

CONNECTION

JANUARY

- 31 OB Parent Presentation on a Summer Camp Opportunity with Dr. Tim Jordan, 7-8p.m.

FEBRUARY

- 3 NO SCHOOL- Prof. Development Day
- 8 Diversity Committee Mtg. 5:15p.m.
- 14 PTO Meeting, 12:30p.m.
- Valentines' Day Parties, 2:30-3:30p.m.
- 17 Early Dismissal, 1:15p.m.
- 20 NO SCHOOL- Presidents' Day
- 21-24 Scholastic Book Fair
- 22 Walk in the Park (during pE)
- 28 1st Gr. Musical 7:00p.m.

MARCH

- 6 4th Gr. Symphony Trip, 8:55a.m.
- All-District Choir Concert, 7:00p.m.
- 9 End of Quarter 3
- Early Dismissal, 1:15p.m.
- Passport Night, 6:30p.m.

Q & A WITH MRS. K



Q: Mrs. K, what will you be doing this year on April 3rd?

A: I'll be at Old Bonhomme working with students, teachers, and parents to

provide another great day of learning, and planning for the 2012-13 school year! I might also be answering questions about PROP 1 which will be voted on that day by the community. Questions about what it could mean to Old Bonhomme and the Ladue School District if PROP 1 passes or doesn't pass. I hope that all voters get the information they need to make an informed decision **BEFORE** that big day from the PROP 1 Website (<http://www.ladueschools.net/prop1/>) or asking questions of teachers and administrators. I guess a good question for you is..... **"What will you be doing on April 3rd?"**

Phone: 314-993-0656

Website: <http://www.ladue.k12.mo.us/oldbon>

Be on the lookout for information regarding the ♥B Valentine mailbox!

Ready for Summer Camp? - Attend Parent Information Night Tuesday, January 31 at 7:00 p.m.

Come hear about **Dr. Tim Jordan's** unique summer camp experiences for kids ages 8 - 17 at **Camp Weloki**. Dr. Jordan and staff facilitated his new program called **Strong Girls, Strong World** at Old Bonhomme the past two years with rave reviews from students, parents and teachers. We thought it might be helpful to our parents to learn more about these programs and camps as a valuable resource for your child. Dr. Jordan and staff will be on hand to explain why you may want to send your child to his one week long summer sessions. Parents only please.

Parents,

Just a reminder that due to the change in State attendance reporting tardies and early pick-ups do count towards your child's attendance record. Please be mindful of this when scheduling appointments. Thank you!



2012 Map Testing Schedule

The state tests are right around the corner! Please take some time to review the 2012 MAP schedule. Be looking in future OB News articles for more information on how to prepare your son or daughter to do their best. The character education committee will be working on building some excitement for testing with April's word of the month SUCCESS. We are looking at a Big Top theme. Please let Hayley Arnold, school counselor, know if you are willing to donate or let us borrow any props or decorations that you may have that fit the circus theme.

Grade 3		
Subject, Session	Time Assigned	Date
CA Session 1	9-10:05	4/4
CA Session 3, Part 1	1:30 - 2:00	4/5
CA Session 3, Part 2	2:00 - 2:30	4/5
CA Session 4	9-10	4/6
MA Session 1	9:00 - 10:00	4/2
MA Session 2, Part 1	9-9:20	4/3
MA Session 2, Part 2	9:20 - 10:00	4/3
MA Session 3	1:30 - 2:15	4/3
Grade 4		
Subject, Session	Time Assigned	Date
CA Session 1	10:00-11:30	4/9
CA Session 2, Part 1	10:00-12:00	4/10
CA Session 2, Part 2	10:00-12:00	4/10
CA Session 3	10:00-12:00	4/10
MA Session 1, Part 1	10:00-11:00	4/11
MA Session 2, Part 1	10:00-11:10	4/12
MA Session 2, Part 2	10:00-11:10	4/12
MA Session 3	10:00-11:00	4/13
Grade 5		
Subject, Session	Time Assigned	Date
CA Session 1	9:45-11:00	4/3
CA Session 2, Part 1	1:45-3:00	4/3
CA Session 2, Part 2	1:45-3:00	4/3
CA Session 3	9:45-10:15	4/4
MA Session 1	10:00-11:00	4/11
MA Session 2, Part 1	9:35-10:45	4/12
MA Session 2, Part 2	9:35-10:45	4/12
MA Session 3	10:00-11:00	4/13
SC Session 1	10:00-11:30	4/18
SC Session 2, Part 1	10:00-11:00	4/19
SC session 2, Part 2	10:00-11:00	4/19

