



HAWK TALES

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Golden Hawk Family,

As we move into October, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible start to the school year. Most of our students have already shown tremendous growth, both academically and personally, and I am so proud of the energy they bring to school each day. Maitland Middle is lucky to have so many students focused on academic success, athletic excellence, and creativeness in the Arts.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Red Ribbon Week:** Mark your calendars for October 23-31. Students will be educated on the dangers related to drug and alcohol abuse. SAFE Coordinator, Dr. Rauls will lead these enrichment activities.
- **Fall Picture Retakes:** On October 28, Students will have the opportunity to retake their school pictures and put on their best smile.
- **Art:** Maitland Art Festival is scheduled for November 8th-10th. Take the opportunity to see the magnificent pieces of art MMS students produce each and every day!
- **Teach-in 2024:** Teacher in is scheduled for November 20th. Please consider sharing your knowledge and experience with students. Contact Any Orseno if you want to participate in this wonderful event.
- **Save the date:** December 7th at Lake Lily. You will have an opportunity to hear Chorus, Band and Orchestra at the Season of Light!
- **Upcoming Concerts:** Orchestral will be December 4th and Band will have their concert on December 19th. Please come out to hear these amazing performances!

REMINDERS:

- **Attendance:** Regular attendance is crucial for success. Please ensure your child is at school on time and ready to learn.

...continued on page 2

ADMINISTRATION

Principal

Eric Lundman

Assistant Principals

Kevin Flanagan
Jacqueline Mack

Guidance Counselors

8th grade & 6th grade (A-L)
Randon Singer

7th grade & 6th grade (M-Z)
Ruth Pender

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<https://maitlandms.ocps.net/>

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Soaring to

New Heights



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SKYWARD

Parent Login:

<https://parents.classlink.com/ocps>

Additional Skyward information
can be found at:

<https://www.ocps.net/cms/one.aspx?pageId=1158765/>



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Orange County Public Schools
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FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

...continued from cover

- **Dress Code:** As a reminder, we ask all students to adhere to the OCPS dress code found in the Student Code of Conduct. Students need to dress for success!

STUDENTS SPOTLIGHT:

I'd like to give a special shout-out to Boys and Girls Soccer teams on having a great season. Success isn't gauged on just wins and losses, but how you support each other during difficult times!

Thank you to our dedicated teachers and staff, and to all our families for your continued support. Together with parents and the community, Maitland Middle School will continue to "Soar to New Heights".

Eric E. Lundman
Principal
Maitland Middle School

MESSAGE FROM MS. MACK, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

OCTOBER

Dear Students and Staff,

As we step into October, let's welcome this wonderful month with enthusiasm! The leaves are changing, the air is crisp, and our school community is buzzing with energy. It's a perfect time to reflect on our goals and continue making this school year a memorable one together.

To bring a little joy to our October, here's a lighthearted poem for everyone:

October's Here!

Oh, October's here, let's give a cheer,
With pumpkins and sweaters, the season is clear!
The leaves are a-flutter, in red, gold, and brown,
Let's gather 'round friends, we're at the best school in town!

We'll sip on hot cocoa, and crunch on some snacks,
As we share our best jokes and maybe some laughs!
The days grow a bit shorter, but that's quite all right,
We'll fill them with learning and fun full of insight!

So gear up, dear students and staff, for the month ahead,
With books to explore and dreams to be fed!

Let's make it a month that's both bright and profound,
In our school, where great friendships and knowledge abound!
Wishing you all a fantastic October filled with laughter, learning,
and plenty of fun!

Warm regards,
Jacqueline Mack, Assistant Principal

TESTING

Testing is well underway. We had our first FAST state assessment the beginning of September. The next FAST will be the beginning of December. If you would like more information please visit <https://flfast.org/families.html>. Here are some general test taking strategies:

- Don't miss school on testing days!
- Get a good night's sleep
- Eat a good breakfast
- Get to school on time — rested, relaxed and ready do your best!
- Be prepared! Walk into the classroom with all the materials you'll need: #2 pencils, Charger, and Laptop

Happy Testing!



