



Rainbow Review

A Newsletter for Parents, Teachers, and Students of
Orchard Ridge Elementary School

Dr. Michael Hertting
Principal

5602 Russett Road
Madison, WI 53711
204-2320

Safe Arrival: 204-2329

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE
orchardridgemadison.com/ORE.htm

From the Principal

Dear Parents:



Winter is here with a vengeance! We have had some of our first indoor recesses because of cold.

We also have had plenty of ice and water on our playground. Please be sure your children are dressed for the weather. We do go outside everyday, unless it is really cold!

Our first semester is closing and the second semester is about to begin. Report cards will be sent home on January 31st via student backpack. Please be sure to contact your child's teachers if you have any questions about his/her report card. We are always willing to talk to parents.

Some parents were surprised that school was not cancelled when we received a lot of snow. It is really unusual for MMSD to cancel school. Please tune in to local stations to find out if school is cancelled. I can only recall one day in the past five years and that was due to cold weather.

Upcoming in the next few weeks are our second ORE PTO Sock Hop, some family fun nights, registration for middle school and 3rd grade State reading tests!

Sincerely,
Mike Hertting, Principal

mhertting@madison.k12.wi.us

Winter Concert DVDs Available!

DVDs of the Winter Concert are now available for purchase. Please contact Michael Stone at w.michael.stone@tds.com, or 277-8898 if you are interested in buying one. You can arrange to pick it up after school for \$5, or have it mailed directly to your home for \$6.

February Dates to Remember



- 2** Gr. 1 Field Trip to Aldo Leopold Nature Center
- 4** ORE Winter Sock Hop 6:30-8:00 pm
- 8** EARLY RELEASE for Staff Development 11:30AM
- 8** PTO Meeting 7:00 pm
- 9** Gr. 2 & 3 Field Trip to Overture Center
- 15** Gr. K & 1 Field Trip to Overture Center
- 15** Family Fun Night 6:00-7:30pm
- 25** NO SCHOOL - SWEIO

Geography Bee

A special congratulations goes to the following students for qualifying for and/or participating in this years Geography Bee. Sophia Estes, Joey Dybevik, Alessandra Gaglio, James Holmquest, A.J. Larson, Brian Young, Katherine Quintanilla, Michael Renken, Chaz McGee, Alex Varney, Ghazal Mirzaei, Arthur Johnson, Jr., Chris Varney, McKenna Becker, Tom Vermeulen, Brendan Fellenz, Madeline Cook, Danielle Goulette, Rylie Sarbacker and Emily Vermeulen. Everyone did an excellent job.



Achieving First Place was Tom Vermeulen with Michael Renken taking Second Place.

Way to go everyone!

PTO SPRING CARNIVAL - Mark your calendar!!



The Orchard Ridge Elementary School PTO Spring Carnival is on **SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2005, from 11:00am-3:00pm**. Food, fun, games, raffles and more! Please start saving those "special" items for the Mystery Gift Booth. Remember, items can be gently used books, videos, toys, games, stuffed animals, (almost anything).... More information about the Carnival will be sent home as the March 5th date approaches.

-Ann O'Rourke, Carnival Co-Chair

News from the PTO

Thanks to all parents and staff who contacted MMSD Building Services in support of getting our **Track Rider** installed. Your input helped get the equipment installed in early Dec. and it is now being enjoyed by ORE Students!

Thanks again to Lisa Kornetsky for coordinating the SPIRIT SHIRTS project! This was a great community building event for ORE.

Kudos to the ORE Student Council on their Food Drive held before winter break. Students collected over 3,000 items for the food pantry. It was a wonderful community service project at a time of great need. Thanks also to you parents who contributed so generously.



Another round of wonderful winter concerts was held in Dec. Did you know that ORE is one of the last elementary schools in the district to conduct these night time concerts? It is the generous volunteering of ORE staff that allows this to happen. So be sure to let **MS. MORROW** and **MR. RICKMAN** and your child's teacher know how much you appreciate their support of preserving the opportunity to see our children perform in the evening. Watch this spring for the PTO sponsored Opera for the Young's production of Hansel and Gretel, accompanied by ORE students. Thanks to Anchor Bank who has provided a \$100.00 grant to help fund this event.

The Jan. PTO meeting included guest speakers **Lt. Tony Peterson** of MPD and **Ted Balisteri**, MMSD Security Director. Ted explained all the steps being taken to keep your child safe at school such as locking the doors, posting of emergency procedures throughout the building, staff radios, identification badges, special staff training and emergency buttons on phones. Lt. Peterson explained the large area included in the West Precinct (25 square miles) with 6 officers allocated to provide coverage. Our neighborhoods are as safe as or safer than most in the nation. Changing demographics and changing criminal activity keep the MPD staff very busy. Did you know that it is often observant neighbors who help solve crimes? Be sure to report any suspicious behavior to Crime Stoppers 266-6014 or the West Side precinct dispatch at 255-2345.



MMSD is talking about redrawing boundary lines again. The district will hold a February 14th meeting to discuss this issue, so we will know more next month. MMSD is also considering referenda on district wide maintenance and for a second school at the Leopold school site. We will keep you posted on these issues and how they will affect ORE.

PTO News continued on next page.....

PTO News continued from previous page.....

Upcoming PTO Events

Family Fun Nights January 25, 6:00-7:30pm and February 15, 6:00-7:30pm
If you're not sure what these are, come and find out! The building is open and warm on these cold winter nights with the Toki gym open for fun activities and the LMC for quiet reading. Open to all ORE students, staff and parents. Children must be accompanied by parent or guardian.

