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VOICE NEWSLETTER

September 1, 2016



OES Summer Camps 2016 - Upper School students participated in various camps this summer, including Star Camp and AASK Summer Camp.

NEWS FROM CORBET CLARK, INTERIM HEAD OF UPPER SCHOOL



As the new Interim Head of Upper School, I want to welcome you to the new school year and share with you this inaugural issue of the *Voice* Newsletter for 2016-17. For those of you new to the community, we hope this update, published on the 1st and 15th of each month, will be a useful resource. For more frequent communications, look for our weekly e-Gathering emails as well.

Upper School faculty and staff just returned from a retreat at

Important Information

- ▶ [Who to Contact and Parent Communication](#)
- ▶ [Attendance email](#) /phone - 503/768-3169
- ▶ [School Closure Info](#)
- ▶ [US faculty Google site links](#)
- ▶ [What's for lunch?](#)
Cafe Bon Appetit - [View the Weekly Menu](#)
Check out [Bon Appetit on Facebook](#)

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- ▶ You may make a secure gift to the Annual Fund online.



- ▶ [Backyard Exchange](#)
Spend a weekend in the dorms

the Menucha Retreat Center, where we explored our history as a school, had deep conversations about our strengths as a faculty and staff and what our core values are, and did some dreaming about what our future might look like, during the coming year and beyond, as we prepare to welcome a new Upper School Head the following year. On the retreat I felt again how honored I am to be part of an inspiring group of educators, who bring such a diversity of gifts to the school and whose dedication was apparent in their willingness to put a lot of work into just a day and a half retreat.

Expect to hear more about the search process during the Fall. As a transitional leader, my task is to help faculty and students identify our strengths and core values, work on a common vision for the kind of high school we are and want to be (building on the all-school Mission and Vision statements), and to enable all of us to work together to address current issues. I'm excited about the opportunity to lead us in this work.

As your family makes final preparations for the beginning of the year, three specifics to keep in mind are: First, please make sure that all forms for the opening of school have been submitted to the US Office. Second, please make sure that your child has all the necessary equipment for their opening school trip. Trip letters specific to each grade level give detailed packing lists. Finally, please support your child in obtaining all of the books and materials they will need for their classes.

Please also make note of our annual **Back-to-School-Night**. It will be held Wednesday, September 28, from 6:30 to 9 pm.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

September 5	No School - Labor Day
September 6	Sophomore Backpack 101, 12:00 pm, Dining Hall 9th Grade Student Orientation, 3:30 pm, Great Hall New 10/11/12th Grade Orientation, 4:00 pm, Great Hall 9th Grade Student/Parent Dinner, 5:00 pm, Dining Hall
September 7	First Day of School LS Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, 8:00 am, Lower School Belltower Ceremony, 8:15 am, Belltower Circle
September 7-9	Fall trips
September 10	Sophomore Trip returns
September 12	First day of US classes Senior Entrance, 8:00 am, Belltower Circle Driver Certification Class, 11:30 am, DVR Senior Parent College Night, 7:00 pm, Great Hall
September 13	US Picture Day
September 15	9th Partnership Morning, 8:45 am, MS Library
September 16	Holy Cross Chapel, 9:55 am, OES Chapel

(NEW) SCHOOL NOTES

▶ [PCL Minutes](#)

▶ [After School Classes](#)

▶ [Archived Newsletters:](#)

First Day of School (Sept. 7 at 8:00am)

Students will meet with their class and participate in the All-School Opening, after which they will begin their fall trip. Please keep in mind that we prefer students **not drive to school on Wednesday, September 7th**, since they will be going on trips. If it is necessary, please remember that seniors may only park in designated areas next to the practice field unless granted permission to park elsewhere by the Upper School Office. All other students must park at SPARC. Parking stickers **MUST** be obtained from the US office (your current sticker is valid if you have the same car).

Note to Class of 2020:

We look forward to seeing students on Tuesday, September 6th for Freshmen Orientation (3:30-5:00pm). Parents, don't forget dinner (5:00-6:00pm) when you will meet your new students new academic advisor.

