

Oak Views

Inside this issue:

Principal's Corner, Alumni Roundup	2
Common Core, Santa Comes to Agoura	3
Escrip and Common Core in the classroom	4/5
Student work and achievements	6/7
School garden, Faces of Halloween	8/9
Halloween pics	10/11
Calendar	12

Special points of interest:

- Lokrantz School
- Dec 12: All students attend: Students will be asked to bring in a gift for their child Dec 2 – 10.
- Santa Comes to Agoura, Westlake, and Beyond
- Donate between 11/18 and 11/22

Special Thank You

For representing us to the Model School Committee

Parents: Leo Piloto, Ray Kovacic, Tiffany Lawrence, Paula Blaylock, Christina Alarcon, Denise Keane

Alumni: Jenna Hamilton and Kevin Ferman

Halloween Happenings

Our annual Halloween celebration was one for the books. Featuring several competitions, pumpkin carving, lots of decorations, and plenty of great food, it was a great time for everyone. ASB leaders Amanda Liszewski, Shannon Moss, and Alleen Sedas took the lead in the planning, supervised by Mrs. Liepman. They organized competitions from guessing the number of candy corn in a jar to mummy wrapping to worm eating.



At left, grillers Principal McGugan and Counselor Rogers.

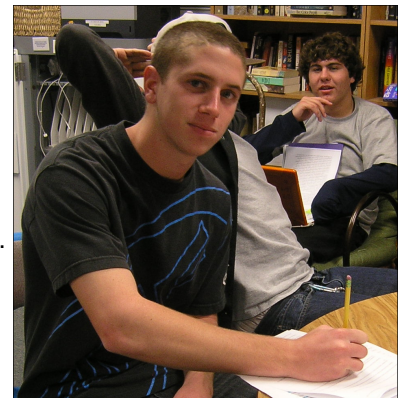


We have a winner! Alex Alger jumps to the head of the pack by consuming his donut before most others had even gotten a good bite. Also pictured, Scott McIntosh, Steven Kobabe, and Jack Hannah.

Students exuberantly participated in all of the activities, many in costume. Our traditional barbeque was supplemented by a 6-foot long sub from the Italia Deli and Bakery and bowls of salads donated by the DeFalco family and scary sweets concocted by the Gates and Polk families. See pages 7, 8, and 9 for more great pictures of the fun.

Eagle-Eye Etai Naor — Finds CAHSEE Mistake!

In October, 11th and 12th grade students had another crack at the CAHSEE. Senior Etai Naor demonstrated his language prowess in an unusual find — a mistake on the test! Students get good at spotting language mechanical errors in English, with a bounty of one hour toward credits for each mistake they bring to Ms. Allen. Etai found a singular noun that should have been plural. He brought the error to Mr. McGugan's attention (he was CAHSEE proctor), who confirmed the error. "My favorite part is somewhat ironic. I really thought it was funny when Etai said that we should take a picture for Ms. Allen! His intentions were genuine, but I almost had a heart attack thinking about the problem with that considered copying a state exam. What a great find by him! That was cool for him," says Mr. McGugan. Way to go, Etai — world class editor!



Principal's Corner

The school year is well underway and I feel I have developed so many strong relationships with our students. We have such a great group and I am looking forward to the many events coming up later this month and next. We just completed a very successful Halloween party. It was an all-hands effort. Rebecca Gates and Sadara Polk donated desserts, Italia Deli donated a huge sandwich, teachers helped buy supplies and all of our students were involved in making it a very scary place to celebrate. Yes, and I even noticed that you all decorated my car!!! Great job!! Keep it coming; just don't turn your back!!

I am really proud of how all of our students take pride in our campus and events. With the upcoming model school visit, all our students got involved with campus beautification projects. We had several students work on room 104 by framing some pictures from our annual field trips, from the first day of school and of the clean team to name a few. One job that really confirmed my knowledge of what a special student body we have was when our students painted our new building signs. I was fortunate to be able to help with this project and paint with all of the students. I think it was important for the students to take part in the process and to take pride in

their school. I was very proud to work alongside them. Not only did we get the signs up, but also we built relationships between teachers and students during the project. We all benefited from this project. In the end, the signs are up and will eventually come down, but the relationships and time spent working towards a common goal will never be taken away.

