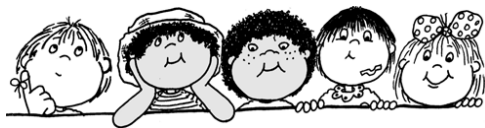


FUSD Board Members
Kathy Binks
Gus Hawthorn
Sophia Green
Leticia Garcia
Barbara Chavez

Oleander Bear Gram



Principal' Message

Dear Oleander Families,

On May 10, 2010 Oleander was recognized as California Distinguished School. This is the highest honor a school in California can receive. Schools that are recognized as Distinguished Schools must meet high student academic achievement standards. Since the Academic Performance Index was instituted in California in 1998, Oleander has grown from 403 to our current score of 818. Our students have consistently met the academic benchmarks established by the Federal Government since 2005.

On January 31, 2011 a mural to commemorate this monumental achievement in our school's rich history was painted next to the marquee. The mural will be a lasting image that future Oleander staff, students and parents will be able to view for many years to come.

On February 22, 2011 we will held a dedication ceremony for the mural.

Mrs. Huizar-Rodriguez and I are the two newest staff members at Oleander. It did not take us long to see that the reason why our students are making such excellent progress is due to the outstanding staff we have, the smart students who attend our school and our parents that have supported us over the years.

Our next goal is to become recognized as a California Blue Ribbon School. In order to gain this honor we need to continue to sustain the gains which we have made since 2005. As was the case with the Distinguished School recognition, it will take hard work, good attendance and the support of our parents. I know that we will gain this honor.

If you have any questions feel free to stop by my office to meet with me or give me a call at (909) 357-5700.

Craig J. Baker
Principal



A few notes from the AP:

California Standards Test

The California Standards test is just around the corner. Testing will begin the week of April 11th and end on April 22nd. This is a very important time of year and it is imperative that students are prepared to take the exam each day. Parents can help by making sure their child gets enough sleep, is well rested and is here every day and on time. Also, eating a healthy breakfast will start the day off right. There will be more information regarding the CSTs as the time approaches.

End of 2nd Trimester

This school year is certainly flying by. The end of 2nd trimester was on February 25, 2011. The report card is a good indication of how well your child is mastering his/her grade level standards. If you have any concerns, please inquire with your child's teacher on strategies that you can do use at home to help your child be successful at school.

Career Day

February 25th is Career Day. Professionals from different walks of life will be here to speak to our students about their careers, and why they chose the career that they did. Students will be allowed to ask questions and hopefully answer that age old question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" This will mark Oleander's 3rd annual Career Day and it is a day that the students enjoy and look forward to.



Mr. Baker's Joke of the Month

Q: Why is the math book so unhappy?

A: Because it is full of problems.



Ms. Williams Is Teacher of The Year!

Congratulations to Ms. Heather Williams for winning the 2010-2011 Teacher of the Year at Oleander.

Every year our teachers select one coworker who goes above and beyond the call of duty, is innovative in their instruction and has a positive rapport with their students to be recognized as Teacher of the Year. Ms. Williams embodies everything described and then some. Ms. Williams has been part of the Oleander staff for the past seven years. Ms. Williams attended California State University Dominguez Hill on a soccer scholarship. She majored in Liberal Studies with a minor in History.

During her time at Cal State Dominguez Hill she excelled in both the classroom and on the field. After graduating from Cal State Dominguez Hills, Ms. Williams attended California State Fullerton where she obtained her Multiple Subject teaching credential.

Fortunately for Oleander soon after graduating from Cal State Fullerton Ms. Williams was hired by the Fontana Unified School District and was assigned to our school. Since the moment that Ms. Williams set foot on the Oleander Campus she has strived to cultivate a strong relationship with each of her students.

By establishing the relationship Ms. Williams has created a safe classroom environment and is able to identify the learning needs of each of her students. The end results is that Ms. Williams has a very successful class both behaviorally and academically.

The next step for Ms. Williams is a recognition ceremony at a future board meeting where she could be recognized as the district teacher of the year. Way to go Ms. Williams!

Oleander Goes To Science Camp

On January 31, 2011 125 of our fifth graders along with 5 teachers took a journey to the San Bernardino Mountains to the Calvary Camp in Running Springs for a five day, four night learning experience. While at camp the students learned about how plants and wildlife survive in winter. In addition the students learned about Astronomy. Every year since 1998 our fifth graders have visited the camp. This truly is a wonderful experience for the students due to all of the great things they learn and friendships they make. One may ask how we could afford such an experience? The answer is through the generosity of others. The Orange County Department of Education has secured grant money to fund the tuition for each of our students to attend since 1998. The only cost our school has to take care of is transportation. This year transportation was paid for through a FEDCO grant that we received from Cal Poly Pomona as well as generous donations from Superior Market of Fontana and the Oleander PTA. The Oleander staff pitched in and purchased blankets and sleeping bags for students that needed them.

Attendance

Our average daily attendance so far this year has been 97.47% Our goal is to have an attendance rate of 98% for the year. One way to gain the academic performance needed for another mural is through excellent attendance!