300 MIN



7th grade students participating in the Chat-n-Chew Book Club.

CHAT-N-CHEW BOOK CLUB

Our Chat-N-Chew Book club sponsored by the Winter Park Public Library meets once a month in the media center during grade level lunches. Students chat about books they have read while eating their lunch and enjoying free cookies. Our upcoming book club dates are October 18, November 15, January 17, February 14, April 11 and May 2.

PICTURE RETAKE DAY

Picture retake day is on Monday, October 28 for students who are new to Maitland since September 19th, were absent on picture day or have purchased pictures but would like them redone.



Scan to order now!
¡Echa un vistazo para encargar ahora!

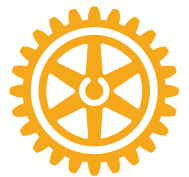


How it works:		
 Pre-order today on mylifetouch.com using your Student ID or Picture Day ID: EVTGQGZKZ	 Students are photographed on Picture Day	 Orders will be sent home with your student after Picture Day



ART

Our "Hawks Artists" have been hard at work creating beautiful works for art this year. Students have been learning procedures and techniques to improve and hone their skills. Coming up is the Maitland Rotary Arts Festival. The festival will run from November 8th - 10th. Be sure to come out and check out our hard working artists' work!



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We are in need of parents to join. Below are the elements we are in need of to sit on the committee. If you are interested, please email Rennie Ashcraft @ rennie.ashcraft@ocps.net.

KEY ELEMENTS:

- The SAC membership must be representative of the ethnic, racial, and economic community served by the school.
- The majority (at least 51 percent) of SAC members must be non-school district employees
- Each SAC is required to be composed of the principal and an appropriately balanced number of teachers, education support employees, students (only required for career centers and high schools), parents, and other business and community citizens.

Based on our last meeting, we are missing:

- Black members
- Hispanic members
- Business or Community

Current Demographics in Skyward:

- Black 24%
- Hispanic 30%
- White 39%
- Other/Multi-Racial 7%

SAC'S PURPOSE

Each school advisory council shall assist in the preparation and evaluation of the school improvement plan required pursuant to s. 1001.42(18). With technical assistance from the Department of Education, each school advisory council shall assist in the preparation of the school's annual budget and plan as required by s. 1008.385(1). It shall perform such functions as are prescribed by the regulations of the school board; however, it shall not have any of the powers and duties reserved by law to the district school board.

SAC'S DUTIES

Duties of SAC members shall include:

1. Advise in developing the school's vision
2. Use state and district goals as a guide for assessing the school's needs
3. Determine and prioritize the goals of the school based on appropriate needs assessments and other data
4. Develop measurable objectives and strategies for addressing the goals that have been prioritized
5. Assist in the preparation, implementation, and evaluation of the school improvement plan
6. Identify the appropriate use of school improvement dollars for implementing the approved school improvement plan, if funds are available from the Florida Department of Education
7. Operate in compliance with Florida Law
8. Assist the principal in preparation of school's annual budget with technical assistance from the Department of Education
9. Shall not have any powers and duties reserved by law to the district school board

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ELA UPDATES

SIXTH GRADE

In Unit 1.1, students analyzed a variety of fictional pieces including an excerpt from Gary Soto's "The Jacket" to explain how figurative language contributes to the tone of the texts. They also searched for shifts in narrative point of view and compared the way different themes are developed in excerpts from *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park and a chapter titled "The Great Mouse Plot" from Roald Dahl's memoir, *Boy, Tales of Childhood*. In poetry, students learned the features of a sonnet, the way to analyze a poem's structure, and the purpose of different stanzas.