Here are a few key reminders about the 9th Grade Retreat:

- Closed-toed shoes in the kitchen for meal prep.
- Bring sensible clothing suitable for hiking, sand, rain and cold weather (especially at night).
- Bring a water bottle.
- Bring a pillow.
- Optional: musical instrument.

Questions? Contact [Deb Walsh](#), Dean of Students, or [Julie Sikkink](#), Head Class Advisor for 9th Grade.

Student Forms

We hope you have already turned in all the forms we require - without them we cannot send students on upcoming fall trips and they cannot practice for sports.

US Picture Day

Please mark your calendar for US Picture Day: **Tuesday, September 13th**. For more information on ordering photos [click here](#). Questions? Contact Holland Studios, 503-238-5957.

US New Parent Science Research Orientation

The US Science faculty will hold an informational meeting about our science research program on **Tuesday, Sept. 20 from 7-8pm**. While we welcome any and all parents, this presentation is geared toward parents of students new to OES. We will discuss various aspects of the project including the development of the research plan, opportunities for data collection, expectations and guidelines, and the timeline for this exciting component of the curriculum in the freshman, sophomore, junior, and optional senior years. The format will include faculty presentation and a question and answer period. The meeting will be held in the Drinkward Center physics lab.

Attendance REMINDER

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.

The Aussie's are Coming!

Once again, we have the opportunity to host two students (one boy, one girl) from the Golburn Valley Grammar School (GVGS) in Australia. The students will be here at OES from approximately November 13 - December 9. The visitors will attend their own schedule of classes, have the opportunity to participate in sports, and look forward to immersing themselves in school and family life. In exchange, if you host a student, your son/daughter will have the opportunity to visit GVGS next summer. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact [Christina Meyerhoff](#), Director of Winterim and Off-Campus Programming.

Honeywell Instant Alert

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.](#)

11th Grade Parent Potluck

Come to the **3rd** annual Parent Potluck and see the annual migration of Vaux's Swifts at Chapman Elementary.

What: 11th grade Parent Potluck & swift watch

Date: Saturday, September 24th

Time: 5pm until sunset

Place: 2572 NW Pettygrove St. and Wallace Park

What to bring: a dish to share & a lawn chair or blanket to sit on

Questions? Contact [Grace](#) (Maxwell Park's mom).

For more information on the swifts, here's a link to the [audubon society web page.](#)

John Holloran Athletic Event Galleries

For more photos by John Holloran (Director of Studies/Upper School History Teacher), please visit his [SmugMug account](#). Often we feature his photos in the *VOICE* and this is a great way for you to see them all!

OES Food & Allergy Policy

I invite you to read through our policy: [OES Food and Allergy Policy](#).

Please contact OES Nurse, Elaine Elliott, with any questions or concerns (elliott@oes.edu).

DISCOVERY 2017

Are you interested in pursuing your passions and interests outside of the classroom walls? Would you like the opportunity to experience the demands and structure of the "working world" before you leave high school? If so, you should consider taking part in the OES Discovery program! Discovery is a

five-day, 40-hour apprenticeship/career exploration program available to 10th, 11th and 12th grade students at OES. Many students do this program during the Winterim week (March 16-23, 2017) but the program is flexible to other times as well. During their Discovery week students have worked both locally and internationally with doctors, attorneys, teachers, artists, comedians, museums, restaurants....the list goes on. More information is available on the OES website under the Upper School tab, and a student informational meeting will happen once school begins. Questions? Please feel free to contact the Discovery coordinators - [Dana Mosher Lewis](#) or [Corbet Clark](#).

DORM NEWS

Greetings from Rodney and Jackson House Dorms! This year we have a wonderful group of domestic and international students living in the dorms, and we have been busy all summer preparing the dorms for their arrival. We are thrilled to enrich our OES community with students from Afghanistan, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Jamaica, Kenya, Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam, and the United States. We also welcome our new Dorm Parent, Stephanie Ranker, and her family to dorms. Stephanie has been working at OES for the past six years in the Lower School, as well as the beloved JV Girls' Basketball coach.

