

IN A NUTSHELL

Oak Forest Montessori School (OFMS)

2000 Greenleaf Street
Longview, Texas 75605

A note from Ms. Beth:

Hello OFMS Community!

Our January transitions for new students went very well! Thank you parents and teachers for your patience during this process. We have a number of new students that will begin in February so we will continue with the transition/normalization process again this month. If you see new faces, please take a moment to welcome our new families.

February is another busy month so please pay close attention to the important dates and reminder sections of this newsletter. We do not want you to miss out on anything. Enrollment forms for the summer term and 2015-2016 school year will go out next week. We have a number of students on our waiting list so please make sure and turn your contracts in by February 27th to ensure that your child has a spot! We will begin placing students that are on the waiting lists in classrooms on March 2nd.

We want to thank the PTO for the new Kindervan (6 seat stroller) they purchased for our infant/toddler program! Our students and teachers are SUPER excited and look forward to getting out and about in it! Thank you!

Please be sure and read page 5 for PTO updates and a calendar of upcoming events.

As always, we are always available to answer any questions you may have.

Guiding one heart, one mind, one child at a time,

Beth



IMPORTANT DATES

February 10: 2015-2016 Contracts go out

**February 13: Class Valentine Parties
PTO Meeting, Room 1800**

February 16: Parent Conferences-CLOSED

February 24: March lunch orders DUE

February 27: 2015-2016 Contracts DUE

March 4: School PIZZA PARTY

March 9-13: Spring Break-CLOSED

March 23-27: Book Fair AND Breakfast with Books

Purpose: To provide a carefully planned, stimulating environment with an enriched Montessori curriculum which will help the child develop within him/herself a foundation of habits, attitudes, skills and ideas which are essential for a lifetime of creative thinking and learning. To enable a child to become a compassionate, responsible contributing member of society who is respectful of others and the environment.

Logo: Our logo is the two hands reaching into the sky for two oak leaves. We chose the oak leaves because they symbolize the materials, tools and guidance that Oak Forest Montessori School provides. The hands reaching symbolize the child's learning potential and how there is no limit to what he/she can do.

Mission Statement:

The Oak Forest Montessori School is consistent with the philosophy and mission of Dr. Maria Montessori and her work with children – to help each child reach their full potential in all areas of life.

Other Important Reminders

SIGNING IN AND OUT: As you know, we are regulated by the Department of Family and Protective Services. Children are required to be signed in and out EACH day. If you participate in carpool your child will be signed in/out for you. If you bring your child in and/or come in to pick your child up it is extremely important that you sign him/her in and out. Thank you for helping with our compliance! 😊

2015-2016 ENROLLMENT: Enrollment contracts for the 2015-2016 school year will go out February 10th and are due back February 27th. We will open enrollment to the general public March 2nd. We have a number of students on the waiting list and we will begin placing them in classrooms on March 2nd so please be sure and turn your contracts in by the deadline, we do not want you to lose your spot!

REFERRAL PROGRAM: Don't forget our referral program. If you refer a student to OFMS you will receive a \$300 credit on your account. Please call the office for details.

PARENT CONFERENCES: Parent Conference forms will go out on February 4th and are due back by February 11th. Parents fill these forms out with their preferred conference time and we do our best to accommodate. The sooner you turn your forms in the better chance you have of getting your preferred time. Please make every effort to attend. We want to make sure you know how your child is doing. Conferences are on February 16th so please mark your calendars. OFMS WILL BE CLOSED. Childcare will be available for your child during your conference period.

MARCH LUNCH ORDER FORMS: March lunch order forms will go out on Tuesday, February 17th and are due back on Tuesday, February 24th. Please remember late orders cannot be accepted. There will be no lunch delivery on March 4th due to the pizza party. If your child has an allergy or does not eat pizza please feel free to send a special lunch.

LABELING: Parents, please be sure ALL of your child's clothing is labeled. This includes coats, gloves, hats, EXTERIOR of lunch kits, nap items. These things are expensive and we want to make sure they make it back home! We have a number of items in our Lost and Found. If you are missing something please stop by the office.

CONGRATULATIONS!!



Although we did not meet our goal, our students (and families) worked very hard on our canned food drive. Room 500 came in first place with 165 cans and Room 200 came in second with 107 cans! The total number of cans collected were 602. This was a fun lesson for the students and they enjoyed giving back to the Longview community.

We are proud of the entire OFMS community effort and as a result Administration is providing a school wide PIZZA PARTY on March 4th! If your child has an allergy or does not eat pizza please feel free to bring a special lunch. Students that do not normally come on Wednesdays are welcome to join their class for lunch. Please just let the office know so we have a correct head count. We want all to be included in the celebration!

PTO Corner

GOLD LEVEL SPONSORS:

**AC Pool and Spa Service, LLC
(ASP)-America's Swimming Pool Co.
Central Title**

**Longview Orthopaedic
Paula Lopez-Premier Nationwide Lending
Service First Mortgage**

**Travis Group Southwest Funding
US Title
Wilson A/C**

SILVER LEVEL SPONSORS:

**Extreme Cheer and Tumble
Grandparents of Porter and Tate Satterwhite
Greg Williams-Texas Farm Bureau Insurance
Mundt Music**

**Satterwhite Log Homes
Telco Plus Credit Union**

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE 2014-
2015 OFMS PTO SPONSORS!**

PTO Corner

Exciting Things the PTO is Working On



PTO MEETING

Our next PTO meeting is **February 13 at 12:00pm** Room 1800.
Please RSVP to gmundt@sbcglobal.net, Lunch will be provided.

VALENTINE PARTIES

We want to thank Kristin Bates for all of her efforts coordinating parent volunteers for this special day. We also appreciate all of the parents and loved ones that volunteered to bring items.

BOOK FAIR

Why is the Book Fair such an important event?

Every book that we sell translates into money that our Oak Forest teachers get to spend on books for their classrooms. We can't have a successful Book Fair without our wonderful parent volunteers. The Scholastic Book Fair is scheduled for the week of **March 23-27th**. Please keep an eye out for details.

BREAKFAST WITH BOOKS

Instead of doing Muffins with Moms, Donuts with Dads and the Grandparent Breakfast we are changing things up and doing Breakfast with Books. Each classroom will have a scheduled day during the week of the Book Fair where parents, grandparents, special friends, etc. are invited to join the children for breakfast and visit the Book Fair. Details to come!

Thank You Brandy Brannan for chairing this event! We know it is A LOT of work. Parent Volunteers will be needed to work the Book Fair as well. If you are interested please let the office know and we will put you in touch with Brandy.

****QUESTIONS:** Please contact Gina Mundt at gmundt@sbcglobal.net (903)806-0808
If everyone donates a SMALL amount of their time, we can accomplish BIG things for our OFMS children!