

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are in our 3rd week of school. This opening has been the smoothest opening since OPA was founded. We have lots of new 5th graders and these students have assimilated very nicely.

Several student clubs will be in session this semester. At OPA the Origami Club on Wednesday afternoons is in full swing. Choir is held at OPA at 7:20 a.m. on Tuesdays. At MOPA we have Otaku Club on Mondays, Running on Tuesdays, Science Olympiad on Wednesdays and Social Dance on Thursdays. Book Club for MOPA students will meet every 3rd Wednesday in the library. More clubs will be offered starting next week.

This Friday is a minimum day. All students will be dismissed at 12:45 p.m. Kindergarten will not be in session on Friday.

Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for September 17th and 18th. Students will be dismissed on Thursday, September 17th at 12:45 p.m. and conferences will begin at noon and continue until 8:00 p.m. On Friday, September 18th, conferences will begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at noon. Please bring your student with you to these conferences. We have taken baseline data on you students and we need to set goals for academic success. Last year's End of Level Results will be passed out at this time.

Students in grades 3, 5 and 8 will take the Iowa Test of Basic Skill starting on September 21st.

The OPAPO Carnival will be held on September 25th. Students at OPA are practicing their dances and songs in preparation for this gala event. Students at MOPA are making the backdrops, props and costumes for the performance by the OPA students. We are focusing on the Latin countries south of our border!

Thanks to the hard work of our staff and students, our school had remarkable academic year in 2008-09. Results will be posted for the Parent Teacher Conferences.

Thank you for your support and let's continue to work together to make this year an even more successful academic year.

Kathy Thornburg - Principal