

# ORENCO SCHOOL TIMES



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**October, 2010**

## A Message from our Principal, Mr. Bishop

### Dear Students and Parents:

Thank you for your attendance at Back-to-School Night. We trust that you have a better insight and additional knowledge about your child's educational program. Your support, questions, and assistance will help your child reach their goals and be successful in school.

As the "routines" in school fall into place, it's important to remind us that there is nothing "routine" in the effort children put forth while in school or on work at home. Their effort is vital to recognize and reinforce. This factor is one of many that determine high achievement but the only factor a child has a choice in applying.

Our first "professional looking" art gallery featuring student works is on display. Stop by to take a look. This month's Character Trait/Lifeskills includes Responsibility and Organization. Classrooms will do activities centered on these themes.

We have also planned to hold several building-wide activities, of which groups of differing grade level students will work together. Overall everything is running well, and the kids are really enthusiastic about

school.

### Tim Bishop and the Orenco Team



**HOMEWORK:** Homework is one means of teaching the necessary skills of individual study and learning for present and future use. The work builds a bridge between children's lives in school and at home, reinforces newly learned skills, and increases the amount of learning time to master concepts. Above all, homework is a responsibility that the student should

learn to take independently. In the Elementary Handbook, you will find homework rationales and guidelines. Do take time to discuss a homework routine that is best for everyone. Assignments will be given Monday through Thursday and an activity of reading will always be included. Please contact your child's teacher if you need any clarification.

## UP-and-COMING

Mark your calendar for these events:

**October 13th-15th**  
Parent Conferences  
No School

**October 19th**  
Cookie Dough Delivered  
Book Fair Ends

**October 22nd**  
School Pictures

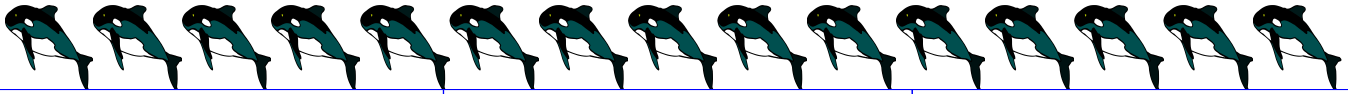
**October 29th**  
Spirit Day

**November 5th**  
Pizza and Bingo Night  
5:30-8:00 p.m.

**November 9th**  
Next Newsletter Sent Home  
Booster Club Meeting, 2:30

**November 11th**  
Veteran's Day  
No School





### **ORCA LIVE:**

Each Thursday afternoon at 1:45 sharp, Orenco's student-run live news-cast is broadcasted. Facilitated by Mr. Bunker and Mr. Futter the crew of: Kaitlyn Nickerson, Nicol Dorciak, Jacob Dolson, Ethan Wu, Naomi Ker-shaw, Libby Solheim, Mia Lasiter, McKenna Jenksins, Noah Tsolak and Jake Reohr feature stories on the activities taking place around the school, field trips, staff profiles and live re-motes. It is great fun and amazing how much students enjoy watching. Latest Orca Live broadcasts can be viewed on the web at <http://www.hsd.k12.or.us/orencol/>.

It is definitely the highlight of the week! Thanks crew!

### **FREE COOKING/NUTRITION**

**CLASSES:** Oregon Food Bank West is extending its Nutrition Education Program to our area. Adults on limited income can learn how to shop, plan and prepare nutritious meals, making the most of their financial resources. Each participant goes home from each class with the groceries needed to prepare the same meal for the family at home. The classes are taught in English and Spanish by trained volunteers from Oregon Food Bank West. Classes will meet once a week from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday evenings, October 13-November 17. The classes are free of charge and child care is available. Your only obligation is to be present at all six classes. Classes will be held at Universalist Church of Orenco, 22785 NW Birch St., Hillsboro, OR. To learn more about these classes, call Alana Harris at 971-223-3372.



### **SPLASH CASH:**

With the use of the Accelerated Reading software program, our students increase their reading achievement. They first read a book, then take a comprehension test on the computer. Based upon their score, they receive points. These points are then exchanged for "Splash Cash". Three times during the year the students are able to exchange their "cash" for prizes. The program motivates everyone to read more and it produces a lot of excitement. Be sure to ask your child about this.

