

OWL WEEKLY EMAIL
SEPTEMBER 26, 2022

In an effort to increase communication with our students and families, we send a weekly email on Sunday evenings or Monday mornings highlighting upcoming school events. This information will also be shared with students in Schoology and in Crew on Mondays. Events are listed in chronological order.

NEW! **OWL Community Group Facebook Page:** If you use Facebook and want to stay connected to other OWL families, [HERE IS THE LINK](#) to the OWL family page.

Fall Retreat Fee: Fall Retreats are this week! Use [THIS LINK](#) to pay for fall retreats ASAP if you have not already. If you would like a partial or full scholarship, please contact Dave dave.gundale@spps.org

After School Classes—Flipside-- registration is now available through September 26th, 2022! There are over 16 afterschool classes students can choose from and many other opportunities available to get involved.

Information for students:

During lunch time this Tuesday and Thursday there will be a table with all the Flipside information. Please encourage your students to stop by and talk about it if they are interested in opportunities after school. The coordinator, Brient, will be there to answer questions and concerns students have about the upcoming program year!

Busing:

After school busing will be available on **Tuesday and Thursday**. There will also be bus tokens for High school students that choose to take public transportation home on Monday and Wednesday. We can also help students navigate their city bus routes home.

Registration:

Paper registration can be found in the main office. Students can register online through [this google form](#).

[HERE](#) is the flyer/registration packet! I will have flyers available for all Crew leaders to hand out next week. If you have any questions, please contact Brient brient.pokornowski@spps.org

School Picture Day is Friday, October 7: Information on purchasing pictures from Lifetouch will be coming home in coming weeks. Whether you are buying pictures or not, all students will have their picture taken for Student ID and Yearbook purposes.

SAVE THE DATE! The OWL Fall Family Gathering will be Wednesday, October 12, 5:30-8 pm, at the Harriet Island Pavilion. Come together with the OWL community for food, fun and friendship in a beautiful location on the Mississippi River across from downtown Saint Paul. Look for more information in the October newsletter and future emails.

PSAT Testing is Wednesday, October 12 for all OWL 11th grade students, plus 10th grade students who wish to take the test. The test is free for 11th graders. 10th graders wishing to take the test can reserve a spot for \$15. 10th graders, who are signing up to take the

PSAT, pick up your PSAT practice materials from Rhonda. For more information, contact testing coordinator Rhonda Mechels, Rhonda.mechels@spps.org. Scholarships are available. This test offers a great practice taking a timed test in advance of the ACT to be given to juniors in the spring. The PSAT test is also the basis for National Merit Scholarships.

NO SCHOOL—Thursday, October 20 and Friday, October 21:
State Teacher Convention (MEA weekend)

SAVE THE DATE: Dia de los Muertos Celebration at OWL is
Wednesday, October 26 at 6 PM: Come celebrate Latinx culture at OWL with this family friendly event with lots of fun and great food. Contact: Tim timothy.leone-getten@spps.org

NEW! Costa Rica and Panama Trip: Thank you to all the students and parents who were able to attend the Costa Rica and Panama Spring Break 2023 Trip informational meeting last week. If you were unable to join us, [here is a recording](#) of the meeting. If you are looking for the link to sign up, you can find that [here](#). We are also looking at a trip for 2025 to Rome, Paris, and Madrid. If you are interested in that trip, the link for more information and to sign up is [here](#). I will be away this week doing Fall Retreat stuff, so I will not be able to respond to emails. If you have questions feel free to reach out to EF through the chat or call them. Tom: tom.totushek@spps.org

Lego League Sign-Up: Grades 6-8. Do you like teamwork, coding, problem-solving, and fun? You should join LEGO League! The OWL coaches want to help you design and program a robot and solve a community problem **Mondays and Wednesdays after school, October 10 - January 30**. Interested students should fill out [this application](#) even if you have also signed up through Flipside. This application provides essential student interest information for creating teams and is the coaches' only source of parent contact emails.

Are you interested in high school FIRST Robotics Competition? Sign up [HERE](#) to join the fun. **Practices begin October 3** and continue every Wednesday (3:15-5:00) as we mentor LEGO League and get ready for the Minnesota Robotics Invitational (friendly competition) on Saturday, October 15. The 2023 season, with practices Mondays and Wednesdays 3:15-5:00, runs from the end of Winter Break until Spring Break.

Archery is back for the 22-23 season! Students in grades 6-12, starting on Tuesday October 11th at 3pm and each Tuesday after that until November 22rd we will have Open Shoots (not on Election Day). Open Shoots are a time when students can find out if archery is right for them, or get to know their teammates for when the season starts. Attendance at Open Shooting is not a requirement for participation on the team when the season starts. Please email us for more information at openworldarchery@gmail.com.

iPad update

We will continue to problem solve the iPad issues students are experiencing. We are aware of the Wifi, Schoology, and app issues that students have been experiencing and working to correct them. We will be helping students reset their apple id over the next few weeks. Thank You for your patience as we work to get all students iPads working properly. Questions, contact Rhonda Mechels: Rhonda.Mechels@spps.org

Great school service opportunity: Sign up to tutor a younger student during crew academic days and/or after school! Earn up to 80+ school service hours helping a younger student with their work. Also looks great on college applications! Sign up using [this form](#).

iUpdate and Lunch Forms: If you have not yet completed the iUpdate or Free and Reduced Lunch forms, please take a moment to do so by clicking here: <https://www.spps.org/onestop> If you have forgotten your user name and/or password, please call Tammy in the OWL office at 651-293-8670 and she will be happy to assist you with your login information. It is extremely important that ALL students complete both of these forms. Please take care of this ASAP.

We have an OWL family who reached out for some support.

They lost a family member, were able to figure out funeral arrangements, but were unable to afford a head stone.

I've included the [gofundme](#) link if you're able to contribute.

Thank you for considering. Questions contact Paige:

paige.geck@spps.org

One proven way to live a happy life is to express gratitude. Is there a staff member at OWL that has done something you are grateful for? Shoot them an email! An alternative and way has been made available by filling out [this link](#). (This form requires an email but is sent anonymously.)

OWL believes that access to feminine products is a right. If you are able to donate products to help us provide free feminine products so that they are always available, please consider donating some by dropping them off with Tammy in the front office. From there we will make sure they get to where they are needed.

Important Reminder about Attendance:

If your child is going to miss school, please call, email or write a note to explain the reason for the absence. If we do not hear from you, the absence is documented as unexcused. After 3 days of unexcused absences, you will receive a letter from the school reminding you to please communicate with us so the absence(s) may be documented accurately. If your child continues to miss school, unexcused, he/she will be referred to the SAM (School Attendance Matters) Program for intervention.

The following reasons for absence qualify as an excused absence; illness, doctor, dental or therapy appointment (please be sure to obtain a note to give to the school), extreme family emergency or religious holiday not already recognized by our school district. When a student misses 3 or more class periods in one day, this is considered to be a full day of absence. Please call us if you have any questions/concerns.

