



**January 2015**



# Owen Observer

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

**DR. S. GRIGGS**

Happy New Year to all of you! I am very excited about 2016 and all that is going to occur in the new year. I hope you had an enjoyable holiday season. Students in grades K-2 have begun taking the DIBELS Assessment and M-Class Math Assessment and students in grades 2-8 will participate in the MOY NWEA MAP Assessment starting January 19<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will analyze the results of this assessment data to assist in their instruction.

Thank you for supporting our annual Holiday Shop. The students enjoyed purchasing gifts for their families and friends. I would like to thank the PTO and other parents for decorating the gym and for assisting our students with their purchases. I really appreciate your involvement and participation in our school.

Once again, the OSA choir did an amazing job at the holiday concert. The students also did a phenomenal job during their performances at the holiday assemblies. I would like to thank Ms. Davis for her efforts in preparing our students for these performances and for the time and energy she puts into our music program. She is the BEST OF THE BEST!!!

It is with sadness that I announce the passing of our dear first grade student Brooklyn Cooper. She passed away on Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>. We send our condolences to her family during this difficult time.

Best wishes to Ms. Heags as she moves on into retirement. Please join me in welcoming our new kindergarten teacher, Ms. Djuana Harvey to OSA. She is excited to be a part of the OSA Family. Please plan to join us at our monthly PAC/PTO/LSC Meetings on January 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:30, 6:00 and 6:30 p.m., respectively in the gym. Your presence and input are encouraged. In order to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday, school will not be in session on Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup>.



# FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

## MRS. S. MORRIS

I wish a Happy New Year to each staff, student, parent, and family member of OSA. I pray it will be a prosperous and fulfilling 2016. As we reflect on the many wonders 2015 has brought us, let's continue to give thanks and push for continued excellence for 2016. We have several upcoming events to prepare for. Parents, we are asking full participation from each student and of course you. **AS A TEAM, WE CAN REACH OUR DREAMS!** We will be testing for the next couple of weeks (NWEA ASSESSMENTS IN GRADES 2nd through 8th and DIBELS BENCHMARK TESTING in grades K-2nd). We know that our students are well prepared in all subjects and are ready to take on the challenge of exceeding academically. If each student gives their very best, practice daily, completes all assignments, utilize time wisely, get plenty of rest, eat healthy, get plenty of exercise, and have fun, they will perform better than **THE BEST OF THE BEST!** Please make sure your child is completing all assigned homework and prepared for class each day.

We thank Ms. Davis for an outstanding and enjoyable winter concert with our fabulous choir. The caroling was so beautiful and Dr. Griggs did an awesome job leading us through beautiful songs of joy. The school's winter assembly was phenomenal. The children gave us an outstanding performance and the songs were beautiful. The play, "Tis the Season", written by Ms. Davis was outstanding. It was a great way to set the tone for the holidays. Ms. Davis, you are truly **THE BEST OF THE BEST!** Thank you to our outstanding PTO and their volunteers for your wonderful contributions and selflessness to the needs of our school. The Holiday Shop was fabulous with great buys for the family, raffles, and fun.

Lastly, we are very proud of our new BETA INDUCTEES and BETA members. The induction ceremony sponsored by Ms. M. Watson was great. We want our students to continue to work hard to maintain their academic status along with great character. You exhibit outstanding qualities!!!!

Thank you to all of our Owen family (parents, staff, and students) for your many prayers, support, and contributions to the family of Brooklyn Cooper. A heartfelt thank you to the Marty Brooks Helping Hands Foundation which includes (Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. Carter, and Mrs. Cleggett) for their support to Brooklyn and her family with the Holiday Mixer which was an evening of fun, food, games, and activities for the entire family. The proceeds went to Brooklyn and her family as well as St. Jude foundation. Thank you for making a difference. Please continue to keep Brooklyn Cooper's family in your prayers during this challenging time. We also thank Ms. Cremins for her kindness and fundraising efforts in providing Brooklyn with her own personalized wheel chair. It will be donated to a charity. She is greatly appreciated for her diligence in making a difference for our students.

I would like to thank Ms. Sims for all of her hard work with the preparation of the science fair. She made sure our students were well prepared and they presented outstanding projects and were able to fully articulate their hypothesis and findings. Thank you for all of your hard work, and many thanks to the parents who work diligently with their children to ensure excellence. Congratulations to all participants and big congratulations to the following winners: Domonic Bradford-1st place Rikiya Martin-2nd place and Justin Jefferson-3rd place. **YOU ARE THE BEST OF THE BEST!**

Lastly, I would like to wish Mrs. Heags the best as she moves to the next phase in life. Best wishes to her for peace, rest, and good health. We will miss her tremendously and we thank her for making a difference at OSA.