PARENT DRIVER CERTIFICATION CLASS

To be eligible to drive OES students, parents need to take a class led by Director of Facilities, Jon von Behren. This one-hour class will certify you as a school driver for a period of three years. You will also need to have a DHS background check to drive US students.

We use parent drivers to drive kids for Mt Hood Climb Service Day, the Debate Team, the Ski Team, for team sports retreats in the summer, and we need drivers for dorm students for their 11th grade Literary Journalism project. Certification classes are only offered in the fall. If you anticipate needing to drive for any of these US activities please consider taking one of the fall classes.

If you are new to the US or it's been 3 years since your last driving class please sign up for one of the sessions offered. These classes are only offered in the fall.

We are having 3 certification classes this year:

1. Monday, September 12th, 11:30-12:30 in DVR
2. Monday, September 26th, 8:15-9:15 in Platt Global Classroom
3. Wednesday, October 5th, 7:00-8:00 pm in Platt Global Classroom

Please Sign-up for any one of these classes, using VolunteerSpot so that we can plan appropriately. Please Click on the link to signup - [AS Driver Certification Class](#)

**** If you would like to drive for Upper School you will need a DHS background check. If you don't have one already, please contact [Jean Verheggen](#) in the US office.**

If you have any questions please feel free to email [Ruchi Prakash](#) (All School Volunteer Coordinator) at any time.

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

Open call for US auditions for the Fall performance of: *Journey to the West, directed by Debby Schauffler.*

The story, which combines comedy, satire, action, and spirituality, is an adaptation of a classical Chinese novel, is about the adventures of the rogue-trickster Monkey and his encounters with a varied cast of characters as he travels to India with the Buddhist pilgrim Tripitaka in search of sacred scriptures and an understanding of the nature of truth.

Auditions:

Thursday Sept 15th. 3:20- 6:00 pm in the Theater Lab.

Fall performance dates will be Nov. 9-12.

WINTERIM 2017

International Winterim trips were announced last spring. For Winterim 2017 we are offering our Biennial French exchange to Lyon as well as courses to Denmark and Germany, Nepal, Guatemala and Korea. Please read the full course descriptions on the [Winterim webpage](#). Students interested in participating in an international Winterim course must submit their application and a signed letter of financial commitment **by 9am October 3**. Links to the application, letter of financial commitment, and financial aid application can also be found [here](#). Questions? Contact [Christina Meyerhoff](#), Director of Winterim and Off-Campus Programming.

SPORTS LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATION CLASS

Asking student athletes to be leaders without preparing them for the responsibility is unfair. Often much is expected of our leaders, but seldom do we intentionally teach them the necessary skills in order for them to do the job effectively. The OES Leadership Certification class is designed to give Aardvark student athletes with interest in leadership the same instruction, encouragement and practice that we give athletes before competition. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

OES SERVICE LEARNING

September is a great time for students to get in the habit of using their power for good and working toward their Service Learning requirement. Complete information about Service Learning in the Upper School is on the US Service Learning website. Bookmark it and refer to it frequently!

What can parents do to help? Remind your child to stay alert and aware of what she or he needs to do, and support him or her in finding opportunities -- starting with the SL Opportunities Page.

Questions?

Email or call [Robin Schaffler](#), US Service-Learning Coordinator: **(503) 416-9308**. For information and opportunities, go to the [Service-Learning website](#).

YEARBOOK INFO

Click on the following link to access the yearbook site [US Yearbook 2016-17](#). Here, you will find helpful information for all students (and parents) to access.

If you have any questions, contact [Sue Jensen](#).

Senior deadlines:

1. [MUG SHOTS: December 2, 2016](#)
2. [SENIOR PAGES: January 13, 2017](#)
3. [BABY PICTURES: March 3, 2017](#)
4. [PARENT ADS: March 10, 2017](#)

COLLEGE COUNSELING

Senior Parent College Night

Monday, September 12, Great Hall, 7:00-9:00pm. We encourage parents to attend if possible, as we will offer key details and lots of reassurance and perspective. Handouts will be emailed after the event. The seniors are not expected to attend—we will be in touch with them at school and via email.

