Aardvark Fans - The girls varsity basketball team has a strong fan base.

NEWS FROM JORDAN ELLIOTT, HEAD OF UPPER SCHOOL

The new year brings many opportunities for renewal in the Upper School. As I write this, students are closing out the first semester. For seniors in particular, this is a time to consider how a semester’s work culminates and to prepare for a new set of challenges. Our annual Midwinter Madness “fun and fundraising” event is kicking off this year with the theme “Midwinter Wonderland” and Outside In as the beneficiary. Juniors launched the college admissions process in earnest by hearing from young alumni the first day after winter break and will continue opening up the process by hearing from college admissions deans before the end of the month.
For parents, I want to extend a special invitation to attend our annual "State of the School" presentations. In addition to presentations in each grade level PAL meeting, I encourage you to join us on Wednesday, February 4, at 7:00 pm for an evening presentation.

Even in the dark days of January our community is as vibrant as ever!

Follow me on Twitter for updates of what’s going on in the Upper School and for trends in education: @OESheadUS.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

January 14  US Winter Concert, 7:00pm, OES Chapel
January 15  Open Mic Night, 7:00pm, Great Hall
January 16  End of Semester - NO US Classes
January 19  MLK Jr. Day - NO SCHOOL (MLK Service Learning Opportunities - Click HERE)
January 20  11th Grade PAL, 8:00am, Platt
January 26  12th Grade PAL, 8:00am, DVR
January 28  BYOD Parent Session, 8:15am, MS Library
January 29 - February 10  Midwinter Madness
February 10
February 2  9th Grade PAL: State of the School, 8:00am, DVR (additional info below)
February 3  Junior College Panel, 7:00pm, MS Commons
February 2-6  Midwinter Madness Mega-Bake Sale, 7:30am, Great Hall (while supplies last)
February 4  Senior-Faculty Basketball Game, 3:20pm, OES Gym
February 6  State of the School, 7:00pm, location TBD
February 7  US Semi Dance & Casino Night, 8:00pm, Bossanova Ballroom
February 8  Senior Tea, 3:00pm, Portland Golf Club
February 9  Bubble Soccer, 7:00pm, OES Gym

SCHOOL NOTES

(NEW) Volunteer Needs
- 12th Grade Faculty Snack, Jan. 20th
- OES Aardvark Science Exposition Volunteer Opportunities (more info below in Science Expo section ↓):

  - Science Expo Hosts
  - Science Expo Judges; contact Tanja Horvat
  - For more information see the Aardvark Science Expo webpage.
(NEW) Illness Information
With January upon us, many times this means the peak of the Flu season. It is a good reminder to encourage our students to practice good hand washing and use of Kleenex. Please do not send your child to school if they experience any of the following symptoms:

- a temperature greater than 100.4
- vomiting
- diarrhea
- rash
- unusually sleepy or lethargic
- active cough

Additionally, coughs can be hard to manage because they can linger over a period of time while the student may no longer be contagious. Please do not send your child with a new, largely productive cough unless cleared by their physician as coughs can be very distracting as well as possibly very contagious.

Before students return to school, they need to be symptom free for 24 hours. Questions? Contact Elaine Elliott.

(NEW) 9th Grade PAL (extra info)
Monday February 2nd, 8:00 am to 10:00 am
First we will hear the "State of the School" presentation, then we will stay for a parent discussion with Upper School Counselor Amanda Weber-Welch about the ideas presented in "Uncommon Sense for Parents with Teenagers" by Michael Riera, PhD. We plan to have treats shared also. Please try to attend!

(NEW) Last Chance to Order Photos
This is your last chance to order your child's school photos for the 2014-15 school year. Click here for more information.

Attendance
With the many ill students this time of year, please remember to call or email in advance if your child is going to miss school or be late for any reason. Doing so will help us keep your child safe. Email USattend or call US Attendance Coordinator, Alison Nugent, at (503) 768-3169.

Honeywell Instant Alert
With Winter upon us, it is important to be ready for what nature throws our way. OES contracts with an emergency announcement calling service that will notify families of school delays and closures and other emergencies. In order to receive these announcements, you must register with Honeywell Instant Alert. Learn more.

Dining Hall News
The OES dining hall has launched a new website, Cafe Bon Appetit, which offers the ability to sort the menu by dietary
preferences and to sign up for a daily email with that day’s menu offerings. Check it out! On the main page is green text that says "View Weekly Menu." By clicking that, you can see the menu for the whole week.

Do you want to keep up on what’s happening in the OES dining hall? Are you interested in the Bon Appetit story or how Bon Appetit stumbled into sustainability? Check us out on Facebook at Bon Appetit @ OES.

