

OLIVE CREST ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER



2014 is HERE and while we hope that everyone enjoyed the holiday break, it is now time to “get back to work.”

Looking ahead we have much to look forward to, including many new level activities that are being scheduled for the upcoming months. “Kimochi” has now become a familiar word and our Equine Therapy program continues to be a favorite among our growing student population. (read article in this newsletter.)

Please mark your calendars for both No School days and Minimum Days. (Spring Break is just around the corner.)

Also included in this newsletter are new phone extensions for all of our staff, which have been changed since our last newsletter went out in October.

From ALL of us here at Olive Crest Academy—Canal We wish you a very happy, successful, and safe New Year!

CALENDAR

February

Feb. 13 Minimum Day Dismissal @ 12:30
 Feb. 14 Lincoln’s Birthday—No School
 Feb. 17 Washington’s Birthday—No School
 Feb. 27 Minimum Day Dismissal @ 12:30
 Feb. 28 Non-School Day

March

Mar. 24-28 Parent/Teacher Conferences
 Min Day Dismissal @ 12:30

April

Apr. 17 Minimum Day Dismissal @ 12:30
 Apr. 18-25 Spring Break—No School

May

May 23 Minimum Day Dismissal @ 12:30
 May 26 Memorial Day—No School

“Readying students for lifelong success through an educational journey inspired by the power of family”

An introduction to Equine Therapy...

Students from Canal K-12 who have been involved in the Mustard Seed Ranch program, spearheaded by Mr. Ken McCall, have greatly benefitted from the experience. The mere presence of horses demands the respect of physical boundaries. It is important for students to practice observing physical boundaries so they may resolve their conflicts using proper communication and treat those around them with respect. In terms of communication, the students are also encouraged to use pro-social language with their peers and other adults present on the ranch and to control the volume of their voices around the horses. As tasks presented to the students become more challenging, the students are assisted with learning how to express their frustrations in a productive and appropriate manner.

While working with horses, it is also imperative the students learn to manage their impulses and behave in a calm and purposeful manner so the horses do not startle and tasks are completed. As the students care for the horses through grooming and giving them attention, they are rewarded by the unconditional affection only a horse can give. Receiving this affection and experiencing a special bond has increased many students level of confidence and self-esteem.

All of the social skills and life lessons learned at the ranch directly relate to the goals the students work toward at school. Students are able to participate in this program throughout the school year, and those who participate are able to go down on a weekly basis throughout a semester with their therapist, as it is an alternative mode of counseling. The students then have the opportunity to utilize the skills they have learned back on campus with peers and staff. Many of them will report that it was an amazing experience, one they will hold near and dear throughout their lives.

(Pictured right is a student grooming the horse before able to ride)



Article contributed by Therapist, Miss Natalie)

Olive Crest Academy
High School / Adult Transition

February 2014



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 C.A.R.E. Program 10:30am-12 noon Work – HmTwn-GC,WG,JJ	4 Horse Therapy Work – HmTwn-GC,WG,JJ	5 <u>CBI Off-Campus</u> <i>Laundry Day!</i> Work – RelCtr- WG, DS	6 Work – HmTwn-GC,WG,JJ ThpyZn-BS	7 <u>Level Activity</u> <i>On-Campus Movie and Decorate Cookies</i> Work – RelCtr- WG, DS	8
9	10 C.A.R.E. Program 10:30am-12 noon Work – HmTwn-GC,WG,JJ	11 Horse Therapy Work – HmTwn-GC,WG,JJ	12 <u>CBI Off-Campus</u> <i>Tentative-Mary's Soup Kitchen</i> Work – RelCtr- WG, DS	13 <u>Level Activity</u> <i>Yu-Gi-Oh Tournament</i> Timecards Due <i>Min Day Dismissal 12:30</i> Work – HmTwn-GC,WG,JJ ThpyZn-BS	14 <i>No School – President's Day</i>	15 
16 	17 <i>No School - President's Day</i>	18 Horse Therapy Work – HmTwn-GC,WG,JJ	19 <u>CBI Off-Campus</u> <i>Marconi Auto Museum</i> Work – RelCtr- WG, DS	20 Work – HmTwn-GC,WG,JJ ThpyZn-BS	21 <u>Level Activity</u> <i>SkyZone or Denny's</i> Work – RelCtr- WG, DS	22
23	24 C.A.R.E. Program 10:30am-12 noon Work – HmTwn-GC,WG,JJ	25 Horse Therapy Work – HmTwn-GC,WG,JJ	26 <u>CBI Off-Campus</u> <i>Cal Poly Pomona or Spin Pizza</i> Work – RelCtr- WG, DS	27 <u>Level Activity</u> <i>Staff -Soul Food Pot Luck</i> Timecards Due <i>Min Day Dismissal 12:30</i> Work – HmTwn-GC,WG,JJ ThpyZn-BS	28 <i>Non-Student Day</i>	

