



Bear Gram



Principal's Message

Dear Families:

Welcome Back! We hope you had a great vacation. The beginning of a new year brings hope, optimism and resolutions. As you make or change your New Years Resolutions, consider the following:

1. Resolve to read with your child at least 30 minutes every night.
2. Resolve to limit the amount of television your child is watching.
3. Resolve to limit the amount of video games they are playing.
4. Resolve to encourage your child to participate in outdoor activities such as soccer, baseball, or running.

5. Resolve to have a 'Family Night' where you play games such as Monopoly, Uno, etc.
6. Resolve to become involved in your child's education by volunteering at school, or participating on a school committee.

These are just some ways we can get the new year off to a great start. Regardless of the New Year's Resolution you make, we hope 2009 brings you joy and happiness.

Until next time,
Mr. Santiago



Upcoming Events for January & February

- Bear Chat: Jan. 22 @ 9am
- SSC: Jan. 27th @ 9am
- ELAC: Feb. 10th @ 9am
- SSC: Feb. 17th @ 9am
- Bear Chat: Feb. 18th @ 9am
- Career Day: March 4th

Uniforms

Just a reminder, we are a uniform school. While uniforms may not be popular with students, it is for their safety. The uniforms are blue or white tops, and blue bottoms

Parent Involvement

Many parents ask what they can do to help our school. Being involved is easier than you think. If you are a little shy, we do have a parent center where you can complete work for teachers, or view videos on effective parenting strategies. Additionally, we have backpacks with books in English and Spanish that may be checked out. Stop by the office to sign in and visit this great resource which has been developed for you.

Unsung Heroes

In this issue of *Unsung Heroes*, we are featuring Ms. Ana Diaz, our librarian. Ms. Diaz has been at Oleander for four years. Ms. Diaz is responsible for maintaining our circulation of books which exceeds 15,000. On a daily basis, she reshelves approximately 700 books. This is in addition to reading with seven classes, and helping students select books which are at their instructional level. We appreciate Ms. Diaz, and we congratulate her for being our "Unsung Hero."

What's Going On????

We have had some great things happening at Oleander the last three months. Here is a little recap:

- In December, our ASB went caroling at the Senior Citizen Center and City Hall.
- We provided food baskets for over 30 families in December.

- We had our Second Annual Winter Program where students from various classes performed.
- In January, we began ESL (English as a Second Language) classes for adults.

These are just a few examples of what we have going on. Check back in the Spring for more exciting events.