

# The Jaguar's Roar

Volume I.I

## New Name for OJA Newsletter

### Call of the Wild

Kahlil--Grade 5



Rooooaarr! You may soon hear the roar of the Jaguar. O.J.A's new principal, Miss A., challenged the whole school to think of a good name for the newsletter that will come out once a month. My first guess was "The Guardian Angel", but somehow that didn't seem appealing to me

after the teacher suggested that we think of things that represented the school. Since the Jaguar is the school's mascot, I started to think of characteristics of the Jaguar. The Jaquar's Roar.....hmmm....now that sounded appropriate! It made sense because everyone can hear the jaguar's roar, and of course we want everyone to know what's happening at OJA. Before I knew it, Ms. A and Mrs. Godoy were announcing my name as the winner of the contest---wow! I was scared and happy at the same time. The backpack was my trophy---RRooooaarr!

### **Welcome Back!!!**

The school year is off to a wonderful start. It is relaxing and exciting at the same time to see students from Pre-K to 8th grade busily walking around campus, smiling and greeting each other daily.

Thank you to all who have wished me well for this year. I appreciate your thoughts and prayers.

There are so many great things on schedule for this year. We will be working diligently to upgrade our website, set up a science lab and bring our kitchen back into full swing.

Beginning Tuesday, September 8, the roof project will begin. Please be patient with us during the next 6 weeks as we may have to alter some of our routines to best meet the needs of our students.

I look forward to this new year !

-Ms. A.

## **AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS**

### **Soccer**

FASL Soccer is underway. However there are some schedule changes due to weather. All divisions (2-3, 4-5, 6-8) will begin preseason on Thurs, Sep 10, at 4:30 pm. The 4-5 grade division will have their soccer scrimmage Tues, Sep 8 pm, 4:30-6:30 pm.



### **Self-defense**

Sensei Richard Carr is looking for a few good young men and women to start his ReLIONce self-defense class. No additional skills required. For more information please contact him at 407-758-8666.

## Dirty Hands and Sweaty Faces By Grayson --Grade 5

Grab your shovel, a pair of gloves, and let's go to the garden. On August 27, we got to work in the garden with Mr. Jones. We harvested tons of plants; almost enough to feed our entire class! It was so hot we were dying, until Mrs. Sheffield brought us popsicles! Thanks Mrs. Sheffield, everyone loved them!

Our teacher, Mrs. Farfan, even came out and helped. We picked tons of sweet potatoes, corn, cotton, and the worst; weeds! Don't even get me started on all the worms and snails. Some people switched to just looking for snails! Joshua Fernandez was even making a little baby-sitting service for the snails!

So, if you haven't seen our garden lately, ask your teacher, or parents, take a few minutes when you drop your child off in the morning, to come and see what's growing.

### *In the garden.*



### **RESOURCES AND SPECIAL NEEDS**

Having a Resource Educator is part of our program that supplies educational support for students in a variety of subjects. Mrs. Rivera will be your direct contact in assisting you if such a need arises. The support she will give is in addition to what the child is receiving during regular classroom instruction time.

Referrals are based upon need observed by the classroom teacher(s), resource teacher, or prior SLD placement, and then discussed with you, the parent(s). In some instances, this replaces a specific class, such as math and/or reading. This is only if the child is working on a grade level that would make classroom participation difficult or challenging.

If you would like to meet with Mrs. Rivera to review your child's needs for this year please call the office and schedule an appointment. If you believe your child may need an assessment to determine a need contact the classroom teacher first.

### **Mrs. Rivera's functions at OJA:**

- Serve as a resource to other teachers by providing ideas, resources, and intervention strategies to help special needs students in each classroom.
- Participate on the Admission Committee to help determine if special needs students can be served at the school, based on local school and community resources.
- Serve as the school's Special Needs Liaison with the Florida Conference school psychologist, asking for consultations, as needed, to help determine appropriate course of action for special needs students.
- Become familiar with local public school staffing specialist & school psychologist to facilitate testing referrals of special needs students, as needed.
- Provide accommodation or modification to those students with an I.E.P. , A.I.P. also know as a 504 plan.
- Provides testing or serves as a proctor for DIBELS, ITBS & new student placement test.