Another project during the beautification of our school was the improvement to our garden. The garden team spruced up our garden and brought it back to life and the

pots with spices by rooms 101 and 102. I cannot wait to eat some of these Oak View grown veggies in our own Foods class. YUM!!

I am so proud of our 17 honor roll students who have a GPA of above 3.0. I know that you are all putting in many hours of dedication and hard work. Your effort is paying off



Mr. McGugan Sr. helps put up the new signage at Oak View.

Alumni Roundup

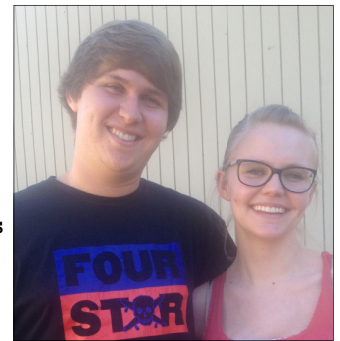
Ashlea Sneed ('11) came by with her two charges — she is working in child-care right now. She says boyfriend Tony Millas ('11) is a manager at the McDonalds on TO Blvd while pursuing music career. Robbie Echave ('10) and Jen Shaktah (attended '10) stopped by for a visit. Jen is recently enrolled in cosmetology school and Robbie is back in school as well. Yuval Naor ('11) stopped by to pick up brother and cur-

rent senior Etai and reports that he is working in his father's electrical business after doing well in the sales field.

With the Model School Committee visiting, we had a chance to get in touch with several alumni. One of the requirements for MS status is that former students come talk about their experience at the school. Jenny Kaidin ('11) wanted to come but is very busy with work (recently made a manager at Love Culture) and school (Moorpark). Ashley Swartz ('12) also offered to come, but got held up at the

last minute.

Kevin Ferman ('12) was there, with his walking cast (one of the hazards of skateboarding) and Jenna Hamilton ('11) was there without son Jackson, though she promises to bring him by soon. Both are pictured above.



Common Core Explained by Assistant Superintendent Heilbron

The English Language Arts and Literacy portion of the Common Core Standards are a culmination of an extensive effort to create the next generation of K-12 standards, thereby ensuring that all students are college and career ready by the end of high school. The standards offer an integrated model of literacy with key features including reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language. They are research and evidence based, aligned with college and work expectations, both rigorous and internationally benchmarked. These standards create a vision of what it is to be a literate person in the twenty-first century.

The Standards address requirements not only for English Language Arts but also for *literacy* in history, social studies, science, and technical subjects. They address literacy in a variety of content areas. The literacy standards for grades 6-12 help students meet the challenges of reading, writing, speaking, and listening in multiple disciplines. It is important to note that the 6-12 literacy standards in history/social studies, science, and technical subjects are not meant to replace content standards in those areas but rather to supplement them. This structure recognizes that while English Language Arts teachers are responsible for developing literacy skills, teachers in other content areas have a role to play, as well. As most of the required reading in college and the workforce is informational and challenging, this interdisciplinary approach ensures that students are proficient in reading complex informational text and writing in a variety of content areas.

In kindergarten through grade 8, the English Language Arts and Literacy Standards are grade specific. They balance the reading of literature with the reading of informational text including history and social studies, science and technical subjects. The standards for grades 9-12 use two-year

bands to allow maximum flexibility in designing high school course work. The standards require an emphasis on literature and literary nonfiction, as well as reading informational texts across the content areas.

The student who masters the ELA Common Core standards:

- demonstrates independence
- builds strong content knowledge
- responds to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose and discipline
- comprehends as well as critiques values evidence
- uses technology and digital media strategically and capably
- comes to understand other perspectives and cultures

I will be presenting an overview of the Common Core at the following sites:

Brookside - October 25th
Medea Creek - November 7th
Red Oak - November 14th

Please feel free to attend any of these meetings - I look forward to addressing your questions and concerns!

