

HAWK TALES

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Greetings!

The end of the 2020-21 school year is upon us! Though we find ourselves in unprecedented times, it truly was an outstanding year. Looking back, we have so much to celebrate. From academics, to sports, to extracurricular activities, I am so proud of how our Golden Hawks have soared since August. Despite our current setting, we are excited to end the year on a high note with our annual Academic Night of Excellence that will be held virtually. There, we will honor all students that have maintained a 3.5 cumulative GPA or higher for the school year, and those students who have maintained a 4.0 GPA for all three middle school years.

With the academic struggles that came from this year, it will be important to keep kids working over the summer, now more than ever, to prevent the summer slide. Students will have the opportunity to participate in the **Superintendent's Summer Reading Program: Tails and Tales**. I would encourage you to keep your student active on Math Nation, iReady, and/or Khan Academy. Thirty minutes a day is a great way to stay current with the content! Regardless of your summer plans, please make sure students are active and supervised at all times. We want to ensure all students are safe and immersed in positive experiences over the summer months.

A special thank you to Ms. Stacy Wilde (PTA president), the PTA executive committee, our SAC members, and all our volunteers who made this such an outstanding school year! Many times, the work of our volunteers goes unnoticed, but we could not do what we do without

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ADMINISTRATION

Principal

Andrew Leftakis

Assistant Principals

Crystal Higgs

Danielle Kendall

Deans

Carla Thomas

Brian Himschoot

Guidance Counselors

6th grade & 7th grade (A-L)
Randon Singer

7th grade (M-Z) & 8th grade Ruthie Pender

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Soaring to

New Heights



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

...continued from cover

their kindness and support. From keeping us well fed, to discussing instructional policy, to providing additional grant money for teachers, the community support at Maitland is second to none! Thank you to everyone who supports our children.

Finally, to our 8th grade students and families who are moving on to high school; I wish you good luck as you begin this new, exciting chapter of life. No matter how far you travel or where life takes you, you will always be Golden Hawks and we are excited to see all that you will accomplish. Thank you for making this such an exceptional school year!

I hope everyone has a safe, fun filled, and relaxing summer vacation! Sincerely,

Andrew Leftakis, Principal

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Keep up to date on library events and book suggestions by following our library accounts: @MaitlandMS OCPS on Instagram and @MMS HawksMC on Twitter.

Students and staff now have access to hundreds of additional ebooks and audiobooks using the Sora app from Launchpad. You may also download the app onto a smartphone.

The new SSYRA lists for 2021-2022 are out and a part of the OCPS Summer Reading Initiative.











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OCPS SUMMER READING INITIATIVE

"Tales and Tails" is the theme of Orange County Public Schools' motivational summer reading challenge. The purpose of the challenge is to motivate children to read for pleasure and to ensure that students maintain their reading skills over summer vacation. At summerreading.ocps.net you can find OCPS provided links to reading lists, interactive literacy websites, e-books, parent resources, and literacy events in our community. Students may also access the OCPS's Summer Reading Challenge via LaunchPad. This challenge encourages students to read and log their minutes electronically using the Beanstack application.

As your family reads this summer, OCPS encourages you to share the literacy message via Twitter. Using the hashtag, #OCPSreads, we hope our students (over 13 years of age) and parents will share what you are reading, where you are reading and how much you are reading. Utilize the hashtag when posting pictures of books and fun places where students read over the summer, too.

Visit the OCPS LaunchPad to access the Beanstack app for your students to keep track of how many minutes they read each day. Students may earn prizes for logging their minutes!



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FROM OUR REGISTRAR

IMMUNIZATIONS FOR RISING 7TH GRADERS

Florida Statute requires that all students entering 7th grade have the Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) and all other required immunizations. Proof of immunization must be provided to the school prior to your child starting 7th grade. In order to receive your child's schedule for the 2021/2022 school year, we must have received your child's immunization record (form DH680).

Please plan ahead if your child does need an immunization. You can get immunizations free of charge at the Orange County Health Department at 832 West Central Blvd., Orlando, FL 32805. You may also get the immunization at your doctor's office, or any walk-in/ urgent care clinic. Don't wait until next fall. Please scan and email a copy of your child's immunization record (form DH68) to the school registrar at nan.bressler@ocps.net. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the registrar at the email above.



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SOCIAL STUDIES

Civics is preparing for our EOC by reviewing important content with our students and making sure that they are all well prepared for the exam. After the EOC is completed, our students will be working on a fun state project where they will learn about different states in our country. That will be followed up by a quick unit on Economics and then a preview of 8th grade content.

MATH

Students in 6th grade have been working on two and three dimensional geometry. They have been learning about area, surface area, nets and volume. They have been solving real-world problems with fractional dimensions.

Students in 7th grade have been working on integer exponents with cubed roots.

