OWL Weekly Email
December 16, 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 6: Monday, December 16 is an **A day**. This is the final week before Winter Break.

Monday is survey day: Monday is usually survey day, but we get this week off! Enjoy!

Long Crew Day is Friday, December 20: The last day before Winter Break will be spent with Crews. Each group plans a day of service, food and fun. Students may be asked to bring in a food item or pay for a field trip. More information coming from Crew leaders.

Winter Break: There will be no school from December 21 through January 5. Classes resume on Monday, January 6.

Choir Concert is January 9 from 7-8:30 PM: Come enjoy a wonderful night of music from our middle school, varsity, concert and jazz choirs.

Prospective Family Showcase is Thursday, January 16 from 6:30-8pm: If you have another child or any relatives, friends or neighbors who may looking for a secondary school, let them know about our Showcase evening. It is a great way to get an overview of the program. You can also register for Tours and Shadowing during the school day

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is Monday, January 20: No School

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!

Winter Dance is Friday, January 31: The Middle School dance is from 5:30-7PM and the High School Dance is from 7:30-9:30PM.

Spring Play Auditions on Monday, February 3 and Tuesday, February 4: Call backs will be on Thursday, February 6 and rehearsals start on Monday, February 10.

OWL History Day Wednesday, February 5 from 5:30-8 PM: Come celebrate all the great projects as students vie for the chance to represent OWL at Regional History Day.

NAAPID during the school day is Monday, February 10: Families are invited to come spend some time at school with their student in celebration of National African-American Parent Involvement Day.

NAAPID Evening Celebration is Thursday, February 13 from 6-8 pm: Families are warmly invited to spend the evening in celebration of National African-American Parent Involvement Day with cultural presentations, activities and great food.

Application Deadline to OWL for Fall 2025 is Friday, February 14: If you have another student applying to OWL for next year, be sure to submit your application by 2/14.

Presidents' Day is Monday, February 17: No School

PSEO Info Night (Virtual) is Wednesday, February 19 at 6pm: Families of students iin grades 9-11 who are interested in the Post-Secondary Enrollment Option for next school year can join us **virtually** to find out more about the program and application process.

Cardboard Needed for Art Class: The art classroom needs **thin cardboard** for an upcoming project. Please send thin cardboard (cereal boxes, etc. not corrugated cardboard) with your student to school and have them bring it to the art room.

NEW! Here is your weekly high school athletic update. There will be 4 nights of home athletic events this week, come out and support!

As always, please refer to the Weekly Athletic Calendar for the weekly schedule, as well as the Humboldt Athletic One-Stop Document if you have any questions.

ADAPTED FLOOR HOCKEY has the week off and will pick the games back up after break.
BOYS BASKETBALL The Hawks have 3 home games this week, Monday they host Cristo Rey for 2 games (JV & V), then on Wednesday they host LILA for 2 games (JV & V). The Hawks finish the week with 3 games vs Higher Ground at their alumni event. GO HERE for more information.
BOYS SWIMMING participated in the conference preview last week. The Hawks will have their first official meet this Thursday vs Central starting at 5:00pm in the pool.

GIRLS BASKETBALL will be on the road two times this week, heading into break. On Monday they will travel to Cristo Rey for varsity only at 7:00pm. The Hawks then head to Lakes International Language Academy on Wednesday for a 7:00pm varsity game on Wednesday.
WRESTLING is off to a great start, sitting at 8-2 overall and 2-0 in the conference after a 45-29 conference win vs Washington last week.
GO HAWKS!

The Middle School Winter sports season is underway, with the only active team currently being the Middle School Wrestling team. They will compete until January 15th, after which the Middle School Boys Basketball team will begin their season.
The Wrestling team schedule:
12/19 at Murray - 4:30pm
1/9 at Capitol Hill - 4:30pm
1/11 at Highland Park High School - 9:30am
1/15 at Txuji Ci - 4:30pm

Read the latest edition of the OWL School Newspaper: Find the PURPLE PRESS HERE

Last call for spiritwear delivery before winter break!. Tuesday, December 17 at 5pm is the cutoff for delivery of OWL spirit wear before

winter break. We will be distributing orders in crew on Wednesday, December 18 so we need time to assemble the orders and bring them to the school.

https://owlschoolstore.com

The school store will remain open throughout the year with periodic deliveries. You can also pick up at my house if you want secrecy for gift-giving. Please also note that if you made a Give to the Max Day Donation, your coupon will expire January 1, 2025!

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mitch via email: treasurer@owlpto.org or text: 612-618-8904.

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 for more information.

Archery - The season is just getting started. 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.

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.

Community Announcements:
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 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.*