Yours,
Leslie Heilbron, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources/Curriculum and Instruction



**Santa Comes to
Agoura,
Westlake,
and Beyond!**

**From
11/18-11/22**

**Bring Cereal,
Oatmeal,
Protein Bars,
and other**

Breakfast

Foods

To School

**Help celebrate
Thanksgiving by
GIVING!**

Sign Up for Escrip and Support Our School!

Escrip is a unique fundraiser — **THERE IS NO COST TO YOU!**

Sign up online — It's quick and easy!

Our group ID number is:

6545775

1. Go to www.escrip.com

2. Click on "sign-up"

3. Follow the instructions

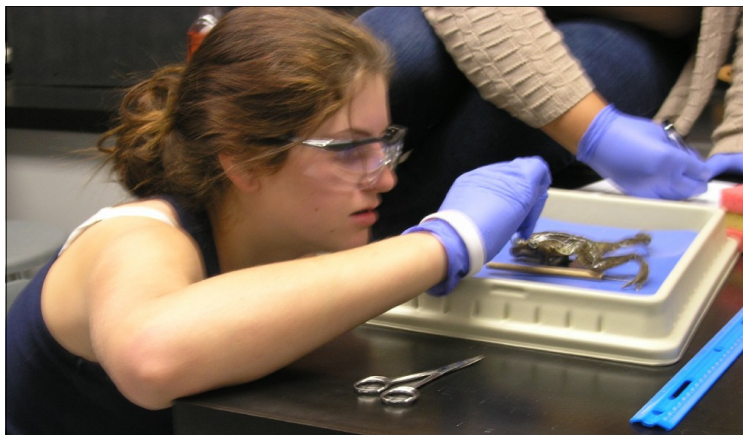
It's Easy! It's Free! It's Powerful!

Spaghetti Noodles and Common Core Standards

Every third Tuesday of the month, Ms. Allen attends a district sponsored training in making the new Common Core standards come to life for our students. One of the bedrocks of the new standards is the ability to work smoothly and effectively with other students. Here, students in English class practice group work roles in an exercise that tests their ability to think critically and creatively and quickly plan and execute the creation of a tower made of spaghetti noodles, string, and tape. Students were to build, in 18 minutes, the tallest free-standing tower possible. All of this with a marshmallow on top! Out of the six teams, two completed a tower that stood on its own. The team comprised of Jared Kovacic, Kelvin Pereira, Madi Wescott, and Julia Brown won the day with a sturdy tower of 21 inches (seen lower right). After the task, students reflected on their own contributions and the effectiveness of their group dynamics. Good lessons as we move forward with critical-thinking group projects.



Project-Based Learning — the Core of Common Core



Mr. McManus provides students with multiple opportunities for project-based and performance-based learning. From Computers to Film to Biology, he has students dissecting frogs and pigs, building structures, creating movies, bird-watching, making PowerPoints, and much, much more. This hands-on learning not only engages students, it provides real-world practice. At left, Becca Gates examines and makes observations about her frog prior to dissection. Below left, Renee Henderson and Devon Irribarren inspect their fetal pig. Below right, Vince DeFalco, Eric Gonzalez, and Alex Voneiff consider possibilities in creating set pieces for their film. Far below left, Max Ecklund and Sean Harvey are amazed at their engineering skills. Far below right, Jake Riebel and Dakota Blaylock discover the intricacies of a frog's insides.



Community Service *by Dakota Blaylock*

This year at Oak View we've decided to make a greater effort in giving back to our community. This year Ms. Allen has decided to offer community service credit to anyone who needs it. Every Thursday a select group of willing students come together to do the district's dirty work. With various tasks ranging from pulling weeds, digging out gutters and touching up on neglected icons such as painting the Oak Park Unified School District sign. The purpose of this class is not only to help kids acquire credits to graduate but also to provide a helping hand on college applications and to teach the stu-

dents a good lesson in giving back to their community. The plan is to revitalize the Oak View campus and clean up the community. Our goals also extend outside of the community with to-do things such as volunteer at Hope of the Valley Homeless Shelter and collect items to donate to various organizations who help those in need. And to those of you reading we plan on having a donation box set up at Oak View soon. Some ideas of things we will take will be non-perishable food, hygiene goods and clothing. Also if you have any ideas for community service projects feel free to



mention them to Ms. Allen, who is supervising the community service group.