NEW EXTENSIONS

The Main # is: 714-998-6571

Fax # is: 714-998-6573



Email Addresses are available for all teachers and additional staff!

Please call the front office to inquire.

Front Office	2200
Administrative Superv	Helen Bach 2221
Transportation	Katy Hogue 2203
IEP Planning	Jackie Lawrence 2201
IEPs	Conference Room 2219
Special Ed Director	Nina Coull 1508
Site Director	Bob Henning 2214
Admissions Director	Lisa Grabowski 2220
Academics Prog Spv	Emily Vazarian 2213
Clinical Prog Spv	Connie Shin 2205
WorkAbility Director	Wendy Hutain 2218
Speech Supervisor	Cindy Baca 2212
Speech & Language	Brook Becksford 2207
Therapist	Breana Nakamoto 2208
Therapist	Joel Bugay 2209
Therapist	Natalie Wolfinger 2210
Therapist	Penny Sullenger 2204
Therapist	Trina Popowich 2215

Creative Corner

While other parts of the country are battling record cold temperatures, here in Southern California we need to improvise when the winter months roll along. Here is an idea to help you and your child feel “cool” in spite of the 70 degree temperatures.

Edible Snowflakes

A spin-off of the traditional paper snow flakes we all made in school, but these ones are good enough to EAT!

Fresh flour tortillas
Canola Oil
Powdered Sugar
Scissors (optional)



Heat the oven to 400. Warm the tortillas .
Fold each tortilla in half, and then in half again. Using clean scissors, cut shapes out of the folded wedge. (You can also tear shapes into the tortillas) Unfold and see the design. Lightly brush the tops of the snowflakes with the oil and place them flat on a baking sheet. Bake until lightly brown and crisp. Sprinkle evenly with powdered sugar, allow to cool, and enjoy!!!! These are yummy dipped in applesauce too!

McGladrey Volunteers Assist In Campus Improvements



On January 8th a group of volunteers from the Accounting firm of McGladrey came to our campus to assist our students with a New Year’s Resolution activity, and also to participate in many painting and repair projects at Canal to make our school look more beautiful.

Many volunteers shared how impressed they were with our program, staff, and children. Several even voiced an interest in returning to volunteer on a regular basis.

We are thankful for their enthusiasm and positive attitudes and interactions as they busily worked for several hours helping to improve our Canal site.

For Our Colleagues At The Districts

SAVE THE DATE

(This time, we REALLY mean it!!!!)

District Appreciation Luncheon
Friday May 2nd
11:30am

Invitation to Follow



WISH LIST

Looking for a way to contribute? This month Canal has started putting together a “wish list” from teachers, therapists and staff, for items that may be needed:

Construction Paper
Scissors, for “kids”
Dry Erase Markers (a plethora of colors)
Watercolor paints and brushes
Paint Sets
Cardstock
Pencil Boxes
Pencil pouches
Glue
Science Experiment Kits
Markers
Art Supplies

If you would like to donate any of the above items, please feel free to send them to school with the driver or drop them off at the Canal Office. Thank you!!!

Meet The Kimochis Characters.....



HUGGTOPUS is all smiles and hugs.



CLOUD like the weather can be a bit unpredictable.



BUG is a caterpillar who is afraid of change.



CAT is a great leader,



LOVEY DOVE is calm and nurturing

By now, many of you have likely heard your students talk about the Kimochis. Teachers, Therapists and our Behavioral Specialists are all utilizing the characters along with the many "Kimochis" feeling words, to help our students learn to identify and better express their own feelings. Below are two of the newer Kimochis Characters, **Bella Rose** and **Clover**. Take some time to ask your student to describe them to you :)



OLIVE CREST ACADEMY

2190 N. Canal Street
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