



# Orengo School Times



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A Message from our Principal, Mr. Bishop

January, 2008

Dear Students and Parents:

It is good to be back working with our students. As the New Year begins, we set goals and look for ways to enhance our school. This is important and equally essential is to take time to recognize what is going well. We are impressed with the academic growth and the behavior the students have shown. The staff works hard and puts forth such impressive effort. We are also indebted to the active supportive involvement from parents. To a Great New Year!!

Tim Bishop and the Orengo Staff

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU

We had thousands of items donated this year in our Elk's Food Drive. First place went to Mrs. William's class. All of the classes can be proud of their contributions.

## AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

We are fortunate to be able to offer a variety of upcoming after-school activities:

### **Homework Club**

Grades 3-6

### **Karate**

Grades 1-6

### **Basketball**

Grades 4-6

### **Nike Reading**

Grades 1-3

### **Mad Science**

Grades 1-6

### **Young Rembrandts**

Grades K-5

### **Monopoly Club**

Grade 6

### **Capsella**

Grades 3-6

For information, please read the many fliers that have been sent home or call the office.

## TESA TESTING

Students in grades 3-6 are currently involved with Technology Enhanced State Testing (TESA). The state test results are reviewed and then grade level adjustments are made to address students achievement needs in reading and math. Testing will continue through mid-February.

## EXTRA T-SHIRTS

We have some extra t-shirts available for sale. There are five adult shirts and one youth medium left. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$7 for youth.

## UP-and-COMING

Mark your calendar for these events:

### January 17th

**Popcorn, Poetry and Pop Night! 7:00-8:00**

### January 21st

**No School—Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

### January 24th—25th

**DIBELS Testing**

### January 25th

**Spirit Day**

### January 28th

**No School for Students Staff Inservice**



## COUNSELOR FOCUS

Orengo students finished up their fall guidance lessons in December. All students should be able to tell you about the three school rules (be safe, be respectful, and be responsible). They should also be able to tell you about Kelso's problem solving wheel. Students at Orengo are taught how to handle small problems themselves with Kelso's nine problem-solving ideas. In kindergarten we focus on the first four (tell them to stop, walk away, ignore, and apologize). Students are also taught to tell adults they trust about large problems, anything that is continuous or might be dangerous. Grades two through six received additional lessons on topics like friendship, handling bullies, and organization for success in school. Soon I will be running small groups for students who have special situations. These include how to make friends, how to handle anger, dealing with the desire to be perfect, and others. If you are interested in your child participating in one of the small groups please notify your child's teacher or me right away.

It is a privilege to work with the Orengo community. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance. (Ms. Nahl)

## ERC

Last semester our students learned about purposes of writing and focused specifically on how to structure and organize persuasive writing. We discussed a variety of topics such as wearing uniforms to school and selling soda to students. We experience how to express and support an opinion. Students felt proud after completing their first five paragraph essays.

Before winter break we had hot chocolate parties where children were allowed to talk not only about academic issues, but also personal and social. (Ms. H.)



## SPEECH AND LANGUAGE

The 2nd-5th<sup>th</sup> graders are beginning to read and talk about Even More Parts: Idioms from Head to Toe . This book is an extremely clever look at all of the common phrases adults use about bodies, but which are undoubtedly quite confusing and funny to children. We have had a lot of fun going through the different phrases and talking about the literal and figurative uses of the different phrases.

The K-2 grade students will be reading and talking about Stellaluna, Crikwing and Verdi, by Janell Cannon in January.

In a 2nd grade articulation group, the students have had a good time adding silly ingredients to soups that have their speech sounds. It is amazing what ingredients can be included. (Mrs. Parsons)

## MUSIC ROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Fifth and Sixth grade students are polishing their guitar skills as we start the new year! If your student owns a guitar, they are welcome to bring it in on music days. Students may drop off their instruments any time after 7:30 am and stay in the music room until the bell rings. They can either pick the instrument up at the end of the day or leave it for the next five weeks until we wrap up our guitar experience.