Preparing for the Days to Come *by Brandon Lugo*

This year, Oak View's senior class has to take the mandatory Careers class in order to graduate. While they take the class, they will learn about the challenges of the future and what they must do to overcome these obstacles. They will figure out what colleges they want to go to, apply for scholarships, and ultimately have set lifetime goals for themselves. The majority of the seniors that were interviewed plan on attending Moorpark College. Other schools that interest the students include Santa Monica College and Pierce College. While some students said they will decide on a career while they are, we got some pretty straightforward answers from some others.

Shannon Moss strives to become a high school science teacher. She wants to go to Moorpark and then attend San Francisco State University with her boyfriend, and ex-Oak View student, Sam Fields. She takes the initiative to "read biology textbooks every night." to further prepare herself.

Shelby Young also plans to study at Moorpark to take her general classes. Then she plans to go to Meredith Manor Equestrian College to master Jumping Hunter and get her degree in Equestrian Training.

Alleen Sedas wishes to pursue a

career with animals as well. She will go to Pierce instead of Moorpark and will transfer to UC Davis to get her Veterinary degree. She ultimately wants to start a local Pit Bull rescue.

Marilyn Funes, along with a few other students, are thinking about joining the military straight out of high school. Funes is interested in the Navy branch and then she will, "see what comes up."

Patrick Keane has not yet decide whether to go to

Moorpark or Santa Monica for college, but he knows he wants to go to DePaul University in Chicago and work in human services.

Amanda Liszewski has a wide range of subjects she would like to study, but the most interesting to her is psychology. She does not know what college she will attend yet.

Emmy Bonilla is currently training to become either a psychiatrist or an Olympic rower. If she goes down the psychiatrist path, she will attend Santa Monica College, and then UCLA. She conducts psychological research online regularly to

contribute to her knowledge.

Mikey Bilodeau is very passionate about his future. He ultimately wants to develop new economic theories or become a university teacher. Evergreen Liberal Arts is his school of choice, where he wants to study Economic Theory and Political Science. To prepare for this, he reads many economic pieces, such as Wealth of Nations by Adam Smith, and Das Kapital by Karl Marx.

They will figure out what colleges they want to go to, apply for scholarships, and ultimately have set lifetime goals for themselves.

Students Earn Credits Via STAR Testing

For working extra hard to do well on STAR testing last year, the following students earned elective credit. Shiana Ramos and Dakota Blaylock did quite well, with Dakota earning the credits for a full-year class!

Brandon Klein, Kelvin Pereira, Sean Harvey, Renee Henderson, Amanda Liszewski, Brandon Levine, Brandon Lugo, Claudio Renyer, Shelby Young, Jake Riebel, Mikey Bilodeau, Max Ecklund, Aryanna Dunn, Steven Kobabe, Devon Irribarren, Alex Alger

Shiana Ramos 8, Dakota Blaylock 10

CLOTHING AND SHOE RECYCLING

We have a new program for collecting and recycling all clothing, shoes, and accessories at all of the schools. You can drop off all textiles, including clothing, shoes, belts, purses, towels, sheets, anything textile. The OPUSD Environmental Education and Awareness Committee will be paid for all of the items collected and the money will be returned to the schools to support recycling, gardens, and other eco-projects. USAgain will sort the items, sell some to thrift shops in the U.S. and in third world nations, where they will be sold very inexpensively to benefit people in need. What is not salable will be recycled into new products at facilities located in California. The program is a win-win for everyone. Most importantly it prevents the items from being thrown away and ending up in landfills (currently 86% of clothing and shoes end up in landfills in the U.S.), it supports jobs, it allows items to be re-used to extend their life, and it raises funds for important environmental projects that benefit your children right here in Oak Park! You may drop off items anytime. Thank you for your support.



