



Draco's Digest

Your W. R. Odell Elementary PTA Newsletter

September 2011

WHY DO WE NEED TO CELEBRATE?

W.R. Odell named
"NC School of Distinction"
for 2010-2011

Met High Growth as school

85.3% at grade level total
proficiency for grades 3-5
(math, reading, science)

K-2 averages 90% at grade level

Be on the Look- Out!

Odell's School Report Card and
letter from Dr. Marsh on the State of
Our School Report will be sent
home in October when released by
the state.

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Principal's Message

Greetings W.R. Odell Elementary Students and Parents! I would like to take this opportunity to welcome each of you to a new school year. I also want to welcome all our new families to Odell. I hope you will soon love your new school as much as we do. Parent involvement is welcome and needed. You play a key role in your child's education. Please consider volunteering and joining our wonderful PTA. My door is always open if you have any concerns or questions. I take pride in the reputation of Odell as being a "child-centered" school with a friendly, family-oriented atmosphere. Odell's teachers and staff are the best and are here to provide your child with the skills needed to meet the demands of the 21st Century. Ongoing parent/school communication is crucial as we strive for excellence.

Thank You for Your Continued Support!!
Dr. Marsh

Welcome from the PTA President

Welcome back to all returning families and a special greeting to our new kindergarten families and other new families. Those returning know how lucky they are to have such an amazing school, administration and teachers. I hope everyone had a great summer and you are ready to dive into an exciting 2011-12 school year.

It's only through our school families and their support that we are so successful in our mission to enrich the experience of all students at W.R. Odell Elementary School. I look forward to seeing you at events held throughout the school year. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,
Wendy Lenhof, PTA, President 2011-13
president@odellpta.org

Thank You

We would like to extend a special thank you to the following businesses who have provided products or services to the W.R. Odell PTA. Please support them whenever you can!

Loco Lime
Rocky River Coffee, Concord
UPS Store @ Renaissance Square

General PTA Meeting

Date: Tuesday, September 27th
Time: 6:15 pm
Location: Cafeteria

Learn about the well-being of our school, what PTA funds are being used for, upcoming events and share ideas in an open and relaxed forum. This reading focused meeting will feature a **Special Reading Guest** who will be announced at a later date.



Incentives

Help Our Students as You Shop!

These companies offer cash and products to our school to benefit all the students! For full details and extra collection sheets, please visit www.odellpta.org.

Link cards and shop!

- Harris Teeter VIP Cards
- Food Lion's MVP Cards
- Target Red Cards

Clip and send in to school!

- BoxTop\$ For Education
- Campbell's Labels For Education
- Tyson Project A+



Donate Discards!

Bring in your used **ink cartridges** and help earn cash for W.R. Odell plus reduce waste!

Please email question to:
incentives@odellpta.org.

Thank you for supporting our school through these incentive programs. Every little bit goes a long way!



Get Your Dragon On!

Dragon Wear is Now Available

Dragon Wear, including t-shirts, car magnets and other goodies, will be available at school events, such as Fall Festival. You can also purchase Dragon Wear by returning the order form that was sent home at the beginning of school. Additional order forms are available at www.odellpta.org. Please email dragonwear@odellpta.org with any questions.



Skate Night

Date: Tuesday, September 6th

Time: 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Place: Frye's Roller Rink Skating

Cost: \$3

Theme: "Odell Rocks Back to School"

Join other Odell students at Frye's Roller Rink located at 2800 Poplar Tent Road! It's fun and great exercise all in one. A portion of your admission fee goes directly to Odell Elementary. What a fun weekday break!



Odell Spirit Day

Date: Friday, September 9th

We've got spirit, yes we do; we've got spirit, how 'bout you? Wear your spirit wear or green and white to show your school spirit!



Family Food Night

Date: Thursday, September 15th

Draco Appearance: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Place: Papa John's, Edison Square Shopping Center

Come join Draco at our first Family Food Night for this fall! The first 10 Odell families coming in to pick up their orders will win door prizes! Papa John's will donate 10% of all purchases throughout the day from our families, including carry-out and delivery, to W.R. Odell. **Be sure to tell them you are with Odell for us to get credit.**

Papa John's is located in the Edison Square Shopping Center, off of Harris Road, across from the Skybrook subdivision. Call 704-875-7284 to order, and be sure to tell them "Thank you for supporting Odell!"



Family Reading Night

Date: Tuesday, September 27th

Explore far away lands, new worlds, and distant times with your children when your family reads together. Set aside some time on Family Reading Nights to share a special book at home. Reading log sheets will be sent home soon!

