

HOME BULLETIN
November 11, 2009

WELCOME!

We welcome Brian & Laurie Harlin and their daughter Natalie (Gr. 7) to Oostburg Christian School. We are happy to have them join our O.C.S. family. Directory information:

N6193 Pleasant View
Plymouth, WI 53073
920-893-2462
6harlin@hotmail.com

THANK YOU, GRACE BOARD AUCTION COMMITTEE

Saturday night was a wonderful time of fellowship, fun, and fundraising for our school as the GRACE Board invited our entire community to the annual OCS Auction. An excellent meal was served in our beautifully decorated gym, and excitement existed everywhere as friends bid against each other for numerous items. We praise God for the fantastic success of the evening and thank everyone who helped make it possible. We especially want to thank the auction committee which spent endless hours making this fund raiser possible. Please join me in thanking and praising God for our committee members.

THANK YOU, DISCUSSION GROUP FAMILIES

The Board thanks those who came out and took part in our discussion groups this past Thursday evening and last night. Whenever these meetings are called, it is because the Board is seeking direction on a certain topic. One item under discussion was a different way of paying tuition. There was not much parental support for such a change, so the Finance Committee will not pursue this. Another topic dealt with how to change our pre-registration in late winter so it would be a better indicator of how many students and families plan on registering for the upcoming school year. A down payment made by March 1 that would be applied to the coming year's tuition was discussed. An excellent dialogue took place and a final decision based on parental input will be made by the board. Please remember that our Discussion Groups / Focus Groups are taken very seriously by the Board. Again, thank you to all those who participated.

SPEECH AND SPELLING IN RANDOLPH

All students in grades 5 – 8 will travel to Randolph this Friday for the annual Wisconsin Christian Schools Speech and Spelling Festival. Please pray for safe travel as seven Christian schools from around the state will be sending students to this event, and many parents and friends will be traveling also. Travel directions are available on the OCS website, or you can pick them up in the school office.

H1N1 FLU VACCINATION INFORMATION

A packet is being sent home with every student today which includes information regarding the upcoming H1N1 Flu Vaccination Clinic. Included in the packet is a Consent/Refusal form which **MUST BE RETURNED BY EVERY STUDENT** regardless of whether they will receive the vaccine or not. This form needs to be returned **by next week Wednesday, November 18**. At this time, a date for the clinic at our school has not been set. We anticipate the clinic to be scheduled during the last week in November or early in December. It is also unknown at this time if the vaccine will be available in injection or in nasal spray form. We need to know, in advance of the clinic, how many students will be receiving the vaccine so the proper quantities can be ordered. PLEASE make it a top priority to complete, sign and return the

Consent/Refusal Form to school immediately. If you would like more information about the H1N1 virus or vaccine, you can contact your health care provider or log onto the sites listed in the packet.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

These conferences are scheduled for next week Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 16 & 17. Please make every effort to be here at the time that you are schedule. The schedule was sent out in mid-October. If you do not remember the time you were assigned, please call the school office for the information.

EARLY RELEASES IN NOVEMBER

Due to Parent / Teacher Conferences next week, there are several Early Release dates in the month of November. On **Tuesday, November 17**, we will dismiss at 1:20 so teachers may prepare for the evening Parent / Teacher Conferences. **Wednesday, November 18**, is our normal "third Wednesday of the month early release day." Finally, **Wednesday, November 25**, is also a 1:20 dismissal. This day before Thanksgiving vacation is our annual Grandparents'/Grandfriends' Day. Please write these early release dates on your calendar. Thank you.

PRIVATE NOTES

The Oostburg Christian School Board is seeking private notes to help finance the ongoing operations of the school as well as to repay a previously issued note that has been called in for payment. These notes will bear interest and terms as set forth in the schedule below. We are requesting a minimum note value of \$1,000. Please contact Justin Zylstra at 207-9990 or Brian DeMaster at 564-6963 for more information.

<u>Term</u>	<u>Minimum Deposit</u>	<u>OCS RATE</u>
36 month	\$1,000.00	2.50%
48 month	\$2,500.00	3.00%
60 month	\$5,000.00	4.00%
10 Year	\$10,000.00	5.00%

FOOD DRIVE

OCS will again hold an extended Thanksgiving food drive. Students are invited to bring in non-perishable food items for the next three weeks and watch them accumulate throughout the month of November. On Grandparents' Day (November 25) all the food will be brought into the gym as part of our chapel. Please join us in our endeavor to feed the hungry from our own community and surrounding area. Please see the flyer attached to this Blue Note for more information.

DID YOU KNOW?

Every so often I will be noting something exciting that is taking place at OCS and place the good news in our Blue Note. This week's good news is, "Did you know that our current third grade class scored at the 88th percentile in total reading on the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills when compared to national school norms?" Join me in praising God for the gifts He has given our children.

