



**Oak Hill Elementary School**

**December 2019/January 2020 Newsletter**

***"It is the mission of Oak Hill Elementary School to create a rigorous, safe, engaging learning environment where students are life-long learners in a diverse global community."***

*December 2019/January 2020*

**IMPORTANT DATES TO**

**REMEMBER!**

**Upcoming Dates:**

- Dec. 4—School Store, 8:40am
- Dec. 5—2 hour early dismissal. No PM PreK or ECI.
- Dec. 9—Band/Strings Concert, 6:30pm
- Dec. 13—PTO Meeting, 9am
- Dec. 13—Interims Sent home
- Dec. 16—Chorus Concert 6:30pm
- Dec. 23-Jan. 1—Winter Break; school closed
- Jan. 2—School Reopens
- Jan. 17—PTO Meeting 9 AM
- Jan. 20—MLK, school closed
- Jan. 28-29—End of 2nd marking period. Two-hour early dismissal . Schools closed for PM Pre-K and E.C.I. students
- Jan. 30—School closed for students
- Jan 31—3rd Marking Period Begins

**Principal's Message**

Dear Parents,

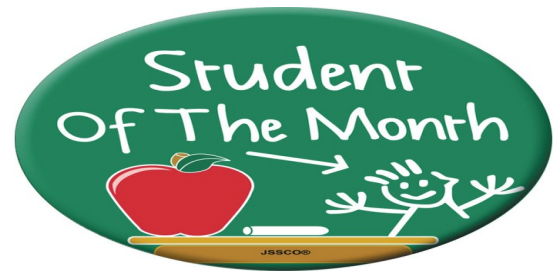
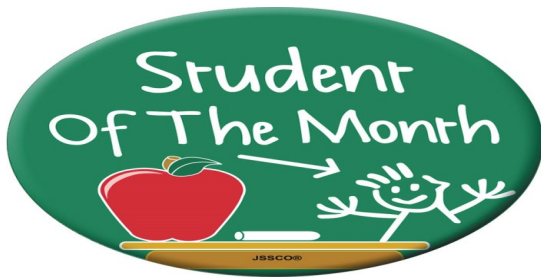
The PTO silent auction event held on November 16th was memorable! The parents' and faculty's contributions of time and donations are greatly appreciated. A special thank you to our Art Lead parents as well as our parents on the Event Committee. The school community made this evening a success!

The holiday season and calendar year end are rapidly approaching. There is a Band and Strings Concert, under the direction of Mrs. Wood, on December 9th at 6:30 PM. We have a Winter Chorus Concert, under the direction of Mr. Peachey, on December 16th at 6:30 pm.

Our last day of school prior to the winter break is December 20th. We invite the students and staff to wear the PJs to school on December 20th. Students return on January 2nd. During this time, we wish you special family time, relaxation, and loving moments.

**Deneen Houghton  
Principal**





## *STUDENTS OF THE MONTH*

The character trait these kids exhibited was  
*kindness* during the month of November

### *KINDERGARTEN*

Grebb	Molly E
Holmes	Nora C
Toton	Grant C
Scott	Claire K
Wade	Brooks P
Tooley	Reagan V
Derksen	Sophia F

### *FIRST GRADE*

Grimes	Penelope F
Gorski	Sawyer L
Sesney	Caroline O
Zimmerman	Sloane D
Seay	McCall P

### *SECOND GRADE*

Anderson	Brantley C
Ellenberger	Natalie H
Johnson	Silas F
Parker	Inez B

### *THIRD GRADE*

Crane	Micah B
Creel	Joseph M
Macchia	Odalis D
Pere	Skylar G
Quirey	Jackson S

### *FOURTH GRADE*

McKean	Riley K
Mack	Kyle S
Robinson	Joelle K
Trent	Noah S

### *FIFTH GRADE*

Birrane	Sean M
Klug	Kingsley C
Bodnar	Kendall D
McDowell	Ella S

There has been cases of Head Lice at Oak Hill, please read the following fact sheet.



# Head Lice

## A Real Head Scratcher For Parents

Pediculosis, or head lice, is a condition that affects approximately 6-12 million children between the ages of 3 and 12 years of age, and about one in every 100 elementary students every year.

Head lice are parasites that are generally found on the scalp, around the ears, and at the back of the neck. The adult louse is about the size of a sesame seed, and can be a reddish brown color. Eggs, or nits, are smaller and silver in color.

Head lice are not a sign of poor hygiene and they do not transmit disease. The most common symptom of head lice is head scratching, particularly at night. If you suspect your child has head lice, have them examined by your health care provider and follow their directions.

Anne Arundel county Public Schools has a No Live Lice Policy in keeping with the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Association of School Nurses.