Unit 1.2 introduced students to informational texts about chocolate, covering its history of being harvested and some of its health benefits and risks. Through these argumentative texts, students learned how to identify examples of logical fallacies, types of reasoning, and rhetorical appeals. They analyzed how the central idea is developed and organized by using annotation and close read strategies. Students were assessed on both of these units.

Our next unit focuses on expository writing, and students will have the opportunity to utilize tools in the new MyAccess! writing program to edit, revise, and improve their essays.

EIGHTH GRADE

Students in Language Arts 3 have had an eventful beginning to the school year creating new connections to literary and poetic devices through texts such as "Home" by Gwendolyn Brooks, "Identity" by Julio Polanco, "Truth" by Nikki Grimes, "We Real Cool", and the short story "Lather and Nothing Else". To make the connections more easily obtained, students uncovered new annotation methods, collaborative structures for sharing and receiving insights from their peers, and formed an understanding of essential terms through diligent notetaking.

As our students make their way into our next unit, Reading Informational Texts, students encounter non-fiction texts such as "Why Leaves Turn Color in the Fall" by Diane Ackerman, "What the Moon Rocks Tell us" by Kenneth Weaver, and the article "Where I Find my Heroes". Students capture and demonstrate their understanding through collaborating and sharing their understanding of text features, text structures, central idea, and the author's purpose as demonstrated through rhetorical appeals and devices. In this Unit, students will participate in a Question Trail that tasks them to move between questions in the room with their groups, communicating and demonstrating their understanding to their group members with the goal of achieving the highest class accuracy on essential benchmark questions. As we end the first quarter and celebrate successes, students will take their Unit 1.2 test and prepare for new texts and activities awaiting them in Quarter 2, including our first Expository Writing Workshop that incorporates a brand new writing platform to help students take their writing to a higher academic level.

7TH GRADE

Reading Prose and Poetry with Reading Across Genres: Rising Against the Odds

Students will explore the differences between poetry and prose, learning how each form conveys meaning through unique structures and techniques. They will read and comprehend various texts, citing evidence from poems and prose passages to justify their reasoning and interpretations. By analyzing literary elements and making inferences, students will deepen their understanding of both forms. Additionally, they will engage in collaborative discussions, using active listening and appropriate discussion techniques to share their insights. Finally, students will practice creating their own quality work in both poetry and prose, adhering to accepted format rules and using appropriate voice and tone.

Writing Focus: Expository



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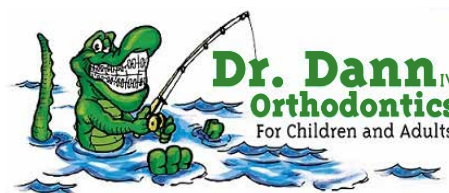
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EXPLORATION OF ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY & CAREER PLANNING

In 2nd period, we've expanded our skills with TinkerCad, focusing on 3D design and researching innovations in technology. Our recent project involved designing a playground, where we applied the design process to create a fun and functional space.

We also explored atomic structure by drawing 2D models of elements from the periodic table. In the upcoming weeks, we'll study the "War of the Currents," focusing on Nikola Tesla, and dive into electric circuits and schematics. We are looking forward to building an electric motor and a telegraph machine, as these hands-on experiences will deepen our understanding of electronics.

EXPLORING ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY THROUGH PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

My students in Project Lead the Way, classes have opened up a world of creativity and technical skills. Across various periods, we are gaining valuable knowledge in engineering and technology that will shape our future careers.

EXPLORATION OF ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY & CAREER PLANNING

In my (1st and 5th periods), we started using TinkerCad, a 3D design tool that allows us to bring our ideas to life. We've learned the key differences between inventions and innovations, which has deepened our understanding of the design process. A significant project involved creating a Career Poster that focused on various design careers, helping us explore our interests in the field.

Currently, we're working on a project to design a foot orthosis, by applying the design process we've learned. Looking ahead, I'm excited about learning 1-point and 2-point perspective drawings as well as isometric sketches in the coming weeks. We'll also dive into multiview drawings and precision measurement techniques, which are crucial for any engineering project.

