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My Fellow Lions,

A great week here after the February break. My highlight of the week was seeing students build reading skills and confidence through partner reading with the *Bookworms* program. This interactive strategy allows students to pair up and take turns reading aloud, promoting fluency and comprehension. As they read, partners provide each other with support and feedback, enhancing their listening and communication skills. This collaborative approach also fosters a love of reading by making it a shared experience. Families can encourage partner reading at home by pairing up with their children to practice reading and discuss favorite books together.



## Important News

- **Drop off loop** - Please only utilize the left lane to exit only after dropping off your students. If you are dropping off for Ready to Learn in the back, please stay in the right lane. Taking a right turn from the left lane causes back ups and potentially dangerous situations.
- **Community Conversation #2** - Join us as the Board of Education narrows down the options for the Long Range Facilities Plan, Which is slated to be finalized in the Spring. Saturday, March 1st 9:30-12:00 at Foran High School. The day will start at 9:00 a.m. with check-in, coffee, and light refreshments, and the conversation will kick off at 9:30 a.m. with a plan to wrap up by noon. Childcare will be provided. [Please sign up to attend here.](#)
- **OAS Mindfulness in Residence** -With cohort 2 (Grades 3-5) starting on Monday, students in these grades can bring a towel or yoga mat to school. Also be sure to check out the Mindfulness Home Connection with weekly tips that were reviewed with students.
  - [OAS Mindfulness Home Connection](#)
- **Kindergarten registration is open!** - More information is [here](#)
- **Community Connections** - Be sure to check out [this week's CCC News.](#)

- **Food Services links** - Visit the [MPS food service website](#) for lunch menus and account setup.

## PTA News-

### Community Kindness Night-

- Thursday, February 27th 5:30-7:30
- Kind Works will spend a special Kindness themed evening with your school community, including parents, children and teachers. This 2-hour workshop features 4 Kindness-themed educational stations facilitated by the Kind Works Team. Three stations will address specific areas of Kindness with an interactive workshop and the last station will invite participants to engage in a unique art project where participants will make Tools of Kindness to be shared with the community. Kind Works merchandise will also be available for purchase.
- Space is limited to 100 people, [please RSVP here](#).
- This is not a drop off event

### Bridgeport Islanders Game

- Saturday, February 22 5:00
- Join family and friends of Orange Ave at the Bridgeport Islanders game on February 22nd! Stop by the Jersey Raffle table outside of section 100 to help raise money for the school! Doors will open at 4:00pm for a 5:00pm puck drop! Don't forget to stop by the Isles 365 table outside of section 100/101 to pick up your free hat!
- [Click here to purchase tickets](#)

### Spiritwear

- Limited quantities of adult and child sizes for tie dyed Long Sleeve shirt and adult size of hat. Items will be sent home with your child.
- [Click here to purchase](#)

### Want to become a Member? No strings attached!

- [Click the link](#) and sign up!

### Want to keep up to date on OAS PTA?

- Follow us on [Facebook](#)
- Check us out on Instagram @OAS PTA
- Questions/Comments [ptaorangeavenue@gmail.com](mailto:ptaorangeavenue@gmail.com)

## Important Dates:

- [Printable MPS full year calendar can be found here](#).
- **Subscribe to the Orange Avenue Public Calendar** with all our events and activities by clicking [here](#).
- **Wednesday, February 26th:** Early Dismissal for Professional Learning. Students dismissed at 1:25.
- **Friday, February 28th** - Fun Friday: Dress as your favorite character or wear your OAS spirit wear.
- **Saturday, March 1st: 9:30-12:00:** Community Conversations #2 at Foran. More information is [here](#)
- **Wednesday, March 5th:** NO SCHOOL for Teacher Professional Development.

- **Thursday, March 6th** - Spring Picture Day. Ordering information is [here](#).
- **March 18th- 20th**- Parent Teacher Conferences, early dismissal at 1:15pm for all students