When a student is found to have live lice or nits less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch from the scalp, the parent will be notified. The student can remain in school until the end of the day and must be treated by an over-the-counter or prescription insecticide shampoo before returning to school.

These shampoos should kill the live lice, but may not kill all the nits. You may need to treat again in 7-10 days.

### How to get your child back to school:

- Your child must be free of live lice and all nits close to the scalp (within  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch from scalp).
- Your child must be checked by school health staff before returning to class.

For more information about the treatment and prevention of head lice, ask your school nurse or go on-line to:

[www.aahealth.org/handouts/headlice\\_handout.htm](http://www.aahealth.org/handouts/headlice_handout.htm)

[www.cdc.gov/lice/head/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/lice/head/index.html)

Anne Arundel County Department of Health  
School Health Services



**Holiday Elves are needed at our school again this year to assist with the Infants and Toddlers Families.**

**Please copy/paste the sign up genius link below for the information and items needed.**

**<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054CA4AF23AAF49-ohes1>**

**All items needed no later than Monday, December 16th and don't forget to put the family letter and description on each gift.**

**We will also need wrappers, please contact Ms. Stargel if you are available to wrap.**



## *COAT DRIVE*

Girl Scouts are collecting coats to help people stay warm this winter season. Drop off your used coats in the school lobby or Admiral Cleaners in Severna Park. Admiral cleaners will clean and donate them. All coats need to be donated no later than **December 14th**.



## Student Absences

If you pick your child up from the health room due to illness and he/she is absent from school on subsequent days, please make sure you provide a note upon your child's return to school. Please put current date, teacher's name, child's name, reason for absence, signature and contact number. The office must have documentation for the absences incurred after the early dismissal.

## *Lost & Found*

Please remember to label your child's belongings. The lost and found is overflowing with some extremely nice items and although every effort is made to return things that are labeled, most show no indication to whom they belong. It will be cleared out and anything unclaimed will be donated to charity.

## **ATTENDANCE**

**As you plan vacations, please remember vacation days are considered unexcused. Thank you for understanding.**



## CAR RIDER PARENTS

When dropping off or picking up your child, we would appreciate everyone staying in their car, and during the holiday break please practice with your child how your child can independently get in and out of the car by themselves.

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## CHANGE OF TRANSPORTATION POLICY

If you would like to have your child go home a different way than usual, please make sure a parent/guardian sends a note into the school stating the following information: **date, teacher's name, child's first & last name, name of person picking up (should be on emergency card), date, your signature and contact numbers for both persons.** Please make sure if someone is picking your student up, he/she has proper ID to show. However, children are not permitted to ride a different bus.

*Example:*

December 25, 20—

Ms. \_\_\_\_\_

Please allow John Jones to take the bus home and not attend after care on December 25, 20—

Suzy Jones, 410-555-5555



### **Attention Oak Hill Dads!**

We are looking for dads to volunteer to spend a day at school and help out in classrooms and at lunch and recess. It's called the Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) program, and it's a great opportunity for dads to meet a lot of teachers and students and get a first hand look at how your kids spend their day.

**For more information contact David Knowles at  
knowlesdavid@gmail.com or (410) 810-4444**

# \*\*\*O Ambassadors Club\*\*\*

Dear Oak Hill Families,

Ms. Anderson's second grade class, with the help of some of our past O Ambassadors, will hold our *annual Candy Gram Sale Monday, December 9th-Friday, December 13th. Holiday Candy Grams (candy canes) are \$1.00 each* and may be purchased for classmates, other Oak Hill students, and Oak Hill faculty and staff. Parents may also purchase for their own children. Students purchasing a Candy Gram may write a holiday message, and we will deliver the Candy Grams during the last week before our winter break. All of the money we raise will go to Services From the Heart-Blessings In a Backpack, which serves children right here in Anne Arundel County. They have a Facebook page if you'd like to learn more about this wonderful organization.

If you would like to purchase a Candy Gram from our O Ambassadors, please come to Ms. Anderson's room in second grade from **8:40-8:55 a.m. December 9th-13th. WE CANNOT ACCEPT ORDERS AFTER DEC. 13<sup>th</sup>.** Or you may complete the attached forms, cut them apart, put them in an envelope with your money (cash—exact change only-- or check made out to Oak Hill Elementary School) and return to Ms. Anderson before our deadline. *Please see Ms. Anderson for **EXTRA FORMS**. We cannot accept orders written on other paper. We also cannot guarantee delivery if all areas of the form are not completely filled in.*

Also, if anyone would like to **donate a box of regular sized** (not the mini) **candy canes**, we would **greatly appreciate** the support. The more donations we receive, the fewer candy canes we will have to purchase. 😊

***Thank you for your kindness & help!***

**Ms. Anderson & the O Ambassadors**

**Candy Gram**

To: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Candy Gram**

To: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Candy Gram**

To: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Candy Gram**

To: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Candy Gram**

To: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Candy Gram**

To: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# Flu Vaccine

## Facts & Myths



Department of Health  
and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control  
and Prevention

**MYTH** “The flu isn’t a serious disease.”

**FACTS** Influenza (flu) is a serious disease of the nose, throat, and lungs, and it can lead to pneumonia. Each year about 200,000 people in the U.S. are hospitalized and about 36,000 people die because of the flu. Most who die are 65 years and older. But small children less than 2 years old are as likely as those over 65 to have to go to the hospital because of the flu.

