

Ocean Studies Charter



September Newsletter

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, Sept. 7 - No School Labor Day

Tuesday, Sept. 8 – Back to School Night - 6pm to 7:30pm

Board Meeting Monday, September 21 – 5pm

Mon. – Fri. Sept. 21-25 Parent Teacher Conferences

TURTLE CLASS NEWS

The first week of school is over and September is here! We have had an awesome start to the school year and we are really enjoying getting to know our new students and catching up with our old students! We started off by going over the rules and procedures in our classroom and now we are really finding our groove. We have begun to work on our reading and mathematics skills and everyone is really excited to learn! Please be on the lookout for your child's spelling list, it will be placed in their cubby at the beginning of each week. Please practice with them at home; they will be quizzed on Fridays.

A few reminders- please remember that we are a sugar free school and we ask that parents send only water or milk to drink. We highly encourage sending lunches filled with protein, fruits and vegetables and to limit added dyes. If you are celebrating a birthday in our class and would like to bring in a special treat, please make sure that it is sugar free, or else it will have to be sent home. We also have students with gluten allergies, as well as sensitivities to food dyes so please keep that in mind. Feel free to ask Ms. Penny or Ms. Hillary if you need any suggestions! Also, if you would like to send a change of clothes to school, you are welcome to do so. We also recommend reading with your child for at least 20 minutes every night!



Science News

Hi all! Marine science is getting off to a great start! Please read your emails and check the field trip hanging bin on the wall in the office for up-to-date field trip information. Our field trips start the week of **September 28** with swimming lessons at Founder's Park for all classes. Our calendar on the Ocean Studies Charter School website will have the most current field trip information. Manatee and shark parents be on the lookout for information regarding our first research project on the Pacific vs. Atlantic Ocean, due at the end of October. We are very excited to be able to conduct video interviews with students in California, Hawaii, and Boston to help us gather information about the ocean in different areas. We will also be getting the chance to do a video meet-up with the crew of the E/V Nautilus in the Pacific! Have a wonderful September!

MANATEE CLASS NEWS

Dear Parents of Manatee Kingdom, We welcome you to the 2015-2016 School Year! We are studying North America including the all the Caribbean Nations. In September we are reviewing the Bahamas, Belize, Canada and Costa Rica. We are asking both 3rd and 4th grade to pick a North American Country. We are asking families to visit your local library and choose a book about a North American Country. We will support your child with completing a country report which will be completed by September 30th. We begin our field trips September 28th. Coach John at Founders Park will lead swim lessons for two weeks. Stay tuned for more details at Open House. We are also conducting our own Scientific Method forming a Hypothesis for Sunflowers using fertilizer versus no added food. Should be fun watching the sunflowers grow as tall as 6 feet! We still need 2 gallon pots filled with soil please. Also, please note we are excited to begin writing exercises in our second week. Please have brain storm ideas verbally with your child so they can have experience coming up with writing ideas. To save waste we are asking students to bring a cloth napkin each day to save on paper towel waste. See you all at Open House!

Mr. Tom and 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. Jessica Martinez.

Jessica has been an integral part of Ocean Studies as we have grown through the years. She is not only one of our Dolphin teachers but is a leader for all our staff. Jessica has taken on the responsibility of being a support for all staff with student progression. She will often take time to brain storm and support teachers to inspire students while targeting needed skills sets. Jessica is an added bonus to our school and always has a smile. Her easy going demeanor makes everyone feel confident and good about themselves. Thank you MS Jessica!!!

SHARKS CLASS Dear Parents,

We are gearing up for an amazing beginning of the year. The Shark’s class is so lucky to have our new teacher Ms. Carole and Ms. Dani couldn’t be more thrilled. Back to School Parent Night is Tuesday the 8th and we would love for a representative from each family to come as we will be sharing a lot of very crucial information that evening. We will be discussing and explaining the reading logs, weekly planner, class expectations and more. We will also hand out a parent information packet with a student questionnaire and other important class information such as teacher contacts in it. If you cannot make it for some reason that evening please come see us and tell us so we can get you a packet. Please make sure to sign the weekly planner each evening and have it returned to school. In the start of the year we may need to support our students a little bit more in helping them be more responsible. Also please make sure your child fills out their reading log. It is in the parent handbook that your child reads each evening for at least 20 minutes. This log is a way for us to support your efforts as parents to get your child to read. Any pleasure reading can be logged no matter the length. We definitely encourage your child to read more than just the 20 minute minimum!! If you have any questions about the planner or reading logs please come see us at any time.

