



Tiger Tracks



Oakdale Elementary School Newsletter

Dec. 1, 2017

9801 West Center Road Omaha, NE 68124 (402) 390-6460 www.westside66.org

Mission Statement

The mission of the Westside Community School District, as an innovative educational system, is to ensure academic excellence and to serve the unique needs of all of our learners.

Oakdale Elementary's mission is to ensure academic excellence and to serve the unique needs of all learners.

Happy Holidays from the Oakdale Staff!



Oakdale Expectations

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be Responsible

Wednesday Dismissal

Don't forget, students will be dismissed **every Wednesday** at **3:00**. Please be prompt as teachers are scheduled to leave the building each week to participate in professional learning communities.

Click below to follow us!



Follow us on Facebook!



Follow us on Twitter!



Calendar Reminders

Dec. 4 5th/6th Strings Concert WHS 6:00p

Dec. 7 5th/6th Band Concert 2:45p

Dec. 7 Hour of Code 6:00p

Dec. 14 Don & Millie's Night

Dec. 14 Open House @ "New" Oakdale 5:30-7:00p

Dec. 18 Board of Ed. Mtg. 6:30p

Dec. 19 Planet Sub Night

Dec. 22 Field Trip to "New" Oakdale!

Dec. 22-Jan. 7 Winter Break

Jan. 8-9 No School

Jan. 10 First Day at "New" Oakdale!

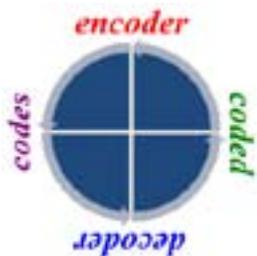
TeamMates Program

If you have 30 minutes each school week to give to a child, consider being a TeamMates mentor. TeamMates provides support and encouragement to students through one-to-one, school-based mentoring. The impact of a TeamMates mentor in the life of a young person is remarkable, with mentees being more hopeful and engaged and seeing improvements in their attendance, behavior, and course performance. Our Oakdale mentors have raved about how the program has given THEM so much in return. If you are interested, contact Mrs. McPadden 402-408-8880.



Hour of Code Night

Join us here at Oakdale next Thursday, December 7th for our first ever "Hour of Code" night! Please bring a device to use from 6 to 7 pm in our cafeteria. Students and parents will be working together to complete different coding activities. Hope to see you next Thursday!



HyVee Receipts

The HyVee for Cash Program has not ended yet, so please keep saving HyVee receipts dated 09/01/2017 - 12/31/2017. The receipts can be turned in to the classroom or HyVee customer service at 90th and Center.

Please double check the **dates** on the following schedule.

Oakdale Safety Patrol Schedule

December 4 to December 15

Morning: 8:20-8:40 a.m.

Captain Makenzie
 Driveway 1. Barrett
 2. Josiah
 Parking Lot 1. Stella
 2. Addison
 Valet Max

After School: 3:25-3:40 p.m.

Captain Ved
 Driveway 1. Kaleb
 2. John V.
 Parking Lot 1. Marina
 2. Sawyer
 Valet Kaleb

O Wednesday afternoon patrol reports from 2:55-3:10 p.m.
 O Winter Weather conditions: Safety Patrol will be cancelled if the "feels like" temperature is 10 degrees or below. Please check the KMTV website (KMTV.com) for weather information.
 O If you are unable to report to your post, please contact Mrs. Kratky or Mrs. Coil as soon as possible.
 O Alternates should also report at the same time(s).



Winter Weather conditions: Safety Patrol will be cancelled if the temperature or wind chill is below 10 degrees. Please check the KETV website (KETV.com) for weather information.

If you are unable to report to your post, please contact Mrs. Kratky as soon as possible.

Alternates should also report at the same time(s).

Wednesday afternoon patrol reports from 2:55-3:10 p.m.

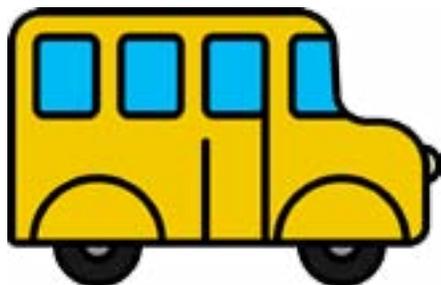


As the cold weather moves in, it's a good time to get names on all of your Tiger's winter gear. Please remember that we do not keep coats and things on hand to lend out. If you need assistance with winter clothing, let Mrs. McPadden or the office know and we can contact the Westside Clothing Closet staff. If you know your Tiger is missing something, you may want to check the lost and found before we move. We will donate items left behind on Dec. 22nd.

