

OWL Weekly Email

January 30, 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! Quarter 3 begins on Monday, 1/30: This is an A day. Students will go to crew on Monday morning to get their 3rd quarter schedule. Crew will last 10 minutes. Students will be able to access their final Quarter 2 grades in campus on February 9th.

THIS WEEK! Spirit Week is January 30-February 3: In the week leading up to the Winter Dance, students are encouraged to have some fun with their outfits:

Monday: Pajama Day

Tuesday: Dress like a teacher

Wednesday: Wednesday Addams vs. Adam Sandler (take your pick)

Thursday: Game Day—wear your favorite sporty clothes

Friday: Grade Color Day—wear your grade's color

6th Orange, 7th Pink, 8th Purple, 9th Red

10th Black, 11th White, 12th Blue, Staff Green

Deadline Tuesday! Bilingual Seal Test: Students in grades 10-12 who speak, read and write another language can take a test to get a seal on their high school diploma and college credit at State

Universities. [REGISTER HERE](#) for the 2023 Bilingual Seals test in April. **Students can registration until January 31st.**

AFTER SCHOOL CLASSES SESSION 2 REGISTRATION: We are excited to start the registration process for session 2 of Flipside. Exciting news, we will now have buses ALL FOUR days! We hope that makes attending program more convenient for everyone!

- **Session 2 will begin on Monday, January 30th.**
- Use [THIS LINK](#) to see the class descriptions for the new classes we are **adding** this session.
- **Paper registrations** ([click here](#)) can be turned into Tammy at OWL.
- You can also opt to complete the **online registration** form by clicking this [link](#).

Questions: Preston West (preston.west@spps.org) or Pa Ying Lor (paying.lor@spps.org)

Clubs this week on Wednesday during Crew:

Middle School GSA: Go to Preston's room
High School SLAC members: Go to the library
Theatre Advisory Board: Go to the Theatre
OBSA Dance Committee: Go to Tim's room

This Week! **The Winter Dance is Friday, February 3 in the OWL Cafeteria:** Get out your dancing shoes and get ready for a super fun evening!

Middle School Dance is 5:30 – 7:30 PM

High School Dance is 7:30 – 9:30 PM

*Tickets are \$5 and will be for sale during lunch starting Monday!

*High School Students wishing to invite a friend from another school can get a form in the office or at the ticket table. No middle school guests.

New! High School Ultimate Winter Practices: start this Friday, February 3 from 3:15 to 6 PM in the OWL Gym.

National African American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID) is Monday, February 13: Families are encouraged to come to school during the day to visit.

Post-Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) Information Night is Wednesday, February 15 from 6-7:30 PM: This will be a VIRTUAL meeting (Google Meet link will be available at the beginning of February). PSEO is for students in grades 10-12 to take free classes at local colleges and universities. If you are thinking about taking a PSEO class next school year, please plan on attending this meeting.

National African American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID) Family Night is Thursday, February 16 from 6-8 PM: All students and families are warmly invited to attend this night of culture, food and community.

Presidents' Day is Monday, February 20: No School

OWL Community Group/PTO Virtual Meeting is Tuesday, February 21 at 6:30 PM: All students and families are invited to this VIRTUAL MEETING learn about what is happening at OWL and offer their thoughts and insights. The GOOGLE MEET code for the meeting will be sent out the week of the meeting.

OWL History Day is Wednesday, February 22 from 5:30 – 8 PM: Students doing a History Day Project will be presenting to judges and families. Projects will be selected to represent OWL at the Regional Competition in March.

NEW! School Newspaper: Click [HERE](#) to read the latest edition of the Purple Press.

New! LEGO League News: Sorcha's LEGO League Team, the Robo Raptors, won the prestigious Robot Design Award (only 4 for all of SPPS). Megan's LEGO League Team, the Brick Birds, won the Core Values Award (4 in SPPS), which Megan has been secretly coveting for 4 years. Clara's LEGO League Team, Better with LEGO, won the ONLY Engineering Excellence Award in all of SPPS. Better with

LEGO and the Brick Birds won berths at the FIRST LEGO League Challenge Minnesota State Championship on February 12.