Keep an eye out for the Parent-Teacher Conference Sign-Up Sheet. We will post that soon. They begin the week of the 21st of this month.



PIZZA! PIZZA! PIZZA!

Monday is Pizza Day at Ocean Studies. As a support for our fundraising efforts, Ocean Studies has pizza day every Monday. Each student will receive two slices for \$6. Pizza is paid for on a monthly basis. Pizza will start on Monday, September 14th. YUM! YUM!

Parent Teacher Conferences



Sept 21-25

Look for Sign-Up Sheets on classroom doors.

DOLPHIN CLASS

Hello Dolphin families and friends! It is so good to be back together again! Our start of school has been a great one. The students are all learning about our Dolphin Pod Family and how we go about our days. Routines, procedures and rules are being practiced and learned and everyone is starting to settle in. New students are making friends and old students are happy to be together again. This year, we are excited to have a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) shelf along with a critical thinking shelf – ask your students about it! Also, a huge hit with the kids are the Learning LEGOs we had donated by a grandparent! They are a great way to engage the children with thinking and problem solving skills! As always, our Language groups are forming as are our Math groups – we are excited to get going into our small group lessons that start this week. Try it Friday has begun again where students get to try new fruits and veggies together in a fun way – let the teachers know if you would like to bring something in to share! We are very happy to see all of our families again and excited to meet all our new ones. We are going to have a great



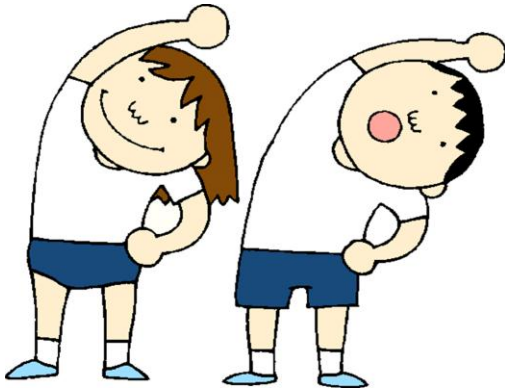
year together!.....

PE NEWS

Ocean Studies' students are excited to have a fresh start to a new school year! Physical Education is brand new in 2015-2016, with Mr. Mike as the PE teacher.

Mr. Mike is our brand new PE teacher for 2015-2016.

The beginning of the year is the perfect time to learn the basics, so exercises that focus on personal fitness, core strength and balance have been an essential component of OCSC's routine. Cooperation, teamwork and sportsmanship will be a continual part of the class with fun games that focus less on the winner and more on working together. Silent ball has been the opening week favorite game, which is game that focuses on developing a child's ability to communicate through nonverbal cues. Looking forward to a great year with plenty of sunshine and fun activities!



CONGRATULATIONS KEEGAN WITKKE

The History of Diving Museum congratulates Keegan on winning the "Dive into Summer Reading Program". As a winner Keegan will be invited to an Awards Reception at the History of Diving Museum.



PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

Michael Cutler is working through AHEC for all Monroe County families. He is at Key Largo school Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Walk-ins are welcome. Thursday and Friday he is at Coral Shores High School.



PTO NEWS

First meeting Friday September 4th from 2pm to 3pm at Chad's Deli

Come see how you can help the school this upcoming school year and find out all about the upcoming events.

SOCCER TIME IN THE FRONT OFFICE

If anyone at your house has outgrown soccer stuff please bring in for the Soccer Equipment Exchange.

Donate soccer cleats, balls, shin guards, etc. for others to use. There is no need to donate I order to take equipment.

Any leftover equipment will be taken to Haiti