Honor Roll for Quarter 1

Gold Honor Roll

3.5—4.00

Alleen Sedas

Allison Borg

Amanda Liszewski*

Aryanna Dunn

Becca Gates

Brandon Lugo*

Claudio Renyer*

Dakota Blaylock*

Devon Irribarren

Emmy Bonilla

Etai Naor

Marilynn Funes

Renee Henderson*

Sean Harvey*

Shannon Moss*

Shiana Ramos*

Steven Kovabe

*4.0 GPA

Silver Honor Roll

3.0 — 3.49

Blake Piloto

Brandon Klein

Eric Gonzalez

Julia Brown

Madi Wescott

Patrick Keane

Sadara Polk

Scott McIntosh

Shelby Young

**Congratulations,
Scholars!**

Journal entry Every day, English class students write in their journals. This recent submission is indicative of the thoughtfulness and craft that goes into these daily writings.

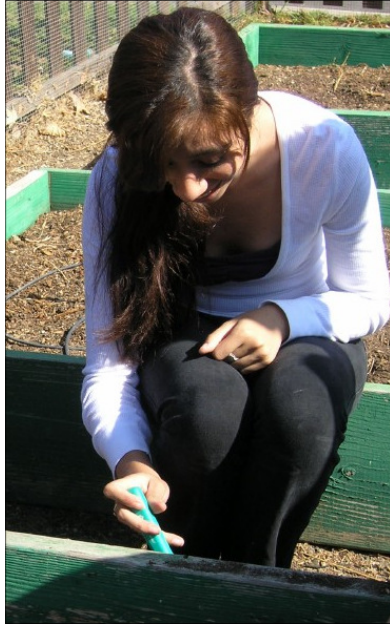
I am very different from the way I was "supposed to be." I was supposed to grow up normally, and have normal grades and normal friends and normal looking hair and a normal body and a normal mind. I was supposed to care about celebrities more than world events and I was supposed to learn how to put on eyeliner. I was supposed to graduate from a big high school with a mascot that I would cheer for and go to a big college with a bigger mascot that I would cheer for even harder. Yet here I am, not normal. No cheering, no hair, no eyeliner. No normal mind. And I wouldn't have it any other way. I think eyeliner looks stupid.

Faithe Thogode

Below left, Alleen Sedas, below right, Marilynn Funes and Allison Borg.

Student Health and Well-Being a Top Priority

The Environmental Education and Awareness Committee and the Wellness Council both made up of parents, teachers, administrators, and school board members, have selected the theme, *Making Peace with the Natural World* as our OPUSD environmental theme for the next several years. The focus for this year will be *Peace Begins on our Plates*. Dr. Sylvia Earle, the noted oceanographer and National Geographic Explorer, in a recent lecture commented that it was time for us to *make peace with the natural world* because over the next decade many decisions that we as individuals and our societies make, will have lasting consequences on the way the planet lives and breathes and its ability to support the diversity of life, including ourselves. Our choice of the sub-theme, *peace begins on our plates* is about promoting sustainable agriculture and making food choices that are good for the earth and our health. It's interesting how these are nearly always consistent! For example, eating a more plant-based diet has a dra-



matic impact on our carbon footprints since about 20% of all greenhouse gases produced are from the raising of livestock, more than transportation (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Report). Eating a more plant-based diet leads to improved overall health through reduction of cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and a host of other diet-related illnesses (Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health). Growing your own veggies in an organic garden can encourage children to eat

vegetables that are good for them but that they may be reluctant or resistant to eat or even try. This is one of the reasons we have our school garden programs. Eating locally grown, organic, and sustainable is easy when you have a school or home garden. So, here's what's up: Growing for Good - at our annual Super Saturday, Sustainability Fair, held on Saturday, February 1 at OPHS,

This is one of the reasons we have our school garden programs.