(NEW) JUNIOR PARENTS: SENIOR GRADUATION PARTY CHAPERONES NEEDED

Each year the current 11th grade parents host an all-night (11 PM to 5 AM) fun, safe and memorable party for the graduating seniors. This is a “pay it forward” thing, so we will be able to relax next year when our own children graduate and next year’s 11th grade parents plan the party. We need about 60 volunteers to ensure the success of the evening; so ALL the local 11th grade parents are needed to help out with the planning and/or chaperoning of the event. It will be a very special night for the seniors. It will be challenging for all of us over the age of 18 to be up in the middle of the night, but the shifts are manageable if everyone helps out for a short portion of the night. The energy of the kids will keep us going! The location is TOP SECRET, but volunteers will be told the location as the time draws near.

To sign-up for a party chaperone shift, please use this VolunteerSpot link. All volunteers will need to have completed a DHS Background Check to participate. Contact Jean Verheggen in the US office for more information on completing the process. For all other questions about the party, please contact Linda Blakely or Michele Levis, Graduation Party Co-Chairs.

(NEW) VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

ARTS WEEK is Coming Soon (Feb. 22-28, 2015)
The Visual and Performing Arts Department and the Music Department will be celebrating the Arts from all Divisions Monday Feb 23 through Saturday Feb 28th. The Winter One Acts open Wednesday evening, Feb. 25th, and run through Saturday, Feb 28th. We will have music performances and student and guest speakers in Chapel, and mini arts workshops for students and staff. Keep your eyes open for more details to come!

(NEW) OES AUCTION 2015
Auction Donations by February 2

Attention: Secret agents and operatives

To execute Operation Oregon Episcopal School we need all agents-of-influence to procure donations for the live and silent auctions. Without your keen eyes, ears, time, and generosity, there would be no auction to support AASK, teacher development and a myriad of special projects that enrich our school community.

Intelligence Details: Please make your drop by Feb. 2 for inclusion in the catalogue.

We value whatever unique interests, talents, and connections you bring to our community. We encourage you to use this rich diversity of assets to help plan, procure and/or host an event or item. You can fill out an online donation form or download, print and submit a PDF donation form.

Operation Tips: Follow your senses to sniff out a promising lead

* Know any business owners? Bring them in on the mission -- their donations will gain them exposure in the OES community*

* Are you a connector? Plan a big bash!*

* Prefer your drink shaken, not stirred? Donate cocktail supplies or a cocktail-themed event*

* So you’re an artist? Donate a finished piece or share your talent in a lesson/class*

* Is your code name “poker face”? Why not host your own casino night?*

* Any espionage enthusiasts out there? Plan an activity that features sleuthing fun*

* Spy movies float your boat? Host a Bond/spy movie marathon or event*

There are so many simple, easy ways to give

Please consider donating airline miles, money, or gift certificates towards items that the auction committee has already planned. You can also donate your ideas, time, and support -- just contact the auction chairs to get in the loop.

Please get your donation submitted by February 2.

Crack the Code Challenge

OOES CODE #1: KEAUTANVROGDJMY

DECODE: ____________

Challenge Rules:
Newsletter auction updates will feature a coded message. The first three people to email a complete set of correctly decoded messages to auction@oes.edu will each receive a $20 coupon to the OES store. Emailed submissions must be received by midnight on March 13, 2015.
We appreciate everything you can dream up, give, plan, host or execute to benefit our school, community and children.

Please save the date **March 14, 2015** to attend, and/or volunteer at, the auction.

_The preceding includes eyes only information -- please destroy after reading_

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**NEW** ADMISSIONS

**APPLICATION DEADLINE JANUARY 20**
The application deadline for admission to the 2015-2016 school year is Tuesday, January 20. You will use your parent portal password to log into the online application. Visit [http://www.oes.edu/admissions/applications.html](http://www.oes.edu/admissions/applications.html) for an application checklist and all forms.

**FINANCIAL AID**
Financial aid application information for the 2015-16 school year was emailed to parents of students currently on financial aid. If you did not receive this information, please contact Jen Bash.

If your family is not currently on financial aid, but due to recent financial changes, is considering an application for next year, please be in touch with Jen Bash for application information. There is also extensive information about financial aid at OES [available online](http://www.oes.edu/admissions/applications.html).

