

Rainbow Review

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

Dr. Michael Hertting
Principal

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE
orchardridgemadison.com/ORE.htm

From the Principal

Dear Parents:

There has been much happening at ORE. We are working hard to plan for next year and our students are working hard to finish the year on a positive note.

It is my hope that you heard about our Earth Week celebration at ORE. Each class completed some activity in celebration of this event. Many classes cleaned up around the school. We then had an assembly featuring Ken Lonquist. Each class shared how they participated in Earth Week.

More recently we had Opera for the Young for our students, sponsored by our PTO. The show this year was Hansel and Gretel. Many of our older students participated in the Chorus. The Opera staff made it a point to share how well our students sang. This was another great experience for our students.

Another assembly in the planning stages for our students is a celebration of our efforts with Penny Power. Our students have worked hard to collect pennies to support a

local agency. This was a program started last year with our 1st graders and this year all classes are involved.

Finally, the Madison Public Library will be presenting their summer reading programs to our students. This is a great way for parents to help their children keep reading over the summer.

Please look for additional information on the upcoming referendums. All of them affect the children of ORE. These are tough times for both public schools all over the state of Wisconsin and taxpayers wanting to support schools. Please call the school office if you would like to view a DVD that provides that facts for each referendum on the May 24th election.

Please be sure to check your backpacks regularly for information from ORE. We are working to make sure parents are aware of current information, but rely on parents to be checking their children's backpacks. It is my hope that your child has a smooth end of the year.

Mike Hertting
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ORE Calendar

May

- 25 5th Grade Talent Show 2:00 pm
 26 Madison Library Summer Reading Program
 Presentation K - 2 at 9:00, 3 - 5 at 9:30
 30 NO SCHOOL Memorial Day
 31 Boys/Girls Club to WI Dells 9:00 - 3:30



June

- 1 Grade K field trip to Dairy Farm 8:45 - 12:45
 Grade 2 field trip to Vilas Zoo 9:30-2:45
 2 Grade 4/5 String Concert 1:30
 6 Safety Patrol Trip 9:30 - 1:45
 7 Grade 1 field trip to the Yahara Rock Quarry 9:00 - 10:30
 Grade 3 field trip to Ten Pin Alley 1:00 - 2:45
 Grade 4/5 field trip to Vilas and Fast Forward 9:30 - 3:00
 8 School Picnic
 9 5th Grade Completion Ceremony and Awards Presentation 1:30
 10 Last Day of School 10:00 dismissal

Susan Knutson Card Sales Are At a Close



We want to thank **Susan Knutson** again for her generous donation of cards to ORE this year. Total sales from her donation were over **\$1000**. It was very generous of her and we are all grateful.

Thanks also to these parents who sold Susan Knutson cards at work.

Dan Gregory, Lisa Veldran,
 Amy Lemberger, Jan Kummer,
 Leslie Gruendel, Nikki Baldwin,
 Lisa Schneider, Mike Dsida,
 Lisa Kornetsky, Lori Henry, and
 Paul Newquist.



Thank you Orchard Ridge Elementary Families!

Thank you to all the volunteers, parents and students at ORE for making Teacher Appreciation Week so spectacular. We enjoyed it all and sincerely appreciate the time and effort you put in.

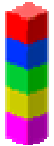
The Staff and Teachers at ORE



News from the PTO

The ORE PTO Board met on May 10, 2005.
The following topics were discussed:

Fundraiser Presentation – A representative from Club Choice was present to provide the ORE PTO Board with information on a possible fundraiser for next year. We will also be reviewing other fundraising options for next year.



Sponsorship of LEGO League– Ben Senson (Memorial High School Science Teacher) gave a brief presentation on Lego League and requested the PTO to consider possible sponsorship of a league from ORE. The Board will consider the request on June 14, 2005.

Draft School Communication Survey – Tina Hutchison provided a survey for review. After feedback from board members and school staff, it was decided that Lisa Kornetsky would work with Tina Hutchison to further refine the survey.

Madison CARES (Citizens Acting Responsibly for Every Student - a grassroots organization dedicated to supporting public K-12 education in our community) Representatives were available to answer questions on the three referenda and discuss why they support the passage of the referenda. School District representatives Ken Sykes and Mary Gulbrandsen were also in attendance and provided a 9-minute video on the referenda.



We are still in need of co-presidents for next year. Please consider serving in this capacity and make a difference in your school!

To quote from "PTOtoday," August 2001, p. 19:

"Programs designed with strong parent involvement produce students who perform better than otherwise identical programs that do not involve parents.... Children whose parents help them at home and stay in touch with the school score higher than children of similar aptitude and family background whose parents are not involved."

PTO Board Officers 2005-2006

President	Leota Dye
Vice-President	2 positions OPEN
Secretary	Gretchen Olson
Treasurer(s)	Matt Silvern and Kelly Cook
Volunteer Coordinator	Lori Henry
Teacher	Kathy Statz
Principal	Dr. Mike Hertting
Fundraising Coordinator	Beth Walsh
Room Parent Coordinator	Jennifer Goulette
Webmaster	Mike Stone

ORE and the Referendum

Many parents ask the question of how each referendum affects the children of ORE. Attached to this newsletter is a fact sheet about each referendum. List below are some additional facts that pertain to ORE. School personnel cannot legally advocate for any referendums using school time or school resources. We can only provide facts. Please feel free to contact the office if you need any further information.