Fifth grade choir students are preparing a piece to be presented at their student led assembly later in the month. All fifth grade students will present a "surprise" song together at the assembly as well.

In the fourth grade as well as in Mrs. Sanders third/ fourth grade class, students continue to demonstrate their achievement on the recorder as well as on the classroom instruments.

Second grade students are working with our special volunteer Artist in Residence "Ms. Mathews to prepare for "Of Mice and Mozart" which will be presented during their student led assembly in February. It will be exciting to watch the "Tail" of W. A. Mozart through the eyes of mice that lived in the woodwork of Mozart's home.

Kindergarteners continue to work on beat competency and other kinder music skills through movement, instruments and singing. Kindergarten, first grade and third grade students are currently singing songs that celebrate the life and teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

(Mrs. Edwards)



## LIBRARY

Kinders are learning about spine labels and how it tells you what book to check out. They are working on using shelf markers, returning books on time, and hear a story every time they come to library.

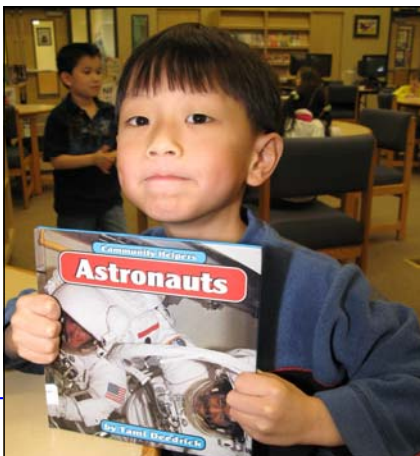
First grade is exploring the different sections of the library, what information is contained on the spine of the book, and working on being responsible and returning their book on time.

Second through sixth grade check out Accelerated Reader books so they can earn Splash Cash. They also like to explore the new book section of the library.

Fourth through sixth grade were introduced to the Young Readers Choice Award Nominees for 2008. Multiple copies of each book are available in the library. Students who read, or have read to them, 3 or more of the books will be eligible to vote for the one they think should win. Ballots will be available right before Spring Break. This group will also be looking at the Dewey Decimal system during January and February. The goal is for students to be able to look up a book on the computer in the search program and using that information, be able to find a book, on the topic of their choice, on the shelf in the library. This involves understanding Dewey categories, reading spine labels, and understanding the layout of the library.

In the computer lab, first grade is working on basic computer skills such as logging on and off, opening and closing programs, and navigating menus within a program. Second grade is working on the same skills only with more difficult processes. Soon both grades will work in Read at Starfall an excellent reading program on the web. This program can be accessed from computers at home([www.readatstarfall.com](http://www.readatstarfall.com)).

Third through sixth grade work in a variety of programs including All The Right Type, Accelerated Reader; research for class projects that include how to search for information; vocabulary building programs; and sometimes they just have fun with KidPix, Kidspiration or Read at Starfall. (Mrs. Maines)



## ESL ASKS.. "DO YOU KNOW?"

Do you know why we change "pretty" to "prettier" but change "beautiful" to "more beautiful?"

Do you know why the -ed at the end of a word sometimes makes the /d/ sound and sometimes the /t/ sound and sometimes the /id/ sound?

Do you know which nouns you can count, like "one cat, two cats, three cats," and which you can't, like "one grass, two grasses, three grasses,"?

Do you know how to change what you're saying to someone by using a different modal verb? You DO remember your modal verbs, don't you?

Does this sound like a correct sentence to you, "The teacher helped Abdi and I." ? Really?

Do you know the three forms for all the verbs? "Today I will buy a shirt. Yesterday I bought a shirt. Lately, I have \_\_\_\_\_ a shirt." Are you sure?

Can you use Wh-question words (Who, What, When, Where, Why, Which, How) to dissect a sentence? Do you know why it is useful to be able to dissect a sentence? Well, the ESL students know the answers to these questions. If you're not sure, you can ask one of them!

(Mr. Hazen)



## PE

All grades are learning the fundamentals and rules of basketball. Students practice passing, dribbling and shooting baskets. At the end of the season we will have our annual student vs staff basketball game.