GRADE 6 – 8 HOMEWORK IS ONLINE

Please remember that all homework given to 6th – 8th grade students can be found online. Simply go to our school website at www.oostburgchristian.com. Please use the side bar and click on *Middle School*. From there simply click on *Assignments/Parent Notes*. You will see each teacher's name. Click on the teacher whose assignment you are searching for and you will be sent to the correct assignment page. You no longer have to worry about your child leaving his or her homework assignment at school.

THANK YOU

Thank you so much for all your prayers, cards, phone calls, meals, hugs, and “welcome backs” I’ve received before, during and following my recent surgery. God has truly blessed me through all of you. It’s great to be back among my O.C.S. family. Mrs. Nyenhuis

GRANDPARENTS’/FRIENDS’ DAY

This year, Grandparents’/Grandfriends’ Day is scheduled for Wednesday, November 25, beginning at 9:00 AM. Grandparents’/Grandfriends’ Day is a morning activity that includes a Thanksgiving Chapel performed by the K – 8th grade students, coffee time, and an opportunity for grandparents and friends to visit classrooms and see their grandchildren/grandfriends. Invitations were sent out last week. If you know of anyone else who may enjoy spending the day with us, please stop by the school office and pick up an invitation.

O.C.S CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Please reserve the evening of Thursday, December 17, for our all-school Christmas concert. The concert will feature praises to our Savior sung by all our students.

Students should dress in concert attire – black bottoms and white tops, please. Borrow from other families, or visit the local second-hand shops. If there is interest, we can also set up a swap table. Question?? Please call Mrs. DeMaster at 564-3757.

We are also looking for small costumes from other countries- Please call Mrs. DeMaster if you have access to any.

BRRRR!

Winter is just around the corner. Last year Hartman Chiropractic generously donated some hats, mittens, and gloves to OCS. If you are in need of any of these items, please come to the school office. All requests will be kept confidential.

O.C.S. APPAREL

Orders are now being received for shirts with the OCS crest on the upper left hand corner. Orders will be accepted until November 25, the day before Thanksgiving. Shirts should be ready for pick up on December 14, in time for Christmas giving. Please fill out the order form that was included in last week’s Blue Note and return it with payment to the school office. Additional order forms can also be picked up in the office. Specialty items (ie. Jackets, denim shirts) may be ordered upon request. If you have any questions, contact Michelle at 564-2019.

THANK YOU

Over the last several weeks, Andrea DuMez asked for people to come and help in the kitchen. We are most grateful that many responded and for the great fellowship that accompanied the work. The Auction Committee is also grateful to all our Junior High students who volunteered to babysit and helped serve. Your willingness to help is such an encouragement.

DID YOU KNOW.....

That the Scrip team recorded \$10,000 in sales this past week and seven new Scrip accounts were opened?! More people are recognizing the benefits of this great program. Our thanks to Melissa Scheidt, Melanie Wisse and Brenda Lammers for all your hard work. Be sure to stop in the office and pick up your Scrip or ask about how you can save on your tuition account now.

CABIN FEVER RELIEVER

Cabin Fever Reliever begins a new season next Wednesday, November 19. Do you have an energetic youngster that would enjoy running freely in a large gymnasium? ALL are welcome, and it’s FREE!! Join us at Oostburg Christian School on certain Thursdays from 8:30 - 10:00am. If you have any questions, call the school office at 564-2664 or Michelle at 564-2019.

The GRACE Place

HEART FOR EDUCATION AUCTION

The theme “Home for the Holidays” for this year’s auction brought a record number of attendees. Around 200 people came to the school on Saturday night for a wonderful evening of celebrating God’s goodness to the community through Christian education. We had over 300 items for sale from nearly 100 businesses and 100 individual donors, live entertainment by some very talented people, and delicious food. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your support in working, baking, cooking, bidding, singing, playing piano, decorating, ironing, donating, giving, and praying.

Our deepest appreciation goes to the hard-working Auction Planning Committee. Please thank them when you see them. Steve and Nancy DeJong, overall chair, Andrea DuMez, kitchen chair, Paul Mentink and Judy Mentink co-chair of correspondence, Nicole Mentink and Liz Weavers on Decoration committee, Joyce Eggebeen, Ryan and Jocelyn Wiebe and Jason and Janell Otte co-chaired the Donation committee, and Dean DuMez chaired the Check-out procedures.

We will let you know as soon as we have some profit figures for this. Thanks again for your support.

PIZZA SALE

There are still homemade pizzas available in the freezer at school. You can help yourself and stop in the office to pay for them. These extras are only while supplies last, so hurry in for the best selection.

