

Special points of interest:

- Summer Reading Program begins this year
- Update on CATS testing
- Information for next year
- Ways to help your student succeed in Reading
- Green Team at FLOAN
- Dress Code for next year
- Celebrations at FLOAN
- Important Dates

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From the Principal...

Starting May 11 and running through May 22, students at Olmsted Academy North will participate in the state's annual round of Commonwealth Accountability Testing System (CATS) assessments. Students' performance on these required tests determine each school's progress, according to the goals established by the Kentucky Department of Education.

We have seen steady growth this year in our Core Content Assessments given in all areas. Further, our student engagement is high, and there is a productive spirit within the building. The Commonwealth has made changes to the test this year; however students will be expected to perform as usual in core areas. Parents, we need your help and support during this testing window to ensure that student attendance is high and attitudes are positive.

Let me just say that our first year as an all boys school has been

incredible! Our PTSA membership has increased to over 250 members, and we have 100% staff participation. Student attendance has been up every single pupil month as compared to the comparable statistics from the previous year. Additionally, we have built positive relationships with students through our

morning CPR program with CARE for Kids. Student membership in clubs and activities are higher than ever, and our boys are happier with their new school. This year has been an overwhelming success as evidenced by positive growth in every measurable area. I am looking forward to a successful close of the school year and a positive start for 2009-2010.

I want to thank each of you for a wonderful school year, and I am enthusiastic about next year. I am proud to be principal at this school. I love the students, teachers, and community so much! I enjoy working with each of you. Please stop by anytime for a chat or to share your concerns. Also, I encourage you to become involved in our Parent Programs, as a volunteer for CATS testing or through our PTSA. Most importantly, I appreciate your work with your child. I wish all of you the very best for this summer and next school year! Please feel free to call me at 485-8331 or email me at bill.perkins@jefferson.kyschools.us if you have any questions or concerns.



Bill Perkins, Principal

Finish Strong!

As we close out the school year, it is important that students complete all work required in classes and maintain excellent attendance down the stretch. Please encourage your child to work hard to move C's to B's and B's to A's during the closing days. As always, we will continue to teach core content up until the last bell sounds for summer, and June 3rd, the last day for students, is still two months away.

Olmsted North will not offer a summer school program for struggling students; therefore, it is imperative that your child work to his fullest potential. Now is the time to turn up the intensity and work towards our goal of having all students proficient.

Counselor's Corner by Ms Shonte' Hardin

It's hard to believe that over half of the school year has passed! As this year winds down, we must continue to encourage our students to excel to the best of their abilities. I believe that if we all work together- parents, students, teachers, and administrators- all students will be successful. You may be asking what you can do to assist in this effort. The most important thing that you can do is to be well-informed.

CATS

I know that many of you have questions regarding the new legislation involving the CATS Assessment. Once the legislation has been passed and decisions have been made regarding our school district, we will notify you of any changes and how they may affect your child.

Testing will take place between the dates of Monday, May 11th-Friday, May 22nd. When we are testing, it is extremely important that you encourage your child to:

- Pay close attention when teachers review previously learned material.
- Get a good night's sleep- at least 8 hours every night!
- Eat a healthy breakfast.
- Be on time everyday!
- Come to school with a positive attitude and ready to work.

2009-2010 School Year

We have already begun preparing for next school year. Please mark these Orientation/Registration dates on your calendar:

- 6th Grade: Tuesday, July 28 @ 6 pm
- 7th Grade: Wednesday, July 29 @ 6 pm
- 8th Grade: Thursday, July 30 @ 6 pm

If you should have any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Hardin at 485-8331.

FLOAN Athletics and Academic Teams by Jeffrey Phelps, Athletic Director

This year athletic at Olmsted has been awesome. All of our Winter Sports did well. The 7th & 8th grade basketball team had a great season, and the young men on the team maintained a 3.0 grade point average throughout the season. The boys advance to the semi-final, but we fell short in the championship game.

This year we had a 6th grade basketball team, which was a first for our school. Our boys did well, and things are looking very good for next year 2009-10.

The Spring Sports are currently underway and include baseball, soccer, and flag football. I'm very excited about the Spring sports, and I'm looking for great things from our teams.

In addition to athletics, we had several academically oriented teams at FLOAN this year. The Quick Recall team had four students make it to the Regionals, which is outstanding. Our Future Problem Solving team and the chess team as represented us well at competitions within the district.