**NEW** INTERIM UPPER SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

As we offer our regards and best wishes to Liz Harlan-Ferlo, we are pleased to announce that the Rev. Heather Wenrick will serve as our Interim US Chaplain from the end of January through the close of the school year. Heather is currently the Associate Rector at St. John’s the Baptist on the OES campus and has served in Episcopal communities and organizations for nearly a decade. Heather has focused on youth ministry throughout her career, has a background as a special education teacher, and served in the Peace Corps in Honduras. She attended Gonzaga University and Yale Divinity School and is an ordained priest in the Diocese of Oregon. She will be a great addition to the Upper School community. Welcome Heather!

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**NEW** MIDWINTER MADNESS 2015

**WINTER FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT OUTSIDE IN**

The Upper School’s annual winter fundraiser, **Midwinter Madness**, this year will raise money for **Outside In**, a
non-profit organization that provides wrap-around services and support to homeless youth in Portland. This cluster of fun, student-planned and student-run events will take place Jan. 29-Feb. 10.

Parents are encouraged to attend and support the various Midwinter Madness events.

This year’s planned events include:

- **Sales of Midwinter Madness Tshirts**: Each Upper School grade will have a different custom-designed shirt, which will be used as a jersey for Midwinter Madness sporting events but also to show Midwinter Madness spirit. The deadline to preorder these shirts is tomorrow Friday, Jan. 16, and the cost is $19 per shirt.
- **CRUSH sales**, in which students (and parents!) can send a bottle of CRUSH soda to someone they have a “crush” on.
- **Virtual CRUSHes**: Send a virtual CRUSH via email to a recent alum or another loved one who isn’t on campus! Please email Chris Myers to arrange virtual CRUSHes.
- **GorillaGrams**: Have your CRUSH delivered by a dancing gorilla! Prices vary, but start at $20
- **The annual Senior-Faculty Basketball Game**, at 3:20 p.m. Wednesday, February 4, in the OES gym. Admission: $4.
- **PowderTuff Volleyball**, in which teams of boys will compete in 6 v. 6 volleyball, 7-10 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, in the OES gym. Admission is $5 per person.
- **Casino Night @ Semi**, 8-11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7. Location - Bossanova Ballroom. Students can purchase funny money to play card games when they are taking a break from dancing. Everyone who buys funny money is eligible for a variety of non-cash prizes. Parent volunteers needed to deal cards! If you are interested and available, please sign-up on VolunteerSpot here: [Midwinter Madness]
- **Mega-Bake Sales**, Monday-Thursday, Feb. 2-6 in the Great Hall, from 7:30 a.m. until baked goods run out each day.
- **Bubble Soccer**: This brand-new Midwinter Madness event is sure to be fun and entertaining. It will take place from 7-9:00pm Monday, February 9, in the gym. Admission is $5 per person.
Parents, please be aware that students will be allowed to charge Midwinter Madness purchases to their OES accounts. You may wish to discuss with your child some limitations on these charges. Midwinter Madness purchases may also be made with cash or with checks made out to OES (please indicate “Midwinter Madness” in the memo space). Approximately 50-75 percent of all Midwinter Madness purchases are tax-deductible, depending on the event/item.

More information about Outside In is available at the [organization’s website](#).

If you have questions about Midwinter Madness, please contact the faculty coordinator, Chris Myers, by phone or email: (503) 416-9352.

(NEW) BYOD PARENT SESSION

BYOD Understanding Personal Privacy on Mobile Devices
January 28, 2015, 8:15 AM-9:30 AM, Middle School Library

From accessing OES calendars to keeping up with social media feeds, how do you navigate the ever changing field of options and updates? The Technology Coordinators are here to help. Please join us for a hands-on learning session.

This workshop is a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) learning opportunity. In order to tailor our sessions, please RSVP here to complete a short survey: [http://goo.gl/forms/yqaon9Gi2W](http://goo.gl/forms/yqaon9Gi2W)

Can't make it to the session? Let us know in the survey so that we can plan additional sessions. Thank you!

(NEW) OES SERVICE LEARNING

The upcoming long weekend honoring Martin Luther King Jr. is an ideal opportunity for students and families to use their Power for Good. Many organizations around town have special events in honor of the day, or are carrying on their regular work and can use helping hands. I’ve added a dedicated page to the SL opportunities site listing some options for that weekend, with contact information. Consider organizing a small group; get family or a few friends together to spend some time in service to others.

*Sophomores who have not completed 20 hours OFF campus, remember they are due at the end of the month. Here’s your chance to get caught up.

*Seniors who have not completed the SL Requirement should check in with Robin in the SL Office to talk about plans for finishing up!