Field Trip and Move

On Friday, December 22nd, the entire school will be taking a field trip to the New Oakdale! In an effort to alleviate stress for students and allow them to visit their new classroom before school starts back up in January, we will be shuttling grades over and back during the morning of the 22nd. Students will pack their books and belongings and will be able to put things in their desks at the new school so they are ready to start on January 10th. It will be an exciting day!

Please remember that Oakdale will **not** have school on **January 8th and 9th**. These are days teachers will be allowed to unpack and set up their rooms for students to begin on the 10th. When students arrive on the 10th, we will treat it like the first day of school. Parents will be allowed to walk their children in for the first day. Starting on Thursday, January 11th, however, we will be back to our usual protocol of our safe and secure school. Students will be allowed in and parents can drop their children off at the curb or front entrance. Please be on the lookout for a separate email attachment outlining the new drop off and pick up procedures.



Mrs. Kratky and Mrs. Schmitz ask all 6th graders to "Live Above the Line." This includes giving back to the community. Each year 6th graders choose a local cause to support. This year 6th graders chose to support Autism Action Partnership. Please join us in celebrating Oakdale Autism Awareness Week, December 4th - 8th. Students may participate for \$1.00 a day. Please see the following Autism Action Partnership spirit schedule.

- Monday: Crazy Hair/Hat Day
- Tuesday: Crazy Sock Day
- Wednesday: Read-N-Feed
- Thursday: Dress like your teacher/principal
- Friday: Wear Blue

Also, 6th graders will be selling Autism Awareness stickers for \$1.00 after school from 3:30 to 3:40 along with raffle tickets. Students purchasing a raffle ticket will be entered into a drawing to play giant Jenga with 6th graders during the school day on Friday.

The ELL Website is a new resource for families to use. It includes staff information, picture lunch menus, and helpful websites. The google site is listed below:



<https://sites.google.com/westside66.net/ell/about>

PBiS

Positive Behavioral Intervention & Supports

Oakdale's 5th and 6th graders completed a confidential, Gallup Student Poll in October to provide feedback to our district regarding our young people's self-report of engagement, hope, entrepreneurial aspiration and career/financial literacy. Without exception, **the average Oakdale student self-reported higher levels of engagement than 5th and 6th graders across the nation or in the broader Westside school district.** Sample Engagement items include:

- *My teachers make me feel my schoolwork is important.*
- and
- *The adults at my school care about me.*

The same trend of **higher Oakdale student self-reports was also found for Hope** (i.e., *I have a mentor who encourages my development.*), **and Entrepreneurial Aspiration** (i.e., *I plan to start my own business.*), **and Career/Financial Literacy** (i.e., *I am learning how to save and spend money.*) This data helps to inform and reinforce Oakdale's efforts in shaping not only our intermediate students' behaviors but also their positive self-worth.

4th Grade Kindness Retreat

On Tuesday, November 28th, Oakdale 4th graders joined other 4th graders from Sunset Hills and Paddock Road for a Kindness Retreat at Westside High School. This retreat was led by Youth Frontiers staff with some of our high school boys and girls basketball players helping out as small group leaders.

During the retreat, students focused on five core learning areas:

1. Understand the difference between kind and unkind behaviors
2. Act kindly toward others
3. Understand how one's words and actions impact others positively or negatively
4. Acquire conflict-resolution skills to reduce bullying incidents
5. Deepen relationships with classmates

In order to accomplish these tasks, the leaders of the retreat worked on self-awareness, social awareness, and responsible decision-making. If you have a 4th grader, ask them to tell you about the retreat. As a school, we are hoping that we can continue to hold this retreat annually for each 4th grade class.