Pre-algebra students are working on Scientific notation.

Algebra students are working on arithmetic and geometric sequences.

Geometry students are finishing up equations of circles and moving into the surface area of 3D figures. Finally, we are all excited to be moving into the end of the school year. Everyone is busy preparing for their end of year assessment. Sixth and seventh grade classes will be taking the FSA while Algebra and Geometry students will be taking an EOC exam. Students will also complete the EOY iReady diagnostic. While not required for advanced level students, iReady access is available for any student who needs support in math.











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SCIENCE

Greetings!

In both Sixth Grade Comprehensive Science 1 and Life Science classes, students are ending the 4th quarter studying the different human body systems and how the body systems work together to maintain homeostasis. Students are also working on Common Final Exam review activities. A big CONGRATULATIONS goes to the following 6th grade Life Science students who participated in STEM competitions this school year. We are so very PROUD of you!!

Dr. Nelson Ying Orange County Science Exposition (Regional Science Fair)

Student Name	Category	Project Title	Ying Expo
Hazel Wolff	Engineering	Modified Wall Design Earthquake Breakage Test	Third Place in Engineering The CDM Smith Award for creative application in Environmental Engineering

Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision National STEM Competition Participants

ExploraVision is a STEM competition for K-12 students. It encourages students to combine their imagination with their knowledge of science and technology to explore visions for the future.

Team #1: Honorable Mention Award Winners

Maia Hollis, Josephine Steffen, Eleanor Tasker The FishBot

The Honorable Mention Award places this team's project among the top 10% of all ExploraVision projects submitted to the competition this year. 4,000 projects were submitted this year, with close to 10,000 students participating.

Team #2: Jack-David Brault and Lawson Hovey J & L's Clothing Of The Future

Team #3: Kellen Bussey and Oscar Anderson

M.E.T. Note: M.E.T. stands for Marine Exploration Telescope

Team #4: Paige Lee and Betsy Barnard
The Evolution Of The Phone

The Evolution Of The Phone

Team #5: Henry Krise, Jonathan Himschoot, and Chase Umphreys

Air Pollution: The Glass Dome

Science continued...

Students and parents, thank you for your ongoing support of science this school year. Best wishes to all our students as they advance to 7th grade next school year. Stay safe and have an enjoyable summer break!! Read a book and enjoy the beauty that surrounds us in nature.

Sincerely,

Sixth Grade Science Teachers:
Dr. Anne Albright and Ms. Kendra Simasek
Science continued...

It is hard to believe that the school year has almost come to an end. The 4th quarter is devoted to reviewing standards from 6th, 7th and 8th grade for the NGSSS test they will be taking May 10th. We are also wrapping up the last of our physical science learning goals. Topics included will be the elements, compound and mixtures, gas laws and chemistry in our world. The students were also able to engage in some fun, chemistry enrichment activities like making burning their names in wood with a magnifying glass. The last weeks of school were set aside to help the students prepare for the physical science and Comp 3 end of course exam. Mrs. Ashcraft, Ms. Hubbell and Ms. Rider want to wish all of our 8th graders the best in high school, college, careers and beyond! Thank you for an extraordinary and unusual school year!

FINE ARTS

Congratulations to the 8 students from MMS that participated in the 2021 All County Orchestra! They are Calleigh Bellmany, Adam Mendelsohn and Aidan Davis on Violin; Barrett Bishop on Viola; Miles Hill, Elizabeth Chule and Mackenzie Minyard on Cello; and Ellie Capps on Bass.

Florida Orchestra Association

2020-2021 District 8 Middle School Solo & Ensemble

Congratulations!

Aidan Davis, Violin Solo, Superior Barrett Bishop, Viola Solo, Excellent Miles Hill, Cello Solo, Superior with Distinction Gabriela Olivares-Cely, Cello, Superior Elizabeth Chule & Mackenzie Minyard, Cello Duet, Superior



Don't be left out! Join one of Maitland's Music Classes: Band, Chorus, Musical Theater or Orchestra. No previous experience necessary! Come be a part of the most fun you'll have in middle school!!

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FINE ARTS continued...

Congratulations to the 2021 All County Honor Choir! Three students were selected as some of the top singers in the county: Sadie Abate, Jayden Herard, and Serene Sabbagh. These singers had outstanding auditions and combined with other honor choir students from across the county to put on a socially-distanced concert. Due to Covid, only about half of the students usually sent to honor choir were selected this year, making the accomplishment all the more impressive. (Sadie and Serene have both been selected for honor choir multiple years!) The students thoroughly enjoyed



making music with Ms. Janet Le from Olympia High School serving as special clinician for the event. It was an impressive concert, featuring American music and even a little choreography. Way to go Sadie, Jayden and Serene!









