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We are excited to announce that Ocee ES is now an approved Common Sense Media certified school! This certification recognizes our efforts to teach digital literacy and safety to all of our students. Digital citizenship skills have become essential for students in the 21st century, especially when using technology to transform learning. As part of the process to receive certification, all students participated in five Digital Citizenship lessons which emphasized critical thinking, behaving safely online, and using computers and devices responsibly. We now have three Digital Citizenship Certified teachers: Carolyn Hutcheson, METI; Lisa Scholberg, Learning Commons paraprofessional; and Christy Mallein, computer lab paraprofessional. We are thrilled with the collaborative efforts of our teachers and staff to attain this honor!

Sincerely,
Debbie Pernice

It’s SOCKTOBER!!!
Socks are the most needed but least donated item at homeless shelters.

Ocee is asking students and staff to please donate new socks from October 12th – October 31st.

Students who donate socks will get their names on the SOCK WALL OF FAME in the front office. Please put your child’s name and his/her teacher’s name with the socks.

Ocee Release Day
February 3rd
The class with the most student participation (not the total of socks) will win a prize!

All socks will be donated to North Fulton Community Charities.

We will close out SOCKTOBER by wearing our craziest socks to school on Monday, October 31st.

MackinVIA

Ocee has a wonderful resource, MackinVIA, that is provided by Fulton County. It is a complete eResource management system for teachers and students, providing easy access to our eBooks, audiobooks, educational databases and video. We have over 450 ebooks now! With your child’s Fulton County network login and password, he or she can utilize the resources at school or at home. MackinVIA allows simultaneous, unlimited access to multiple users and is mobile friendly. We have our very own login screen at www.fulton.mackinvia.com.

There is an app for devices that makes using Mackinvia even easier. Simply go to your app store and download it. Students log in with their very own username and password. The username is their student ID and is the same as the lunch number, AR number, and computer log-in. The password is the student’s birthdate (with a 2-digit month, 2-digit day of the month, and 4-digit year). For example: UN: 5678900004 and PW: 02242004.

Below is a quick general overview of Mackinvia:

The IOWA Test is Here!

As we have stated in prior newsletters, the ITBS assessment has been updated to the new online IOWA Test Form E, which will be administered to Ocee students in 3rd and 5th grades this month. To accommodate online testing, the testing window has been expanded to October 17th through November 4th. Ocee’s testing schedule will be as follows:

Monday, October 17 – Friday, October 21: 5th Grade IOWA Testing
Monday, October 24 – Friday, October 28: 3rd Grade IOWA Testing
Make-up testing will occur on a rolling basis through November 4th. Because we will be testing in both the mornings and afternoons, we cannot have parent volunteers in the building in order to provide the optimum testing environment for our 3rd and 5th grade students. Parents may come to have lunch with their child as lunch schedules will not be changing; however, some students’ lunch times may be delayed due to testing. We also ask parents of 3rd and 5th grade students to refrain from making appointments for their children during school hours so that they are available for testing at their scheduled times. If you have questions about your child’s specific testing time, please contact your child’s teacher. We appreciate your understanding!

Ocee's Annual Scholastic Fall Book Fair is Coming Soon!

Ahoy Mateys!!! I would like to invite you to put on your volunteer caps and join the fun at our annual Scholastic Fall Book Fair. This year’s theme is "Bookaneer Pirates", and we are going to help all of the kids locate loads of "Pirate’s Booty" to bring home with them! Please take a moment to view the sign up and pick a time to help our kids find and purchase amazing new books for their home libraries. There are a couple of duties that you can choose from as a book fair volunteer, and there are two different sign up links for both our preview days and our selling week. We hope to see you in the Learning Commons!

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.
Thank you,
Marcy Morantz
mdmorantz@comcast.net

Book Fair Preview Volunteers - Nov. 9th-Nov. 11th: http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b4eafa62ca02-bookaneer

Book Fair Selling Week Volunteers - Nov. 14th-Nov. 18th: http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b4eafa62ca02-bookaneer1

Café Serves Farm Fresh Apples at Breakfast and Lunch During October!

For the entire month of October, crisp, farm fresh apples served at breakfast and lunch are part of Fulton County’s School Nutrition Farm to School Program. These regionally grown apples are heading straight from a North Carolina family farm to your breakfast and lunch plate! Because the apples are grown close to home it helps support your regional farmers and takes less fuel to get it to your café. Not only are these regionally grown apples good for the environment, but also, apples are great for your body, as an excellent source of fiber. Try a freshly harvested apple from the school café in October!

Career Day

The Georgia Department of Education has instituted a comprehensive career development plan for all students. This new plan will allow students the opportunity to learn about Georgia’s Seventeen (17) Career Clusters. Career Day provides students with the opportunity to think about the concept of work/vocation and the numerous work opportunities available in the future. In order to expose students to the career world, Ocee Elementary School is excited to announce that Career Day for students in grades 1-2 will take place on Tuesday, November 1st. If you or someone you know would be interested in participating in Career Day, please have them contact Mrs. Aronowitz by Friday, October 14th at aronowitza@fultonschools.org.
THE OCEE LEARNING COMMONS NEEDS YOU!!!

