

**OWL WEEKLY EMAIL**  
**DECEMBER 2, 2024**

*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.*

**Welcome to Week 4:** Monday, December 2 is an **A day**. Midquarter grades will be determined this week—be sure to get all your work up to date!

**Monday is survey day:** All students, **families**, and staff are encouraged to complete [this Crew survey](#). We value your feedback!

**NEW! Spiritwear is back for delivery before winter break:** We will be loading inventory into the school store this week and opening it up for delivery before winter break! We have inventory on hand of many items, both old and new designs. Great gifts for students, parents, siblings and grandparents!

<https://owlschoolstore.com>

Let Mitch know if you have any questions: [treasurer@owlpto.org](mailto:treasurer@owlpto.org) or 612-618-8904

**NEW! Give to the Max Day Final Total:** I'm very pleased to announce that through the generosity of the OWL community we have reached our goal for Give to the Max Day 2024!

- **\$33,280 total raised!** This includes funds from two matching donors, employer matching, recurring monthly donations and one golden ticket.
- **132 unique donors!** This is an increase of 36 over last year.
- **4 new recurring monthly donors!** The OWL PTO will receive regular donations of \$290 every single month (some donors have given monthly for over 6 years!)

Thank you all for your donations and support. This money will directly support our students through a variety of programs sponsored by the PTO including fall fieldwork trips, spring interim, teacher grants and more. We are lucky to have such a great set of supporters that step up year after year to make OWL a wonderful place for our kids.

If you have made a donation, you will receive a code in the next couple weeks for the merchandise at the level you contributed. You can redeem this at the school store website (see below). Let Mitch know if you have any questions: [treasurer@owlpto.org](mailto:treasurer@owlpto.org) or 612-618-8904

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

**Dining out with OWL's Robotics Team on Monday 12/09/2024 from 4-8 pm. at Davanni's** - 41 S Cleveland Ave, St Paul, MN 55378 (Grand Avenue and Cleveland Avenue)

Whether ordering in-person, ordering online, or calling ahead, be sure to mention the OPEN CIRCUITS fundraiser and 20% of proceeds will go to the robotics team! Flyer with information [HERE](#).

**Join Us for an Unforgettable Adventure in Peru!** Discover the wonders of Peru on an extraordinary journey filled with breathtaking landscapes, vibrant culture, and rich history. From the majestic peaks of the Andes to the lush Amazon rainforest, Peru offers an adventure like no other. We'll explore the ancient ruins of Machu Picchu, wander through the cobblestone streets of Cusco, and cruise on Lake Titicaca. If you are interested in joining us for a once-in-a-lifetime experience, please [RSVP at this link](#) and learn more at our meeting **December 18th, 7pm in the OWL cafeteria** (or virtually - still RSVP and I will send you a link). Contact [Tom.Totushek@spps.org](mailto:Tom.Totushek@spps.org) for more information.

**NEW! School Photo Discounts:** As a token of appreciation, Lifetouch is offering discounts on school photography!

- 50% off a purchase of \$50+ with code USNOV50
- 40% off a purchase of \$40+ with code USNOV40
- 30% off a purchase of \$30+ with code USNOV30

Valid through 12/1/24

To order, log in to your account on [mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com) or create an online account. Don't forget to order your FREE Digital SmileSafe card!

More about the Smilesafe program [here](#).

**LAST CHANCE—Deadline this Friday 12/6! OWL Family Directory 2023-**

**2024**: To better connect our community, this directory will provide contact information for OWL families. You have the choice to opt into this directory. Your information will not be included if you do not want it to be. By completing this form, you are agreeing to have your information shared with and only with other families at OWL. You can fill out as much or as little of the form as you wish. Your information will not be posted online, it will only be accessed by receiving the pdf from OWL.

If you signed up previously, you do NOT need to complete this form again. If your information in the directory has changed, please check the box below and complete the fields that have changed within the form.

Your information will remain in the directory each year until your student graduates unless you request to be removed by contacting Tammy in the OWL office at [tammy.plaman@spps.org](mailto:tammy.plaman@spps.org).

**FAMILY DIRECTORY FORM**

\*Please fill out the form for EACH CHILD you have at OWL.  
The directory will be available electronically once it is compiled.

If you have questions about the form, please contact parent volunteer Anna Gorton at [awgorton@gmail.com](mailto:awgorton@gmail.com)

**NEW! Archery** - With Open Shoots over we are almost ready to start the season. If you are ready to sign up you can do so at [this link](#). If you have any questions you can look at our [FAQ here](#) or email [openworldarchery@gmail.com](mailto:openworldarchery@gmail.com). Our season starts December 2nd and we are excited to have some Humboldt Hawks joining us.

**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.

**Donors Choose Projects for OWL:** Donations to support the work of OWL students are gratefully accepted!

[Stress Less, Get it off your Chest!](#)

Help Ms. Ma'lene give her students some tools for self-regulation which will reduce stress and anxiety and increase focus in the classroom.

[Friday Fun Time: De-Stress and Celebrate](#)

Provides enrichment supplies to ALL of OWL's 23 Crews.

**OWL Community Meeting:** Students and Families are warmly invited to join the OWL Community Group—the organization that combines our PTO and Site Council functions. This is a great way to have your voice heard in the vision of our school community and to find out what is happening at OWL. Here are the dates of the meetings for this school year:

- Tuesday, January 21 - 6:30 - 8:00
- Tuesday, February 18 - 6:30 - 8:00
- Tuesday, March 18 - 6:30 - 8:00
- Tuesday, April 15 - 6:30 - 8:00
- Tuesday, May 20 - 6:30 - 8:00

All are welcome and encouraged to attend—hope to see you!

**Community Announcements:**

**NEW!** **Community Resources for Eye Care and Glasses** [HERE](#)

**Important Reminder about Attendance:**

If your child is going to miss school, please call, email [owlattendance@spps.org](mailto: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.

### **OWL Schoolwide Norms**

- Respect people, their boundaries and identities, materials, and spaces
- Be kind, caring and friendly, especially when it's difficult
- Keep an open mind: engage in opportunities and courageous conversation
- Help create safe and brave spaces so that everyone can be their authentic selves and speak their truths
- Actively listen and participate (one mic, one voice), staying engaged and following through on commitments and expectations. *We are Crew, not passengers.*