

Principal's Update

8.19.08

The students are back and OJA is filled with life once again! It is such a happy feeling to have our students back in their classrooms, on the playground, in the gym and lunch room.

In all of my years in education this is the "stand out year" as far as the first week of school goes. Several days before school began our enrollment was hovering just above the 200 students mark. The Executive Board had to make some difficult decisions regarding how to proceed with fewer than planned for students and the faculty was notified. Students began coming the day before school started and the first two days of school. In those three days, 30 more students had arrived and we were scrambling to get them through the Admissions process! We are very pleased those families chose OJA for their children. We have planned another year of academic, spiritual and social growth and are glad these students have joined us.

This is school day #4 and we are having a "hurricane day". As I write this message the wind is blowing but there is no rain at our house. Orange County schools will be opened tomorrow (Wednesday) unless something changes throughout the evening and night hours. I hope you are checking the Orange County Schools decisions because OJA follows their decision. If all goes well, OJA will be open again on Wednesday!

One of the last minute changes the Executive Board made was to have Mrs. Yvette Cooper teach the classroom music this year. Mrs. Esther will continue with piano and voice lessons. Belle Voce is "a must have" and we are working on plans to continue that special choir.

Our 2nd annual Campus Day was Friday. I was not able to be there but I've heard it was a lot of fun for our students. Some FLA students came to help with activities and added to the success of the day.

Also on Friday, the faculty said good-bye to Mrs. Lisa Maslyn and showered her with chocolate! If you knew Miss Lisa, you know she loves chocolate. We miss her already!

Beth Bursey