

OWL WEEKLY EMAIL
SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

In an effort to increase communication with our students and families, we send a weekly email on Sunday evenings or Monday mornings highlighting upcoming school events. This information will also be shared with students in Schoology and in Crew on Mondays. Events are listed in chronological order.

NEW! **OWL Community Group Meeting Minutes:** Use [THIS LINK](#) to see the minutes of our first meeting of the year on September 19.

NEW! Flipside Registration is OPEN! Registration for OWL's after school program is open! Flipside is a free program that runs from 3-5 PM Monday-Thursday on schooldays, starting on Monday, October 9th. A snack is provided after school, and bussing is free at 5pm. Students from OWL and Humbolt can sign up for a variety of educational and fun learning opportunities. Some classes are run by school staff, others by students themselves, and others by outside organizations. We've got some returning popular options like Dungeons and Dragons, Tae Kwon Do, and Chess Club, as well as some exciting new courses like Step Class, Spoken Word Poetry, and a partnership with the local Parks and Rec department!

Any student who wants to stay after school for flip side must have a parent or guardian fill out the registration form. Bussing can sometimes take a week or two to be set up, so please register early so that you can begin on October 9th! We ask that each student pick their first and second option for a Monday/Wednesday class, and a Tuesday/Thursday class (or 'no class' if you don't want to go those two days). Students will

receive final course assignment and bussing information before the start of the program.

You can use [THIS LINK](#) to register. Additionally, QR codes will be posted around the school building for students, and paper copies will be printed and available soon!

NEW! Dear High Schoolers Interested in Model UN! We will be meeting during crew every other Wednesday in Luke's room starting after senior fall retreats (October 11) and after school starting quarter two (date TBD). At our first meeting we will be gauging interest, introducing our mission as a club, and finding possible tournament dates. We hope to see you all there and if you need any more information feel free to reach out to Anja Gundale or Tess Campion. [Please also fill out this form](#) if you are interested in signing up!

Fall Play: Thanks to all the students who auditioned or applied to be part of the fall play.

Monday October 9th: Regular Rehearsals & Flipside Begins 3-5pm. Busing will be available, rehearsals will be 3-5pm Monday-Thursday regularly after this day.

Tuesday Oct 10th - OWL theatre Family Meeting 5:30-6:30 PM

December 13, 14, 15: Performances of the Fall Play at 7pm

Questions: Rebekah.rentzel@spps.org

THIS WEEK! Fall Retreat Week—September 26-30: We will have a big week of learning, service and adventure. We have some great experiences planned.

Family Reminders: If you have not completed the [iUpdate \(linked here\)](#) please do this week. Also, do not forget to complete the form at [SchoolCafe \(linked here\)](#)—we need each family to do this. Finally, please pay the fee for [FALL RETREATS \(linked here\)](#) (scholarships available upon request). Please call 651-293-8670 or email tammy.plaman@spps.org if you need any help with the above.

High School Robotics: Students interested in friendship, creativity, fun, and robots are welcome to [sign up](#) for the Open Circuits, FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) team 5271. Whether you like programming, business, design, building, electrical, mentoring, or swag, you can have a blast and earn a varsity letter in Minnesota's most popular engineering competition. Pre-season Monday practices begin October 2 in Tim's room. Come see Megan in room 3215, email her at megan.hall@spps.org, or [sign up here](#).

Lego League: Grades 6-8. Do you like teamwork, coding, problem-solving, and fun? You should join LEGO League! With your teammates, you will design and program a robot and solve a community problem! **Mondays and Wednesdays after school 3 - 5, October 9 - January 29.** Sign up through the regular flipside link [here](#). Contact Clara.Raineri@spps.org with any questions.

Archery is back for the 23-24 season! Students in grades 6-12— are you interested in trying out archery? You can come to an open shoot and try it out without committing to the team on the following days: October 10th, 17th, and 24th, and November 14th and 21st. No sign ups needed. Open Shoots are a time when students can find out if archery is right for them, or get to know their teammates for when the season starts. Attendance at Open Shooting is not a requirement for participation on the team when the season starts. Contact: openworldarchery@gmail.com for more information.

SAVE THE DATE! The OWL Fall Family Gathering will be Thursday, October 12, 5:30-8 pm, at the Harriet Island Pavilion.

Come together with the OWL community for food, fun and friendship in a beautiful location on the Mississippi River across from downtown Saint Paul. Look for more information in future weekly emails.

School Picture Day is Friday, October 6: Information on purchasing pictures from Lifetouch will be coming home in coming weeks. Whether you are buying pictures or not, all students will have their picture taken for Student ID and Yearbook purposes.

PSAT Testing is Tuesday, October 17 for all OWL 11th grade students, plus 10th grade students who wish to take the test. The test is free for 11th graders. 10th graders wishing to take the test can reserve a spot for \$15 (Scholarships are available). For more information, contact testing coordinator Rebecca Palmer rebecca2.palmer@spps.org

This test offers great practice taking a timed test in advance of the ACT to be given to juniors in the spring. The PSAT test is also the basis for National Merit Scholarships.

NO SCHOOL—Thursday, October 19 and Friday, October 20:

State Teacher Convention (MEA weekend)

Dia de los Muertos Celebration at OWL is Wednesday,

November 1 at 6 PM: Come celebrate Latinx culture at OWL with this family friendly event with lots of fun and great food. Contact: Tim timothy.leone-getten@spps.org

One proven way to live a happy life is to express gratitude. Is there a staff member at OWL that has done something you are grateful for? Shoot them an email! An alternative and way has been made available by filling out [this link](#). (This form requires an email but is sent anonymously.)

OWL believes that access to menstrual/period products is a right. If you are able to donate to help us provide free menstrual/period products so that they are always available, please consider donating some by dropping them off with Tammy

in the front office. From there we will make sure they get to where they are needed.

Important Reminder about Attendance:

If your child is going to miss school, please call, email owlattendance@spps.org or write a note to explain the reason for the absence. If we do not hear from you, the absence is documented as unexcused. After 3 days of unexcused absences, you will receive a letter from the school reminding you to please communicate with us so the absence(s) may be documented accurately. If your child continues to miss school, unexcused, he/she will be referred to the SAM (School Attendance Matters) Program for intervention.

The following reasons for absence qualify as an excused absence; illness, doctor, dental or therapy appointment (please be sure to obtain a note to give to the school), extreme family emergency or religious holiday not already recognized by our school district. When a student misses 3 or more class periods in one day, this is considered to be a full day of absence. Please call us if you have any questions/concerns.