



The Yellow Brick Road Leads to the OCE Stage

by Dhwani Raghavendran

Ahoy Clippers! Welcome to this article about OCE's play, *The Wizard Of Oz*, abridged by our very own Mrs. Newberger! For new students, every year, Mrs. Newberger organizes a play with the 5th graders. The plays over the years have been *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, a series of short tales, and of course, *the Wizard of Oz*!

The Art Club painted the wonderful Emerald City backdrop for us and our very special "backstage barista" Josie painted and created some of the props. Josie also worked on the lighting, microphones, and was one of the flowers and the cyclone too!

This year, Mrs. Newberger took a different approach to the play. More than 25 students joined the Drama Club this year and Mrs. Newberger wanted to give everyone a fair chance. As you probably would have noticed if you were at the play, there were five Dorotheas, two Lions, two Tinmen, and two Scarecrows.

After the wonderful play, I asked some people what they thought of the play and if they thought it was a success. Some of these awesome reviews are written below. People seemed to absolutely love Toto and the Munchkins from what I observed.

Being in the play, it felt awesome to be up there and to proudly be Dorothy 3. An extra special thank-you to Mrs. Newberger who made all this possible! As this is my last year at OCE, I wanted to try something new and awesome, such as Drama Club.



Another really cool aspect of the whole play experience was Ms. Ferreira and Ms. Barlow! I absolutely LOVED their Glinda and Wicked Witch costumes! They were handing out programs and greeting people at the doors. Rising 5th graders, I highly recommend the Drama Club as a new and exciting experience for you!

Reviews:

"Everyone did an amazing job and it was the best *Wizard Of Oz* I have seen this year!" - Isla P., 5th grade

"Loved seeing everyone dressed up. They were all great!" - Blake R., 1st grade

"The students did an amazing job performing today! I'm very impressed!" - Mia & Tess Bockowski, 5th grade & kindergarten

"I loved that so many were able to participate. Great job." - Addie MacNaughton, 5th grade

"This was the greatest production of the *Wizard Of Oz* EVER! Toto was amazing!" - Lydia Williams, 5th grade

Fun Things Happening on the Clipper Ship

Spirit Day:
Color Wars
April 12

Field Day:
Tracks 1 & 3
April 17

Field Day:
Tracks 2 & 4
April 24

PTA Carnival
Whole School
May 10

Clippers Danced the Night(s) Away

by Avni Patel

The Valentine's Day Dance was so much fun. The DJ, the snacks, being there with your special parent, and hanging out with your friends was with that fun. But you know who gave the idea of having OCE first even dance? Ms. Kirkland! So I wanted to ask her some questions about the dance and these are her responses.

What made you come up with an idea to have a dance at OCE?

Ms. Kirkland said, "The idea to have a dance came up at a PTA meeting after the fall movie night was moved indoors because of rain. Everyone commented how fun the kids had socializing with their friends and that there weren't many activities that allowed for students to do that after the school day. I wanted to provide a fun night for OCE students to enjoy, especially for the 5th graders since it has never been done before. I think everyone had so much fun that I hope it becomes an OCE tradition!"



Who did you share your idea with to get the dance approved?

Ms. Kirkland states, "After it was discussed at a PTA meeting, I met with my co-chair to get some ideas together. We then presented our ideas to the PTA president and Ms. May who both agreed that it would be a fun event for OCE!"

Why is the dance being held in February/Valentine's Day?

Ms. Kirkland says, "We thought the theme of love and kindness fit the vibe of the dance. It also fit into the school calendar without interfering with end of the year activities (field day, EOG, Carnival, etc).

Are you happy with how many students came to the dance?

Ms. Kirkland said, "I am shocked at how many students came to the dance! We weren't sure how many students to expect since we have never held a school dance before, but we definitely had more attendant than expected!"

How did you pick out the music that was played at the dance?

Ms. Kirkland states, "The music selection was left up to our DJ, Drew Williams with signature Sound and Lighting. I think he did a great job selecting songs that were popular and fun to dance to! He even provide the photo booth to add some more excitement!"

What was your favorite song played at the dance?

Ms. Kirkland says, "I really loved when Good for You by Olivia Rodrigo came on. She is one of my favorite pop artists and it was really fun to watch everyone sing and dance along."

