OWL WEEKLY EMAIL

October 13, 2025



The Class of 2026 took their all-class photo at Harriet Island on Friday during Fall Retreats

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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Share in the fun! We REALLY need your help to make the **Fall Family Gathering on Oct 23** event a great success. Please sign up HERE to volunteer or donate a baked

good!

NOTE! Fall Retreat Fees Due: Please use THIS LINK **to pay for fall retreats. We need everyone who is able to contribute as these experiences are costly. That said, we offer full and partial scholarships to any families that need them. Contact Principal Dave** dave.gundale@spps.org **to request a scholarship.**

Application for Educational Benefits (Very Important to Complete!) While all in-person students will receive free breakfast and lunch under Minnesota's Free School Meals program, it remains **critical that all families complete an Application for Educational Benefits each school year.** Educational Benefit Form These applications determine how much funding your child's school receives for educational programs and supports. Additionally, eligible families can qualify for other benefits. The application can be completed online at schoolcafe.com/spps. Paper applications are available at school. **We need 100% of OWL families to complete this form, even if you do not believe you will receive benefits.** We have achieved 100% completion on this for the last five years at OWL.

Monday is survey day in Crew: This week's survey is the **school climate survey.** If you have not taken this survey, please do so today! Do you have a survey to give? Email megan.hall@spps.org.

OWL Crew Parliament: meets this Wednesday during Crew in Megan and Akira's room (3215). Parliament members should check in with their Crew leaders for attendance before coming up to the meeting.

Service Spotlight: Many thanks to the students who represented OWL stewardship in the community last week during Fall Retreats, especially 6th graders (pulling buckthorn) and 9th graders (at Prospect Park and Camp St. Croix).

NEW! Archery Open Shoots begin Tuesday, October 14 from 3-5 PM in the OWL Gym: Open Shoots are:
a. A "drop-in" style of archery practice for all levels (just show up!)
b. Run Tuesdays after school 3pm to 5pm (until 11/18, except for 11/4, see full calendar here)
c. Free, with all equipment provided
d. No commitment to the team is required
e. Busing is NOT available. All students need to make sure they have a ride home
Have questions? Please email all archery related inquires to openworldarchery@gmail.com

NOTE! Middle School Sports Practices on Wednesday 10/15 are cancelled:
There is a football game at 6:00pm, it is a conference game so there will be a lot of people and teams will be arriving early and we don't want middle school students in the mix.

NO SCHOOL—Thursday, October 16 and Friday, October 17: State Teacher Convention (MEA weekend)

Winter Sports Meeting is Tuesday, October 21 at 1:10PM (during Crew): Students interested in winter sports can come to this meeting in the Auditorium.

Please Join Us at the Open World Learning Community Fall Family Gathering

Thursday, October 23, 2025, 5:30-8:00pm: at the Harriet Island Pavilion, 200 Dr. Justus Ohage Blvd, Saint Paul. FREE PARKING

Enjoy a relaxed evening in the good company of fellow OWL families!

- Delicious, savory tamales from La Loma: $4/ each (vegetarian option available)
- Hot & Cold Beverages: $1.50
- Outdoor Games- $1/ticket/round to win delicious treats
- On-Site Ice Cream Truck- prices vary

Outward Bound Service Auction*: Bid on fantastic services- past services included homemade cookies of the month, climbing lessons, pet-sitting, yard work & more!

**All proceeds of the Service Auction benefit the Outward Bound Service Adventure trips during the spring interim.*

Come hang out with the OWL Community and enjoy the beauty of Harriet Island! We hope to see your family there!

Spirit week is October 20-24: Show your school spirit by dressing up.

Monday: ***Zoom Day-*** *Dress fancy for your important Zoom meeting! But the camera won't show your legs… no one will know if you wear your favorite PJ pants or sweatpants!*

Tuesday: ***Greece vs. Grease-*** *Are we just coming out of the summer of '58? That must explain the hip sea of pink and leather! But what's this? Someone must've sent the wrong memo! Togas and Tunics galore! Dress in whichever floats your boat, a fab fit straight out of the fifties, or an elegant assembly reminiscent of great Greek statues!*

Wednesday: ***Rhyme Without Reason-*** *It's raining rhymes! Buddy up with your friends to come up with a set of rhymes, ex. Moon, Spoon and (Benson) Boone. Dress up and show off your nonsensical rhymes!*

Thursday: ***Thrifty Thursday-*** *Flaunt your favorite thrift finds! A jazzy set of flared jeans, a groovy pair of boots, an out-of-this-world sequined shirt. Maybe, all in the same fit!*

Friday: ***Freaky Friday****- Uh Oh! Something went wrong! Dress as your parent/guardian!*

Homecoming Dance is Friday, October 24 in the OWL Cafeteria: Middle School dance is from 5:30-7PM. High School Dance is 7:30-9:30. Tickets will be for sale in October.

Homecoming Game is Saturday, October 25 at 4PM: OWL's annual Homecoming Game features the high school Ultimate Frisbee team playing one of our rivals at the Humboldt Stadium. All students and families are encouraged to come cheer them on!

Dia de los Muertos Celebration at OWL is Thursday, October 30 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

Last day of Quarter 1 is Thursday, November 6: Be sure to get all your work completed and submitted!

No School on Friday, November 7: Staff Professional Development Day

HOWL AWARD!!! This year we have a new award that will be given out each month at our community meeting. **The Assistant Principal HOWL Award!!** Beginning in October, Ms. Ma'lene will be awarding 1 student who has gone above and beyond showing the HOWL of the month. **The**

October HOWL Award theme is STEWARDSHIP!

Examples of Stewardship:

- Staying to clean up the cafeteria
- Including other students (at lunch, group projects, outside time, etc.)
- Cleaning up your classroom
- Cleaning up the garbage outside by the Four Square area
- Creating posters for anti-bullying

Students can enter by taking a picture of themselves doing the HOWL and using this LINK HERE or scan the QR code on the window outside my office and uploading it on the form. Assistant Principal HOWL posters have also been given to all Crews. Some possible prizes are:

- **Ice Cream for you and your Crew!**
- **Tickets to special events!**
- **Lunch with 4 of your friends and Ms. Ma'lene!**
- **Sports equipment!**
- **Gift cards!**

I'm so excited to present this award and to celebrate your hard work!
Good Luck, Ms. Ma'lene

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 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.



Timothy Leone-Getten
Timothy is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