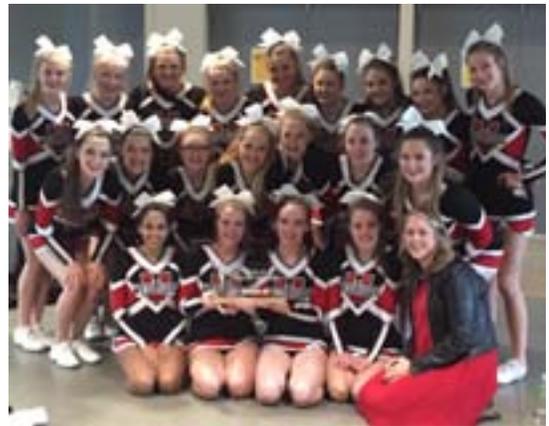
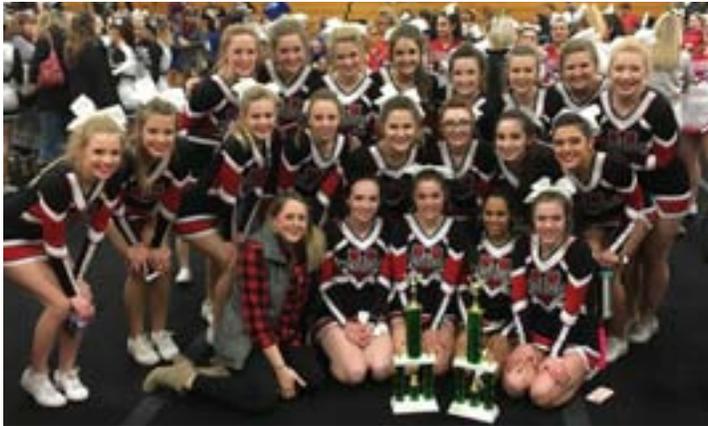
For the month of December, the skills that we will be focusing on are: Greeting Others and Following Instructions. We will also review all social skills.

Counselor's Corner

With winter break approaching, we will have pockets of time with our families when we can create memories together. Pick from the list of low cost/no cost activities below you can share with your child. Each event either builds skills or sets the stage to reinforce acts of kindness. Spending such positive time together and sharing simple gratitude exercises can bring a range of benefits for all, including increased well-being and reduced depression:

- Take a break from the screens by turning on holiday music and **putting a puzzle together**. Ask neighbors or relatives to trade puzzles, so you have “new puzzles” at no cost.
- Make a “**Flat Stanley**” of your child by snapping a full body photo and letting her/him cut it out. They can even add a speech bubble thank you to turn it into a one-of-a kind homemade thank you for a special gift from a loved one.
- Go to the local library and check out books. Make a batch of popcorn and snuggle in for **rest and reading time** one evening.
- Let your children take sleeping bags and blankets to **make a fort** big enough for everyone to sleep in. If you have a set of holiday lights that didn't make it into the decor, let your kiddos work it into the fort so they can read books before nap or bedtime.
- Bake a **batch of cookies** together, with your child reading each step – real life reading comprehension with a tasty pay-off! Wrap a paper plate of cookies in a gallon, ziploc baggie with a thank you note for your trash collectors. Let the kids “ambush” them with appreciation.
- Make a **comfy “nest” with several blankets and pillows**, big enough for you all to share while reading a storybook with your child. If it is night time, read by flashlight.
- * Surprise your child by picking up a classmate one night and then drive around, **touring holiday lights in neighborhoods**. Let the kiddos rate which ones are over the top.
- Show your children how to replace the batteries in your home's smoke detector (if it uses batteries) and write **notes of appreciation for the local fire station**, showing your child how to address envelopes and where to write the return address.
- If we get enough snow, invite friends over to **play games in the snow**. Have them write out greetings for neighbors in the snow on your front lawn.
- With a needle and thread, string some **cranberry and popcorn garland** to hang in a backyard tree for the neighborhood critters. Measure how long it is before you hang it, and have the kids measure it again as it gets consumed.





PARENTS NIGHT OUT AT WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Want to get some shopping done before the holidays, clean your house, or go out on a kid free date night?!!

Night of **FUN** includes:

- Crafts
- Coloring
- Games
- Movie
- Snacks
- Dancing
- Kickball in the gym

Westside Competition Cheer is hosting two Parents Night Out (PNO) events!

When: Friday, Nov. 17th & Friday, Dec. 15th

Time: 5:00pm – 10:00pm

Cost: \$20 per night, \$10 for each additional child

Where: Check in at the main entrance of WHS

****Additional \$5 for pizza dinner, otherwise please have children fed before dropping off****

RSVP not necessary but encouraged! Contact Molly Seals at seals.molly@westside66.net