Ms. Kirkland was one of a lot of people who made the OCE dance happen which we all are so thankful for. The dance was so much fun and full of memories. Hopefully there will continue to be a dance every year so we can have set a tradition here at OCE.

Exploring the Wonders of the Science Fair

by Lena Hyder

As the school doors opened, an excited fifth grader, who is me and a lot of other families, was excited to walk through the school doors with wonders of this place. Nobody had an idea that they were about to experience a time filled with wonder, excitement, and inspiration.

Stepping into the busy halls, my eyes widened in amazement. Booths were everywhere as far as I can

see, each one so with so many colorful displays and interesting experiments.

From towering volcanoes to robots, there was no shortage of imagination, and I could hardly contain my excitement as I wanted to see and explore each room.

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Meet the Building Substitute

by Serena Bandyopadhyay & Dhiya Sadish

Mrs. Harris is a hard working building substitute teacher. She helps around the school. She has subbed for a lot of people, so you may know her. You've probably seen her in the office too! We asked her a few questions and we hope you learn a few more things about her.

Mrs. Harris started around a year ago on March 9. She actually was a teacher before but she stopped when she had kids. After her youngest kid went to school she wanted to get a job at the school all her kids went to; Olive Chapel! Mrs. Harris had an opportunity to be a building sub, so she accepted it! Since then, she's been one of the kindest substitute teachers I've ever seen!

Sometimes Mrs. Harris subs for classes and sometimes she helps around the office. To start the day off, she reads the teaching plans if she is a sub. If she doesn't need to do any subbing, she helps out in the office doing things like answering calls. In the afternoon, she helps wherever she is needed. Whether she helps in carpool, or she helps the nurse, she's always doing something!



Whatever Mrs. Harris does, it's never "just a normal day." The reason she loves her job is because she loves that everyday is different and just loves working with people, whether it's the students or the staff!

Mrs. Harris is an awesome and kind building substitute teacher! We hope you learned a few more things about Mrs. Harris!

Science Fair continued

The first one I went to was the media and STEM room. It was AMAZING!!! They had robots and other cool stuff.

The STEM teacher, Mrs. F, who runs Girls Who Code, was one of the amazing people who were running the Science Fair. The Girls Who Code were helping out a lot. Some of my classmates were Girls Who Code, so I got to see them.

The second exhibit I came to was the hands-on exhibit. It caught my eye was the tables covered in beakers, test tubes, and mysterious substances. As I approached I was greeted by a friendly scientist who invited her to join in on a hands-on experiment. With goggles on and gloves in hand, I eagerly got so deeply involved into the world of chemistry, mixing solutions and observing chemical reactions with wide-eyed wonder. They also gave us a cup to take home, that we can add water to instant snow. It was one of my favorite exhibits.

Next was outside in the garden where they had telescopes to see all the different planets.

Then I went to the art room. Ms. Barlow, the art teacher, was doing so many fun projects there. We got to color on tiles then spray it to make a fun tie dye design.

Finally the last and final thing was the science fair run by Dr. Malhotra! I was one of the people who were sharing the project. It was so much fun! I had the opportunity to meet some of the young minds behind the projects. From a group of classmates showcasing their homemade projects to a solo inventor demonstrating a robot programmed to solve puzzles, each encounter left me feeling inspired and empowered. It was clear that age was no stop to creativity, and I couldn't wait to dive into my own project which I also did.

The science fair had been more than just a showcase of experiments—it had been a journey of discovery, learning, and inspiration. With so many new ideas and imagination. I look forward to the adventures that await in the world of science in the near future. And thank you to all the teachers helping out to make students smile.

Q&A with Ms. Duke: the Life of a Bus Driver

by Emily Killian

For more than 20 years, Ms. Duke has been both an IA at Olive Chapel AND a bus driver for Wake County Public Schools. I recently had an opportunity to ask her a few questions about her experience as a bus driver.

On a scale of 1-10 How fun is being a bus driver?

"I have done it for 30 years so I would say a 9."

How many neighborhoods do you usually go to?

"At least 10."

What schools do you drive to?

"Apex Friendship High, Apex Friendship Middle, OCE, and Lufkin Road Middle."

What school is your favorite to drive to?

"OCE."

What is your bus number?

"1424."

What is your loudest route?

"Elementary."

Why did you decide to become a bus driver?