# KINDERGARTEN

## MS. HARVEY

Hello, My name is Ms. Harvey! I am the new Kindergarten teacher at OSA. I will be teaching your child for the duration of this school year. I am very excited to begin this year with your child. I am thrilled to get to know your child, but first I'd like to introduce myself to you.

### **Facts about Ms. Harvey**

I was born and raised in Chicago, IL. I have a younger brother who attends Grambling State University in Louisiana. I have a sister who teaches special education on the South Side of Chicago, IL. My parents have been married for 30 years and we are a very close knit family. I attended University of Illinois- Urbana Champaign where I obtained a Bachelors of Science Degree in Early Childhood Education. I also obtained a Masters in Community Counseling and am currently pursuing a Doctorate in Educational Administration and Leadership at DePaul University. I have taught kindergarten and first grade for three and a half years and have taught preschool for three years. This year I will complete my 7th year of teaching. I love teaching and I look forward to developing a relationship with you and teaching your child for the rest of this school year!

### **EXPECTATIONS & RULES**

All students are expected to follow the classroom rules at all times at school.

We will follow directions the first time given.

We keep our hands and feet to ourselves.

We always use kind words.

We always try to do our best.

We will keep our eyes on the teacher.

This week our class will be discussing these rules and how they impact our learning and safety. Ask your child to explain them to you!

### **CONTACT ME**

I'm super excited to teach your child, and welcome teacher and parent communication. I am always willing to give feedback and work together to ensure your child's success. If you would like to contact me, you can reach me via e-mail at [dharvey14@cps.edu](mailto:dharvey14@cps.edu). If you would like to speak in person, please set up a time before or after school to meet! I cannot wait to get to know you better! Thank you!

*Sincerely,*

**Ms. Harvey**

## FIRST GRADE - MRS. BAILEY

I hope your winter break was an enjoyable one. Now it is time to get back to the joy of academic growth and achievement.

As you know, the First Graders have set a reading goal of 30 minutes a day to contribute time to the school wide reading minutes. I am asking you to listen and/or read to your child for thirty-minutes each day and record the number of minutes and the book title(s) on the monthly reading log. There are thirty-one lines. So, each student should submit a reading log with 930 minutes on it. We can do it!

Please continue to ask and discuss your child's daily conduct grade. Continue to encourage your First Grader to follow our school wide rules in every classroom. Don't forget to reward your child on Friday if he/she has an excellent conduct grade.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [tbailey@cps.edu](mailto:tbailey@cps.edu).

## SECOND GRADE - MS. MAGLIANO

### Second Grade

Happy New Year!!! This month our class will be taking the middle of the year NWEA test for reading and math. Please make sure to continue to go on the websites that were sent home for NWEA practice. Continue to fill out the monthly reading logs daily. All students are expected to turn in the reading logs at the end of the month.

I am so proud of our second graders. Keep up the good work.

Happy birthday to Thierry Matthews (Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>).

## THIRD GRADE - MRS. WILLIAMS

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful break. Thank you for all of the wonderful gifts. Also, thank you for all of your support during the canned food drive. We are the champions!!! The class enjoyed our afternoon at Ashburn. We will continue to work on multiplication and also division. Basic facts should be reviewed nightly. Also continue to work on RIT practice. We will be taking the NWEA again in just a few weeks. Please monitor your child's homework and sign their agenda nightly. Thank you for your partnership in your child's education.  
Mrs. Williams

## FOURTH GRADE - MS. MCLEOD

Happy New Year and Welcome Back!

Students are still using informational text obtained from [www.readwork.org](http://www.readwork.org) and other websites. Please continue practicing the skills on [www.studyisland](http://www.studyisland). Continue to read and log your minutes.

## FIFTH GRADE - MRS. MATTHEWS

Dear Fifth Grade Parents,

I hope your break was pleasant. We are already back in school and time seems to be moving really quickly. The fifth graders will be administered the NWEA Assessment during the week of January 18, 2016. Please make sure that they have enough rest. Please continue to monitor Parent Portal on CPS Gradebook. Homework is posted nightly at the webpage <http://www.teacherweb/IL/OwenScholasticAcademy/MrsMatthews>. My email address is [jamatthews@cps.edu](mailto:jamatthews@cps.edu).

