

# THE PATRIOT

## OAK GROVE ELEMENTARY

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### Letter From The Principal Patriot

It has been an exciting and very busy September! Thank you for supporting all of our activities last month. I hope you were one of the many parents who were able to join us for Open House on September 7th. We certainly had a full house for our Open House! Please let our grandparents know that we enjoyed their visit with us for our annual Breakfast with Grandparents. Many of our students were proud to show off their Grandparents but I think the Grandparents were even more proud to be a part of this event. Our students participated in some testing so we could diagnose their individual academic strengths and weaknesses in math and reading. The results of these tests will help your child's teachers prepare instructional lessons based on the most current information. You will get the results on October 31. We also reviewed the 7 Habits in the Leader in Me program with all students. We teach our students how to be great leaders using the 7 Habits.

October will prove to be a busy month for all of us. To help promote healthy lifestyles, we will once again participate in the International Walk to School Day on Wednesday, October 4. Your child will be bringing home more information about our plans. If you have internet access, take a look at this web site <http://www.walkbiketoschool.org> for more information. Walk to School Day is celebrating 21 years this year! We think it is important to teach our students healthy lifestyles and walking for exercise is something we all need to do more often! This is Habit #7, Sharpen the Saw!

The OGES certified staff will continue seminar training this year. On October 3 we will

have seminar trainers with us helping teachers plan their next seminar. Socratic seminars have been around since the days of Socrates and have proven to be a powerful instructional strategy for all students' grades kindergarten through fifth grade. Some benefits of the Socratic seminar are: \*Offers opportunities for student voice \*Embraces the power of open-ended questions \*Often mimics how intellectual discourse occurs in real life \*Supports providing evidence-based arguments \*Builds active listening skills \*Reinforces close reading \*Approaches real world solutions as having multiple perspectives \*Hones critical thinking skills \*Builds oral communication skills \*Emphasizes the importance of critical reflection \*Helps to develop conflict resolution skills.

Our amazing PTA will kick off their Fall Fundraiser on October 6 with Charleston Wrap. Please support our PTA with this fundraiser. They have a lot of things they would like to do for OGES! . If you would like to speak with your child's teacher about academic progress or any other concerns, we will be at school until 6:00 on October 12 and we will also be available on October 13 from 8:00-12:00. There is no school for students on Friday, October 13. Red Ribbon week will start on October 23 with a special activity every day. On October 27 we will have our annual Trunk or Treat event sponsored by the PTA. We will also celebrate South Carolina with our Related Arts teachers. Third grade students will participate in performances and art displays. Student will be doing the Shag our State Dance and Woody Windam is our special guest! We will also have family line dancing in the parking lot. This will be a fun night for the whole family. All students and parents are

invited to enjoy this event starting at 6:00 PM. You will receive your child's first report card on October 31.

We are always looking for ways to improve our school. We do enjoy a pat on the back once in a while but we know that nothing is perfect and there is always room to improve somewhere. We are planning our organizational School Improvement Council (SIC) meeting on October 6. We are looking for more active parents to be a part of this group! If you would like to participate on this committee, please let me know. We value your input and together we can make a difference for each and every child that enters the doors of Oak Grove Elementary School.

All of us at Oak Grove Elementary School are very proud of our awards. Being named a National Blue Ribbon Award winning school, a Lighthouse School for Leadership, and our most recent award, Palmettos Finest, is something we can all be proud of. Thank you Oak Grove Patriot Parents for all that you have done to help us become this award winning school!

Happy October,

*Sherry P. Cariens*

Sherry P. Cariens

Principal

# OCTOBER



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 PICTURE DAY	3	4 NATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL DAY	5	6 PTA FUNDRAISER BEGINS
9	10	11	12 PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES 3-6PM	13 NO SCHOOL PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES 8-12PM
16 PTA FUNDRAISER ENDS	17 DISTRICT BOARD MEETING 7:30 PM	18	19	20
23 RED RIBBON WEEK  COGAT (2nd Gr.)	24 RED RIBBON WEEK  COGAT (2nd Gr.)	25 RED RIBBON WEEK  COGAT (2nd Gr.)	26 RED RIBBON WEEK  IOWA TESTING (2nd Gr.)	27 RED RIBBON WEEK IOWA TESTING (2nd Gr.)  PTA TRUNK OR TREAT SC SHOWCASE 6—8PM
30	31 REPORT CARDS, SC PASS AND SC READY SCORES GO HOME			

  
**PLEASE  
NOTE  
I'VE  
CHANGED  
MY NUMBER**

We want to make sure to keep our information current in the case we need to contact you regarding your child. Should your phone number change, if you would please notify the front office at 821-0100 and ask to speak to Mrs. Whittle or email your change to [mwhittle@lexington1.net](mailto:mwhittle@lexington1.net). Thank you.

## What time does my child go to lunch?

**K—10:40      1st—11:00**  
**2nd—11:55      3rd—11:05**  
**4th—11:35      5th—12:20**