Click [HERE](#) to access the special MLK Opp’ties page. It’s a live google doc, so new opp’ties will be added as they come in.
And of course, if you’re looking for general opportunities ON or OFF campus, you know where to go… click HERE for the anytime SL opp’ties page. Requirements and other SL info on the SL WEBSITE.

Go to Hands-On-Portland and find date-specific volunteer events at a variety of places all over town, or CLICK HERE for the OES Service Learning website’s list of projects and agencies that always welcome volunteers, anytime.

Remember, if your child is looking for a way to earn Service-Learning hours, design a Service-Learning Project, or use his or her Power for Good, the Service-Learning Opportunities Page is constantly updated with new options for ON and OFF campus hours and projects. Don’t let these opportunities go to waste! You will also find on the website all the details of the Service-Learning Requirement. Questions or suggestions? Contact Robin Schauffler, 503-416-9308.

(NEW) COMMUNITY DIVERSITY LINK (CDL)

Books and Breakfast 2014-15
February 24th, 8:00 am, Platt Global Classroom - CDL, State of the School; Intercultural Competency and Diversity. It's been a busy few years of intercultural competency training, focus and engagement for OES Faculty and Staff. Come hear US Head Jordan Elliott's report on 2014-2015 State of the School with respect to Intercultural Competency.

March 10th, The Residue Years by Portland native Mitchell Jackson. Lecture 7:30 pm at the Schnitzer Auditorium. The Residue Years is the Multnomah County Library’s Everybody Reads 2015 selection. As part of this program, Literary Arts and The Multnomah County Library will host a lecture by Mitchell Jackson on March 10th, and we have secured tickets! Tickets will be $10 and you can sign up at www.mysignup.com/residueyears

April 14th, Books and Breakfast - Whistling Vivaldi by Claude M Steele, 8:00 am in the Platt Global Classroom. Our final B&B title is a powerful work (yet easy read) by social psychologist Claude Steele, who lays out his groundbreaking work on stereotypes and identity.

(NEW) SCHOOL STORE

Lacrosse, Basketball and Ski Team New Sport Designs are Available in the OES Store!
New Team Spirit Wear for Lacrosse has just arrived at the School Store! Come in and find a great selection of crew neck and hooded sweatshirts, as well as t-shirts, sweatpants, and again this year: girl-cut t-shirts.
If you placed a pre-order for Basketball, Ski Team or Lacrosse,
it is bagged and awaiting pick-up. Didn’t place your order in time? No worries! There is additional stock to choose from.

We also have 15 colors of sunglasses, license plate frames, spirit scarves, new styles of hats, water bottles, Nike socks and much more!

**Coming soon-** Spirit wear Pre-Order for Tennis, Golf and Track & Field featuring a new, two color design! Drop by and place a pre-order to be sure you get the size and color you want!

Open 2pm-4pm every weekday, as **well** as by appointment in the morning. We are located in Room 11 of Scott House. You can always visit us online. Questions? Contact **Madeleine Menashe**

**(NEW) AASK FRIENDRAISING BREAKFAST**

Be Legendary! at the Annual AASK Friend Raising Breakfast

Tuesday, January 27, 2015
8:00-9:15 A.M.
OES Dining Hall

Spots still available. RSVP as soon as possible to **Gisela Walitzki**, (503)416-9394.

**AARDVARK SCIENCE EXPOSITION 2015**

Parents, family, and friends of the OES community are invited to visit the OES Aardvark Science Expos where Middle & Upper School research projects/exhibits will be on display. For more information see the **Aardvark Science Expo webpage**.

On **Thursday, February 19th**, from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM, the exhibit hall in SPARC Gymnasium is open to the public (*Please note that Oleson Road is under construction so alternate routes will need to be taken*). Student exhibitors will not be with their projects that day, though it is an excellent opportunity for members of the entire OES community to spend time perusing the wide array of 250+ incredible projects and reading exhibit boards.

On **Friday, February 20th**, after judging, there is an open house from 6:30 – 7:30 PM, followed by the awards ceremony from 7:30 – 8:30 PM. Buses will run between SPARC and the lower lot by the athletic fields from 6:20–9:00
pm. Parking at SPARC by permit only; if you would like a parking permit for SPARC, inquire at the Upper or Middle School office.

**Would you like to help as a judge or volunteer?** If you have a science degree, work experience or knowledge in any of the scientific disciplines and your children are not attending middle or upper school yet, please consider volunteering as a science fair judge. If you cannot judge, please consider asking your friends or colleagues to volunteer for our event. Breakfast and lunch provided. Visit the [Volunteer Opportunities](#) page for more information.

