

Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School

Newsletter

www.oriskanycsd.org

Volume 9

1st Issue



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Dear Students, Parents, and Families,

We are officially one month into the 2025–2026 school year, and it has already been a fantastic start here at the Jr./Sr. High. I trust that everyone had a rejuvenating summer, and we are off to another successful year of learning and growth.

Our focus this year has continued to be on providing a safe, supportive, and academically challenging environment where all students can thrive. Whether it was in the classroom, on the sports field, in the arts, or through extracurricular activities, we have remained committed to helping each student explore their passions and reach their fullest potential.

Spirit Week took place September 22 through 26 and was filled with exciting themes, including Neon Day, Rhyme Without a Reason Day, Character Day, and Maroon and White Day. The week culminated with Color Wars on Friday, when each grade proudly represented its class color. We closed out the week with the Skyhawk Spirit Rally, which brought our entire school district together for team introductions, student games, and a spirited celebration of our athletes and school pride. All athletes participating in combined Westmoreland and Oriskany sports attended the rally, adding to the excitement and school spirit.

As always, I encourage open communication. If you ever have any questions, concerns, or ideas, my door is always open. Together, we will continue to create a positive and enriching environment for every student. Let's keep making this year one of excellence and achievement.

Your ongoing support is appreciated and valued. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or positive school happenings.

Oriskany Proud

Sincerely,

Andrew K Kennedy Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School Principal



October Happenings

October:

- 1st- Yearbook Sale Begins
- 4th- SAT
- 7th- MVCA College Night
- 9th- Progress Reports Mailed
- 10th- Superintendent Conference Day= No School
- 13th- Columbus Day= No School
- 14th- BOE Meeting @ 6pm
- 18th- ACT
- 22nd- PSAT
- 31st- HALLOWEEN!!



jostensyearbooks.com

Did You Know...

October

- 1st- National Homemade Cookies Day
- 2nd- National Custodian Day
- 4th- World Smile Day
- 6th- Mad Hatter Day
- 14th- National Dessert Day
- 15th- National I Love Lucy Day
- 17th- National Pasta Day
- 21st- National Apple Day
- 27th- Black Cat Day



October Happenings



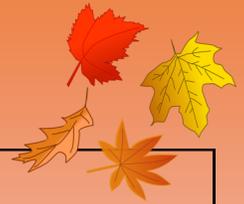
ATTENTION!!!

The 9th grade class will be hosting their annual Brooks BBQ on October 29th. Tickets will go on sale October 8th. Tickets are available in the main office during regular school hours.

Thank you for your support!!



Counseling and Career Services News...



JUNIORS take the PSAT/NMSQT

11th graders will take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT), which will be administered on October 22, 2025. The benefits of taking the PSAT include the following:

1. It provides practice for taking the S.A.T., which most juniors will take for the first time in the Spring 2024.
2. Students can predict their S.A.T. scores from the PSAT/NMSQT scores. This information will be helpful this year as students explore colleges and consider the admission requirements of particular schools.
3. Students may choose to participate in a service that will forward their names to various colleges that are seeking students like them. Then they will receive information from these colleges.
4. Students are automatically entered in scholarship competitions by taking the PSAT/NMSQT.
5. Scores on the PSAT will indicate if students have the reading and math skills they need for college.

As stated earlier, the PSAT will help prepare for the SAT which the Juniors should take in the Spring. If you do not perform as well as you would have liked to in the Spring, you will have the opportunity to take the SAT over again in the Fall. Information regarding upcoming test dates can be found online at www.collegeboard.com.



Selective Service Registration

May I have your attention please!!! I have an important announcement for all 17 – and – 18 year-old males. If you are within 30 days of your 18th birthday, federal law requires you to register with Selective Service.

Registering with Selective Service allows you to receive federal student loans for college, participate in federal job training programs, and have the opportunity to work in the federal government. If you do not register with Selective Service, you will lose out on these things and more.