Let's continue to work together for the success of our children.

Happy New Year!

Mrs. Matthews

## SIXTH GRADE - MS. ZACHARY

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!! I hope everyone had a wonderful relaxing winter break.

Winter NWEA testing will begin this month. NWEA results will give teachers and students an idea of how students have progressed since the fall. We will continue to work on critical areas through the use of IXL, Study Island, and MTSS intervention lessons.

We are all excited to be back and gearing up for the busy weeks ahead.

We have completed the first half of the second quarter and progress reports were sent home on Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. Please be sure to sign and return the bottom portion of this notice. I welcome the opportunity to speak with you about your child's progress. Parent conferences are available by appointment only. I can be reached at (773)535-9330 and by email ([tlzachary@cps.edu](mailto:tlzachary@cps.edu)).

Happy Birthday: Dazjah Richard 1/8, Paul West 1/18, Megan Willis 1/25

Announcements:

## SEVENTH GRADE—MRS. SCANLON

Welcome back everyone. I hope that your break was restful and enjoyable. Please parents continue to utilize the Class Dojo site to communicate with me on an ongoing basis. Continue to utilize my homework site at [Teacherweb.com](http://Teacherweb.com) to view assignments as they are assigned. Further, peruse the parent portal in order to see your child(rens) progress as the year goes on. I am currently working on ways to further utilize technology in every day lessons. I will communicate new add-ins as needed.

**ROOM 100**  
**Dr. SMARTE**

*Diversity is the Key to Unlocking the World!*

**ROOM 100**  
**January 2015**



The staff and students in room 100 were very proud in December that two of our seventh grade students were inducted into the Junior Beta Club here at Owen. Please congratulate Deshawn Gage and Joseph Trotta as they embark on a new chapter in their education experience as members dedicated to the service of others.

Parents, our Reading Millionaire reading logs were sent home again on December 1st. If you need more reading logs please let me know by leaving a message here at school.

Please continue to encourage your child to read after school and over the holiday break. Happy Holidays to you and your family. As always, if you need further information please feel free to contact me at (773) 535-9330.

**Dr. Charlotte E. Smarte**  
**NBCT**  
**Diverse Learning Specialist**

# LIBRARY - MS. G. WATSON

Well it's the beginning of a New Year. I can't believe it! We are off to a great start! While November is coming to an end students will continue to learn many different things. K-2nd Students will continue to read Nonfiction and Fiction. 3rd -5th Read selected novels, biographies and begin research skills 6th-8th Parents please keep working with your child or children on all those brand new books for the **Young Author's Contest**. I look forward to reading all their books. All books are due by **January 14, 2016** or the date the classroom teacher has set.

Parent Please take advantage of:

## **Homework Help from the Chicago Public Library**

All Chicago Public Library sites offer free homework help for school-aged children. Accredited teachers offer drop-in help after school through a program called *Teacher in the Library*.

**BrainFuse** is an online homework help website available for all students to access from any computer with their library cards or at any Chicago Public Library. For more information, call Children's Services at 312-747-4780 or email story@chipublib.org.

## **Scholastic Reading Club**

Encouraging reading is one of the most important things we can do to help your child succeed. It can be tough finding the right books to keep them interested, which is why I am so excited that our Owen School will be participating in Scholastic Reading Club this school year.

With Scholastic Reading Club:

Every book you buy earns FREE Books for our Owen Library.

You can choose from handpicked, grade- and reading-level-specific books for your child

You'll find the best values on a variety of formats, including eBooks

Each month, your child will bring home Reading Club flyers. Together you can choose from books hand-selected by teachers and experts, and then order online or by returning your order form each Friday to Ms. Glenda Watson and payment. All order will be placed between 7:45 a.m. and 8:45 a.m.

I'd also love some help growing our Owen School Library. If you'd like to help out with donations or know of donors, please let me know! I'm excited to get students reading more at Owen

Thank you for your support,

Your Child's Library

**VISIT [scholastic.com/readingclub](http://scholastic.com/readingclub)**

**ENTER** the one-time Class Activation Code (bottom of this letter)

**SHOP** from a carefully curated selection of the best books, value packs, and Storia eBooks

**SUBMIT** your order and earn FREE Books for our library.

All book orders will be shipped to our Owen Library so we can celebrate the joy of reading together!

Shop Online: [scholastic.com/readingclub](http://scholastic.com/readingclub)  
One-Time Class Activation Code: LYF8H



8th GRADE—Mr. ANDERSON

Happy  
New Year  
Class of 2016!