SPECIALIST NEWS

Library in the Limelight



by Mrs. Penrose

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Our Fall Book Fair was an amazing experience!

Racanelli's provided delicious food, Serendipity granted customers sweet treats,

Pudd'nHead Books' staff pointed everyone to great reads, and Mr. Hearn and the Show Choir filled the bookstore with beautiful music. Our wonderful OB community raised over \$800.00 for the library. These

funds will be used to purchase audio and visual materials.

Now it's time for our Scholastic Book Fair. It will be February 21 - 24 in our library! Stay tuned for more details!

Musical Notes



by Mr. Hearn

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As we move into our Second Semester, there are many exciting things happening in the music room. We've just completed the "Picture The Music" contest sponsored by the St. Louis Symphony Volunteer Association. Our winners who were entered this year are; Sophie Isaacs, Sebastian McGregor, Karina Mealey, Eyen Hoffman, Allison Hsieh, Alexandra Maranto, and Emily Shaw.

Congratulations to these students and best of luck in the contest. Please stop by the music room bulletin board to see other interpretations of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony,

the 1st movement, which was the piece selected for this year's contest.



Our students are now studying the exciting world of musical pitch. Through lively discussion, card games, SmartBoard games, and the study of solfege the students apply their knowledge to understanding how the musical sounds we use are written.

The First-grade classes are busy preparing their musical "Jungle Party Tonight." Also coming up in March is the "Annual Ladue Music Festival" which involves over 500 students from the Elementary, Middle School, and High School. Come and listen as the Old Bonhomme Show Choir participates in this wonderful display of musical talent from our school district. The Fourth-grade will be taking a trip to the Symphony to see and hear "Beethoven and the Boys" on March 6.



Counselor Report



by Mrs. Arnold

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Counselor Wish List Materials & Volunteers Needed

This spring we have several opportunities planned for our students. If you are able to donate items or volunteer for one of the following events, please contact Hayley Arnold, school counselor, by phone 314-983-5546 or email harnold@ladueschools.net.

New Student Welcome Bags – The spring Girls on the Run group are going to do a philanthropy project for Old Bonhomme. They are going to make new student welcome bags. We need the following materials to complete the bags: small brown paper bags, small sea shells, pennies, and a box of toothpicks.

Mix it Up Day - The fifth grade Mix It Up at lunch day was a huge success in January. You can read more about it by visiting <http://bit.ly/OBMixItUp>. We would like to provide this opportunity for each grade level in February. We need someone to donate 12 helium balloons to put on the tables and five door prizes one for each grade level (last time we had a gift certificate to AMC theater donated.)

Read Across America Volunteers – In honor of Dr. Suess birthday, we are recruiting community members to read their favorite book to the kindergarten, first, and second grade classes individually and tell them about their career the week of March 5.

Art News



by Mrs. Roth

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I wanted to share a great program with you called Growing Local Learning. It's an easy way to earn cash for your school, get recipe ideas, print General Mills coupons, and learn more about money saving General Mills in-store

promotions. Plus, you'll get 5 Bonus Box Tops (\$0.50 value) just for registering for the program, and I'll get 5 Bonus Box Tops for referring you. Registering is easy, and all you need to do is click on the link below to get started.

