

# OAK TRACE WEEKLY UPDATE

January 26, 2024

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## Hello From Mrs. Hitch

Happy Friday!

Thanks to everyone who joined us at Culver's on Tuesday night. It was so fun to see so many families outside of school. Money earned from that night goes directly to our PTO. Thank you! Congratulations to our Robotics team for their great work at the Robotics competition on Wednesday. We are so proud of you! One of our second graders also participated in a Robotics competition last weekend at Westfield High School. His team won the "Best Team Poster" award. Our third graders took a virtual field trip through the Children's Museum on Monday. It tied to their study of fossils. They had a great time and learned a lot too! Our first graders visited the museum in person today.

Do you have a child or know a neighbor's child who will turn five before August 1st? Kindergarten registration opens February 15th. Little Acorn Night will be March 20th at 6:00 PM. That is a chance to learn a little about kindergarten and for incoming kindergartners to see our school. Information about registration can be found here. <https://ote.wws.k12.in.us/parents/future-kindergarten-information>. Please tell your neighbors if they don't have students here already but will have one next year. Thanks!

Thank you to all of you who donated, served, and/or organized the staff luncheon on Thursday. It was delicious! You spoil us!

Just a couple reminders about our upcoming Valentine's Day parties. You must be Safe Visitor approved before you can attend a class party. It takes a few days to get approved so please register now if you aren't already approved. If you aren't sure if yours is expired, you can email Lori Egler ([eglerl@wws.k12.in.us](mailto:eglerl@wws.k12.in.us)) to check out your status. Another important note about Valentine's Day parties... ***Do not send in candy/food with the valentines due to the increased number of students with severe allergies.*** Thank you for understanding!

We go outside for recess in the winter if the temperature is 15 degrees or above. Please make sure your children are wearing hats, gloves, and warm coats to school. They are permitted to go in snow if they bring snow pants and boots. I highly recommend labeling the items. Our lost and found fills up quickly!

We are looking for extra help in the lunchroom. If you can help, please sign up here. <https://signup.com/go/TQYrRfS>. Thank you!

Just a reminder that the first bell rings at 7:40 AM to enter the building, and the tardy bell and school start time is 7:50 AM. On Wednesdays, the first bell rings at 8:10 AM, and the tardy bell rings at 8:20AM.

Have a wonderful weekend! I hope we see some sunshine!

Jane Hitch

@MrsHitchOTES

[hitchj@wws.k12.in.us](mailto:hitchj@wws.k12.in.us)









## What's Happening

- January 31st - All Pro Dads
- February 16th - 19th - No School, Presidents' Day
- February 29th - March 1st - No School, Staff PD

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## All Pro Dads

All Pro Dads is meeting Wednesday, January 31st. Please remember you must be safevisitor approved to attend this meeting. Here is the RSVP link for this month:  
[https://allprodadchapters.com/chapters/3952/chapter\\_meetings/47977](https://allprodadchapters.com/chapters/3952/chapter_meetings/47977).



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## Spring Enrichment

Enrichment registration is **open** and will remain open until **Tuesday, January 30th at 10:00 pm**. We will not accept registration after that time. Log into Membership toolkit to select some fun after school enrichment classes!

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**WESTFIELD  
WASHINGTON  
SCHOOLS**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR  
2024-2025 KINDERGARTEN NIGHTS!**

<b>CAREY RIDGE</b> Little Carey Kids Night	March 14 6:00 p.m.	<b>OAK TRACE</b> Little Acorn Night	March 20 6:00 p.m.
<b>MAPLE GLEN</b> Little Maple Leaf Night	March 20 6:15 p.m.	<b>SHAMROCK SPRINGS</b> Little Shamrock Night	March 14 6:00 p.m.
<b>MONON TRAIL</b> Little Trailblazer Night	April 18 5:30 p.m.	<b>WASHINGTON WOODS</b> Little Leaves Night	March 7 6:00 p.m.