**MUSIC**  
**MS. DAVIS**

All the students worked hard preparing for the Winter Assembly. They did an awesome job! It was wonderful to see everyone there. Thank you for your continued support of the Fine Arts here at Owen. Your support really makes a difference. We hope to see you at the next assembly in February.

*Ms. Davis*



**FROM THE SCIENCE LAB - MS. SIMS**



Dear Parents/Guardians:

# **Welcome to the World of Science**

We are so excited about our Jr. Scientist at work here at Owen!

What are we learning?

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Potential of Hydrogen – pH/ Bohr’s Model /Atomic Structures**

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Cell Biology – Infectious Diseases / Animal versus Plant Cells**

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade: FOSS - Planes , Flippers and Aluminum Ball Tosses**

**5<sup>TH</sup> Grade : Foss – The Sun / Electromagnetic Spectrum**

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade: The Human Body vs. The Owl**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: Water- The Water Cycle- What Goes Up Must Come Down!**

*Happy New Year*



**FROM THE SCIENCE LAB - MS. SIMS**



Dear Parents/Guardians:

# **Welcome to the World of Science**

We are so excited about our Jr. Scientist at work here at Owen!

**Congratulations to all of our  
Middle School Science Fair Participants**

**2015**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner- Domonic Bradford**

**2<sup>ND</sup> Place Winner -Rikiyia Martin**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winner- Justin Jefferson**

**Reminder-**

**Engineering projects due 01/22/16**

# **THANK YOU FOR THE SUPORT!**

**Ms. Sims -Science Educator**



# FROM THE COUNSELOR - MS. WATSON



**Beta Club Induction: Friday, December 11, 2015 @ 9AM.**

The National Beta Club, a student-centered organization, continually develops and nurtures individuals by providing opportunities and experiences enabling them to demonstrate the ideals of character, achievement, service, and leadership in a global community.

## **Congratulations to the 2015-2016 Junior Beta Club**

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Shyann Bennett Domonic Bradford  
Carter Brown Isabel Cabral  
Eric Clopton Devon Daly  
Jalah Griffin Tameya Harding  
Justin Jefferson Alfred King  
Donovan Lewis Rikiyia Martin  
Danyelle Moore Trinity Owens  
Jaleel Payne Elijah Washington  
Christopher Villafana-Tinoco

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Layla Ashley  
Makayla Blakley  
Trashawn Bonds  
Divine Coleman  
Bryce Lancaster  
Corinne Mitchell  
Taylor Pate  
Jaelle Peoples  
Taylor Perteete

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Nyla Clegget Raven Edwards  
Elijah Guise Amore Harper  
Laila Kemp Lardjer Kent  
Teoni McClinton Joseph Trotta  
Kendall West Emmanuel White

### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Aaron Adkins Lauren Adkins  
Sevoni Balfour Jordyn Foster  
Tarell Harding Meika Haywood  
Jayla Lawrence Zahara Moore  
Alexandria Washington Eilijah Williams

### **Congratulations to our newly elected Junior Beta Club Officers**

<b>President</b>	<b>Shyanne Bennett</b>
<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>Rikiyia Martin</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Christopher Villafana-Tinoco</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Danyelle Moore</b>

**Re: Winter 2016 NWEA/MAP Testing Schedule: Grades 2-8**

**Testing will take place on Monday, January 19 – Friday, January 29, 2016. Please make sure that your students get a good night's sleep and have a healthy breakfast. Make-ups will begin on Thursday, January 21, 2015 in the afternoons.**

# Owen Scholastic Academy

**January  
2016**



**IS A BRAND NEW DAY AT O.S.A.**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> <b>Happy New Year</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Classes Resume	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Male Mentoring Out of Uniform \$1.00 Progress Report Distribution	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Young Authors Manuscripts Due Spelling BEE 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM PTO Hot Lunch Out of Uniform \$1.00 (Brooklyn Cooper t-shirts pr pink tope/jeans)	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> MLK DAY No School	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Female Mentoring Out Of Uniform \$1.00	<b>23</b>
<b>24/31</b>	<b>25</b> P.A.C. 5:30PM P.T.O. 6:00 PM L.S.C. 6:30 PM	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Box Tops Out of Uniform	<b>28</b> Geography Bee 8:45 AM	<b>29</b> Patrol Gym 2:45- 4:30 PM	<b>30</b>