

Click [here](#) for a printable version

My Fellow Lions,

Great week here at OAS. Highlight of the week was seeing our crazy socks today to raise awareness for Down Syndrome. In honor of last week's World Down Syndrome Day, it was heartwarming to see so many vibrant and unique socks as a show of support and awareness.

I would like to take a moment to recognize someone who personally deepened my understanding of Down Syndrome—Ms. Ava Perrella. Ava was a kind, funny, and determined young lady who brought joy to everyone around her. Though the world became a little less bright with her passing in June 2022, her impact continues to shine through the awareness and kindness she inspired.

While we continue to hold Ava in our hearts, we are grateful for our other students with Down Syndrome who continue to bring joy, happiness and awareness to our school each day.



Important News

- **CMEA Honors** - On Friday, March 21, selected 5th graders from OAS performed with students from across the state at Central Connecticut State University in the CMEA Elementary Honors Orchestra, Band and Choir and did a great job at the one day festival! The day culminated with an amazing orchestra, band, and choir concert! Congratulations to 5th grade students Ariel, Rebecca, Kaelanii, Melanie, Alana, Zachary, and Olivia V. on their participation in this event!



- **School Library Month** - is in April: check out the CASL bookmark contest. Completed bookmarks due to Miss Candido by April 17th. Template and more info is [here](#).
- **Grade 5 Families** - Additional information was sent to families regarding the selection of [Music](#) and [World Language](#) classes for 6th grade. Please review the linked documents and make your selections.
- **State Testing** - Please see this [letter](#) from Mr. Autieri, Assistant Superintendent. OAS Assessments will occur during May, starting on Monday, May 5th.
 - Students in Grades 3-5 will be assessed through the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA), an individual adaptive computer-based assessment.
 - Grade 5 students will take the Next Generation Science Standards Assessment (NGSS).
 - Tips and Tools for preparing students for testing can be found [here](#).
- **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-

5th Grade Parents

- Save the date! Fifth grade sendoff is Thursday, June 5th (raindate Wed. June 4th) more information to follow

After School Programs

- Novus Camp
 - Thursdays: 4/10, 4/17, 5/1, 5/8, 5/15, 5/22
 - [Click here to join](#)
- Peace, Love, Crafts
 - Monday 4/7, 4/14, 4/28, 5/5 OR
 - Tuesday 4/8, 4/15, 4/29, 5/6
 - Email Nicki @ peacelovecrafts1155@gmail.com to sign up

PTA Meeting

- April 10th 6:00 OAS Media Center
- If you are interested in joining the board as Vice President of Membership, please email Victoria at Victoria.yussim@hotmail.com or Amanda at Mndpappas@gmail.com by Tuesday, March 18th

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

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, April 9th** - Creativity in Motion for Prek & K students 5:00-7:00 PM at Pumpkin Delight School - More info is [here](#).
- **Thursday, April 10th** - PTA meeting at 6 pm in Media Center
- **Thursday, April 17th** - Fun Thursday: Wear your favorite color or your OAS Spiritwear
- **Friday, April 18th-Friday, April 25th**- Spring Recess: No School
- **Wednesday, April 30th**- Early Release day for all students at 1:25 pm
- **Some tentative End-of-Year Dates for planning purposes**

- Wednesday, May 21st - Grade 4 & 5 Concert with Chorus, Band and Strings. 6:30 at Foran Auditorium. More info is [here](#).
- Wednesday, May 28th - Field Day (Raindate: Thursday, May 29th)
- Thursday, June 5th - Grade 5 Send off (Raindate: Wednesday, June 4th)
- Monday, June 9th - Early Dismissal: Students dismissed at 1:25.
- Tuesday, June 10th - Early Dismissal: Students dismissed at 1:25
- Wednesday, June 11th - Tentative Last Day of School: Students dismissed at 1:25