Question #1 – Leopold School

MMSD has not developed a plan to handle the overcrowding for the Leopold area should the referendum not pass. There is the likelihood that schools in the West/Memorial area could be affected as children are shifted out of the overcrowded areas.

Question #2 –Exceeding the State Revenue Limits

Should the referendum fail:

- Our art, music, phy ed, library and computer specials classes would see a kindergarten or first grade class split in half and each half sent with another class. This would disrupt the classroom community and makes working on relationships more difficult.
- Our special education teachers would have more of a workload as IEP responsibilities would be shifted from MMSD program support teachers to our staff in developing initial IEPs.
- The 4/5 Strings program could be lost. ORE has had a high level of involvement in this program.
- We will lose some Educational Assistant time as one position is eliminated from throughout the elementary schools. This can affect supervision on the playground and lunchroom, assistance in the office, and less support in the classrooms.
- Our custodial staff will continue to be affected as we move toward alternate night cleaning for several areas.

Question #3 Continuation of the Maintenance Referendum

The ORE/Toki site will benefit greatly if this referendum passes. Among the items included are:

- New curtain wall (windows)
- Expansion of parking lot
- Lighting fixtures
- 6 roofing projects
- temp control system and valves
- Electrical infrastructure
- Flooring
- Air handling unit
- replacement of fire alarm system

Please feel free to contact the school office if you have any questions. Information can also be learned from the MMSD website. www.mmsd.org

Madison Public Library Presents:

Dragons, Dreams & Daring Deeds

2005 Summer Library Program

For Preschoolers through 8th Graders

Registration begins Friday, June 10th

Summer Reading is just around the corner. Kids can head straight to their nearest **Madison Public Library**, beginning **Friday, June 10th** and pick up their **Reading Quest Scroll** (reading record) OR register online at www.madisonpubliclibrary.org. The Summer Library Program includes a Read-To-Me program for Pre-Readers, in addition to the regular reading program for Readers to Grade 8. Encourage your kids to join the fun and get into the summer reading habit! They can earn great prizes including a coupon for free pizza.

From the *Magic Tree House* books to *Harry Potter*, from *Digimon*, to *Time Warp Trio* kids will find plenty of choices for summer reading at Madison Libraries. Kids can also find classics such as the series *My Father's Dragon* by Ruth Stiles Gannet, *The Wind in the Willows*, and much, much more. Madison Public Libraries have award-winning books for children and young teens, as well as magazines, computer software, books on tape or CD for car trips and book/tape kits to motivate pre-readers.

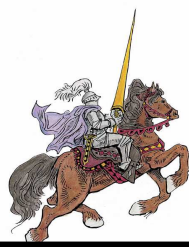
Children entering Kindergarten - 4th grade can register for Lunch Bunch, bring a sack lunch to the library and listen to a reading of a chapter book. Kids can turn in their favorite riddle for Madison Public Library's web site. 5th through 8th graders can read and review books and vote for the **Favoreads** or **Teen's Choice Awards** winners.

Join us for some free family fun at the Henry Vilas Zoo and at Olin Park for magic, music, games, face painting, and more.

These and other wonderful opportunities await children and their parents and it's all FREE at Madison Public Libraries. www.madisonpubliclibrary.org

Participation in the Summer Library Program supports the initiative of the Learning First Alliance (composed of teachers, principals, and school board members nationwide) that states: "Children should be reading at home on a regular basis, usually 20 - 30 minutes each day." (From "Every Child Reading: An Action Plan")

This is not a school sponsored activity and the Madison Metropolitan School District does not approve, support, or endorse this program/activity.



ORE Staff Enjoyed Teacher Appreciation Week Festivities

Thanks to all of the parents who helped make TA week fun for ORE staff. Everyone loved the door prizes, treats every morning and hand made pasta salads for the luncheon. There was a wide assortment of hand made and store bought items for the gift bags. Here are some of the items that were included:

Tara Romney – Bath and Body Works – splash and kisses
 Kathy Stolz – Bath and Body Works – lotions
 Katie Crawley – Bath and Body Works – splashes
 Diana Holmquest – Bath and Body Works soaps and splashes
 Karen Northey – Bath and Body Works shea lotion, splashes
 Loree Nelson – handmade earrings and a handknit scarf
 Shanda Kennedy – handmade cards
 Gretchen Olson – handmade soaps and ceramics
 Ramatlapeng/Amina Idris – Pier 1 votives
 Michele Hughes, handmade cards, soaps, lotions, vases and votives
 Anne Lund – hand made cards, candles, gel pens, post-it notes and gum
 Monajeane Harley – handmade cards
 Dorothy Ford – decorative mugs
 Dana Micinski – gift certificate to Motley Salon, a large potting vase, a garden ornament, and a bird feeder
 Amy Lemberger – soap and lotions
 Beth Wunderlin – an outdoor light set, votives, colorful hankies, Calgon lotions and sprays, a gift certificate to Louisiane's
 Chris Cooley – first aid kits
 Susan Knutson – several sets of cards
 Kate Buwalda – books
 Diane Barrett – Mary Kay lotions for men
 Jean Hughes – (Leigh Gregory's grandmother) – hand crocheted washcloths
 Val Tase (Leigh Gregory's aunt) – handmade cards
 Ellen Murphy – hand sewn bags for candy kisses
 JeanMarie Sharp – wind chimes
 Leota Dye – homemade bath salts and soaks
 Julie Newquist – soaps