The OWL Environmental Club is holding a pre-sale for t-shirts and stickers: The designs are both winners of our design contest.

Shirts are \$15

Stickers are \$2

We are selling during every lunch.

The money raised will go towards getting a composting bin for the OWL cafeteria, as well as other projects we are developing.

We don't have a t-shirt delivery date yet, but we will announce updates as they come.

Thank you for supporting the OWL EC!

OWL Robotics Team WINTER HAT SALE: This week we will be officially selling winter hats during all lunches. Hats are \$15 each and the proceeds will go towards funding the Robotics Team to go to tournaments and get materials. Talk to Ani or Megan if you have any questions megan.hall@stpaul.k12.mn.us.

What is TutorMe? TutorMe is an online tutoring platform that allows students to connect with a live tutor 24 hours a day in over 300 subjects, right from their home. Their network of over 10,000 verified tutors are ready to help with any question, no matter how big or small. Additionally, students can submit a paper on TutorMe's Writing Lab and receive detailed feedback in less than 12 hours.

For more information, [check out this link](#).

E-Learning Day Plan: As we are entering the heart of winter, there may be occasions when SPPS informs families that there will be an e-learning day (criteria here: <https://www.spps.org/weather>).

[Here is a link to our e-learning plan](#) posted on our school website. We will also send this out by 7:30 a.m. the morning of an e-learning day along with whether the day is an A or B day. Staff will have their Google Meet codes available by 8:25 a.m. Attendance will be taken through synchronous attendance or completion of an assignment per class.

Give Kids a Smile is a charitable outreach program that provides free dental care to **underserved children (typically ages 3-18)**. Dental clinics throughout the state volunteer to provide these services during Children's Dental Health Month. Appointments can be scheduled on Friday 02/03/2023 and Saturday 02/04/2023.

An important message from Nurse Colleen:

Each day, please continue to observe and monitor your child/children closely for any signs or symptoms that they are not feeling well and keep them home to watch closely to see if symptoms persist or worsen. Staying home when sick can lower the risk of spreading infectious diseases, including the virus that causes COVID-19, to other people. Students, staff and visitors

must conduct their own symptom screening prior to coming to school/work, and again when arriving at any SPPS facility, and throughout the day.

ILLNESS AND SENDING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL

- Keep your child home if he or she:
 - Has a fever of 100 degrees or more during the previous evening or night or in the morning.
 - Has vomited or had diarrhea during the night or in the morning.
 - Has a rash that may be caused by a disease or if the cause is unknown, check with your family physician **before** sending the student to school.

If a student is at home sick, please call the school attendance line daily to report the reason for absence.

Influenza & COVID-19: Over the next two months, several SPPS schools will host clinics where students ages 5 and older and adults can receive flu shots and COVID-19 vaccines.

SPPS will also continue to host COVID-19 clinics on Thursdays at 360 Colborne St. Flu shots are currently available at these clinics as well.

Find all clinic dates and locations at spps.org/covidvaccine. Families and staff can use the vaccine clinic registration links to make appointments for a COVID-19 vaccine, flu shot or both.

Time to Order your OWL Yearbook 2022-2023: Use [THIS LINK](#) to order your very own yearbook.

PTO News:

Spirit Wear Update!

Attention OWL Community- Spirit Wear will be coming at you in late winter/early spring 2023! Get ready! (And thanks for your patience)

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS:

We are looking for volunteers who may be interested in stepping up to chair the **Raffle-O-Rama**: This is an event that is held in conjunction with the Celebration of Learning, the first Friday in June. This event consists of a community dinner along with a raffle and sometimes a silent auction. Feel free to make this your own! I am here as a reference for you as you need.

*Please note: if you have interest in volunteering to chair the spring fundraiser, consider reaching out soon- work typically begins in January for the fundraiser to take place the first week in June. Thank you so much for considering!

Please reach out to Jennifer Lodahl with interest or questions. lodahl.stp@gmail.com. Thanks for considering!

OWL Community Group Facebook Page: If you use Facebook and want to stay connected to other OWL families, [HERE IS THE LINK](#) to the OWL family page.

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.)

Important Reminder about Attendance:

If your child is going to miss school, please call, email 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.