Ms. Hutcheson and Mrs. Scholberg are working very hard to make the Learning Commons better and better! Our kids have many new ways to explore learning with us, and so our need for volunteers to help keep the Learning Commons running smoothly is now greater than ever. Any amount of time you can give, great or small, will be much appreciated. The Learning Commons staff looks forward to working with you and so appreciates the gift of your valuable time.

Volunteering in the Learning Commons is a great way for new parents to get to know the school and the staff, and the students love to meet and have the help of volunteers when they visit! So, come join the fun!!! We look forward to seeing you!

Please visit the following Sign Up Genius links to volunteer over the coming months:
To sign up between August 15th and October 14th –
To sign up between October 17th and December 22nd –
http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B4EFA62CA02-theocpee4

S.T.E.A.M Home Challenge:
What can you do with…?

We are having so much fun in the STEAM Lab at school, so let’s continue the fun at home! We will have about two challenges each month. For each, your job as a family is to find an innovative way to make an everyday object brand new. Once you have created your object, email a picture of it (with your family in the photo) to hanks@fultonschools.org. All pictures will be posted (without names) on the website oceesteamlab.weebly.com and a sampling of pictures will be posted (without names) on a bulletin board in school (please do not bring the object to school). Participation in the STEAM Home Challenge is optional, but encouraged. You may participate once, twice, or every time! This challenge is for families of all students in grades PK-5. Challenge due dates are:

Oct 21: an empty plastic bag
   Nov 4: some buttons
   Nov 18: a straw
   Dec 9: some post-it notes
   Jan 20: a paper plate
   Feb 3: a cardboard box
   Feb 24: some cotton balls
   March 10: some paperclips
   March 24: a ruler
   April 21: some marker caps
   May 5: an inflated balloon
   May 19: empty plastic water bottle

Directions: Create something (anything) using any size or brand of the challenge item.
Goal: The project should be designed to perform a specific function or task, and actually work. The project should be well constructed.
Constraints: The item listed for the challenge should be the focal point of the project. You may use any additional materials. The only rule is to BE CREATIVE!
DONUTS WITH DAD TOMORROW
For dads with last names M-Z or dads who could not attend this morning, “Donuts with Dads” will be held in the Ocee Cafeteria tomorrow morning, 7:10-7:40 AM. Please come with your child(ren) and enjoy some donuts, coffee, orange juice, and milk.

If you are a mom who is able to help make this event successful by volunteering, please sign up here!

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REFLECTIONS BREAKFAST NEXT TUESDAY
We would like to thank all of our talented Ocee Otters who participated in the Reflections Contest this year. We had many wonderful submissions and we were so pleased to see how creative our students are! As a “thank you” to all of the participants, we would like to invite everyone who submitted an entry to the contest to attend the Reflections Breakfast on Tuesday, October 25th at 7:10am in the Ocee cafeteria. Parents of the participants are welcome and encouraged to join their children at the breakfast. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

THE REFLECTIONS WINNERS (2016-17) who will be moving on to the next level of judging (Council) are:

KINDERGARTEN
Visual Art- Adhya Karthik and Tate Johnson

1st GRADE
Visual Art- Adwait Dhaneshwar and Isabella Gilbert
Literature- Adwait Dhaneshwar and Raina Kraker
Dance Choreography- Carolyn French

2nd GRADE
Visual Art- Ansley Cheoun and Massimo Marsh
Literature- Alessia Ferrari and Zubin Mathew
Photography- Aaron Urbanawiz
Music Composition- Aaron Urbanawiz
Dance Choreography- Aaron Urbanawiz

3rd GRADE
Visual Art- Avani Prabhu and Nikhila Cheekati
Literature- Victor Huang and Ahana Singh
Photography- Victor Huang
Dance Choreography- Ahana Singh
 SPIRIT NIGHT AT SKY ZONE TONIGHT
Come out to Sky Zone in Roswell for Spirit Night TONIGHT, October 20th, between 4pm-8pm. Spirit Night deals for Ocee families include $9 for a one-hour jump ticket and $10 for a meal (1 large pizza and four 16 oz. drinks). A portion of each hour of jumping and every meal purchased will be donated back to Ocee Elementary. You'll get a good workout while having a blast AND you'll be helping your school! Don't forget to mention that you are with Ocee. You could win a free classroom party package! See you there!!!

NEXT WEEK IS RED RIBBON WEEK
We ask that all students help celebrate Red Ribbon Week by "Electing to be Drug Free." Please have your children participate in these fun activities each day of Red Ribbon Week, October 24-28th.

Monday, October 24
All students will receive their Red Ribbons

Tuesday, October 25
Wear your silly socks for Silly Sock Day

Wednesday, October 26
Wear your Ocee spirit wear for Spirit Day

Thursday, October 27
Wear your clothes inside out for Inside Out Day

Friday, October 28
Wear all red for Wear Red Day
You are cordially invited to attend:

**Coffee and Conversation Parent Meeting**

Moira Cleary of Focused Direction will discuss the topic:

*Happy Parents = Happy Kids:*

*Finding Balance for You and Your Family*

**When:** Thursday, November 9, 2016 from 9:00 - 10:30am  
**Where:** Findley Oaks Elementary Room A145  
**RSVP by 9/2/16**  
herandezk@fultonschools.org or davist10@fultonschools.org  
Hope to See You!