Registering with Selective Service is simple and easy. Registering with Selective Service within 30 days of your 18th birthday is the law! Just fill out and return the registration card you receive in the mail or go to the post office down the street and fill out a form there. Even better, save a stamp. Save time. Register on-line. Use the internet to register at: www.sss.gov.



Counseling and Career Services News...



College Night



The 48th annual Mohawk Counselor's Association College Night is scheduled for Tuesday, October 7th from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at Wildcat Field House @ SUNY Poly.

There will be close to 80 colleges attending. Students do not need to pre-register for the event. Information can be found at www.mvcany.org.



UPCOMING COLLEGE VISITS



- October 2nd- SUNY Poly @ 12:45pm
- October 7th- SUNY Potsdam @ 8:30am
- SUNY Brockport @ 12:00pm
- October 8th- SUNY Delhi @ 10:30am
- October 14th- Utica University @ 10:00am
- October 15th- Paul Smith College @ 1:00pm
- October 23rd- SUNY Canton @ 12:00pm
- October 27th- St. John Fisher @ 1:00pm
- October 29th- SUNY Morrisville @ 12:30pm

Updates will go out as more colleges schedule visits.





Beginning **Monday, October 20th**, and ending **Monday, November 3rd**, students can apply to up to five SUNY campuses with no application fee. This includes all campuses, no matter which application vehicle the student uses. The SUNY 2026 application is expected to be available beginning August 1st.

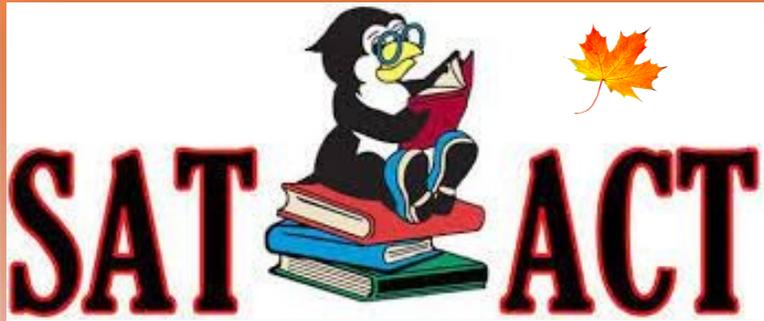


Please remember that students can submit their application during the free application week period, but supplemental materials such as transcripts and letters of recommendation may be submitted after November 3rd.

Our virtual presentations, including how to apply to SUNY and financial aid information sessions are in full swing this summer and we will add many more events this fall. All student programming can be found at suny.edu/studentevents.

Thank you for your support!





SAT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
November 8, 2025	October 24, 2025	October 28, 2025
December 6, 2025	November 21, 2025	November 25, 2025
March 14, 2026	February 27, 2026	March 3, 2026
May 2, 2026	April 17, 2026	April 21, 2026
June 6, 2026	May 22, 2026	May 26, 2026

ACT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
December 13, 2025	November 7, 2025	November 24, 2025
February 14, 2026	January 9, 2026	January 23, 2026
April 11, 2026	March 6, 2026	March 24, 2026
June 13, 2026	May 8, 2026	May 29, 2026



Student SPOTLIGHT



AP Scholar Awards

Every fall, the AP Program recognizes high school students who have demonstrated outstanding college-level achievement through their performance on multiple AP Exams.

AP Scholar Awards come in different levels and types. See the criteria below:

AP Scholar

Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.

AP Scholar with Honor

Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, **and** scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

AP Scholar with Distinction

Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, **and** scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

The following Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School Students (12th graders) and students from the Class of 2025 have been named AP Scholars:

Seniors

Alexia Birt-AP Scholar with Honor
Matthew Kernan-AP Scholar with Distinction
Corinne Looney-AP Scholar
Edward Wright-AP Scholar with Distinction



CONGRATULATIONS!!!!