Zero Waste. It will be piloted at MCMS. We are working with our waste hauler to turn our food waste into compost instead of sending it to the landfill.

with fund to benefit a cause that promotes sustainable agriculture and reduces hunger.

A major effort is underway to improve our recycling and waste reduction program. We are introducing a new Food Waste/Composting program at all schools this year in our pursuit of

School lunches are improving all the time as we work with partners such as the Health and Longevity Center at the Westlake Four Seasons Hotel. Our first outreach is the Four Seasons Food Truck coming to Oak Park High School on Thursday, October 24, World Food Day, and 50% of the proceeds will go to OPHS ASB.

Meatless Mondays continue with more plant-based options available in our school cafeterias on Mondays and throughout the week. Look for other events at the schools this year that will promote sustainable agriculture, vegetable gardening, and healthy eating for you and the planet.

there will be a Country Fair where veggies grown in school and classroom gardens will participate in a judging contest with prizes and awards and then all this amazing cool season produce (lettuce, broccoli, kale, chard, herbs) will be sold in our own Farmer's Market stands

At left, Emmy Bonilla, Alleen Sedas, Brandon Lugo, Claudio Renyer

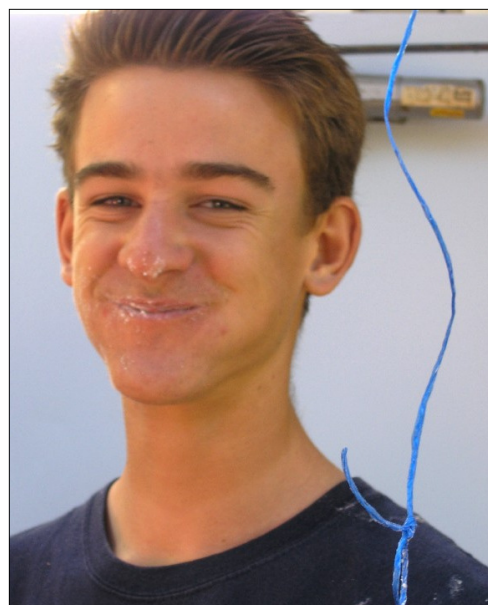




The Faces of Halloween

Clockwise from above left, Claudio Renyer shows his creativity, Max Ecklund behind the mask,

Ms. Allen makes her point, Dakota Blaylock flashes a grin, Mr. McManus back from Vegas, Scott McIntosh and Brandon Lugo finishing up their donuts, Kelly DiFonzo enjoying the food, Jack Hannah with his pumpkin head, and Shannon Moss demonstrating that not all witches are evil.



Get Your Spook On Here!



1..2..3..And GO! Students compete — eating, carving, wrapping. Above left, Alex Voneiff, Blake Piloto, Jake Riebel, Sean Harvey, Alex Alger, and Jack Hannah work through whipped cream to get at the worms. Far above right, Brandon Klein, Scott McIntosh, and Steven Kobabe go AFTER those donuts. Above right, Etai Naor and Blake Piloto get all wrapped up in the mummy competition. At right, students line up for barbeque, sandwiches, and salads. Below right, Madi Wescott, Kelvin Pereira, and Garvin Exline craft their masterpieces. Below left, Julia Brown, Shiana Ramos, Aryanna Dunn, Marilynn Funes, Blake Piloto, Kelvin Pereira, and Scott McIntosh wait the call to begin carving. ASB did a great job planning for this always anticipated holiday.



Oak View High School

5701 E. Conifer St.
Oak Park, CA 91377

Phone: (818)735-3217
Fax: (818)735-3290
E-mail: sallen@oakparkusd.org

Respect, Restraint, Responsibility

Advertise Here



November 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					No School Professional Development 1	2
3	Quarter 2 begins 4	5	6	7	8	9
10	No School Veterans Day 11	Site Council 3:00 12	Shelby Young's birthday 13	Model School Committee Visit 14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	Shannon Moss's birthday 23
24	25	26	Thanksgiving Barbeque Minimum Day 27	No School Thanksgiving Break 28	No School Faithe Thogode's birthday 29	30