

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Ocean Studies Charter School

DATES TO REMEMBER

Oct 5, 12, 19 Pizza Mondays

Oct 8th Elks Club 7pm

Oct 9th Homecoming Parade

Oct 19 School Board Mtg. 5pm

Oct 26th No School for students

Oct 30th Halloween Celebration

PE NEWS

According to research, exercising a minimum of 30 minutes each day could increase life span up to 5 years. Combined with good nutrition, life expectancy could be increased even more. September's focus is on lifetime fitness. This month, students are learning about these concepts and practical exercises that they can use to keep them physically fit. We added a new exercise circuit to their warm up routine to help jump-start their day. Parents you can try it too!

1. 20 jumping jacks
2. 5 push ups
3. 10 high knees
4. 20 seconds of fire feet (ask your children what fire feet are)
5. 5 squats
6. 2 laps around the playground

7. Repeat as needed :)The sport of the month is soccer. We worked on fundamental skills such as passing, dribbling and communication. When we finished practicing skills, the children had fun playing a friendly game. At the beginning and end of class, I make it a priority to continually remind students to practice good sportsmanship to ensure that we have friendly competition throughout our class and in life.

We have been in school for 28 days and all classrooms are in full swing. Thank you for sending your children to school well rested and on time. It is so important students start on time and get the full benefits of the morning circle and lesson time.

It was wonderful to see so many families at Open House. Parent/Teacher conferences went great as well. Most of our families took advantage of this one-on-one time with their child's teacher. If you did not get a chance to sign up, please reach out to your classroom teacher and make a point of seeing how your child is doing in class.

Remember: Communication is key, so please contact your child's teacher.

Please contact us should you have any concerns, questions or comments. Research shows and common sense tells us that when schools and families work together, children benefit.

PARKING SPACES

We would like to thank the Prosek family for their generous donation at our yearly silent auction for the preferred parking space in the front of the school. The blue sign designates the corner space by the walkway as the preferred space. We ask all our families to continue to support our school by being aware that this space is saved for the family who won the bid.



A big thank you to the Bonachea Family for helping our handyman Mr Tom spread the rock on our north entryway. This should fix the flooding problem on those rainy mornings. Thank you to the Vandiver family for a Flowcabulary license. We appreciate it!

Turtle Class Newsletter

September is over and October is here! The first few weeks of school were spent learning rules and procedures. We have now found our learning groove and are moving along quite nicely. The Turtle Class students really love to work, especially with all of our wonderful Montessori materials! They have learned many lessons and will continue to do so all year long. They are also enjoying our reading and vocabulary curriculum. In math, we have started learning to add 0, 1, 2 and 3. The first graders have started Singapore Math lessons and are learning about number bonds.

October is a very exciting month! Halloween is at the end of the month and each class will have a costume party! We will have a pot-luck lunch on Friday the 30th. We will post more information and a sign-up sheet on our classroom door. Please be on the lookout for it! We encourage everyone to dress up (nothing too scary), and do not wear masks or bring props. Please send your child with a change of clothes.

Congratulations to Ms. Martha and Ms. Hillary!!!!

They have been selected to take part in the Teacher Under the Sea Program through FIU's Aquarius Lab

Manatee Kingdom extends a heartfelt thanks to all parents helping out in the class and guiding their child to keep up on the daily reading log. Please practice multiplication tables with your children and ask them to read aloud to you to build confidence and fluency. With all the rain, our sunflowers didn't come up and got waterlogged; but, not to worry, we'll start growing new ones and expect to grow a garden as well in one of the garden boxes. Our field trips will start soon and we hope every parent gets the chance to come along and learn more about the Florida Keys!

Look for Ms. Juliane to start a book club soon. Have a GREAT October!

Mr. Tom/ Ms. Juliane

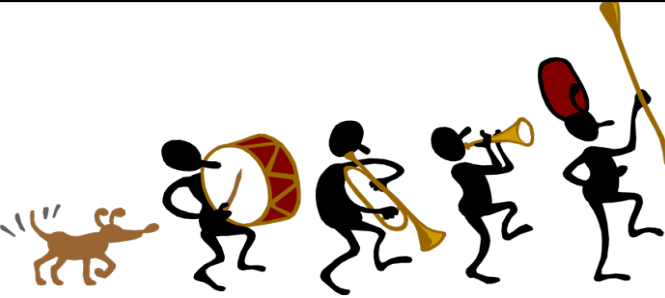
Staff member of the month

Each month a special staff member will be featured in our newsletter to be recognized and honored. The "Staff Member of the Month" will have a preferred parking space in the front of the school, so make sure to look for this and congratulate them. This month we are featuring **Ms. Penny Tugwell**.

