

IN A NUTSHELL

Oak Forest Montessori School (OFMS)

2000 Greenleaf Street
Longview, Texas 75605

A note from Ms. Beth:

Welcome back OFMS Community!

We hope you had an eventful holiday and are ready for the wonderful year ahead of us.

Most of our students that were scheduled to transition have already done so; however, some transitions will occur this week. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Administration and/or your child's teachers. We are here to help and want the process to go smoothly! We also have a number of new families joining OFMS this semester, WELCOME. We are excited you have chosen Montessori for your child. As you know, it is hard to get back into our old and new routines after a long break. Please be patient and positive as our students normalize in their learning environment.

We have a number of exciting events this semester 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.

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

!
Beth



IMPORTANT DATES

January 9: PTO Meeting 12:00 Room 1800

February 9: 2015-2016 Contracts go out

February 13: Class Valentine Parties

February 16: Parent Conferences

February 27: 2015-2016 Contracts DUE

March 9-13: Spring Break

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

NEW STUDENTS: We have a number of new students joining our community this semester. Please take a moment and welcome them.

CLASSROOM NORMALIZATION: As noted above, we have a number of new students and a number of students that are transitioning to a new classroom this semester. Depending on the child it can take anywhere from 2 to 6 weeks for a child to fully acclimate to his/her new environment.

2014 TAX STATEMENTS: Tax statements went home in student take home folders on Monday, January 5th. If you need an electronic copy please feel free to email Valerie at adirector@oakforestschool.com if you need an electronic copy.

7% DISCOUNT: A number of our parents pay in full for the semester and/or year. Doing so allows them to take advantage of a 7% discount. If you are interested please contact the office by January 15th.

2015-2016 ENROLLMENT: Enrollment contracts for the 2015-2016 school year will go out February 9th and are due back February 27th. We will open enrollment to the general public March 2nd.

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

WINTER WEAR/CHANGES OF CLOTHING: Parents, it is cold outside! Please be sure and send your child with a warm jacket, a hat and gloves. As you know, accidents do happen. Please make sure your child has changes of clothing in his/her bin. We want your child to be comfortable. It is important that all clothing items are labeled.

PTO MEETING: Friday, January 9th 12:00pm. We have had great turnouts at this year's PTO Meetings! If you haven't had a chance to come to one yet, please join us. Lunch is provided for those attending and it's a good opportunity to meet other parents, get involved and learn more about the OFMS.

PTO Corner

Gold Level Sponsors:

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

Friday, January 9th 12:00pm. PLEASE JOIN US! Lunch is provided for those attending and it's a good opportunity to meet other parents, get involved and learn more about the OFMS. Topics of discussion will include: Valentine Parties, Book Fair and Spring 2015 fundraiser.

BOOK FAIR/BREAKFAST WITH BOOKS

The Scholastic Book Fair is scheduled for the week of March 23-27th. Please keep an eye out for details. 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.

**Please contact Gina Mundt at gmundt@sbcglobal.net or (903)806-0808 with any questions about the PTO. We still need volunteers for various events throughout the year!

If everyone donates a SMALL amount of their time, we can accomplish BIG things for our OFMS children!