Thanks!
Elisa Roth
Click here to accept invitation: <http://www.growinglocallearning.com/register/?referralID=50348>

Spanish News



by Señor Martin

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Feliz Año Nuevo! Happy New Year. The school year is flying by; I can't believe it is 2012. All Spanish classes are doing a great job learning and practicing new vocabulary. Kindergarten and First graders have been working very hard on the animals and also learning the family members. All other levels are

continuing to get better with the verb conjugations and the basic grammar rules. They are adding new verbs to their vocabulary in order to increase their conversation skills. They have enjoyed learning the family members, talking about their own families, and doing beautiful projects about them. After the wonderful Winter break all classes went through a

week of review. They all practiced old vocabulary with some games, oral activities, and word searches. Please keep asking questions to your kids about what they are doing in Spanish class. The more they practice the better they will get. I am looking for volunteers to read Spanish books to my Kindergartners and First graders. If you are interested, please contact me.

CLASSROOM NEWS

KINDERGARTEN

Winter has brought excitement to Kindergarten! In Math, we spent lots of time building, creating, extending, and breaking apart patterns. We celebrated many big days this quarter, one of the most fun-filled was the 100th day of school. On this significant day, we found many creative ways to count to 100. The students found a variety of items at home and school to use for these counting activities. We found hidden patterns in the 100's chart using our sharp mathematical minds and good eyes. Of course, we are continuously focusing on our essential vocabulary. This semester, measurement will be a key focus. The students will learn about length, height, size, and weight! These concepts fall nicely into fun Science lessons too.

Our Social Studies objectives led us on a ride around the world while learning about the use of light and unique traditions celebrated during winter holidays around the globe. In addition, we spent the day in our pajamas "riding a train" focusing on activities related to the book Polar Express such as writing class books, making patterns, counting dice to color a train, and so much more! We also took time to learn about Martin Luther King Jr. and his message of peace.

We would like to say a BIG "Thank You" to all the parents who have been volunteering in the classroom and who organized the Winter Parties. It was a great way to kick off the Winter Break. Oh, and we can't forget we are beginning our PIE time and Guided Reading in the classrooms this semester! The students are going to be avid learners by the end of this quarter.



FIRST GRADE

It has been a great start to the Second Semester here in First Grade at Old Bonhomme. In Reading, First Graders are learning how to transfer the reading strategies we've learned so far to help them with nonfiction text. Students have even begun writing non-fiction pieces in the form of how-to books. In some classrooms, students are writing narrative pieces about a memory they have and how that memory made them feel. PIE 2 has started so please be sure to ask your child all the fun things they are learning in their group this semester. All classes have started Spelling so stay on the lookout for that weekly list of words. In Math, we are in the middle of our unit on measurement and fractions. We have been measuring lots of things like items from our classroom and paper fish. We use one inch tiles, paper clips, craft sticks, and our own "kid steps" to measure longer distances. In Social Studies we spent time learning about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and will start our unit on famous Americans in February. After wrapping up health and nutrition in Science, we will celebrate dental health month by learning all about our teeth. We look forward to the coming months and all that we get to learn!



SECOND GRADE

Second grade ushered in 2012 by beginning new units in Writing, Math, and Science.

Students are focusing on skills that good readers use to decode and understand books. During reading groups, students learn to locate answers in the text and to provide evidence to support their predictions and thoughts. Students will also be learning about features of specific genres like mysteries and non-fiction.

In Writing, students are learning about the key elements of a how-to book and will then publish their own how-to story. Our next unit will be a poetry unit where students will get the opportunity to read and write many different types of poems.

Students are currently learning how to recognize and extend numerical patterns in Math. We are also practicing telling time to the quarter hour and counting money up to a dollar. Our next unit in Math will focus on place value and strategies for adding and subtracting multi-digit numbers.

Second Graders have been exploring states of matter in our new Science unit. These lessons all involve hands on exploration and class demonstrations to identify the properties of a solid, liquid, and gas. We will also explore how matter can change from one state to another. After this unit, we will blast off into outer space and learn all about the Solar System.