**Come join us at a
baseball, soccer, or
flag football game!**

Summer Reading Program

Over the summer, students who will be attending Olmsted North will be required to participate in a Summer Reading Program. We're raising the bar here at Olmsted North, moving towards attaining our goal of All Students Proficient, and a Summer Reading Program helps us accomplish that.

FLOAN, in conjunction with the Louisville Free Public Library, is the recipient of a Reading is Fundamental grant and will be providing a book to students who will be at FLOAN with us in the 2009-2010 school year.



All incoming sixth graders and all returning seventh and eighth grade students will be expected to read two books during their summer break, and students will be required to complete a project over each book that they have read.

Reading lists for each grade level, as well as a list of projects will be distributed during our Transition Nights and more information regarding the Summer Reading Program will be given to students as we get closer to the end of the school year.

Green Team at FLOAN

Our students are always looking for ways to be leaders in their community. The Green Team is committed to educating our school and community in the efforts of producing a cleaner environment through conservation and recycling.

MISSION STATEMENT

To have each student

Make a Green Pledge,

to take one simple step,

to reduce the environmental

Impact upon OUR Earth!

If everyone at Frederick Law

Olmsted Academy North

made just one pledge, together

we can have a big impact,

one student, by one student

to make a difference on this Earth.

One Earth. One Person. One Chance.

Eighth grade students at FLOAN are pledging to make it Green at Olmsted Academy North. Jennifer Knox, 8th grade Language Arts teacher, has been working with the 8th grade "Green Team" (GT) the following objectives: place recycling bins throughout the building; clean and care for our grounds and the patios; and to make the student body aware of the damage to the environment caused by a lack of conservation, locally and around the world. The Green Team was officially "born" on January 2, 2009.

We have made Mondays "Green Mondays" within the school, concentrating our sharing within the Circle for Care & Respect on the environment.

Each classroom has received recycle bins, which the GT (8th grade Green Team) members emptying and collect from all rooms of the school each Friday. These members take the recycled material to the dumpster once a week to make a difference in our world.

"We lead the way with being the first public all boys school, so it's evident we should lead the way with the environment and recycling." — James Tuttle, 8th Grade Green Team member.

The Green Team also distributed the first official Daily Green, newsletter, which is created and published by and with the Green Team's input.

We hope through fund raising to have a Green Team T-shirt with logo, available for everyone to wear on Green Mondays, to show students care about the Earth and show their unity for this project.

Things to Look Forward To:

- Cleaner school-Green Team helps pick up paper in classrooms.
- Taking care of school property-esp. this spring, the outside and courtyards.
- Green Team T-shirts.
- Future Essay contests per grade, about the environment.
- Contests for cleanest grade areas.
- Recycling teams within each grade starting 2009-2010.
- Planting Trees on Arbor Day (April) at Olmsted North
- Monthly newsletter published electronically to help save paper

For more information about the Green Team, visit their page on the FLOAN web site to see current newsletters and pictures.

<http://www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/Schools/Middle/OlmstedNorth/GreenTeam.html>

We really believe that this can be something great within our school, and something to give the kids to think about beside themselves. The students are excited to be on the Green Team. It has become a privilege within the student body.

Electronic Devices at School

We will be making a concentrated effort to confiscate any phones, CD players, Ipods, cameras, and PSP players (game boys) brought to school during the testing window. If taken, the item will not be returned until the last day of school to a parent/guardian. Please have your student keep these items at home for the remainder of the school year.

We're on the Web!

You are encouraged to check out our updated website. The site provides wonderful parent links as well as information about our school.

<http://www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/Schools/Middle/OlmstedNorth/index.html>



No Changes to Dress Code Next Year

The dress code will not change during the next academic school year. The code is listed below:

This will be our Dress Code policy for our all boy's school next year:

Pants-Blue, Gray, Black, or Khaki and must fit at the waist/be at the waist. A belt is optional

Shirts-White, Blue, Gray, or Black. Variations within the color families are understood and accepted. The shirts can be or "golf shirt" fashion, short or long sleeve. Spirit T-Shirts with the school name printed on them are also acceptable. Turtlenecks are allowed in solid colors that coincide with the list of acceptable colors. Plain sweatshirts are acceptable as long as they are worn right side out and are the right colors. Additionally, students are allowed to dress up with shirts and neckties with pants of the variation above if they are given permission from the principal.

Shoes-Each shoe shall be of the same color with no flip flops or clogs allowed.

No item of apparel or fashion shall be associated with gang or drug culture

No hats, headbands, or scarves will be allowed during the school day.