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It's a show filled with "Pure Imagination!" The musical theatre classes are excitedly preparing to open their show, Willy Wonka. Performing a live show during a Pandemic takes a lot of dedication on the part of these amazing performers and crew. While we can only perform to limited audience this year, presenting this sweet show will be a treat to all who see it. It's full of colorful costumes and even more colorful characters. There's Willy Wonka, the Bucket family, the Golden Ticket Winners, Candy Kids, Chefs and, of course, Oompa Loompas. (The video version will also include some of our launched students starring as Zoompas the video version of Oompas.) In addition to students who are singing,

acting and dancing out this childhood favorite tale, the students made most of the props and are running six tech stations. Ms. Johnson is very proud of these performers for overcoming obstacles and seeking to spread joy in this incredibly unique year. Break a leg to the musical theatre cast and crew of Willy Wonka!























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<u>Athletics</u>

Congratulations to the following student-athletes for winning their events in this year's Track & Field Championships.

100 meters: Juliana Gotay & Boris Williams

1600 Meters: London Wilde & Jackson McDavid

400 Meters: Kate Adams & Aiden Gentile

800 Meters: Jillian Kinsella & Wright Wanzenberg

200 Meters: Juliana Gotay & Boris Williams

Shot Put: Ellie Capps & Adam Medelsohn

Long Jump: Lonine Knight & Boris Williams

If you are interested in trying out for a team next year, make sure to print out your 2021-2022 athletic physical from www. mmsAthletics.com.







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SUMMER SUPPORT IDEAS

The summer break provides a much needed rest from the rigors of school life, but a complete disconnect from education can make the start of the new school year more difficult for your student. Consider a few ways to engage your child in activities that stimulate learning and provide an opportunity to enhance your relationship. Pick two or three of the following summer opportunities and commit to achieving a common goal with your child.

READING: Read two books with your child over the summer. Each of you select a book, read it independently, and talk about it. Everyone identifies different meanings and ideas. These conversations lead to insights, not only about the books but perhaps more importantly, about each other. You may discover that some of your child's interests and perceptions surprise you.

MOVIES: See two movies with your child over the summer. Again, each of you pick a movie, see it together, and talk about its effect on you. The benefits of these conversations cannot be overstated. It's not uncommon to discover a point of view that you had never considered. As a result, you will become closer to your child. Many movies are adaptations of popular books or series. Watching them may motivate your child to read the books or others with similar or opposing themes.

HOMEWORK: Yes, yards must be tended, cars washed, kitchens cleaned, and trash taken out, but perhaps there are budgets to be discussed, correspondences to write, and bills to be paid. If appropriate, you might consider getting your child involved. Practical applications of math, reading, and writing skills reinforce the importance of education. These skills are vital for a fulfilling life!

TAKE A CLASS TOGETHER: Does your student have unexplored interests or passions? There are free online courses in art, music, dance, woodworking, gardening, writing and composition, etc., not to mention math, science, and technology. Encourage your child to select an online class of interest and complete it together. There's no way to predict undiscovered interests and talents.

FUN and GAMES: Consider some outdoor activities. Go hit a bucket of golf balls, or try surfing/water skiing. Host a game of 'Capture the Flag' at home or try paintballing. (Can you remember the joy of besting mom or dad?) Introduce games and activities that you remember from childhood. Encourage your child to practice his/her research skills by looking up rules, tips and strategies before engaging in the activity. If they really enjoy it, have them look further into opportunities for continued involvement. These activities develop and improve communication and social skills. There are numerous parks and recreation centers nearby to play any game or sport inexpensively.

These types of activities not only support the learning process but enhance relationships. Summer is a wonderful time to recover, relax, and reconnect. Make a point of including opportunities to reinforce and develop your child's education. Enjoy your summer!

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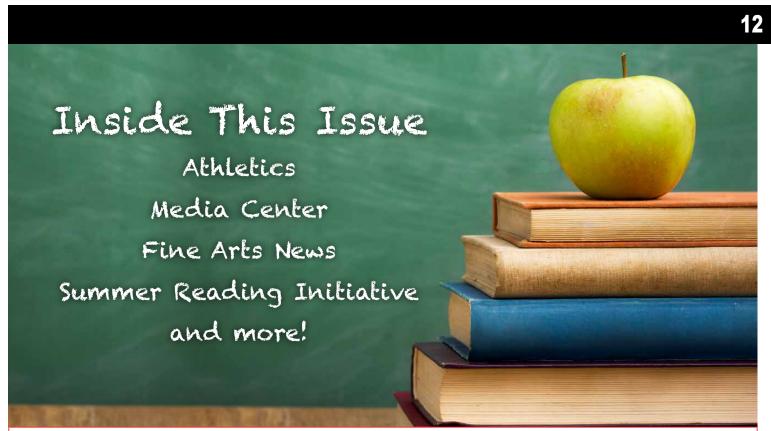
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