INTRODUCTION TO TECHNOLOGY & CAREER PLANNING

My 3rd, 4th, and 7th periods have been just as engaging. We began learning 3D design in TinkerCad and delved into what technology is, alongside understanding the distinctions between inventions and innovations. The design process has been instrumental in our recent projects, including creating two pieces of furniture for our dream bedrooms.

In the next weeks, we will tackle topics like Applied Chemistry and Alternative Energy. I'm particularly excited about the practical applications, we will be making ice cream and experimenting with making different types of glue. Additionally, we'll research engineering careers and design a tri-fold brochure to showcase our findings.

As we progress, we will also investigate oil spills and their environmental impact, exploring how engineering has led to innovations for cleanup. We'll learn about nanotechnology and even build an alternative energy windmill, while also studying simple machines.



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Athletics



- The Mega Blast FUNdraiser was a HUGE success this year raising \$30,698.70 which gives \$15,349.35 directly to our PE /Athletics programs! These funds will help us to add new equipment and provide the best experience for our Maitland Middle School students and athletes. The Mega Blast Event will take place November 22 during 6th & 7th Period.
- The boys' soccer team finished the regular season with a record of 5-1 and Cluster Champions. The Girls finished the regular season 3-2. Both teams are headed to the OCPS Playoffs.
- The 2024-2025 Volleyball Teams have been selected. Congratulations to all those who made the team. View Rosters at www.mmsAthletics.com.
- Basketball Tryouts January 8-9, 2025.
- Track & Field Tryouts: March 5-7, 2025.

MUSICAL THEATRE & CHORUS UPDATES

The Cheshire Cat is out of the bag. Musical Theatre students learned that this year's spring musical is....Alice In Wonderland! Hints were given for a few weeks, culminating in a big hint with a wonderland display in the cafeteria. Mark your calendars now for March 7-8, 2025 to see Alice, The Mad Hatter, White Rabbit and all the wonder-filled crew take the stage! Musical Theatre students begin auditions in the second quarter. Break a leg!

Thank you to all the students who have been helping with this year's InstaRaise fundraiser! The music students have been earning funds for the program along with a few treats for themselves, too. Jeanine, that donut looks delicious!

We are excited to begin this year's slate of performances with a fall concert. The students are presenting songs and scenes on Oct 1st. Jake is practicing his monolog titled (what else?) "Space Face." Bryn dons some prop glasses to practice her scene "Blind Fool." Avery, Adela and Vainavi help set up the miles of cables needed for microphones.

MORE INFO: CODY.HANCOCK@OCPS.NET

WEEKLY

FCA
MEETS EVERY
THURSDAY AT 8:40
ASHCRAFT ROOM
154





MEETING

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES

Any student that wants to attend FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) can meet in Mrs. Ashcraft's room 154 every Thursday at 8:40 AM. You do not have to be a Christian or an athlete to attend, all are welcome!

Contact Mr. Hancock (cody.hancock@ocps.net) or Mrs. Ashcraft (rennie.ashcraft@ocps.net) for any questions.




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MEDIA CENTER

All of our ELA classes are visiting the media center and it has been great to get so many books into the hands of our students. In August students participated in 5-Minute-Mania and completed a reader's interest survey to get to know more about their likes or dislikes as a reader.

Students participating in a book tasting activity called 5-Minute-Mania.



Students playing a Kahoot game to review the Library Research Tools folder apps (Destiny, Virtual Library Card, SORA and Beanstack)

In September students learned about all of the apps available to them in the Library Research Tools Folder from their Dashboard. These apps can help them find books, read books and get rewarded for reading.

Encourage your students to log their reading minutes in Beanstack everyday to complete the October Hallow-Read challenge of 300 minutes. All students who complete the challenge, which runs through Oct. 31, will win a prize and the top 3 readers will receive a grand prize! Each month will feature a new challenge in Beanstack with new prizes!

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