

# August 2010 Oatville News

Pat Yorgensen, Principal  
School Motto: Today's Learners...Tomorrow's Leaders  
The mission of Oatville Elementary School community is to build  
Successful life-long learners!

“WILD about  
Learning!”



## Great Start

A special welcome to all of our new students and their families. We're off to a great start with over 40 new students and kindergarteners for a total of 352 students (K to 5<sup>th</sup> grade) enrolled at Oatville. The Pre-K classes are still enrolling and their first day will be next Tuesday, Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>. We have several new staff members this year. Please welcome Mrs. Jamie Engstrand, our new counselor, and Mrs. Eryn Cunningham, first grade and Meghan Hummer, Pre-K teacher. The staff is here to provide the best that we can for your child; teaching them academic basics, social skills, self-discipline, and a zest for learning. Also, please be sure the office, health room, and your child's teacher have your current phone numbers and email address.



## Upcoming Events

- Wed. Aug. 25** – 2:45 PTA Fund Raiser Kickoff - Help us raise money for special items for our classrooms and school.  
**Wed. Aug. 25** - School Night for Scouting  
**Friday, Aug. 27** – RIF Book Distribution in Library – thanks Oatville PTA  
**Tues. Sept. 7** – PTA Papa John's Pizza Night  
**Mon. Sept. 6** – Labor Day Holiday No School  
**Tues. Sept. 8** – Fund Raiser Brochures Due!  
**Fri. Sept. 10** – Patriot's Day – wear red, white, & blue  
**Thurs. Sept. 16** – PTA Skate Party  
**Fri. Sept. 17** - Picture Day



## Parking Lot Safety

The staff at Oatville is always very concerned about the safety and well-being of students. As in the past, we have students walking to school and entering school grounds on the north side of the parking lot. Students are being supervised by school personnel to assure their safety as they cross the parking lot. Please remind your child to watch traffic as they cross the lot. In addition, the bus drive on the east side of the building is for bus traffic only. To maintain a safe flow of traffic in and out of the lot, please use the north entrance when entering and exiting the parking lot. As traffic backs up during arrival and departure times, please do not park in the drives and keep the flow of traffic moving by not waiting until your child enters the building to leave. It is also important to save the reserved and handicapped spaces for those needing extra assistance. The drive at the west end of the new gym is reserved for maintenance and delivery vehicles.



## School Hours

As a reminder, school starts at 8:30 a.m. and dismisses at 3:35 p.m. Students can go to their classrooms beginning at 8:20. There is no adult supervision available for students before 8:00 a.m. unless you use Latchkey services. Students who arrive after 8:00 and before 8:20 will need to go to the library. Please do not use the bus drive to drop off students. When dropping off students, please have them enter through the front doors on the north side of the building. Afternoon kindergarteners who do not eat lunch at school should not arrive until 12:50 p.m. Your help in these matters are greatly appreciated.

## Emergency Drills Fire, Tornado, and Shelter-In-Place



The staff and students will be reviewing procedures for emergency drills. Schools are required to hold monthly fire drills and periodic tornado drills. In addition, the students at Oatville also participate in Shelter-In-Place drills due to our close proximity to the chemical plants. It is also part of the routine to conduct Intruder drills to assure for the safety of our students in the event of a crisis situation. Please be aware that your children may come home and share information with you regarding these drills. As part of our school safety program, all outside exits will be locked during the school day. As a reminder, students must be checked in and out through the office. Parents should also meet their students by the front entrance at the end of the day for pick-up.

## Haysville and Oatville PRIDE

The district implemented a program, district-wide to improve student behaviors and to provide a framework for building a more positive attitude regarding school and our district. PRIDE stands for Preparation, Respect, Integrity, Discipline, and Excellence. All students will be instructed as to what PRIDE looks like in various locations around the building. Students will participate in PRIDE stations on Friday morning. In addition, signs and banners are posted throughout the building to remind all students and patrons to display PRIDE. More information will be provided throughout the year regarding this project.





**Check out the District's Website  
www.usd261.com**

For your convenience, the Haysville School District has a great website which is easily navigated for parent and student information. Please take time to check out the district's website at <http://www.usd261.com>. We are very pleased with the district website and hope you take advantage of this avenue of communication. The district event calendar can also be accessed on the Haysville website. In the near future, parents will receive passwords to access student information such as grades, specific assignments and messages from teachers through a program implemented last year called Power School. Please take advantage of this new opportunity. In addition, Oatville's website contains information specific to our school and contains email addresses for all staff members.



**Wednesday Folders**

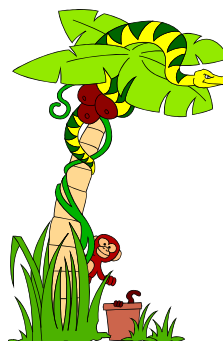
Your child brought these notes home in a new folder provided by the school. This is our Wednesday Folder which will come home each week with notes from the office and your child's teacher. Please be sure to check the contents of the folder each week, sign that you have seen the contents, and then return it promptly to school on Thursday or Friday. If you represent an organization which may be sending notes home with students, please be sure these notes are approved for distribution by the central office and that they arrive at school before Monday to be sent home on a Wednesday.

**FAMILY RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT**

As in the past, USD 261 will be releasing information and photos to the media throughout the coming school year of various activities and programs. Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, disclosure without prior consent is permitted by law, including the following directory information: name, address, telephone number, and photographs. You have the right to refuse to permit the release of any or all of the above information. If you refuse, you must give written notification to this effect to the Superintendent of Schools for USD261, 1745 West Grand, Haysville, KS 67060 on or before September 15, 2010. If refusal is not filed, USD261 assumes there is no objection to the release of the information designated or photos.



**"WILD about Learning"  
Wellness, Integrity,  
Leadership, Discipline**



**Bully Prevention Program  
(OLWEUS)**

Oatville Elementary adopted a Bully Prevention program last school year and will again implement the various components of this important program. The most important component of the Olweus program is classroom meetings. These meetings will be used during the months of August and September as a means for resolving playground issues and reviewing procedures. The classroom meeting format will also provide a forum for teachers to begin passing along important concepts about bullying and positive relationships. Through classroom meetings, students begin to learn how to communicate thoughts and feelings about peer relationships and have an opportunity to gain understanding about how others think and feel ... in other words ... to gain empathy; a sensitivity to feel what others feel. The development of empathy helps reduce the likelihood that a student will hurt, taunt or isolate others. Classroom meetings are different than a simple class discussion. Teachers attempt to create a relaxed conversational setting in which students are active participants. In addition to discussing bullying and relationships, the classroom meeting may also be used to address any number of other relevant topics. Ask your child about their classroom meetings and what is being discussed. We will have more information about our Bully Prevention Program in future newsletters and bulletins as well as information at upcoming parent meetings. **Last year we provided Stop Bullying T-Shirts for all students. We will do this again this year for our Kick-off in October. We are looking for businesses to help sponsor this endeavor. If you know of someone who can help, please contact Mrs. Yorgensen.**

**Oatville STOP Bullying Rules**

- We will not bully others
- We will try to help students who are bullied
- We will try to include students who are left out
- If we know that somebody is being bullied, we will tell an adult