**COME AND EXPLORE OUR CLASSROOMS, MEET THE TEACHERS,  
CHECK OUT THE SCHOOL BUS, AND GET EXCITED ABOUT  
STARTING SCHOOL!**



## Winter Festival

Newsletter Links for 2024 Raffle Baskets

The Oak Trace Winter Festival is February 24th. That means it's Raffle Basket Time! One of the highlights of our annual Winter Festival is the Raffle Baskets. The PTO creates themed baskets with donated items from Oak Trace families. Festival attendees have an opportunity to win these baskets for \$1 per raffle ticket.



We couldn't make these baskets without your donations. Please consider purchasing an item from the Amazon wish list links (it will be sent directly to a PTO member's home) or picking up something while you're out and sending it in to school. We've organized the baskets by grade level. Please contact [oaktracepto@gmail.com](mailto:oaktracepto@gmail.com) with any questions. Thank you for your support!

Kindergarten:

[Learn to Bake](#)

[Let's Build Something](#)

First Grade:

[Barbie + Dolls](#)

## [Marvel Superheroes](#)

Second Grade:

[Weird Science/It's Magic](#)

[Planes, Trains and Automobiles](#)

Third Grade:

[Nerf + More](#)

[The Arts](#)

[All About the Girls](#)

Fourth Grade:

[Sleepover Fun](#)

[Games](#)

[Let's Go Outside](#)



**Lego Basket**



**Art Basket**



**Disney Basket**

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## Counselor Chronicle

Hello Oak Trace families! It is hard to believe the first month of 2024 is almost over, I hope everyone is enjoying the new year. This week our ambassadors presented a new lifeline to the classes. Over the next six weeks we will be focusing on living the example of showing **Compassion**. We define compassion as feeling a strong desire to help others in need. We see many students demonstrating compassion to others daily and I hope you are seeing this trait at home too. Be sure to talk with your student to see what they learn over the next month or so. Have a fantastic weekend. Mr. F



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**Visiting Author (Troy Cummings) on March 4th**

## ROCK STRONG AWARD



Do you know a WWS employee who strives to make a difference to the Westfield community and our students? Nominate him/her for a Rock Strong Award recognizing their hard work and dedication.



### Reminder from the nurse's clinic

The nurse is missing a lot of clothes that were sent home with children. If your child borrowed clothes from the clinic, please wash and return the clothes ASAP. Thank you!



### TOTS and All Aboard

Open enrollment for 2024-25 TOTS and All Aboard will begin Monday, January 8 at 6:00 AM through Monday, February 5 at 11:59 PM. If your child is currently enrolled in 2023-24 TOTS or All



Aboard, and you plan for your child to return for 2024-25 year, you will still need to submit your enrollment some time between these dates. New families will also submit their enrollment during the same period. Enrollment is limited and will fill first by returning families, then remaining spots are filled by lottery.


We have posted a virtual parent information meeting for the 2024-25 programs on both the TOTS and All Aboard websites along with 2024-25 program details and pricing. The virtual parent meeting will provide important information and will provide specific instructions about the enrollment and placement process. To view the virtual meeting, click one of the links below to go to the webpage to view the meeting:

TOTS: <https://www.wws.k12.in.us/departments/student-support-programs/tots>

All Aboard: <https://www.wws.k12.in.us/departments/student-support-programs/all-aboard-program>





## Order your yearbook today at **ybpay.com**

Encarga hoy tu anuario Scan to order today!  
¡Echa un vistazo para encargar hoy!

