



OP TIMES

The Onionpatch
Academy

November 2013
Volume 3, Issue 3

59 Court Street
Hamilton HM 12
Phone: 296 6466
Fax: 236 5912
Email: info@opacademy.bm
Web: www.opacademy.bm

We are Thankful

Can you see and feel Fall? Leaves are changing color. Pumpkin pies are cooling on the window sills. Sweaters and winter coats are brought out to cut the cool North winds.

While some of our earth-mates are carving turkeys and waiting for the Jack Frost to appear, here in Bermuda we are remembering our history. This month we celebrate the early settlers, those that discovered our beautiful island.

In Week 1 we will celebrate early Bermuda Settlers.

In Week 2 we will look at Ships and Shipwrecks.

In Week 3 we will explore the reasons why we are thankful and what we are thankful for.

In week 4 we will finish up the month by talking about healthy foods just in time as we prepare to enter the Christmas season next month which is full of sweets and other goodies.

NOTICES

The OPA hotline number is 291 6466

Procare – The check in and check out system is now operational. This month we will be testing it with staff to ensure its functionality. Once the testing is complete we will advise when parents will be trained on its use. In the meantime please visit the following website for details on this day care management system:

www.procaresoftware.com

The school doors will be locked from 9am to 4pm and only accessible by staff. Parents visiting the school must ring the doorbell. We appreciate your patience.

School fees - A friendly reminder that Fees are due by the 5th of each month. If fees are not received by end of the day of the 5th a \$100 dollar late fee will be added to your fees.

Fees can be paid online, debit or credit or by cash. If you would like to pay online our account number is HSBC # 010 836617 001.

Winter Uniforms

Uniforms have been ordered and will take approximately 3-4 weeks to arrive. In the meantime, students are permitted to wear long sleeve white or navy blue shirts under their short sleeve logo shirts.

Uniforms are mandatory.

Upcoming Events

November 7 – Fire Station field trip for the Green Onions and Pearl Onions.

November 8th – White Elephant and Bake Sale from 3-6pm. Please tell all your family, friends and co-workers.

November 11th – Remembrance Day holiday. School closed.

November 15 - Aquarium field trip for Little Onions and Shallots classes.

November 18th - Parent Teacher meeting at 6pm to be held in St. Paul's Church Hall. Light refreshments will be served.

November 19 – Aquarium field trip for the Green Onions and Pearl Onions.

December 23 to January 2 - School closed for Christmas Break.

Friday Hot Lunches



November 1– Shepherd's pie

November 8 – Baked chicken and corn on the cob

November 15 – Fish sticks and tater tots

November 22 – Pizza

November 29 – Spaghetti and turkey meatballs

Cost: \$8.00 per lunch
\$40.00 Monthly Total

From the Principal's Desk

From time to time, I come across something that I feel is so extraordinary that it has to be shared with the OPA family. Last month I had the occasion to visit an extraordinary school in North Carolina along with the Principals, Deputy Principals and a staff representative from Francis Patton Primary School and Victor Scott Primary School. AB Combs Leadership Magnet Elementary School is to many the mecca and flagship school which has embraced and indeed perfected the use of the 7 Habits/Leader In Me philosophy. I came away from the visit excited to share the information I gained with my staff and parents.

Some of you will remember we introduced the 7 habits last year and while we had great support, some parents questioned why we chose to bring a business principle into the school. Visiting AB Combs solidified that it was not only practical to implement the program at OPA but it was imperative.

At the end of the day, at OPA we are building a foundation for our children, one that will last their lifetime. At OPA we are building leaders, children who will become responsible, caring and confident adults.

For those who do not know about the 7 Habits/Leader In Me, I invite you to visit the following websites for more information:

www.theleaderinme.org
www.combses.wcpss.net

You may ask how we will implement the program in our facility. We have an 8-month process starting with basic introduction to the habits. Students already have access to character images and there are a few Habit books in our library (look on the top shelf of our literacy area). Some staff have already been trained in the 7 Habits and we will look to train the rest of the staff during our Administrative Days in July 2014.

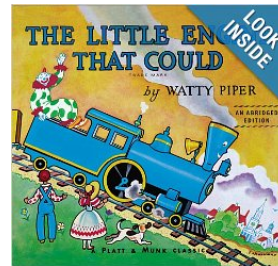
Each month the newsletter will feature the habit of the month and provide some tips (Covey Connections) on how you can help us to incorporate the habits at home. Staff will be given specific instruction on how to incorporate the habits in the daily lesson plans and activities.

The 7 Habits are in direct relation to our Creed and Core Values and our Motto so we feel this will be a great addition to our school. Keep in mind "it is not doing one more thing; it is doing what we're already doing in a better way."

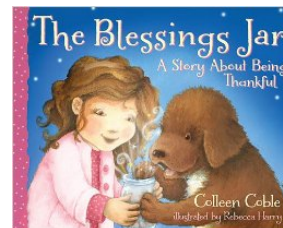
With your support we will continue to evolve as a first class early childhood educational facility whose focus is on developing the whole child in an environment that seeks to discover and cultivate the potential in each student.

Ms. Judith

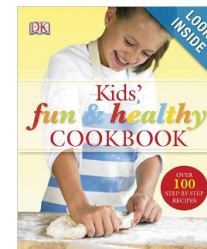
LITERACY



By: Watty Piper



By: Colleen Coble



By: Nicola Graimes

The
Leader in Me™
great happens here
Take Control of You

"We are in control of our own destiny. If we can no longer change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves" (Viktor Frankl).

Covey Connection:

- Encourage your child to be proactive by picking up toys and clothes
- Help with dinner
- Help get clothes and school bag ready the night before
- Feeding your pet without being asked