Issue 4 January 2024



EWS FROM THE GR





OGMS Parent Newsletter

Principal's Corner

Each month, we will feature information or reminders from our principal, counselor, librarian, and other staff members. This month, our principal, Mr. Dial, has some reminders for us.

Welcome back! Parent and Student Reminders

- If you haven't downloaded our Paragould app and/or joined Rooms. please do so! We send out reminders and updates through the app. You can download it from any app store to your phone. Just search "Paragould app" and look for the Paragould P. Remember to allow notifications from your phone settings and to subscribe to the Oak Grove Middle School notifications through the app. To sign up for Rooms, contact Mrs. Kathy Cook or your child's homeroom teacher.
- You can check your child's grades using our Home Access Center. If you don't have a guardian account set up, please get in touch with Mrs. Kathy Cook by calling our front office at 870-240-2241 or by emailing her at kcook@paragouldschools.net
- Please make sure your child is here as much as possible. If they are sick or have an appointment, please make sure you send a note (doctor or parent) with your child on the day they come back. We ask that notes be sent to the office no later than two days after your child comes back to school. No notes will make the absence unexcused automatically.
- Encourage your child, every day, to be respectful and responsible.

We hope you have a GREAT start to 2024, and we look forward to the rest of the school year with you and your family.



Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences are Thursday, February 8, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Be on the lookout as we get closer for information from your child's homeroom teacher!

Stay in the loop! Download our Paragould App! Available for iPhone and Android.



2024 yearbooks are on sale now! Order online at www.jostens.com for personalized books and quick ordering, or through Mrs. Dinkins to reserve your copy! If you want a personalized yearbook, all orders need to be sent in by Jan. 20!



Student and Parent Important Reminders



Has your child been absent? A note from you or your child's doctor is due within two days of your child's return!



Thursday, Jan. 11 6th grade: 12:45 am 5th grade: 1:45 pm



We WILL have School Monday, Jan. 15



Spring Book Fair Feb. 2 - 8



Upcoming Events
Mark your calendar!
January 8
Reading Benchmark
January 9
Math Benchmark
January 11
2nd Nine Weeks
Awards Assemblies

January 12
*AR Celebration
*Fun Friday with
concessions

January 15

School is IN SESSION! PTO meeting @ 5:30

January 16

Honor roll and principal's list celebrations

January 20

OGMS Archery Tournament

Jan. 22-26

Great Kindness Challenge Week

January 27

Polar Bear Plunge @ Walcott

February 8

Parent/Teacher Conferences 4-7 pm

Our OGMS 2024 yearbooks are on sale for pre-order through jostens.com.

*If you're wanting to order a yearbook with any kind of personalization (name, icons, etc) that order needs to be placed before January 20.
*If you're wanting to order a plain yearbook, we'd encourage you to pre-order so that we can make sure that your child has a copy!

Yearbooks capture memories and moments with friends that are a joy to look back on years later. Don't miss this opportunity for memories - pre-order as soon as you can!

Scan the QR code to order from your phone!





Three strategies can help you motivate your middle schooler

What happened to your once-enthusiastic student? Adolescence! Suddenly, motivating your middle schooler to do just about anything can feel like pulling teeth.

Don't despair. To boost motivation:

- Talk before your child plugs in. It's tough dragging a child away from a favorite show or game. So, if there's something you need your child to do, ask before the TV or computer is turned on. Your child may be more compliant.
- Stick to routines. Routines are critical when it comes to keeping order at home. A
 child who knows exactly what times to feed the dog and get ready for bed is less
 likely to procrastinate doing those things.
- 3. Support interests. Ask what your middle schooler likes to do and support those activities. When kids feel supported doing something they love, they are more inspired to work hard at other things—like school!

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OGMS is still earning money through the BoxTops receipts that you scan or email in. If you haven't gotten the BoxTops app, or would like help scanning receipts, we are happy to help!

Contact <u>kcook@paragouldschools.net</u> for more information.

The district has placed Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Parent Notification Forms on our website.

http://paragould.k12.ar.us
Click on the ESSA parent notification link located on the left side of the district home page for access to these forms. If you would like a copy of the documents feel free to stop by the office.