College Visits at OES

Many colleges will visit OES this fall to meet with interested students. We encourage juniors and seniors to keep a close eye on the college visit schedule in Naviance (juniors will learn how to access and use Naviance during the retreat the first week of school). The schedule will be posted on bulletin boards in the Library and Great Hall, on the OES website, and on our College Counseling Google site. We will do our best to send juniors and seniors an email each week with the schedule for the upcoming two weeks. However, Naviance is the source of the most up-to-date schedule and will change throughout the fall as visits are added. Students are

encouraged to sign up for visits on Naviance, which results in an automatic email reminder close to the date of the visit.

Junior College Admission Retreat

Following our retreat with juniors, we will be in touch with parents via email regarding our activities at the retreat and what we encourage juniors and their parents to do and keep in mind this fall in relation to the college search process.

PSAT at OES

Sophomore and junior families, please note that the PSAT will be given the morning of **Wednesday, October 19**. Students do not need to register and will take the test at OES. We will send details in a later email, and early in the school year students will receive practice materials at school.

Octoberim and Seniors

Seniors have the opportunity to visit colleges during Octoberim (October 19-21). Those involved in sports should keep in mind that there may be athletic events scheduled during this time that limit your travel. On Wednesday and Thursday the college counselors will be available to assist students who stay on campus with college applications and essays.

SAT/ACT Tests

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

- ▶ October 1 (9/1, late 9/20)
- ▶ November 5 (10/7, late 10/25)
- ▶ December 3 (11/3, late 11/22)
- ▶ January 21 (12/21, late 1/10)

ACT testing

- ▶ October 22 (9/16, late 9/30)
- ▶ December 10 (11/4, late 11/18)
- ▶ February 11 (1/13, late 1/20)

SCHOOL STORE

Homecoming and New Fall Sport Designs are Available in the OES Store!

Homecoming and Spirit Wear are **ALREADY IN** at the School Store this week! Come in and find a great selection of Crew

Neck and Hooded Sweatshirts, as well as New Tee Shirts, Long-Sleeved Dri-Fit Tee Shirts, Sweatpants, and a New girl-cut tee shirt. We also have new Rain Jackets, Fleece Jackets, Key chains, Power Banks, Spirit scarves, New styles of hats, Water bottles, Nike socks and much more!

ARRIVING Friday- New Spirit wear for **Soccer, Volleyball and Cross Country**, featuring a new OES banner! New styles of tee shirts for both guys and girls, as well as your favorite sweatshirt styles. Drop by or place a pre-order to be sure you get the size and color you want!

Regular Store Hours resume on 9/8: Open 2pm-4pm every weekday, as well as by appointment in the morning.

Questions? Contact Store Manager: Madeleine Menashe
503-768-3170 or menashem@oes.edu

CLASS NOTES

- ▶ **9th Grade PAL** – First meeting: October 3, 8:00 am, DVR. Questions? Contact [Clare Rathbone](#).
 - ▶ Upcoming meetings: 11/7, 1/9, 2/6, 4/4, 5/1.
- ▶ **10th Grade PAL** – First meeting: October 10, 8:00 am, DVR. Questions? Contact [Rico McIver](#).
 - ▶ Upcoming meetings: 11/14, 1/17, 2/13, 4/10, 5/8
- ▶ **11th Grade PAL** – First meeting: September 19, 8:00 am, DVR. Questions? Contact [Jennifer Hapke](#).
 - ▶ Upcoming meetings: 10/17, 11/28, 1/23, 2/21, 4/18 (Platt), 5/15.
- ▶ **12th Grade PAL** – First meeting: September 26, 8:00am, DVR. Questions? Contact [Holly Hady](#).
 - ▶ Upcoming meetings: 10/24, 11/29, 1/30, 2/27, 4/24, 5/22
- ▶ **Monthly US PAL notes are now accessible by doing the following:**
 - ▶ www.oes.edu
 - ▶ Click on “Parent Home Page” at the bottom
 - ▶ Scroll down and click on “Get Connected”
 - ▶ Click on “PCL & PAL Minutes”
- ▶ **PAL meeting Calendar (all grades)**

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6300 SW Nicol Road | Portland,
OR 97223
(503) 246-7771 | Fax: (503)
293-1105

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