<b>Order Deadline:</b> <small>Fecha Tope Para el Pedido:</small> <b>March 15, 2024</b>	<b>Yearbook ID Code:</b> <small>Código ID del Anuario:</small> <b>14625624</b>	<b>School Name:</b> <small>Nombre de escuela:</small> <b>Oak Trace Elementary School</b>	
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<b>Yearbook Anuario \$15.00</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sturdy softcover with protective coating</li> <li>• All-color pages that vibrantly capture your memories throughout the school year</li> <li>• Durable Smyth-sewn binding that keeps the yearbook intact through wear and tear.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cubierta blanda resistente con revestimiento protector</li> <li>• Todas las páginas a color que captan de manera vibrante los recuerdos durante el año escolar</li> <li>• Encuadernación costada por sistema Smyth-duradera, que mantiene el anuario intacto contra el uso y desgaste.</li> </ul> <p><b>Hardcover Upgrade +\$5.00</b> <small>Mejora de la cubierta de tapa dura</small></p>	<b>Packages Paquetes</b> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%; padding: 5px;"> <b>BEST VALUE! ¡Mejor valor!</b>  <b>PACKAGE A \$24.50</b>  <small>PAQUETE A</small>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yearbook</li> <li>• Personalized Yearbook Cover</li> <li>• The Week Junior</li> <li>• Autograph Insert</li> <li>• Yearbook Stickys</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anuario</li> <li>• Cubierta personalizada</li> <li>• The Week Junior</li> <li>• Volante de autógrafo</li> <li>• Adhesivos del anuario</li> </ul> <p><b>Hardcover Upgrade +\$5.00</b> <small>Mejora de la cubierta de tapa dura</small></p> </td> <td style="width: 25%; padding: 5px;"> <b>PACKAGE B \$23.00</b>  <small>PAQUETE B</small>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yearbook</li> <li>• Personalized Yearbook Cover</li> <li>• The Week Junior</li> <li>• Autograph Insert</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anuario</li> <li>• Cubierta personalizada</li> <li>• The Week Junior</li> <li>• Volante de autógrafo</li> </ul> <p><b>Hardcover Upgrade +\$5.00</b> <small>Mejora de la cubierta de tapa dura</small></p> </td> <td style="width: 25%; padding: 5px;"> <b>PACKAGE C \$21.50</b>  <small>PAQUETE C</small>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yearbook</li> <li>• Personalized Yearbook Cover</li> <li>• The Week Junior</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anuario</li> <li>• Cubierta personalizada</li> <li>• The Week Junior</li> </ul> <p><b>Hardcover Upgrade +\$5.00</b> <small>Mejora de la cubierta de tapa dura</small></p> </td> <td style="width: 25%; padding: 5px;"> <b>PACKAGE D \$17.00</b>  <small>PAQUETE D</small>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yearbook</li> <li>• The Week Junior</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anuario</li> <li>• The Week Junior</li> </ul> <p><b>Hardcover Upgrade +\$5.00</b> <small>Mejora de la cubierta de tapa dura</small></p> </td> </tr> </table>	<b>BEST VALUE! ¡Mejor valor!</b> <b>PACKAGE A \$24.50</b> <small>PAQUETE A</small> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yearbook</li> <li>• Personalized Yearbook Cover</li> <li>• The Week Junior</li> <li>• Autograph Insert</li> <li>• Yearbook Stickys</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anuario</li> <li>• Cubierta personalizada</li> <li>• The Week Junior</li> <li>• Volante de autógrafo</li> <li>• Adhesivos del anuario</li> </ul> <p><b>Hardcover Upgrade +\$5.00</b> <small>Mejora de la cubierta de tapa dura</small></p>	<b>PACKAGE B \$23.00</b> <small>PAQUETE B</small> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yearbook</li> <li>• Personalized Yearbook Cover</li> <li>• The Week Junior</li> <li>• Autograph Insert</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anuario</li> <li>• Cubierta personalizada</li> <li>• The Week Junior</li> <li>• Volante de autógrafo</li> </ul> <p><b>Hardcover Upgrade +\$5.00</b> <small>Mejora de la cubierta de tapa dura</small></p>	<b>PACKAGE C \$21.50</b> <small>PAQUETE C</small> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yearbook</li> <li>• Personalized Yearbook Cover</li> <li>• The Week Junior</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anuario</li> <li>• Cubierta personalizada</li> <li>• The Week Junior</li> </ul> <p><b>Hardcover Upgrade +\$5.00</b> <small>Mejora de la cubierta de tapa dura</small></p>	<b>PACKAGE D \$17.00</b> <small>PAQUETE D</small> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yearbook</li> <li>• The Week Junior</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anuario</li> <li>• The Week Junior</li> </ul> <p><b>Hardcover Upgrade +\$5.00</b> <small>Mejora de la cubierta de tapa dura</small></p>
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**Extras Adicionales**