CHARGER SHOOT-OUT

Attached to today’s note is an open letter to our families who may be interested in supporting our basketball tournament. Plans are already underway for this to be held in January and February. The Girls’ tournament is January 28, 29, 30, 2010 and the Boys’ tournament is February 4, 5, and 6, 2010. We have some teams already lined up and we ask that you prayerfully consider how your family may support this event!

SAVE THE DATE

Our spring event, Night of Praise, will be held on April 17, 2010. Plans are being made to have a “retro” event of sorts—looking a lot like the Hostess Supper that we had for many years! Put this date on your calendar and watch for more information as it becomes available.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

OOSTBURG STATE BANK REQUEST

Oostburg State Bank is asking for our help. In recent years the bank has sent Christmas cards to its customers which included drawings from area children that depicted the true meaning of Christmas. This year they are in need of additional drawings. Please consider asking your son or daughter to submit a colored (crayon, pencil, or pen) drawing on a ½ sheet of standard white 8 1/2 x 11 paper. Either horizontal or vertical layouts are acceptable. The printer will chose 4 drawings partially based upon ease of reproduction. Your child's name will be included on the card to recognize them for their time and effort. The drawings can be dropped off at the bank during normal hours or in the night deposit box by 11/17/09. Oostburg State Bank thanks you in advance for your help.

TOY TIPS WORKSHOP

St. Nicholas Hospital is sponsoring a FREE workshop designed for anyone who has children on their Christmas shopping list. To learn more about how to choose safe and appropriate toys for your children, come to the St. Nicholas Hospital workshop, Toy Tips: How to Make Smart Toy Choices. The workshop will be held TOMORROW, Nov. 12, from 6:00-8:00 PM in the hospital cafeteria. The presenter of the workshop is nationally acclaimed Toys Tips expert, Marianne Szymanski.

HERE WE GO AGAIN

The SCCHS drama department, in joint ministry with the Southside Alliance Church, will present the family comedy, *Here We Go Again!*, on November 12, 13, & 14, 2009 AT the Southside Alliance Church, 4321 County Road A, Sheboygan. Join the Dent family on a comical road trip from Iowa to California. General seating tickets are still available at \$8 for adults and \$6 for senior citizens and students and are available for purchase at the door. Doors for general admission seating open at 7:20 p.m. and the performance begins at 7:30 p.m. Purchase/reserve tickets in the SCCHS office or call 458-9981.

ARISE! CTY OUT!

Arise! Cry Out! is this Saturday, November 14, 9am-1pm at First Reformed, First Presbyterian, Bethel Orthodox Presbyterian, and Christian Reformed Churches in Oostburg. Our children are in desperate need of our prayers. Will you join with women from around the world as we pour out our hearts to the LORD for the lives of the children in our communities and around the world? We will be led by Fern Nichols of Moms In Touch International through a pre-recorded DVD and we will be joined by women in 1500 other sites in 84 different countries! Don't miss this very special opportunity to lift up our children and schools in prayer. Register now at www.MomsInTouch.org or by contacting Sue Dykstra, 564-4212, or Vicki Swart, 564-3807 or register at any one of the churches before 9a.m on Saturday. A MEN'S PRAYER EVENT will be held the same morning from 9-10:30am at Bethel Church's new Ministry Building. Childcare will be provided at all churches from 8:45-10:30am. All who attend may enjoy \$2.00 off a buffet at Pizza Ranch by showing their name tag after 1p.m. on Saturday. As a community, let's come together and celebrate our GREAT GOD!

MOMS IN TOUCH

Thanks for helping OCS' Moms In Touch financially. We presently have \$92.62 in our account to pay \$10.00 each week for childcare so all moms can enjoy a time of prayer even if they have little ones. We do not presently have any mothers with young children using our FREE childcare. Thank you for your generosity and please thank God for blessing us and fully providing for the next several weeks.

OOSTBURG RECREATION/FITNESS PROGRAMS

The winter schedule for the Oostburg area Recreation/Fitness classes is available in the O.C.S. office. You can also call Jen Swart at 564-2346 xt. 1151 or e-mail her at jenn.swart@oostburg.k12.wi.us if you would like more information.

CALENDAR

November 12	Lakeland College Math Meet
November 13	Speech Festival @ Randolph Report Cards
November 16 & 17	Parent/Teacher Conferences
November 17	1:20 PM Dismissal
November 18	Turkey Hot Lunch 1:20 PM Dismissal

NON-ELECTRONIC ATTACHMENTS TO HOME BULLETIN

- *Information regarding the 2009 Lakeland Chiropractic/Oostburg Healing Space/Oostburg Christian School Annual Food Drive
- *Information regarding an H1N1 Vaccination Clinic on Nov. 13 in Random Lake
- *Letter from GRACE regarding Charger Shootout donations.