## **NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR FOR OJA**

### **Introducing....Eric E. Teamer**



Coach Teamer is a native of Orlando, FL. He attended Eccleston Elementary, Carver Jr High, and graduated from Evans High School. In 1979, he enlisted in the U.S. Army as a military policeman and also worked as an air traffic controller. After a stroke which

threatened his mother's life in 1984, he was forced to return closer to home via the Naval Training Center, to be near her. At this point he elected not to reenlist for a third term.

Following his career in the military he secured a job as an Orange County Corrections Officer until 1986, then became

### **After School Care News**

Say Cheese! Have you had your picture taken yet? In an effort to ensure the safety of all our children at OJA we are taking pictures of parents and other authorized persons to pick students up from After School Care. We have several new staff members this year as well as some new policies and procedures. Our new Coordinator is Miss Charney McNeil please extend to her a big OJA welcome!



Just a reminder ~ between 2:30 p.m. and 3:20 p.m. the parking lot between the gym and the field is reserved for Pre-Kindergarten parents. If you arrive to pick your child up prior to 3:20 p.m. you must get in the car rider pick up lane at the front of the school.

In other words you may not park in the parking lot between the gym and the field and walk over to pick up your student prior to 3:20 p.m... Because of your cooperation we are better able to meet everyone's needs. Thank you in advance for assisting us with this.

a police officer with the Winter Park Police Department. During his time as a police officer he spent many years at the Winter Park High School as a school resource officer, coach and D.A.R.E. instructor. He was able to use the abilities God gave him in a positive light.

After 22 years at the police department, He retired and became a full time husband and dad. He is a proud parent of Malachi a 5 year old son who attends OJA kindergarten. He has worked with OJA for the last two years in the sports department. He considers it a privilege to work with your children. There are many challenges this year. Together we can tackle them all.

But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as EAGLES they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. ~Isaiah 40:31.

Welcome to the team Coach Teamer.  
Go Jaguars!!!!!!

# Early Childhood Chatter

The school year is off to a busy start in Pre-K! We are blessed with 40 beautiful energetic 3 & 4 year olds. The new school year has also brought some new staff faces and some returning favorites. Mrs. Marva Peay has joined us as our Pre-K3 teacher. Mrs. Peay come to us from Miami Union Academy where she has taught both Kindergarten and Pre-K3. Pre-K4 is taught by Mrs. Berry and Mrs. Vargas. Our teachers are assisted by Miss Lynnsey, Mrs. Karla and Mrs. Claudia, who is also our Pre-K Spanish and Music teacher.

Pre-K4 will be going to a Build A Bear Workshop on Wednesday, September 16 as part of the "All About Me" unit. Our Calendar of events for this school year has been set and is available in the classrooms.

Looking ahead there will be many opportunities for you to help out this year both in the classroom and at the school. There will be bake sales and field trips as well as all school events. The

first classroom event will be the Build A Bear field trip and the first all school event is the Fall Festival on the 15th of November.

Our morning drop off procedure is going much more smoothly. Thank you for keeping traffic going from East to West on King St., having your child ready, and pulling all the way to the end of the drop off lane. Great job!

Come by and visit our classrooms and see for yourself why the Early Learning Coalition of Orange County has awarded our program with a 100% score two years in a row!



## Look What's Happening

**Grandparents Day** celebration takes place next Thursday, September 10th, at 2:00 p.m. We hope that students and their parents have extended an invitation to their Grandparents to attend this special event. This year our theme is "Old School", what was school like when Grandma and Grandpa went to school? We will serve a traditional after school snack.