"I wanted to do something so I could be near my own children in the morning and afternoon."

What is something that people would find surprising about being a bus driver?

"That we have to have a perfect driving record."

Do you ever drive the bus for field trips?

Yes, I have driven a bus for field trips."

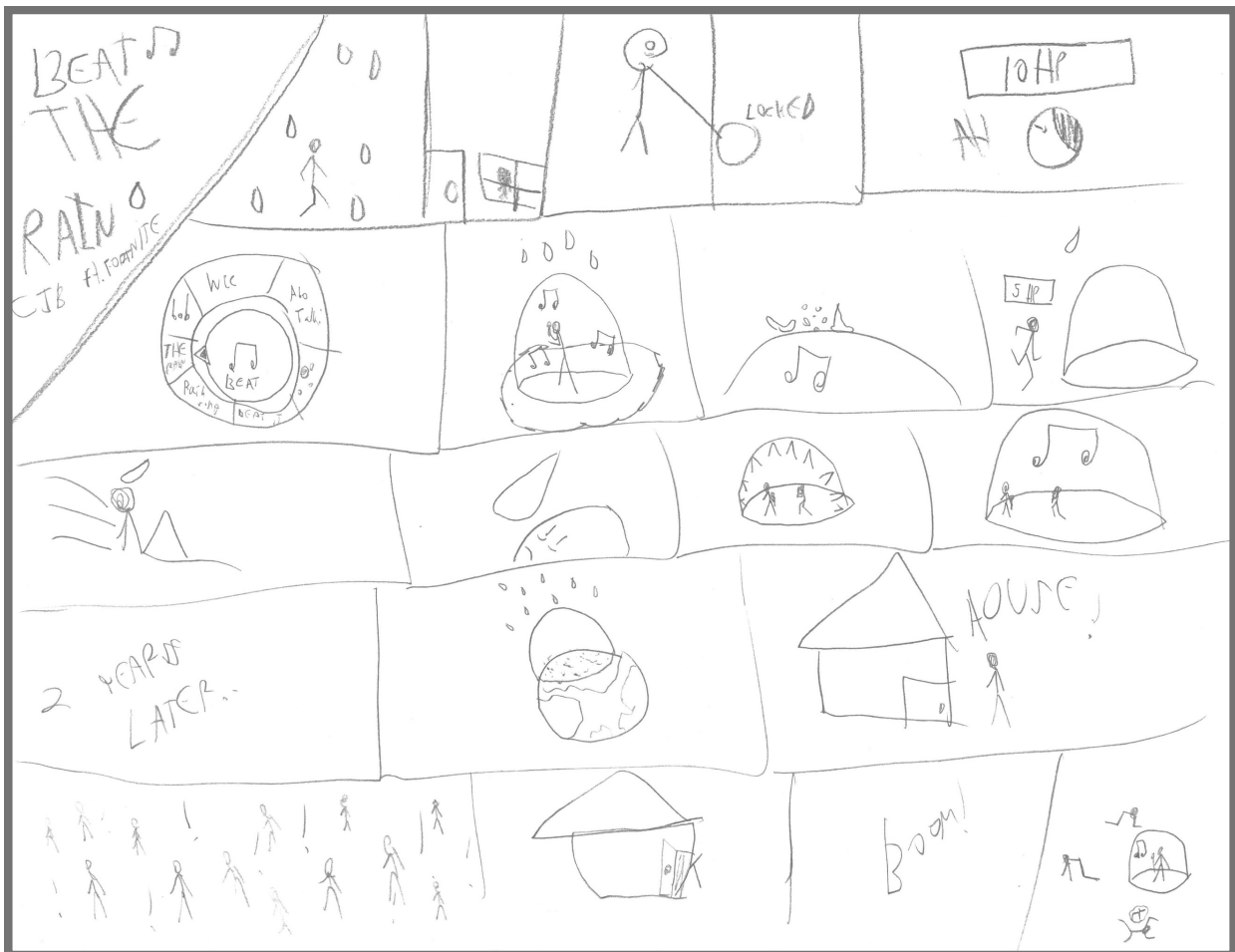
What was your favorite field trip you drove?

"Probably the pumpkin patch with the Kindergarteners."



Beat the Rain

by Connor Buchko



I never dreamed of success. I worked for it. - Estee Lauder