- **Science Fair Hosts** (any parent may participate)
  Parents are needed to monitor SPARC while the exhibits are open to the public and OES classrooms on February 19. Shifts (2 or 1.5 hours) are available between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm. Volunteers will help visitors locate restrooms and remind visitors not to touch the exhibits. There will be plenty of time for volunteers to peruse the exhibits, too. Sign up on VolunteerSpot at [Science Fair Host](#). Questions? Contact [Bevin Daglen](#).

- **Science Fair Judges** (Sixth grade and Lower School parents may volunteer; no parents of Seventh, Eighth, or Upper Schoolers, please.) Judges are needed February 20. Judging will take place sometime between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm. Science background is necessary. For more information on requirements and to volunteer, please contact [Tanja Horvat](#).

For a more comprehensive schedule click here: [Complete Schedule](#).

**DORM NEWS**

We want to thank all those families who have taken part in the Backyard Exchange Program. It has been a true joy having your children as part of our dorm community. If you are interested in finding out more information about B.Y.E., or would like to inquire about availability for your student, please contact [Brad Hoffman](#).

With the holiday season behind us, we wanted to ask that those of you interested in hosting a dorm student for Spring Break to contact Brad Hoffman, to let him know you are interested. Our international students truly enjoy spending time with our host families, and greatly appreciate your generosity.

**COLLEGE COUNSELING**
GAP Year Fair
Monday, January 26, 2015 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm @ Lincoln High School
1600 SW Salmon Street, Portland, Oregon 97205
Scheduled Speakers: Jane Sarouhan, Vice President, Center for Interim Programs

Junior College Panel for Parents
Will be held on Monday February 2, from 7:00-9:00pm Middle School Commons. The speakers will include Adam Miller, Director of Admission, Whitman College; Jenny Rickard, Vice President of Enrollment, University of Puget Sound; and Lien Vu-Brenner (parent of Lauren Brenner, OES Class of 2014).
Topics: College options and how students learn about colleges / How colleges make admissions decisions / The parent role in this process.
We hope you can join us as this is not an event that lends itself to handouts or PowerPoint slides. The college deans will talk with the juniors on Monday afternoon.

SAT/ACT Tests
Seniors, please note the following test dates and registration deadlines. Enter the school code when you register (380915) and if you are taking the ACT, it is important to include the optional writing test. There is a late registration deadline for each test date that requires an additional fee. See the testing websites for additional information.

SAT/ACT Dates and (Registration Deadline):

- SAT Testing
  - January 24
- ACT testing
  - February 7 (late 1/16)

US YEARBOOK - SENIORS!
There are several opportunities for seniors and their parents to contribute to the yearbook. Below is a description of these opportunities and their deadlines. We need to submit our pages to the publisher at certain intervals, so these deadlines are not flexible!
Please let us know if you have any questions. For more info - see the US Yearbook Home site.

1. MUG SHOTS: December 1st, 2014 (past due)
2. SENIOR PAGES: January 10th, 2015 (past due)
3. BABY PICTURES: March 1st, 2015
4. PARENT ADS: March 1st, 2015

MUG SHOTS: Sometimes students submit a studio photo to be used in place of their school photo for the yearbook. This is not required.
Sending a digital photo to me is the easiest way to submit an image, or we will scan the photo and return it to the student.

For more info, contact: Sue Jensen, US Arts Faculty, Advisor to Yearbook

CLASS NOTES

- **9th Grade PAL** – Next meeting is on February 2nd at 8am in the Drinkward Volunteer Center. Questions? Contact Jana Reddoch.
  - Upcoming meetings: April 6th, and May 4th.
  - (NEW) Monday February 2nd, 8:00 am to 10:00 am
    First we will hear the "State of the School" presentation, then we will stay for a parent discussion with Upper School Counselor, Amanda Weber-Welch, about the ideas presented in "Uncommon Sense for Parents with Teenagers" by Michael Riera, PhD. We plan to have treats shared also. Please try to attend!

- **10th Grade PAL** – Next meeting is on February 9th at 8am in the Drinkward Volunteer Center. Questions? Contact Jane Langley.
  - Upcoming meetings: April 13th, and May 11th.

- **11th Grade PAL** – Next meeting is on January 20th (Tuesday) at 8am in Platt. Questions? Contact Kay Pinkava.
  - Upcoming meetings: February 17th (Tuesday), April 20th, and May 18th.

- **12th Grade PAL** – Next meeting is on January 26th at 8am in the Drinkward Volunteer Center. Questions? Contact Jan Massaro.
  - Upcoming meetings: February 23rd, April 27th, and May 26th (Tuesday).

**PAL meeting Calendar (all grades)**