Ms. Penny has a long-standing connection with our school and school building. She was part of the original staff when we opened in the 1994-1995 school year. Penny is a certified Montessorian and has a knack with emergent and beginning readers. She loves the kindergarten/first grade ages and is a joyful teacher. Ms. Penny is creating our bulletin board this month in the office. Her artistic, innovative ways make her class engaging and active. Our staff enjoys her humor, bringing laughter to many staff meetings. We love you, Ms. Penny



The Dolphin Class has been learning about the wet and dry seasons of the Florida Keys. The weather this past month has definitely confirmed we are in the wet season! The children have also been learning about the wind direction, wind speed, air temperature and water temperature. We document this information by using the National Marine Sanctuary's Molasses Reef buoy. The class applies this information in determining the safety of boating or diving for the day. The class is excited to start up field trips this month! Please remember to apply sunblock to your child prior to school on field trip days.



Congratulations to Ms. Margaret who is the featured Grand Marshall in the Coral Shores High School Homecoming Parade. If you and your family would like to see her, you are welcome to view the parade on October 9th. The location is on the Old Highway in front of Coral Shores High School at 4:30PM

A BIG THANK YOU TO THE ELKS

The Elks Lodge has awarded Ocean Studies a \$2,500 grant. The presentation will be October 8th at 7PM at the Elks Lodge. We thank the Elks and we will use the grant for Beach Cleanup T-shirts, a field trip with a local professional marine expert, Keys Encounters/Museum and educational and classroom experimental materials. If you attend the presentation on Oct 8th, please wear your beach clean-up T-shirts.

Happy October from Marine Science!

Parents of 3rd-5th graders, please help your children keep track of their Marine Science project comparing the Pacific and Atlantic Ocean basins. Let me know if you need more information about the project. We will be presenting our projects at the end of this month! We have already had our first Skype session with a 5th grade class from Innovations Academy in San Diego, California.

K-2 students have also begun their projects building boats! This project will mainly be done in our class.

Field trips are starting and we are excited to spend most of October in the pool at Founder's Park practicing our swimming skills with Coach Jon Olsen. Thank you Coach Jon! Most field trips depart at 1:00 p.m. and return by 3:15 p.m. (although Shark swimming lessons will be 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.). Don't forget to send your child on field trip day with a bathing suit, T-shirt/swim shirt, sunscreen, and water bottle. Remember, you can always check field trip info on our website - OceanStudiesCharterSchool.com. We are getting our school buses soon and will use a transportation service in the case that they are not available for our initial field trips. If this is the case, a teacher will be in each vehicle.

Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions Martha@OceanStudiesCharterSchool.com.

Have a great month!

Halloween News

Halloween at Ocean Studies is a fun-filled event. We have a parade that goes throughout the school as classes walk and visit each other. The Halloween Parade starts at 9:00 a.m. Please send your child to school dressed in their costumes and bring a change of clothes in a marked bag. To ensure all costumes are complete for the big night of trick-or-treating, please do not send any accessories with your child. We ask that all costumes are marked.

Halloween is a full school day. Each classroom has fun events planned. This is also our first "Party Day" event. Check with your room parent or classroom teacher to see how you can help.



POT LUCK

Please drop off potluck food in your child's classroom. If the food needs refrigeration, you are welcome to drop off in the staff kitchen. Please make sure it is clearly marked with which class it goes to; in the past food has gone to the wrong classroom by mistake.

THE SHARKS CLASS

Welcome to October! We have had a blast meeting with all of you and getting to know our students better through your eyes during parent-teacher conferences. We have gained so much valuable information about our class as a whole. If you were unable to meet with us or were unable to schedule a conference, please touch base, drop us an email, or stop in. We always welcome your input and are here for you should you have any questions or concerns to discuss.

We are looking forward to the start of field trips. The first three weeks of October are dedicated to swim lessons, so please send your child to school prepared with a bathing suit, towel, sunscreen and goggles. All items should be labeled with first and last name.

Don't forget to check the classroom door for additional sign-ups! We are currently looking for room parents. In addition, there will be a sign going up for our Halloween event!

A great big THANK YOU to Madison's mom for the purchase of Flocabulary, Kai's family for the CDs and Josh's family for the protractors!! We appreciate everything you do for us!!!

Fondly,
Miss Dani and Miss Carole

