

Oak Chan Elementary



Principal's Weekly Message
May 7, 2021

Good Day OC Families!

Highlights:

Our staff really felt the wind beneath their wings and took flight during Teacher Appreciation Week. Thank you to Phyllis Dinse for the tremendous amount of coordination and hard work that went into this extraordinary celebration. We also appreciate our Room Parents, all our families, and community businesses who took the time to make this week a very special one.

This past week was also filled with a celebration of literature. A 'shout out' to our amazing Librarian, Brit Renshaw, for hosting our annual Book Fair. Always a treat to purchase a new book and that special 'gadget.'

I hope the *Force* was with you this week and that you had an opportunity to take the time to sit down and enjoy OC's Spring Showcase. Classroom teachers shared the links via e-mail.

District Updates Please [CLICK HERE](#) to see the most recent update from the district.

Weekly SKORR Challenge: The SKORR challenge for the week of May 10th is to design your own 'Dream Jar' Click [here](#) for the activity.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Food for Thought

In my theatre arts world, I have had many dance students go on to a professional career, including becoming a Radio City Rockette. Below is an article from their organization that is good reminder to foster our children's (and even our own) dreams.

Children start dreaming at an early age; and as parents, it's important to provide them a path towards success by empowering them to reach for the stars—no dream is too big! Whether it's being a starter on the soccer team, nabbing the lead in the musical or getting published in the school newspaper, here are five ways to show your support:

- 1. Make an action plan.** The dream itself is what keeps your kid excited but remind them that achieving it means following a path that has several smaller steps. Since you have to walk before you can run—or score a goal, or dance or publish a story—help your little one prepare for the work ahead by having a conversation about the steps, and the persistence it'll take to get there, reminding them you'll be behind them on every step.
- 2. Create (or find) a space for them to grow.** You want to give your kid the world. Start by giving them access to a space where they can expand their skills. This could mean creating a quiet study space at home or designating a specific night each week that the living room furniture gets pushed to the walls to allow for open practice space. Don't have the right conditions at home? Check out local parks, libraries, athletic facilities, or shared artistic spaces—any dedicated spot your kid can practice and hone their skills.
- 3. Help them get totally immersed.** Got a hobby? There's a camp for that. From language camps to coding camps to sports camps (dancers of all levels learn original Rockettes choreography at our Rockettes Experience dance class!), what better way to keep their dream alive than by surrounding them with others who are passionate about the same thing—especially when the journey gets tiring. In addition

to the skills, they'll learn from the experts and professionals who staff the camp, don't be surprised if they also take home a lifelong friendship or two.

4. **Focus on the right kind of motivation.** When it comes to motivation, look out for two types: a) where your kid works toward their dream to earn a reward, like a trophy or title; and b) where your kid works toward their dream because doing so brings them personal satisfaction. If you sense your kid is working just as a means to an end, it might be time to re-evaluate. It's normal to discover a related passion while pursuing another, and part of being supportive is being ready and willing to change the action plan.

5. **Be their #1 fan, always.** Show the pride you feel when they succeed, but don't forget to be equally as supportive when there's a misstep or stumble. Being an empathetic listener or offering a shoulder to cry on is just as important as being front-and-center in the crowd or audience during the big moments. After all, knowing they have you to lean on during the tough times and celebrate with during the great times is the strongest support you can offer as they achieve their dreams.

On the Horizon:

May 26th Kindergarten Drive Through Promotion (More info to follow)

May 27th 5th Grade Drive Through Promotion (More info to follow)

Chromebook Turn-in; last week of school. (More info to follow)

Keep tracking your child's Reading and Math Fact practice minutes. The Principal's PRC and PMC are underway! [Challenges](#)

Stay Connected! Bookmark our [website](#) - which we update often, and follow us on our **Oak Chan PTO Facebook** page. Visit [MrsBahrysOffice](#) Take your 'mouse' and wherever the 'hand' lands on a picture, such as the Squirrel, click and you will find something fun.

And stay strong by focusing on *Relationships, Routines, and Resilience.*

"Cherish your visions and your dreams as they are the children of your soul, and the blueprints of your ultimate achievements." ~N. Hill

Happy Mother's day weekend to all who take on the role of 'Mom' in someone's life. I was fortunate to have had an amazing mother as a role model; encouraging me to give my very best, try new things, step through doors of opportunity, look to the positive, be inclusive, and treat others with the utmost respect. Forever grateful and always hope that I make her proud.

As always, please call or email us if there is anything you need.

Sincerely,

Principal Bahry