 <p><b>Personalized Yearbook Cover* \$6.00</b> Your student's picture &amp; name printed on the cover. <small>Cubierta personalizada*</small> La foto y el nombre de tu estudiante impresos directamente en la tapa.</p>	 <p><b>The Week Junior** \$3.00</b> An insert displaying this year's most memorable news, sports, entertainment and more! <small>The Week Junior**</small> ¡Un volante que exhibe los momentos, el entretenimiento, las noticias más memorables de este año y mucho más!</p>	 <p><b>Autograph Insert** \$2.00</b> A paper insert for students to collect signatures from friends and teachers. <small>Volante de autógrafo**</small> Un volante en papel para que los estudiantes reúnan firmas de amigos y docentes.</p>	 <p><b>Yearbook Stickys \$2.00</b> Fun, removable stickers to personalize your yearbook pages. <small>Adhesivos del anuario</small> Adhesivos divertidos y removibles para personalizar las páginas de tu anuario.</p>
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\*Yearbook design varies by school.  
 \*\*Inserts must be affixed to the yearbook after annual.  
 Prices include sales tax where applicable.  
 \*El diseño del anuario varía según la escuela.  
 \*\*Los volantes deben ser anejados al anuario después de su llegada.  
 Los precios incluyen impuesto a las ventas cuando corresponde.

Contact our Help Center for assistance at [lifetouch.com/support-us](https://lifetouch.com/support-us). Select Yearbook Orders for assistance.  
 Comuníquese con nuestro Centro de Ayuda para recibir asistencia en [lifetouch.com/support-us](https://lifetouch.com/support-us). Selección Pedidos del Anuario para recibir asistencia.

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HM EVT844NNS

## Thinking Thursday

At what temperature will water change into ice?

32 degrees Fahrenheit or 0 degrees Celsius



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### Substitute teaching

We LOVE having parent substitute teachers!! If you are interested in subbing at OTES, please contact Molly Baker at [bakerm@wws.k12.in.us](mailto:bakerm@wws.k12.in.us) or call 317-867-6403. You can request to be a substitute for OTES only.

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### Attendance Line

Attendance line phone # is 317-867-6401.

For all absences and late arrivals, press 1 to leave a message. Please call by 8:30 A.M.

For all transportation changes, please call 317-867-6401 and press 1 to leave a message by 1:30 P.M.

If calling after 1:30 P.M., please call the office directly at #317-867-6411



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### Safe Visitor Registration

If you want to participate in classroom activities or chaperone field trips, you must be registered in SafeVisitor. To register or renew your registration in Safe Visitor, please use the link below.

<https://secure.safevisitorsolutions.com/Safe/Volunteer/003471/volunteer>

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### Lunch duty helpers

If you'd like to help with lunch duty this year, please open the link below. You can also find this sign-up on our website.

<https://signup.com/go/TQYrRfS>



### Lunch times

Kindergarten 10:45-11:15

1st 11:20-11:50

2nd 12:40-1:10

3rd 11:45-12:15

4th 12:10-12:40

### Membership Toolkit

Hi! Oak Trace Families! We are so excited for another amazing year at Oak Trace. Please sign up for Membership Toolkit. Membership Toolkit is the system that we run all of the PTO events through for the year. Walkathon, Savor Westfield, and Enrichments are run through Toolkit. When you sign up your family can be added to the directory which is super helpful for planning birthday parties or playdates! Returning families do need to sign back up every year and update their info.

<https://oaktrace.membershiptoolkit.com>

Thanks

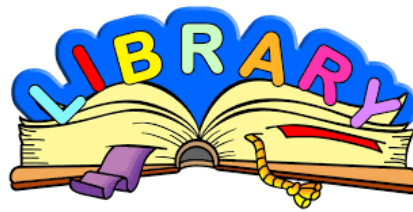
Oak Trace PTO

Questions? [OakTracepto@gmail.com](mailto:OakTracepto@gmail.com)

### Rent the Rock!

Starting Friday, August 5, at 9 am. You will be able to Rent the Rock through Membership toolkit. The Rock is able to be rented Sunday-Thursday for \$20. You are able to begin painting **at 4:00 pm on the day of your rental**. Your beautiful artwork stays up for 24 hours or until the next person has it rented. All rentable days are divided up by trimester and posted on membership toolkit. We do block out some days for special events. If you have questions feel free to email Jodi Hardt at [hardtj@wws.k12.in](mailto:hardtj@wws.k12.in).