## Edgewater High School Home Coming Parade

OJA will participate in the Edgewater High School Home Coming Parade on Thursday evening October 15. OJA will have a float in the parade and we are looking for students who would like to participate in this event. If you are interested, stop by and see Mrs. Whaling. We also need parents, grandparents and friends of OJA to come out to the parade and give a huge JAGUAR ROAR as the float goes by!

## OJA HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION



### On behalf of the Home and School Association (HSA) team, we welcome you back to OJA.

The purpose of the Home and School Association is to unite the home, the school, and the church in their endeavors to provide Seventh-day Adventist Christian education for our children. We are here to support our teachers as they do their best to provide our kids with a top quality education built on Seventh-day Adventist Christian values.

Throughout the course of this year, we hope to provide you with information on issues that confront families today,

such as effective study patterns, peer pressure, developmental issues etc.

We also want to have fun! The HSA team has planned a number of activities this year where we can get together as a school and church family, thereby strengthening our relationships. Your input and participation will be vital to the success of the school program at Orlando Junior Academy. On the OJA website you will find a link to the HSA page. On the HSA page you will find information about how you can help to make OJA the best school in Orlando and you will be able to submit comments or suggestions there.

As you know, OJA is requiring **10 hours** a year of service from each family. A volunteer form is located in the front office. Please stop by the office and complete the volunteer form. Volunteering helps to build relationships, and also strengthen the school program. We have many opportunities available for you to participate throughout the year, and we need your help!

The first HSA event for this year will be a movie night, which is scheduled for September 26, 2009. We will be showing two movies, one for Pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> grade and one for 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade. The first HSA meeting is scheduled for October 8 at 6 pm at OJA. All are invited and we look forward to seeing you there!

Our utmost interest at HSA is to serve OJA as Christian parents interested in leading our children to Jesus. We hope that with your help, we can accomplish this important task. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact us at the numbers below.

In your service,

Robert Henley, HSA Leader  
407-489-2500  
[rlhenley@secsda.org](mailto:rlhenley@secsda.org)

Aurora Realin, HSA Assistant Leader  
407-304-0937  
[aurora.realin@flhosp.org](mailto:aurora.realin@flhosp.org)

## COMPUTER LAB

**iMac Fun**

Jonathan D. --Grade 5

The OJA Computer Lab is probably the most hi-tech in Orange County! The whole lab is full of iMacs. The Mac Lab is a little new to me because I just started computer class. We learn a lot of things there like how to operate the computer, how to type, and how to customize our computers.

Mr. Farfan is a really great teacher. He has power over the whole lab! He can lock all the computers and even show us his screen on ours. He gives us the lesson and then if we have extra time---  
**FREE TIME!**



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**OJA Students Build Team Spirit**

Friday, August 28 was not an ordinary day at OJA. Students were not in their classrooms reading, writing, and solving math problems. They were participating in OJA's Campus Field Day.

Students were divided into four teams: red, blue, purple, and green. They competed in a variety of games. The Scramble game had the teams race to be the first to give Coach Hackleman a random object he called for from his long list. Popcorn, erasers, small clocks, and magnets were some the items that the students scrambled to give him.

How would you like to open your lunch box and find a mustard and onion sandwich, green olives, radishes, and baby food? That is exactly what the teams discovered in the Lunch Bag Relay. Several team members had a hard time eating this tasty lunch!

After playing the Bat Spinning Game ( placing your forehead on the end of a bat and spinning round and round), the teams were happy to cool off playing the Water Relay Game. Brave students, laid on the ground and balanced a large cup on their forehead, while a teammate stood over them with a cup of water, and aimed for the large cup. Most of the brave students realized their teammates didn't have good aim and they were soaked!

This fun-filled day ended with snow-cones for all. Thanks Coach Hackleman and 8th Graders for putting together such a great event! We can't wait to see what you have planned for next year!

Written by the 4th Grade Class