Student SPOTLIGHT



Class of 2025

Kate Dellers - AP Scholar
Brienne Eldred -AP Scholar with Honor
Gavin Franz - AP Scholar
Sean Graziano - AP Scholar
Chase Koenig - AP Scholar with Distinction
Thomas Maher -AP Scholar with Honor
Ishaal Mirza-AP Scholar with Honor
Erika Reid -AP Scholar with Distinction
Jack Tagliaferri -AP Scholar with Honor
Brian Terchowicz-AP Scholar
Maggie Tylutki-AP Scholar
Jessica Zyskowski -AP Scholar with Honor



CONGRATULATIONS!!!!



7th Grade Home & Careers Class Take On The Kitchen

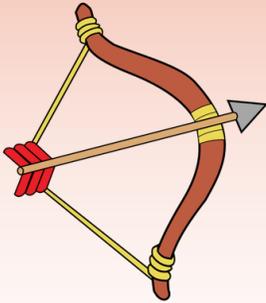


Students in Mrs. Cortese's 7th grade Home and Careers classes have been very busy learning about kitchen basics. One of their topics was knife skills when cutting food. Students practiced different cuts using playdoh, remembering to tuck their fingers down, then displayed their cuts on their place-mats. Cuts included: chiffonade, dice, chop and mince. Students were also able to use their recipe reading and measuring skills in the kitchen to help make Vanilla Cupcakes. Students practiced piping skills using ziplock bags. The best part of the assignment was creating frosting masterpieces before "eating their home-work".



Physical Education

“Arrows & Irons”



This month in PE, Mr. Murphy and Mrs. Pruckno had their students take aim at two exciting lifetime sports - golf and archery! With focus, patience, and a steady hand, our young athletes are learning the skills and strategies behind these precision-based activities.

In our intro to golf, students practiced proper grip, stance, and swing technique using real clubs and chipping buckets. Meanwhile, on the archery range, safety came first as students learned how to handle bows and arrows with care. With each round, they worked on improving aim and concentration!

These units are not only a blast but also help build fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, and self-discipline. Who knew staying still could be just as challenging as running? Next up, we'll be bringing even more fun and fitness into our PE time.

Until then—stay sharp and swing smooth!





SPIRIT WEEK 2025

Let's Go Skyhawks!!

MON 22 **NEON DAY / ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS!**
 Ditch the Monday Blues and wear neon to brighten the halls
 1st period teachers will be handing out beaded necklaces. Rock Paper Scissors can be played in lunch or the halls only. If you win your match up you get your opponents beads. Beads will be collected 9th period and counted. The top 10 students are eligible to participate in a pep rally game for a prize.

TUES 23 **RHYME WITHOUT A REASON**
 Find a partner and create rhyming outfits for the day!
 For Example:
 Weight lift / Taylor Swift
 Rapper / Flapper

WED 24 **CHARACTER DAY**
 Come as your favorite book, movie, television, Amine or video game character!

MAROON & WHITE **PIN DAY**
 Wear your sports jersey or maroon and white today!
 Senior athletes will start the day off with a pin. If you are wearing a pin you may not speak to any other VARSITY athletes. If you do... give that pin up! No cheating and no disrupting classes! Those with pins at the end of the day will play for a prize at the pep rally! You must bring the pin to pep rally.

FRI 26 **COLOR WARS / PEP PALLY**
 WEAR YOUR CLASS COLOR!
 SENIORS - BLUE FRESHMAN - PURPLE
 JUNIORS - RED 8TH GRADE - ORANGE
 SOPHOMORES - GREEN 7TH GRADE - YELLOW
 STAFF - MAROON





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WHEN TO KEEP A CHILD HOME WITH ILLNESS

It can be hard to know when to send children to school if they tell you that they do not feel well. Usually, the best place for them is in school, but there are some times when keeping them home to rest or calling for an appointment with your health care provider is recommended.

