

O'MALEY

Innovation Middle School



O'Maley Happenings – Thursday, October 5, 2017

What's happening at O'Maley this week???

Reminder – No School Monday, October 9th – Columbus Day

Field Trips

Grade 7 will be traveling to Camp Spindrift for team building activities!

Beauport House – October 16th

Phoenix house- October 17th

Dirigo House- October 20th

Grade 8 will be visiting the Gloucester Stage Company to see a live production of "To Kill A Mockingbird"

Ocean House and Beach House – October 18th

Anchor House- October 25th

1st PTO meeting tonight at 6:00 pm in the Library Learning Commons.

O'Maley Academy News: Mark your calendars for a **great FAMILY GAME NIGHT** with Trivia and Bingo on Friday, October 20th at O'Maley from 6:30-8:00 (see attached flyer). It promises to be a night full of fun, challenges and excitement and is open to all O'Maley families and it is **FREE!** If you have an item you could donate for our fantastic prize table such as a game, gift card or sports item please contact Mary White at marywhite@gloucesterschools.com.

Also, from O'Maley Academy - We are planning a **Career Night** for November 15th! Do you know someone who is in one of the following professions who would be willing to talk to kids about what it takes to pursue that career? Architect, Video Game Designer, Professional entertainer (musician, actor), Translator, Veterinarian, Criminal or Family Attorney, Military, Advertising and Fashion Designer professionals are still needed to round out our offering. Please send contact info to Mary White: marywhite@gloucesterschools.com

O'Maley Academy News

If you are looking for a great after school activity there is still space in Journalism Club (Mondays), American Sign Language (Wednesdays), Drama (Mondays & Wednesdays) and Video Journalism (Thursdays). Please contact Ms. Cousins or Ms. White to sign up acousins@gloucesterschools.com or marywhite@gloucesterschools.com

Absentee and Picture Retakes:

are scheduled for Wednesday, October 18th.

Message from the Nurse's Office

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health mandates grade seven heights, weights, vision and hearing screenings. These screenings will be at O'Maley School Nurse's Office has started today, Thursday, October 5th – Friday, October 12th. Please remember to bring eyeglasses or wear contacts if needed. Any questions or concerns please call the nurse's office at 978-281-9847.

Homework Club – has started every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 2: -3:15pm.

*** VERY IMPORTANT ***

Also: Students are not allowed to go on a bus that they have not been assigned to. Also, no notes from parents will be allowed to ride the bus as a guest. Contact Kathy Verga with any questions 978-282-3001.

Term 1 Progress Reports – will go home with students on Friday, October 6th.

PAGE 2 - Please scroll down to page two of O'Maley Happenings to see the first in a series of occasional articles that will be written by volunteer members of the O'Maley School community.

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The Future

By: Eliana Faria, 8th Grade Student

Every student goes into the school year with new hopes and dreams. Staff members at O'Maley Innovation Middle School strive to not only help their students accomplish their goals now, but to also prepare us for success in the future. Both socially and academically, O'Maley Innovation Middle School is teaching valuable skills so that each student will be at his or her best.

One way students are being prepared for future success is through the school's after school programs and sports. From coding, to video journalism, O'Maley is giving students the opportunity to try something new and to get an idea of what career he or she would like to pursue. Many kids develop new interests and get to learn new skills that can be applied to everyday life. The after school programs make the students think about what classes each student would like to take in high school. Also, O'Maley has multiple sports teams that help better prepare the students for what it will be like to play on a varsity team someday. The students who participate in the sports learn how to work as one cohesive team, and how to juggle school and extracurriculars.

Additionally, through various activities and class projects, O'Maley is teaching students how to interact with others in a working environment. By middle school, it is likely most kids have had to do the highly anticipated group project. O'Maley has tons of these projects! Although group projects may not be each student's favorite activity, the experience gives everyone the opportunity to learn his or her strengths in a group environment, whether it is as leader or a facilitator. These projects prepare students for what it's like to have a job, and how to productively interact with colleagues. Furthermore, O'Maley has a few days out of the year where students have to sit at certain lunch tables according to specific factors such as birthday. Special activities such as these are ways that students can meet somebody new. This prepares students for the dynamic social structure that exists in high school and college.

Lastly, in order for the students to be successful, O'Maley offers many resources that are beneficial for the students. The chromebooks, in particular, are a resource that has helped students out tremendously. The chromebooks offer an infinite supply of knowledge, and everything is at students' fingertips. Kids are able to easily compose essays and practice taking online tests. Students get to exercise typing ability, which is a vital skill needed for high school and college. Along with the chromebooks, most teachers offer an after school day, with which they take the time to help struggling students, and get them back onto the right track. This is really helpful for any student who is falling behind on his or her work, or needs to retake an exam or quiz.

In conclusion, O'Maley Innovation Middle School is very good at preparing its students for upcoming chapters in their lives. O'Maley aids the kids who need help, and challenges those who need some more difficult material. This school has, and does, many things that allow each student to accomplish his or her dreams now and in the future.