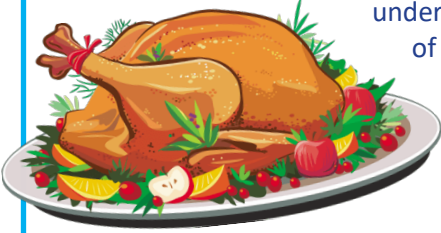




The Season of Gratitude



Each year, OSA looks forward to celebrating Thanksgiving with our school family. This year, we will be resuming our annual tradition of hosting a school-wide feast for all our students and staff on campus, particularly grateful to all be together under one roof after the multiple periods of mandatory remote instruction caused by the pandemic since spring 2020. Best of all, our feast will be cooked by our students,



under the adept guidance of Nora Hixon, who serves double duty as our culinary supervisor and our transition coordinator.

Our culinary curriculum isn't just about making tasty food—we teach our students about proper food preparation and safety, about nutrition and health, and about the job skills both expected and required to succeed in the workplace. When practicing the culinary arts, it's interesting how many other instructional ingredients work their way into the kitchen, like mathematical computation and conversion skills, cultural appreciation, and social interaction.

Our program fosters a true sense of connection and belonging, and for that, we're beyond thankful for the opportunity to come together and engage in community-building. In this spirit, our yearly Thanksgiving celebration also includes sending holiday baskets home to help ease the stress of this time of year on our families. Happy Thanksgiving, everyone, and best wishes to you and yours!



Intervention Is Key

"You think about how a student succeeds in school, and so much of it comes down to reading and writing well." This is a sentiment that guides the concentrated efforts of our academic interventionist, Jann Rochefort, as she works daily with our students to advance their literacy levels. When a student struggles with reading and writing, they're likely struggling in all subjects. At OSA, we combat the frustration this can cause this by delivering personalized instruction to students facing reading challenges, endeavoring to look at reading from *their* point of view and displaying an abundance of patience to work through their challenges with them.

We've noticed in particular that early readers have difficulty breaking apart words into sounds. This in turn makes it difficult for students to spell and pronounce words. So one technique we use to guide students is using chips to represent sounds. As a concrete representation of what they're learning, the chips allow students to visually see the number of sounds in a word and the order in



they flow. When employing this strategy, we've witnessed increased confidence in our readers. **Getepic.com**, a reading app, is another strategy in our toolbox to build confident readers. With 40,000 digital books to choose from, Epic is a wonderful resource, offering a "Read to Me" feature through which users listen to a book while reading along with highlighted text. On a daily basis, we're seeing our students become more assured readers, which energizes their commitment and curiosity to learn from books.



Individualized Education

Ocean State Academy is well aware of the importance and effectiveness of teamwork when it comes to helping children. This is why we sincerely value each and every individual involved in our school's IEP process. IEP annual reviews are in full swing here at OSA right now, with teachers, social workers, and special service teams working diligently to create high-reaching, meaningful goals for their students. At the same time, students are learning to self-advocate through setting personal SMART goals relating to



both their academic success and their social-emotional well-being. Self-created SMART goals are devised in conjunction with each student's teacher to ensure that students are heard, understood, and invested in their learning.

As IEP meetings are conducted, parents are strongly encouraged to share their knowledge, ideas, hopes, and concerns for their child as well. The end result is a collaborative effort by all to devise individualized IEPs that contain effective, ambitious, student-centered objectives. To this end, we would like to extend a special thank-you to all of our districts for entrusting us with the noble task of guiding our incredible students on their journey toward success. We are excited to be a part of their continued growth!

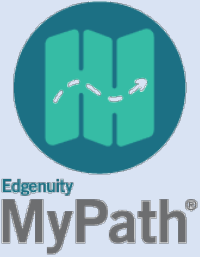


Beat Your Own Score!



The OSA community has been hard at work developing our students' abilities and aptitudes, as evidenced by their performance on Q1 Renaissance Star Assessments. We created a competition in which students competed with themselves to beat their most recent scores.

To practice the necessary skills to achieve this, they used programs like Edgenuity's MyPath®, Reading Plus®, and IXL.



Here are the classes that earned a pizza party for having the greatest number of grade-level students meeting their goal:

- Elementary: Ms. Logan's class
- Middle School: Ms. Fontaine's class
- High School: Ms. Itetia's class



"There is no such thing as a self-made man. You will reach your goals only with the help of others."

~ George Shinn

CONGRATULATIONS, DRAGONS OF THE MONTH!

Every month, OSA recognizes the accomplishments of our students, showcasing the excellent work and conduct displayed in school. Teachers select each of our "Little Dragons" based on the two criteria of "Academic Achievement" and "Good Citizenship" to honor students who exemplify hard work, compassion, and dedication to becoming the best that they can be. Join us as we applaud November's Dragons of the Month and look forward to naming December's.



From Ms. Abreu's Class:
Angelique Lima & Jayceon Young



From Ms. Garcia's Class:
Angel Brito



From Ms. Logan's Class:
Tyrone Williams



From Ms. Kenneally's Class:
Jose Cay-Requena & Angel Ozuna