

Mount Olive Parent Newsletter

October



A Successful Coupon Book Campaign!

Dear parents,

I want to say a big thank you for helping make this year's coupon book campaign such a success! We sold 1,141 coupon books, which was 41 more than our school goal and it means that the students' wish of seeing me slimed will come true! We sold 73 more books than last year and were able to raise \$8,628 in profit for our school. Brody Bean was our top seller and he sold 100 coupon books! Our top selling class in the school was Mr. Farr's 5th grade class who sold 217 coupon books! We can't thank you enough for your support, as this is the single biggest fundraiser for our school, and it helps provide a variety of supplies and materials that help positively impact your students education. Have a wonderful Fall Break with your family!

Thanks,
Dr. Cutter



Fall Break
10/7-10/15

Enjoy your time off
with your family!



**Mt. Olive Thank
a Teacher Week-**

Monday, October
16th - Friday,
October 20th



**PTO Fundraiser
Begins-**

Friday, October
20th



TNReady Test Scores

We have started to receive TNReady state testing results at the school level, and we are hopeful that parents will receive students reports in October. I am excited about the level of detail parents will receive in the parent reports this year and believe it will provide you with helpful information about how to help your student grow. Overall our test scores compare favorably to other schools with similar demographics, but we will be working hard to show an even bigger improvement this next year.

Thank a Teacher Week

The Knox County Thank a Teacher Week is October 23rd-October 27th. Since we have so many people out of the building for various

trainings that week, the PTO voted to celebrate the Thank a Teacher Week a week early at Mount Olive from Monday, October 16th-Friday, October 20th. There will be various activities and lunches throughout the week to say thanks to our teachers for their hard work! Please join us that week in saying a big thank you to our AMAZING teachers!

Upcoming School Flu Shot Phase 1

Just a reminder that the county will be providing flu shots to students on Monday, October 16, which is the first day back from Fall Break. Flu shot permission slips were sent home at the beginning of the year, and flu shots will be given to students who returned a completed, signed flu consent form. Your student should wear a short sleeve shirt on this day so the nurses can have easier access to his/her upper arm.

Other Important Upcoming Dates

- PTO Meeting-10/17/17 at 6:00 pm
- Report Cards Go Home-10/20/17
- Hike for the Schools-10/28/17

READING OVER FALL BREAK

The Library Media Services department is pleased to introduce our new eBook platform, MackinVIA! This platform will allow us to extend our traditional book-lending library services into the digital world, providing your family 24/7 access to great free reading materials. To access these eBooks, go to <https://knoxschools.mackinvia.com/> Select Mount Olive from the drop-down menu. The username will be your child’s student ID number, which starts with the letter s and is followed by a six or seven digit number. The password will be your child’s Active Directory password, which is the same password they may use for other school based online services.



October is Growth Mindset Month at MOES!

During the month of October the school will be focusing on the "growth mindset" as it relates to students' lives and what they could become one day. According to Carol Dweck, "In a fixed mindset, people believe their basic qualities, like their intelligence or talent, are simply fixed traits."

Alternatively, "In a growth mindset, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work—brains and talent are just the starting point. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishment," writes Dweck. We want students in our school to adopt a "growth mindset," so we not only want everyone talking about books, but also thinking about their futures during the month of October. The month's focus on the "growth mindset" will culminate on October 31st when students will be encouraged to dress up as someone in their desired profession.

Mount Olive Community Forum Update

I want to say a big thanks to all who attended our first ever MOES Community Forum on Thursday, September 28th. The night in my opinion was a success because I believe we received some excellent feedback from the parents that attended. The parents and community members were honest without being overly negative and a commonality between both groups was how highly they thought of our teachers! This was so great to hear and it was just another confirmation of the great staff we have at Mount Olive! In an effort to be transparent as a school and to continue moving forward together, I have provided a summary of the feedback we received from parents below. Stay tuned in future newsletters for updates on how we are addressing these issues.

Reuse - What is going well?

- Teachers are great
- Welcoming, safe environment with a family feel
- School to home communication is good
- Church support- mentors and outreach
- Open Door policy to parents and to volunteers
- Active PTO
- Breakfast and lunch grant
- Night of the Arts/Arts 360 initiative
- Admin approachable
- Backpack program

Recycle - What do we need to tweak?

- Parking
- More active time for students
- Bathroom breaks reviewed
- More field trips and in house teaching, such as the MUSE
- Both upper and over playgrounds upgraded and evaluated
- Community outreach through more mentors
- An alternate time for PTO or use technology to communicate
- Alternative fundraisers- not wrapping paper
- Apply for more grants
- Pick up- visibility of the names

Pitch it - What needs to be changed

- Baseball back stop needs to be removed
- Lower playground revamped or use for different function
- Unhealthy, outdated food in the cafeteria
- Students are only sitting together in classes at lunch
- Strict classroom schedules with ridged bathroom breaks

Ideas - New thoughts

- Community/Flea market/Farmer's Market
 - Fundraiser
 - Maybe also in summer
- More school events
 - Dad's and donuts
 - Mom's and muffins
 - Grandparents Day
 - Thanksgiving/Holiday celebrations
 - Evening events
- Visit from speakers of Diverse cultures such as UT Diversity club
- Teach a Foreign language
- After school clubs
 - Robotics
 - Science
 - Art
 - Fitness
 - Music
- Have More fundraisers
- Wristbands for fun night
- Family nights- movies, bingo, game night
- Remodel Red Hall bathrooms
- Bigger stage
- School pet

Vision - What do you want the school to look like in:

1 year

- Less staff turnover
- More after school clubs
- Gifted and Talented program
- PBIS Teacher
- Nurse- more time at this school
- New phone system

3 years

- One to one technology
- More community involvement
- Possible expand the school zone
- Gifted and Talented program
- Fewer student transfers
- More community resources
- Community service projects

5 years

- Consistency and stability
- Continue the positive community culture
- More SoKno events