W.R. Odell Elementary School

“Invest in Your Child Campaign”

We are launching an “Invest in Your Child” campaign, which will be the **ONE AND ONLY FALL FUNDRAISER!**

Based on parent feedback, the PTA board voted to discontinue product based sales to raise money this Fall and are excited to try something different. The PTA only received 50% or less of sales from previous fundraisers, so we hope you’ll help us make the **“Invest in Your Child”** campaign a huge success! These donations are 100% tax deductible and often employers will match your efforts. Our goal is to raise at least \$15,000 to take the place of the two fall fundraisers we had last year. This will continue to allow the PTA to provide classroom support such as purchasing Smart Boards, paper, learning aids such as BrainPop, IXL, BookFlix and much more. 100% of any amount you donate will benefit the students and school!

Please send donations in an envelope labeled “Invest in Your Child – PTA”. Please make checks payable to W.R. Odell PTA. Your cashed check will be your receipt. You can also make donations through the PTA website (www.odellpta.org) using PayPal.

If you have any questions regarding this fundraiser or general information about the PTA contact Wendy Lenhof at president@odellpta.org or at 704-618-2264.

*Classroom Spotlight will return in October. Do you have a suggestion for **Classroom Spotlight**? Each month, we will highlight a special school program or activity. Teachers, students, staff and parents are all encouraged to submit ideas to newsletter@odellpta.org.*

Camp Invention Update

Camp Invention was a great success this summer! Camp Invention has donated \$1,000 to our school. Thank you!

Welcome To Our Newest Staff Members!

Caryn Fertenbaugh: Kindergarten
Elizabeth Graves: Kindergarten (interim for Danica Murray)
Laura Hagen: First Grade
Denise Estes: First Grade
Laura Teague: Second Grade
Amanda Glenn: Second Grade (interim for Kate Hicks)
Patricia Woodcock: Third Grade
Laura Rette: Third Grade (interim for Stephanie Mattingly)
Anna Gates: First Grade Teacher Assistant
Saundra Singh: EC Individual Assistant
Wendy Columbus: EC Individual Assistant
Sarah Clarke: Mystery Art
Cory Childress: Mystery PE
Julie Wicher: Speech
Anthony Simmons: Custodian
Takisha Whitaker: Counselor
Shemmicca Moore: Assistant Principal



From the Front Office

Welcome back to school! We are looking forward to another great year. Please take a few minutes to review these procedures to help get the year off to a good start.

School Start Time:

Students must be in their seats by 8:15 to be counted as on time. All students who are tardy must be signed in by a parent in the front office.

Arrival Time:

You may drop-off your children in the mornings between 7:40 and 8:10, when our staff will be outside for morning arrivals.

Dismissal Time:

The school day ends at 3:00. The last few minutes of school are very important as we wrap up the day. Therefore, the time between 2:40 and 3:00 is protected time. This period cannot be interrupted for checking out students or changing transportation. We appreciate your cooperation.

Visitors:

We love parents and guardians coming into W. R. Odell. Please remember these rules when visiting:

- Enter by the front door only.
- Sign into the school in the front office.
- Get a nametag to wear while you are in the building.
- Sign back out in the front office when you are leaving.



September



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 No School, Labor Day	6 Skate Night 6:30 pm—8:30 pm	7	8	9 Spirit Day Wear School Colors	10
11	12	13	14	15 Papa John's Night 5:30 pm—7:30 pm	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 Teacher Hospitality	24
25	26	27 General PTA Meeting 6:15 pm Family Reading Night	28	29	30	

Upcoming October Dates



4th: Skate Night “Spooky, Cooky Night”

7th: Fall Festival

21st: Early dismissal for elementary schools

24th & 25th: No school

Staying Informed

Here are some of the ways to get the news you need.

Websites

- Odell Elementary: www.cabarrus.k12.nc.us/odell
- Odell PTA’s website and forms: www.odellpta.org,
- Cabarrus County Schools: www.ccsweb.cabarrus.k12.nc.us

Facebook

- Be sure to friend “Odell PTA” on Facebook

Twitter

- Odell Elementary is on Twitter: twitter.com/odell336

Newsletter

- *Draco’s Digest* will come home once a month.

Connect Ed

- Phone calls to your home phone with the latest information from Odell and Cabarrus County Schools.

Get Involved Through the PTA

Here are just a few ways to make a difference!

Join the PTA:

Strong PTAs benefit all our students. Please join today by returning the “Get Connected” membership form that was sent home in the back-to-school packets. Please email questions to membership@odellpta.org. Copies of the membership form are available at www.odellpta.org.

Volunteer:

We have fun plans this year for W. R. Odell, but we need you to make them happen. Please consider returning the PTA volunteer interest form that was sent home in the back-to-school packets.



The immediate volunteer needs are: Kindergarten Lunch Buddies (through September 9th), Fall Festival, and Hospitality Lunches.

Please email volunteercoordinator@odellpta.org with any questions. The volunteer form is available at www.odellpta.org.

From the Editor

Thank you for reading the Odell newsletter published by the PTA. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month. If you have questions or suggestions, please email: newsletter@odellpta.org.