Many thanks to our corporate donors including:

Dianne Barrett – Mary Kay shaving lotion
 Cub Foods – candles
 Wisconsin Craft Market – candles
 Panera Bread – many gift certificates for bread and soup, and a large certificate for dinner
 Starbucks – for coffee on Friday morning

Over fifty families participated in gifts and bringing food for the luncheon. Those families bringing food items included:

Buwaldas, Browns, Hetzlers, Larsons, Rosebear-Aces, Garcias, Beckers, Fellenzs, Sunderlages, Bjornstads, Dsidas, McPikes, Zieglers, O'Rourke, Lunds, Fedeles, Gregorys, Statzes, Goulettes, Lynette Olson and family, Gretchen Olson and family, Newquists, Donaldsons, Harleys, Raabs, Knutsons, Tatiana, Stones, Micinskis, Veldrans, Troias, Wilsons, Farris, Crowns, Jacksons, Larsons, Fishers, Driscolls, Kornetskys, Varneys, Wunderlins, Fords, Hildebrands, Philips, Cooleys, Stones, Stecs, Calderons/Morels, Bosbens

A special thanks to:

Gabby Bosben – decorations and flowers
 Lisa Farr, Jessica Donaldson, Amy McCormick, Monajeane Harley, and Anne Lund for set up and clean up.
 Anne Lund for obtaining donations from Panera Bread and Starbucks.

It was an outpouring of support for ORE Staff who truly deserve recognition!

Scrip News

We had another banner scrip month, earning \$510 for our school. Here's this month's breakdown of orders. Thanks everyone!

Copps \$49.00
Woodman's \$250.00 (we just made our 5,000 minimum, whew!)
Great Lakes Scrip \$158.00
Culver's 13.00
JT Whitney \$54.00

Woodman's is now available **in cards** in the amount of \$25 and \$100. The cards cannot be used at Woodman's gas stations, however. If you would like to still purchase Woodman's gas certificates, you can specify this on our next form. There will be a special box just for Woodman's gas and a separate box for Woodman's groceries.

Anne Lund was able to arrange with Culvers to purchase scrip locally. Many thanks to Anne who will drive to Verona to pick up these certificates for our families. We sold \$130 worth of Culvers this first month earning \$13.00 profit just from Culvers. JT Whitney also continues to be a great source of income for our school, with a profit of \$54.00.

Rick Thomas and Mona Jean Harley have joined our scrip team by helping to deliver scrip orders. Amy Lemberger will be taking over the ordering from Michele Hughes. We look forward to working with our new volunteers.

Our last order will be coming out on May 27th and will be due May 31st. Since we are closed on Monday, we are going to give parents an extra morning to submit scrip orders. All orders will be due no later than 9:00 on the Wednesday morning after Memorial Day. (If you do remember your order on Tuesday, it would make things much easier on us administratively, however.) Your orders will be available for pick-up and delivery on June 8th and 9th, the last week of school.

We are calling our last order our "stock-up" order. There are many items you might want to consider for the summer, including Culvers, TCBY, Blockbuster and Hollywood Video, TruGreens and Ace Hardware. And don't forget Father's Day! Dad might love a gift certificate to Barnes and Noble, Amazon.com, Dick's Sporting Goods, Eddie Bauer, or any one of our fine scrip restaurants.

June Summer Stock-up!

Orders sent home May 27th
Due Tuesday May 31st
Distributed June 8th and 9th

Scrip Survey

We want to try a couple of new things next year and are interested in your views.

Some people would like to purchase scrip on a weekly basis. To determine whether we should find volunteers to sell scrip after school once a week, please fill out this short form and return it to your teacher. Your name is optional. Also, we would like to know whether you would like to purchase Kohl's scrip at the ice cream social. Because of the large ordering minimum, it might be difficult to sell Kohl's on an ongoing basis, but we could sell it at a big school event.

**Please return this form in the next ten days
to your child's teacher or to the office.**

Your input will help us plan for next year. Thank you!

Yes, I would like to purchase Woodman's, Cub, or Copp's scrip in the office after school once a week. _____

I am interested in purchasing Kohl's scrip at the ice cream social. I would likely purchase _____ (ball-park dollar amount).

Name (optional) _____

I would be willing to volunteer to help sell scrip after school for ten to fifteen minutes once or twice a month. _____ (name and phone)