**MYTH** “The flu shot can cause the flu.”

**FACTS** The flu shot cannot cause the flu. Some people get a little soreness or redness where they get the shot. It goes away in a day or two. Serious problems from the flu shot are very rare.

**MYTH** “The flu shot does not work.”

**FACTS** Most of the time the flu shot will prevent the flu. In scientific studies, the effectiveness of the flu shot has ranged from 70% to 90% when there is a good match between circulating viruses and those in the vaccine. **Getting the vaccine is your best protection against this disease.**

**MYTH** “The side effects are worse than the flu.”

**FACTS** The worst side effect you’re likely to get from a shot is a sore arm. The nasal mist flu vaccine might cause nasal congestion, runny nose, sore throat and cough. The risk of a severe allergic reaction is less than 1 in 4 million.

**MYTH** “Only older people need a flu vaccine.”

**FACTS** Adults and children with conditions like asthma, diabetes, heart disease, and kidney disease **need to get a flu shot**. Doctors also recommend children 6 months and older get a flu shot every year until their 5th birthday.

**MYTH** “You must get the flu vaccine before December.”

**FACTS** Flu vaccine can be given before or during the flu season. The best time to get vaccinated is October or November. **But you can get vaccinated in December or later.**

For more information, ask your healthcare provider or call  
**800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636)** Website [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu)

## Is it Bugging? Bossing? Bothering? Or Bullying?



Helping children learn to identify the type of issues they are having with peers is the first step to solving the problem. Often, children hear the word, “bullying” and think, yeah...that was mean, I’m being *bullied*. However, many peer interactions, albeit needing adult intervention may not begin as bullying.

When a peer is **bugging** (i.e. doing childish or annoying behaviors, goofy teasing, etc.), it’s helpful for your child to learn to say, “Please stop, that really bugs me.”

**Bossing** behavior is common as children become aware of rules and procedures. It is a misdirected form of “helping”, but still problematic for the bossed and the bossee. Children can try saying, “I know you are trying to help, but I am ok right now...”

**Bothering** behaviors are often unintentional habits that classmates may have that “bother” others. In this case, helping your child learn to move away politely, give gentle reminders, or discreetly ask the teacher for assistance. AACPS recognizes **bullying** as behavior or actions that

- ◆ Are **intentional Physical, verbal, social behaviors that are intended to hurt**
- ◆ Are **repeated and/or frequent**
- ◆ Are **hurtful**
- ◆ Manifest a **perceived imbalance of power**
- ◆ **Substantially interfere** with a student’s educational benefits, opportunities, or performance.

# From the Health Room

**Winter holidays bring gatherings with friends and family, shopping with throngs of excited shoppers, and exchanging gifts...and germs! That brings us to the important question:**

**Illness: How do I know when to keep my child home from school because of illness?**



Parents should keep their child home from school because of a serious illness, injury or a condition that can be passed on to other children. Although no comprehensive list is possible, the following conditions may be considered appropriate reasons to keep a student home from school:

**Examples of serious illness or injury:**

- Vomiting
  - Temperature 100° F or greater
  - Abdominal pain
  - Earache
  - Head injury
  - Adverse medication effect
  - Suspected fracture
  - Chest pain
  - Severe pain
- Severe shortness of breath or wheezing

**Examples of possible communicable conditions:**

- Vomiting
  - Loose stools/diarrhea
  - Suspected communicable disease
  - Nuisance condition not currently being treated, e.g., ringworm, scabies, head lice
  - Red, draining eyes
  - Persistent runny nose with yellow/green discharge, accompanied by fever
  - Productive cough, accompanied by fever
- Undiagnosed rash

Please consult with their doctor for advice and/or treatment of the conditions or symptoms listed here.

**The Health Room Staff wishes you and your family a Happy and  
HEALTHY Holiday Season!!**

*"Rise Above It"*

OAK HILL ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL

34 Truck House Road  
Severna Park, MD 21146  
Phone: 410 222-6568

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WE'RE ON THE WEB

[www.aacps.org](http://www.aacps.org)

