



Volume 3, Issue 9

Friday, 4 NOV 2011

Parent Connection

Osan Middle School

Osan Middle School Thunderbirds

Providing a Setting of
High Expectations That
Engage and Motivate all
Students in a Successful
Learning Environment

White House to Display Holiday Cards from Military Children



The First Lady has requested that military children from around the globe create holiday cards supporting their parents and send them to the White House to be displayed with the holiday decorations. The White House is honoring American heroes this holiday season and would like to include personal contributions in their White House decorations. "We are asking kids like you, from military installations around the world, to create a holiday card that represents your parent who is serving our nation," said First Lady Michelle Obama in a personal letter to military children. "I encourage you to use your imagination, and include words, pictures, and drawings to create a holiday card that honors your brave mom or dad." The White House will display as many of the cards as possible.

- Holiday card submission rules:
 - 5" x 8" handmade holiday card
 - Include words of appreciation for child's military parent(s)
 - Include pictures and/or drawings
 - Include military parent's name, branch of service and command



OMS will only mail one card per child. Parents can send additional cards themselves to the White House. The OMS Information Center (Library) will be the dropping point for holiday cards made by our OMS students. A staff member will collect the cards and post them in the mail. The national deadline is NOV 16; however, we need time to gather and post these cards in the mail. The OMS deadline to turn in holiday cards is November 14, Monday.



Help your child by regularly visiting
our website:
www.osan-ms.pac.dodea.edu/



Calendar of Events

- 10 NOV: Parent Conference Day; no school for students
11 NOV: Veterans Day
24 NOV: Thanksgiving Day, no school
25 NOV: Thanksgiving Break, no school



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School Advisory Council

Congratulations to our School Advisory Council members. Our parent representatives are David Ives, Christine Kress, and Bryan Kwashniewski. Our staff representatives are Christin Dunham, Stephanie Laird, and Sharon Manuel.

Odyssey of the Mind

Osan Middle School will be starting an Odyssey of the Mind team starting 2nd quarter. This is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Team members apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their solutions to competition on the local, state, and World level.

Thousands of teams from throughout the U.S. and from about 25 other countries participate in the program. Odyssey of the Mind is a competitive program, but it's nothing like your typical sporting event. The competitive element encourages kids to be the best that they can be, but it's a friendly competition. Kids learn from and even cheer on their competitors.



Odyssey of the Mind is not a college bowl or a competition about knowledge. It's all about creativity, an often overlooked element in the growth and development of many students. Kids are rewarded more for how they apply their knowledge, skills and talents, and not for coming up with the right answer. In fact, in Odyssey of the Mind problems, there isn't one right answer. More information will be provided on a flyer during parent-teacher conference day.

If your child is interested in being a member of an Odyssey of the Mind team here at OMS, please have them contact Ms. Bader or Ms. Laird at stephanie.laird@pac.dodea.edu or gerry.bader@pac.dodea.edu or call DSN 784-7256. More information may be found on their web site at: <http://www.odysseyofthemind.com/whatis.php>



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Volunteers needed for Swim Team Meet

We need about 10 volunteers to help at the upcoming swim meet on Saturday, November 19, from 7:00 AM-1:00 PM. Volunteers are needed to help at the concession stand, be time keeper and watch the students. As of this date, we have three schools that have confirmed their attendance and between these three schools, they are bringing about 75 students. Please contact Ms. Lunsford at larnique.lunsford@pac.dodea.edu or DSN 784-7256.