No clothing that is disruptive to the learning/school environment is permitted. Determination of "disruptive" will fall under the judgment of the administration.

Understanding the Power of Literacy by Jennifer Knox, 8th Grade Language Arts Teacher

KCCT, C.A.T.S, LOL, FYI. It seems that there are so many acronyms these days, I hardly know which one is which. To give parents an update on what is happening with the 8th grade students academically, we are preparing all students for their upcoming C.A.T.S tests. One of the ways we are reviewing is making sure that each student has a full understanding of the principles of reading:

*Foundation of Reading-understanding the meaning of the words the student are reading

*Initial Understanding of Reading-making predictions, drawing conclusions, making generalizations, summarizing and paraphrasing

*Interpreting Text (45% of the test in reading)-interpreting author's purpose or argument, determining key and supporting details, conflict resolution

*Demonstrating Critical Stance - literary devices, authors word choices, figurative language, etc.

The one thing that parents can help us do is to read with your children at least 20 minutes each night and ask questions that are related to these four areas of reading:

- What did the author mean when (s)he wrote that?
- What do you think will happen when we read tomorrow?

- Why do you think the author wrote this?
- What did we just read?
- What does the author want us to take away from this passage?
- What was this passage about?

Your parental support would tremendously speed us towards our goal of having "Every Child Proficient", and it sends a message to our students that reading is valued by every member of the FLOAN community. We are sure that all our students can achieve at Proficient and Distinguished levels, and your work at home, in concert with ours in the classroom, can make that happen!

As we say, "Every Child Proficient" and "Educating Tomorrow Leaders Today", Achieving the Dream at Frederick Law Olmsted Academy North.

Spring Sports Schedules—Come out and Support Your Colts!

Baseball Games

April 6 @ 8:00 p.m. (Jtown)
 April 11 @ 9:00 a.m. (Jtown)
 April 13 @ 8:00 p.m. (Jtown)
 April 18 @ 11:00 a.m. (Jtown)
 April 20 @ 6:00 p.m. (Mtown)
 April 25 @ 11:00 a.m. (Jtown)
 April 28 @ 6:00 p.m. (Jtown)
 April 30 @ 8:00 p.m. (Jtown)
Play-offs:
 May 9 @ Jim Patterson Stadium

Soccer Games

(all games at 5:30 p.m.)

April 7 vs. Stuart
 April 9 vs. Knight
 April 14 vs. Conway
 April 16 vs. Brown
 April 21 vs. Farnsley
 April 23 vs. Highlands
JCAPP
 April 10 vs. Farnsley

Flag Football

(all games at Stuart)

April 9th vs. Western @ 5:00 p.m.
 (Field 2)
 April 16th vs. Conway @ 5:00 p.m.
 (Field 1)
 April 23rd vs. Meyzeek @ 5:00
 p.m. (Field 2)
 April 29th vs. Farnsley @ 4:00
 p.m. (Field 1)

Important Dates for the Remainder of the School Year

SBDM Council Meeting—April 14 @ 6:00 p.m.
 Report Cards Go Home—April 28
 No School for Students—May 1
 Teacher Appreciation Week—May 4-8
 Perfect Attendance Days—May 6-8
 Baseball play-offs—May 9
 CATS Testing Window—May 11-22
 SBDM Council Meeting—May 12 @ 6:00 p.m.

No School for Students—May 25
 Night of the Arts with Olmsted South at Iroquois
 Amphitheater —May 26
 Godspell Jr—May 27 & 28
 Last Day for Students—June 3
 Promotion Honors Program for 8th Graders*—June 3
 @ 10:00 a.m.
 Report Cards Mailed Home—June 15

Horseshoe Playhouse Needs Your Support!

The Horseshoe Playhouse is presenting its debut performance! On May 27th & 28th, in collaboration with Olmsted South, our students will be performing "Godspell Jr".

In preparation for its first production, the Horseshoe Playhouse is readying the set. In order to create something truly outstanding, the Playhouse is asking for the following donations:



- Left-over LATEX paint (Latex only please)
- Paint brushes (all sizes)
- Paint stir sticks
- Cool-whip like containers with lids for mixing paint
- 2x4 lumber scraps (at least 2' in length)
- Plywood scraps (at least 2'x2')
- Caster wheels
- Fabric remnants
- Cotton drop-cloths (any condition)
- Wooden panel doors with no glass (any condition)
- Outlandish, cast-off clothing to be used as costumes

We thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you at our production!