THIRD GRADE

Although Fall has turned to Winter, and the temperatures have dropped, the learning has really heated up in Third Grade! The addition and subtraction review at the beginning of Third Grade has given way to our first investigation of multiplication. Using lots of concrete examples of things that come in groups, our students have begun to develop an understanding of what it means to multiply. Through solving story problems, playing games with array cards, and tackling real-life multiplication scenarios, our learners have eagerly accepted the multiplication challenge, the hallmark of Third Grade Math! Practicing those basic multiplication facts at home will allow your Third Graders to take on the more complex challenges to come.

In December, our reading time was devoted to identifying an author's purpose. The kids practiced distinguishing between an author's intent to inform, entertain, or persuade. Some students used dramatic Reader's Theater performances to convey these purposes, while others thought critically about media messages. As the calendar turned, we moved into a unit on nonfiction texts. The students are reading and listening for information, and are getting ready for a long-term exploration of biographies. They have chosen categories of people they are interested in researching-- from artists and athletes, to inventors and famous Americans. Be prepared to learn more than you ever thought you'd know about some famous figures, from your Third Grade scholars!

Our Third Grade writers have been busy composing many types of letters. They have been focusing mostly on persuading their intended audiences. By stating and supporting an opinion, and by convincing the recipients that they will benefit from the persuasive ideas being proposed, our writers have become masters of persuasion! Over the next two months, they will become immersed in biography writing, honing research and paraphrasing skills.

Finally, Science and Social Studies units have enriched our classrooms again and again over the past few months. After studying colonial times and pioneer life, the students moved into a Health unit centered on nutrition and healthy choices. The kids became nutrition label critics, and learned how to administer first aid, among other practical skills. After that, they engaged in a Geography unit focused on map reading skills. By cutting oranges into hemispheres, creating 3D maps out of Model Magic, and composing digital maps with MicroWorlds software, our Third Graders have become amateur Cartographers indeed. Look out for an Economics unit on the horizon, and keep your eyes out for ALL of the dynamic learning taking place in OB's Third Grade classrooms!



FOURTH GRADE

We are off to a great start in 2012! Fourth Grade just participated in a field trip to Arts@Play at the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus, on Friday, January 20. Students attended a workshop put on by the Modern American Dance Company. They saw a dance performance and got to experience for themselves the creative process of dance and learned the elements of dance as well. What an interesting experience! In the area of Mathematics, Fourth Grade is working on Unit 5 in Investigations. The unit focuses on addition, subtraction, and the number system. While Fourth Grade focuses on this unit, students still need to practice their multiplication facts in preparation for the units to come. Next, we're heading west in Social Studies. Our studies will focus on westward expansion after the Louisiana Purchase. The students will focus on the hardships of traveling in what was unknown territory. Last, in Writing, all Fourth Graders are researching and writing nonfiction articles on animals, countries, and other interesting topics. The students have observed and noticed how learning about text in reading helps them become strong writers. We've got the "write" stuff going on in Fourth Grade!



FIFTH GRADE

States and Capitals-The Fifth Grade is currently working on states and capitals. Each week, students focus on a particular region of the country. Everyone has maps in their folders/binders that they should be reviewing on a daily basis. Each class takes a quiz each week over a region, and the students will take a comprehensive test over all the states and capitals at the end of the unit.

Writing Workshop-Fifth graders are focusing on expository writing. They will be working through the writing process to compose five-paragraph essays over the next several weeks. The students continue developing the skills of editing and revising through this process.

Science-Our next unit of study will be Weather. The students will learn about the water cycle, types of clouds, forms of precipitation, and levels of the atmosphere. Fifth graders will have the opportunity to utilize iPads during the study of the water cycle.

Fractions, Decimals and Percents are the current unit of study in Mathematics. In Addition, we are focusing on linear measurement. Students are encouraged to study and review the fraction/percent/decimal equivalency chart on a daily basis.