- **Please keep your child home and/or contact your child's doctor for:**
- Fever greater than 100.4° (taken by mouth)
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea within the last 24 hours
- Severe sore throat along with fever and feeling ill for more than 48 hours, or after exposure to Strep throat infection
- Honey-crusted sores around the nose or mouth or rash on other body parts
- Large amounts of mucous (liquid) from their nose, with face pain or headache
- Severe ear pain or fluid coming from the ear
- Severe headache, especially with fever

If your child has a fever, it is not a good idea to give them medicine like Tylenol or Advil and send them to school because as soon as the medicine wears off, the fever may return and you will be called to come and pick up your child.

Please keep children home for 24 hours after the fever ends or they have completed 24 hours of medication if prescribed by your healthcare provider.

If you find your child is frequently asking to stay home from school, if they are falling behind or appear anxious about school, or if there does not appear to be any physical symptoms, contact your school nurse and your health care provider to discuss your concerns.

Remind children to throw away used tissues, cover their mouths when they cough or sneeze, keep their hands away from their face, and to wash hands often with soap and warm water will help keep everyone healthier.

Brittani Gauthier, RN, Elementary School
315-768-2148 (Office)
315-768-2137 (Fax)
BGauthier@OriskanyCSD.org

Maryruth Stopera, BA, RN, Jr./Sr. High School
315-768-2061(Office)
315-768-2046 (Fax)
MStopera@OriskanyCSD.org



Flu season is officially here!!

Here are some ways to help prevent getting the flu:

- ◆ Get the flu shot, It is recommended for ages 6 months and older
- If you have an existing medical condition such as asthma or diabetes (or other type of medical condition) getting the flu shot might help lessen your symptoms if you or your child ever did become sick.
- ◆ Get plenty of sleep,
- ◆ Wash your hands with warm water and soap, regularly and well. Say the entire alphabet while you are washing, about 20 seconds. When finished with the alphabet, you are finished washing.
- ◆ Cough/sneeze into your elbow or into tissues. Do not use your hands. Throw your used tissues out and wash your hands.
- ◆ Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- ◆ If possible, limit contact with those around you who are sick.
- ◆

If your child does become sick:

- ◆ Please stay home if you are sick!! Please don't share your germs.
- ◆ Make sure you contact the school nurse the morning of your child's illness, stating that you are keeping your child home due to illness before 8am.
- ◆ Please let the school nurse know if your child has been diagnosed with the flu (and what type) by their medical provider.
- ◆ If your child has a temperature above 100.4, please keep your child home. Your child has to be fever free for 24 hours WITHOUT the use of medications to return to school.
- ◆ If your child is out sick for 3 or more days, please obtain a doctor's note for him/her to return to school.
- ◆ Have your child get plenty of REST and drink plenty of FLUIDS. Clear liquids are preferred: chicken broth, ginger ale, water to name a few. They are not as harsh on your stomach and a bit more tolerable for digestion.
- ◆ If your child has an existing medical condition such as asthma, diabetes, or other medical condition, contact their medical provider. Their medical provider might direct you to a more beneficial type of treatment or a visit to their office for an evaluation.

If your child's physician places your child on medication and they are to receive it during school hours, the child's parent/guardian MUST bring in the medication, signed physician orders with the following information: child's name, medication name, medication time to be taken, medication route and medication dose. Please do not have your child deliver this information/medication to the nurse.

The parent/guardian MUST sign the above doctor's order giving consent allowing the school medical person to administer your child's medication.

Please do not send your child into school with cough drops or other cold/flu/allergy/pain medication. If they have a cough, please provide them candy to suck on throughout the day.

If cough drops or any other medication are discovered without a doctor's order, the medication will be removed from the child, locked in the nurse's office, school administration and the parent/guardian will be contacted.

Stay healthy!!!!

Thank you for you time and understanding,

Maryruth Stopera, BA, RN



October is...

Bat Appreciation Month

Halloween Safety Month

National Caramel Month

National Popcorn Poppin' Month

National Roller Skating Month

Pizza Month

Positive Attitude Month

National Fire Prevention Month

National Apple Month

Have a happy and safe Halloween!!