



ACADEMY OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

"OUR LORD DOES NOT LOOK SO MUCH AT THE GREATNESS OF OUR ACTIONS, OR EVEN AT THEIR DIFFICULTY, AS AT THE LOVE WITH WHICH WE DO THEM" ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX

September: Curriculum Corner

WOW! September is in the books...all done and off to a great beginning. As our new season of FALL settles in, we pause to reflect on our SEPTEMBER ADVENTURES into LEARNING. Our academic year at OLMC is filled with exciting opportunities to adventure into the vast greatness of learning new things. We are blessed with many new and exciting instructional tools, beginning with our new testing program (IOWA tests were taken in March for the first time...an Archdiocesan move from Terra Nova) results which were sent home last Spring. These test results allowed us to reflect on the areas of strength and the areas in which we need to improve. These results coupled with knowledge of our individual students and their learning styles enable us to create learning challenges that encourage our students to "stretch for success"!

A few of our "stretch for success" challenges are mentioned in the following programs that we are launching and/or continuing throughout the grades at OLMC! Read on to explore just a few areas of all that OLMC offers to its wonderfully talented young learners on their way to becoming lifelong adventurers in challenging their minds, recognizing their unique talents and utilizing the creative gifts they have to offer not only to one another but to the world...

RAZ-PLUS Kick off

In our Grade K-5 READING, RAZ-PLUS provides a blended approach to literacy with

- Comprehensive teacher-led instruction
- Personalized independent reading practice
- Formative assessments and data-driven reports

RAZ-PLUS is a blended learning platform that not only provides teacher-led instruction, but allows for developmentally appropriate reading practice. Using the formative assessment and data-driven reporting allows us to improve the reading skills of each student, at every level. RAZ-PLUS enables our OLMC teachers to:

- Enhance reading instruction with more than 50,000 reading resources, lesson plans, activities, and quizzes

- Provide a personalized reading library of leveled books and passages to every student...these are available to our teachers and students in printable, projectable, online and mobile formats...allowing us to utilize a variety of techniques and technology infusion into the learning process
- Determine future instruction using formative assessments and online, data-driven reports that assist in tracking student reading ability, activity and progress

SADLIER Mathematics... Building Continuity and Connections!

We are blessed to be kicking off our new Math series...SADLIER MATH...just out for implementation in the 2018-2019 academic year! SADLIER MATH is a comprehensive core math program which provides a pedagogy that reflects the keystones of mathematical learning empowering teachers to:

- Foster students' conceptual understanding and skill development using a cohesive grouping of lessons, explicit instruction coupled with guided and independent practice
- Strengthen students' development and promote learning with an abundance of real-world problem solving opportunities and applications related to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics)
- Harness innovative support for teaching and learning through embedded professional development, robust digital tools, and a comprehensive assessment plan to aid in ongoing planning for success
- Further empower students to become mathematically proficient to shape their futures as Scientists, Tech Creators, Engineers, Construction Innovators, Artistic Wonders and Mathematical Leaders...with knowledge and the proper tools, the possibilities are endless and it all begins here at OLMC!

THE SOUND OF MUSIC!!

At OLMC, we embrace the concept of “a well-rounded person”. The Arts are key to well-roundedness and at OLMC, we have a fantastic ARTS program. Our students are fortunate to be able to explore Music Theory, Music Creation, and be immersed in Musical instruction. Opportunities abound for our students to engage in Singing, Playing, Composing, Studying, and Writing Music...opportunities which enable them to dabble in a wide-variety of musical endeavors to explore their personal preferences, identify their personal talents, and sharpen their skills as they grow. We are blessed in so many ways...musically blessed being just one of many!

Our Theatre Arts program is unique at the elementary level and it also prepares our students to explore their personal preferences, identify their personal talents and sharpen their skills...it further enables them to discover hidden treasures in the world of literature and theatrical performance. Another of our special blessings at OLMC!

TECH IN ALL AREAS

21st Century Learning comes alive at OLMC! In the past two years and on into this current year, we have greatly enhanced the availability of the latest in educational technology infused and integrated throughout our curriculum offerings. From our Makerspace, created to assist in preparing our students to embrace the critical 21st century skills in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM), to our SMART boards, to effective use of the Internet and its many treasures, to our tablets, and many other tech tools, we, at OLMC, foster the 'maker mindset' of creating something out of nothing, exploring personal interests, providing hands-on learning opportunities, helping with critical thinking skills and boosting self-confidence. Staff professional development in all tech areas enable us to engage in the know-how of effectively utilizing our latest tech tools. This professional growth further enables our staff to infuse and integrate available technology throughout our curriculum.

Once again, we are richly blessed...keep watching this column in future bulletins in order to hear about our 'infusion and integration' of 21st century skill sets throughout our curriculum.

DON'T MISS...

There is so much happening at OLMC in the coming days, please be sure to check your calendar regularly so that you do not miss out on any of our many activities and events...time moves so quickly and our calendar is packed with so many opportunities for building community and fellowship...don't miss out...check especially:

- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21st...10:15 am in the Titus Room...our first ever monthly Mass for children in Grades K through 3 (younger with parents present) and their families...Children's Church will be held on the third Sunday of the month through December!
- KNITTING & CROCHETING every Tuesday with Ms. Elena...students and moms can join her each Tuesday from 3:15-4:30 in the conference room to learn simple mending, sewing buttons, making things like hats, scarves, bracelets, bags and more!
- Save the date...NOVEMBER 30th...5th bi-annual HALL of FAME Induction Ceremony 7pm at The Rockleigh
- Upcoming sports events...Volleyball is in full swing...recently splitting a doubleheader with a win against the experienced Corpus Christi Cougars team! Congrats Warriors!