

**OWL WEEKLY EMAIL**  
**OCTOBER 17, 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.*

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

**NEXT WEEK: 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](mailto:timothy.leone-getten@spps.org)

**NEW! Flu Shots Now Available at Weekly Clinics:** SPPS has flu shots available for anyone ages 5 and older at our Thursday vaccine clinics at 360 Colborne St. Families, staff and community members can make appointments to receive flu shots by using the vaccine clinic registration links below. These registration forms will allow you to make an appointment for a COVID-19 vaccine, flu shot, or both. **There is a limited number of flu shots available and families without health insurance or with State insurance will receive preference for appointments.**

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**All Minnesota residents ages 6 months and older are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.** The CDC recommends that everyone

who can get vaccinated should do so at the first opportunity available to them.

SPPS hosts COVID-19 vaccine clinics on Thursdays from 3-6 p.m. at 360 Colborne St. Anyone ages 5 and older can receive vaccines—our clinics are not yet offering vaccines for kids under 5. Kids ages 5-11 can receive booster shots five months after their second vaccine. Anyone ages 12 and older can now receive the updated (bivalent) booster shot two months after their second vaccine or first booster.

**SPPS Vaccine Clinics:**

- **10/20:** SPPS Administration Building (360 Colborne St.) from 3-6 p.m. [Register here.](#)
- **10/27:** SPPS Administration Building (360 Colborne St.) from 3-6 p.m. [Register here.](#)

**THIS WEEK: All SPPS families are invited to join the Ethnic Studies Department in the Office of Teaching and Learning to the Ethnic Studies Fall Family Forum:**

Date: Tuesday, October 18

Time: 5 to 6:30 pm

Location: 360 S Colborne St., St. Paul, MN 55102

Rooms: A and B

This meeting will be sharing information about the new Critical Ethnic Studies course in St Paul Public Schools. This meeting will also allow SPPS families and community members to meet each other, learn together and ask questions.

Food will be provided, childcare services offered, and language support will be available in Hmong, Karen, Somali, and Spanish.

Please feel free to share with your networks about this event. Our event flyer can be found [here](#). Please note: interpreted language videos are linked in the flyer.

Questions: contact the Ethnic Studies Department at [ethnicstudies.dept@spps.org](mailto:ethnicstudies.dept@spps.org)

**NEW!** Time to Order your OWL Yearbook 2022-2023: Use [THIS LINK](#) to order your very own yearbook. 10% off if you order before October 31.

**NEW! Archery News:**

Open Shoots have begun! Open Shoots are:

- a. A “drop-in” style of practice (just show up!)
- b. Run Tuesdays after school (until 11/15, except for 11/8)
- c. Free
- d. No commitment required
- e. Busing is available for Flipside students, email [brient.pokornowski@spps.org](mailto:brient.pokornowski@spps.org) with questions

Ready to commit to the Archery team? [Sign up here!](#)

- a. See our website for our [calendar](#), [FAQ](#), and more.
- b. Parent information meeting on October 25<sup>th</sup> (attendance not required)

- i. OWL Cafeteria and Zoom (information below).
- c. Email [openworldarchery@gmail.com](mailto:openworldarchery@gmail.com) for any questions.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82624163941?pwd=NVZRN0lYMTcvTEpiUTB5ZE4za1Zydz09>

Meeting ID: 826 2416 3941

Passcode: 103234

**Sign up for Mock Trial!** If you are interested in law, the rules of court, and if you like acting, then mock trial is for you! We will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays after school from 3-5 starting October 18th. We will be working with two awesome attorney coaches who will help guide you through the process of the case. Grades 7-12 only. To sign up, have your student click on this link (must be an SPPS email): <https://bit.ly/OWLmocktrial>

**Sign up to be tutored--6th-10th graders:** If you're looking for some help with your classes, sign up to work with an older student tutor during **Thursday crew academic days!** There are also tutors available to work with **after school** and **busing available on Tuesdays and Thursdays.** Many of our tutors have taken the same classes you're taking, and they can help you with your work as well as your school organization. [SIGN UP HERE!](#)  
Questions: Dave [dave.gundale@spps.org](mailto:dave.gundale@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](#).

**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.

**NEW! PTO News:** Thank you OWL Community! We had a great turnout for the Fall Family Gathering! It was so wonderful to see old friends and so many new friends as well! Thank you to all of the volunteers- it takes a village-- and boy, what a wonderful supportive village we have! We cannot put on these events without all of your help!

**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS:**

We are looking for volunteers who may be interested in stepping up to chair the following two fundraisers:

1: **Spirit Wear**: Typically this event happens in the fall but can happen at any time during the year. I am happy to have an assistant this year and you can take over the following year but it is also great to make your own path and take over on your own (or with your own team).

2: **Raffle-O-Rama**: This is an event that is held in conjunction with the Celebration of Learning, the first Friday in June. This event consists of a community dinner along with a raffle and sometimes a silent auction. Feel free to make this your own! I am here as a reference for you as you need.

Please reach out to Jennifer Lodahl with interest or questions. [lodahl.stp@gmail.com](mailto:lodahl.stp@gmail.com). Thanks for considering!

**DONATE**: The Studio Art Class at OWL will need thin cardboard for an upcoming project. (Thin cardboard like cereal boxes.) You can drop it off at the art room 1104. Questions: Kent [kent.miller@spps.org](mailto:kent.miller@spps.org)

**DONATE**: If you are interested in supporting our school social workers, please see [this link](#).

**DONATE**: **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.

**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.

**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.

**CREW NEWS:** This month in Crew, students are exploring the topic of inclusion. Crews will have opportunities to learn how to build an inclusive community at OWL. Some questions to ask at home during October include:

*What affinity groups have you found at OWL? Have you joined a Wednesday club?*

*What books are mirrors for you?*

*At OWL, I've heard you often work in groups made out of students with diverse learning styles. Who have you enjoyed working with? Which of the multiple intelligences is strongest for you? Which are you working on?*

*What strategies have you learned for showing sensitivity with friends and classmates with disabilities?*

**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.)

**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.