Winter Sock Hop February 4, 6:30-8pm

ORE School Carnival/Scholastic Book Fair March 5, 11:00am-3:00pm

PTO Meetings February 8 and March 8

Business Meetings at 6:00 in the Teacher's Lounge. You are always welcome to attend! Free childcare provided.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments on any PTO issues, please feel free to contact us.

Beth Walsh co-president ORE PTO 276-8422 bwalsh60@charter.net

Lisa Veldran co-president ORE PTO 271-0722



MSCR WINTER CLASS OPENINGS

Beginning Jazz Dance - Grades 2-5, Saturdays, January 22 – April 2, 10:05-11:05 am, at MSCR, 3802 Regent Street, \$45.

Intermediate Jazz Dance - Grades 2-5, Saturdays, January 22 – April 2, 11:10 am-12:10 pm, 3802 Regent Street, \$45.

Beginning Tap Dance - Grades 2-5, Tuesdays, January 25 – April 5, 6:05 – 7:05 pm, or Saturdays, January 22-April 2, 9-10 am, 3802 Regent Street, \$45.

Youth Drawing - Grades 3-5, Fridays, January 28-February 18, 5:30-6:30 pm, \$20.

Beginning and Intermediate Ballet - Grades K – 5, several sessions to choose with classes at Schenk Elementary and 3802 Regent Street.

Cross Country Skiing Lessons - Grades K-6, Saturdays, 1-2:30 pm, Choose January 8, 15, 22 or 29 at Odana Golf Course. \$14.

MSCR also has a wide range of adult classes including quilting, jewelry making, painting and guitar lessons. Please call 204-3000 for more information. Or check out www.mscr.org. Register now!

MSCR offers many recreation programs for all ages at affordable prices. Programs include: sports leagues, arts & enrichment, fitness, cultural events, outdoor adventure, recreational sports, swim lessons and many other fitness and leisure opportunities. MSCR, a division of the Madison Metropolitan School District, is a public service recreation department serving the community since 1926. It is the lead provider of a wide range of accessible programs and leisure opportunities.

December Scrip Results are Great!

Thanks so much parents and staff for helping us earn \$480.00 in Scrip proceeds in December. We have had just two Scrip order months and have already made \$720.00. That's just wonderful!

What were some of your favorites?

- You made \$85.00 in Copps' and \$15.40 in Cubs in December.
- Combining proceeds from gas companies Citgo, Kwik Trip, Mobil and Speedway you earned \$28.40. (Citgo has left the Scrip program, and it will not be available next month).
- Many people took advantage of the scrip heavy hitters of JT Whitney (30%) and Red Robin (18%). Orders from these two restaurants alone earned \$68.40. (Red Robin had a one-month promotion and will go back down to 9% in January.)
- You made \$21.60 from Pizza Hut.
- Holiday gift card purchases netted:
 - \$33.30 from Barnes and Noble
 - \$24.50 from Bath and Body Works
 - \$9.90 from Claire's
 - \$33.00 from Land's End

How many people ordered?

So far in November and December, 38 families have participated in the scrip program. In December, we had 31 parents and 4 staff members purchase scrip. Staff member profits in the scrip program to date total \$70.00 (1/10th of our total profits!)

What's new at Scrip?

The following businesses have been added to scrip this month:

Pier 1, Denny's, Amazon.com, Blockbuster, Casual Corner, Gander Mountain, Boston Market, Kentucky Fried Chicken, and Marcus Theaters.

Two businesses have been dropped by Great Lakes Scrip Company:

Citgo and Fannie May candies.

Scrip and "Have a Heart"

On January 21st, we will send out our next order. Won't you consider purchasing scrip in January? It's "Have a Heart" month, with orders being delivered well before Valentine's Day. You can order cards to buy flowers from 1-800-flowers, purchase cards from Sears, JCPenny, and Lands End to buy items for your sweeties, or take your spouse out to a scrip restaurant.

Thanks for your support!

KEEP INFORMED



The PTO is starting an email list that will be used to send information to parent and teachers of ORE students.

This will be a private moderated list, which means every message will be reviewed before being released to the list. This will keep the volume of messages low, and eliminate all spam. Attachments are also removed to keep the message size small. Your email will not be shared with any outside group, and it will also remain private unless you send a message. You can sign up several email addresses (home, work) and it is easy to remove yourself from the list at any time. Yahoo.com manages this and many other groups.

To join, send an email to webmaster@orchardridgemadison.com
Please include your name, and the name of your children's teacher(s).

If you are already a member of the group, you can send a message to the group by emailing:

OREPTO@yahoogroups.com - Send message to group
OREPTO-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com - Unsubscribe from the group

2005 MMSD Recognition Awards

Ceremony to be held on April 25, 2005

This prestigious recognition is presented annually to outstanding citizens and personnel serving the schools and children of Madison. Your hard-working colleagues and volunteers deserve recognition now.

Nominate that special teacher, principal, MMSD Employee or citizen volunteer for a

Distinguished Service and Joe Thomas Community Service Student Award

Nomination Deadline Friday February 4, 2005.



This year's ceremony will be held on Monday April 25, 2005 at La Follette High School. For information and nomination forms, go to www.mmsd.org (see "Hot Topics") or call 663-1964.

Note: Date Change

The deadline for nominations for the Distinguished Service Awards for Citizens, Staff and Students is two weeks away.

For information go to: <http://www.madison.k12.wi.us/dsa/>. If you plan on nominating someone please carefully follow the instructions for the nomination process. The judges will be looking for very specific examples in the answers given to the essay questions. There will be many nominees this year. Lots of nominees make for a very enjoyable awards ceremony. Don't leave out the deserving people at your school or work site.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS - February 4, 2005.