### **2011-2016 STRATEGIC PLANNING BEGINS:**

The District will use a hybrid approach to the Strategic Plan renewal process, using the main elements of the mission, core values, objectives and strategies contained in the 2006-2011 Strategic Plan as a starting point, and distilling down the most important elements that will move into the next Strategic Plan 2011-2016.

The six-month process will be facilitated by a Strategic Planning Consultant in collaboration with District to ensure thorough planning, review and community involvement. The Board is scheduled to consider and adopt the new plan in April 2011, in order to incorporate the plan into the budgeting process for the 2011-12 school year.

### **FREE SCHOOL CLOTHES/ OPERATION SCHOOL BELL:**

Parents of any Orenco student, who is also on free/reduced lunch, may request an Operation School Bell form. This form is a free coupon to receive new school clothing including: 2 pairs of jeans, 2 shirts, a jacket, 5 pairs of underwear, and 6 pairs of socks. If you would like your Orenco student to participate, please send a note to your oldest child's teacher that says Operation School Bell and the names of any of your children who attend Orenco who you would like to be included on the coupon. We are sorry this program is only for elementary age students, not younger or older siblings. Clothing is first come first serve, so you are encouraged to respond by the middle of October.

### **STUDENT COUNCIL:**

The purpose of this group is to help build responsibility and generate input on the part of students. Members represent all children and help to develop new programs, special activities, and serve as problem solvers as well as solution creators. Council reps are: Matthew O'Brian, Nyah Escobar, Leah Simpson, EJ Estocapio, Alexis Bermudez, Jose Benitez, Greg Norman, Nicol Dorciak and Amanda Chung.

### **ORENCO KIDS HELP SET READING RECORD:**

Students at Orenco Elementary School logged more than 225, 887 reading minutes over the summer, making it into the 2011 Scholastic Book of Word Records. Orenco and its 400 students ranked among the top 22 schools in the world in number of reading minutes as part of the Scholastic Summer Challenge. More than 110, 850 kids from nearly 5,500 schools representing all 50 states and 120 countries worldwide smashed the world record for summer reading, logging 52, 710, 368 reading minutes. The previous record, set in 2009, was 35, 846, 094 minutes read according to Scholastic. Scholastic is donating 50,000 new books to kids in need through Reading is Fundamental, a children's literacy nonprofit. The Scholastic Summer Challenge was created to encourage all kids to read four or more books over the summer and read for the world record, while at the same time helping them avoid losing skills simply from being out of school. The 2011 Scholastic Book of World Records will be available in November.



# Orenco's Fabulous Fourth Grade

## Math

This year in math we started to learn about multiplication and place value. By the end of the year we are trying to have all of our facts families memorized so we can use them easily. We play games, do complicated problems, and even solve word problems. We are also learning about numbers in the millions. Avalon and Chloe



## Art

This year we are going to do some really great art literacy projects. Our teachers are very excited about these art projects. We have already done a grade wide art project from the book *On the Day You Were Born*. We used construction paper that we cut out and put in layers. It was a little challenging at first but we got the hang of it. We will make even more great projects including making clay fish!

By Phoebe, Amanda, and Annika

## Reading

In reading we have already read three stories, *Akiak*, *Grandfather's Journey*, and *Finding the Titanic*. Each of these stories is about a journey that someone is taking. We do reading in groups, with a partner, and alone. Reading is a very fun subject in fourth grade.

By Isabelle and Bradley

## Social Studies

We are so excited to learn about Native Americans. This is going to be an awesome year learning about the geography of Oregon. Social Studies is so interesting because we get to learn about people just like us but they lived a long time ago. We get to go on some field trips to Fort Vancouver and Champoeg State Park this year.

By Sean and Lauren

## Science

This year we are studying the human body systems. We are learning about the nervous system, the circulatory system, the digestive system, and the skeletal system. We are having a lot of fun learning about this new subject. We have learned about each body system and its different function. By the end of the year there won't be one small bone or organ undiscovered!

By Dresden and Kelly



## Ohana

We would like to tell you about Ohana. Ohana is a Hawaiian word meaning community. In fourth grade, Ohana is where we have 45 minutes of group activities learning science, doing art projects, working with our class economy, or watching Bill Nye videos. We love Ohana and look forward to it every week.

By Siham and Hayden