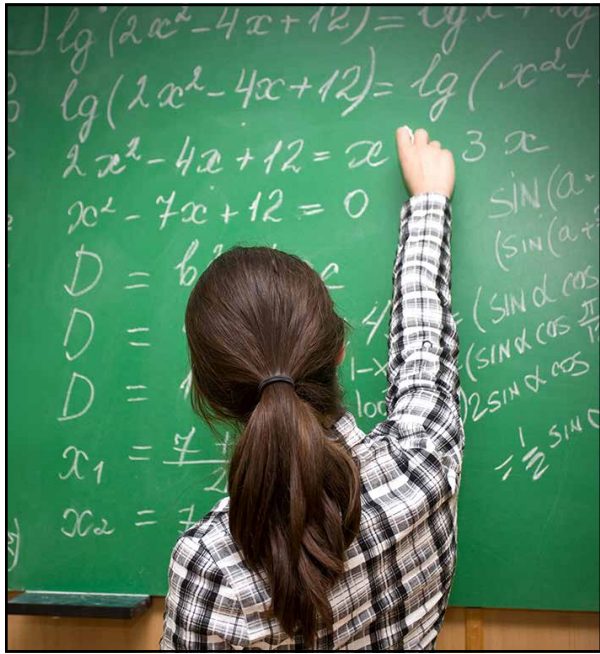
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Math

The students have worked very hard to prepare for the FSA assessment this year. Our main goal from now until the end of the 2020-2021 school year, is to continue to close gaps with some of our students and to get all grade levels ready for their next math course. This will be a time to focus on prerequisite standards for next grade level and build a confidence that will catapult our students within their progression to guarantee success.



Calculus Project Inductees

Algebra 1 Congratulations to the 6th grade students that were chosen to join the Calculus Project next year. These students will accelerate from 6th grade Advanced /7th grade Advanced classes to Algebra to earn their first high school credit and graduation requirement. They will begin their accelerated path to gain the opportunity to complete AP Calculus before they graduate high school. This summer these Calculus Project students will participate in a Summer Preview to prepare them for their Algebra 1 school year.

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