## What's happening in Stem

We had a wonderful week in STEM! During this rotation 4th grade students are experimenting with energy transfer using marbles. Third grade students are building robots with our LEGO WeDO 2.0 robotics kits. Second graders are designing and building things to help Jack, from the story *Clever Jack Takes the Cake*, safely get a cake to the princess. First grade students and Kindergartens are learning about sound and working on their [Code.org](https://code.org) class. I hope everyone has a fantastic weekend, and, as always, please contact me if you have any questions or concerns at [gibbsj@wws.in.us](mailto:gibbsj@wws.in.us).

## What's happening in the Library

We continued to talk about Digital Citizenship this week. We all know how screen time has become part of our daily lives and I wanted to share some important information with our kiddos!

We discussed media balance and well being, privacy and security, digital footprints and more! I used Common Sense Media as my gathering place for sharing information with the students. It has some great ideas that are easy for elementary-aged children to understand! I hope you are all taking advantage of these chilly days to snuggle up with some great books!

One way to snuggle up to great reading is by signing into World Read Aloud Day on February 7th! There will be a site that you and your family can listen to great books read by amazing authors! Look for the link in the next newsletter!

Don't forget to order your books for our author visit! Troy Cummings is coming to Oak Trace Elementary on March 4th! We can't wait! Orders are due by February 6th!

Happy Reading!  
Mrs. Walker

## Nurse's clinic

To safeguard the transportation of medication to and from school, all medication prescriptions and over the counter must be dropped off by a parent or guardian in the health clinic. Students are not permitted to carry any medication without a physician's order in writing on file with the school nurse. Please contact your school nurse for assistance if needed.

*Please return any clothes your child has had to borrow from the nurse's clinic. I am running low on my supply of clothes. Thank you so much for your help in this matter.*



## What's happening in music

Kindergarten- We continue to work on high and low voices with the book Up, Up Down on the xylophones.

1st Grade- We have all of our songs learned for Mr. Rogers. We will be on the stage on the risers next week.

**Performances are the following dates. All performances are at 1:30.**

**February 21- Vannatta/Cox,  
February 22- Fletcher/Wilkes,  
February 23 Helman/Cox (No actors from this class for this performance.)**

2nd Grade- We will finish our Snow Round this week.

3rd Grade- I have listened to all of the classes play Lucy Locket on their recorders. On February 1 we start learning the songs for our performance of Economan, which is April 10.

4th Grade- We have a couple more songs to memorize for Delirium, and now we will be working on our individual parts for the program.

Have a Harmonious Weekend,  
Mrs. Paul



What's happening in art OTES families, we are so busy in the art room. Some kindergarten classes have finished projects about the Northern Lights and how to show the element of art -space and some are finishing their paper weavings. They look so good! In First Grade we are beginning .SCISSOR NINJAS! This is a unit on how to be an artist with your scissors and is modeled after the martial arts where you earn "belts" from white to black by being proficient with the skill for that belt and each belt increases in the degree of difficulty. Ask your child to show you how to hold your scissors like an elephant!! Second grade is still working on finishing their sandwich collages and a few have begun a project inspired by one of my favorite artists- Jim Dines. Third grade is still sewing monsters and fourth grade is progressing nicely with their weavings. I can't wait to show you what beautiful things that have made.



## What's happening in PE 2nd-4th Grades

We continued to work on our soccer skills this week. We warmed up with some soccer tag which incorporated dribbling the soccer ball as well as passing. This game really helped get the kids warmed up with all of the running and dodging and they really enjoyed it. We also played Sideline Soccer. This version of soccer keeps everyone involved even if they are not on the field. The players on the field are trying to score goals not in a goal but by kicking the ball past the players who are on the sidelines. The sideline players act as "goalies" trying to stop goals. It is fast paced and a lot of fun.

### Kindergarten and 1st Grades

This group also continued with their soccer and kicking skills this week. They warmed up with soccer tag like the older kids as well. Then they played a kicking game called Knock Down. Each team had 8 bowling pins to defend by playing "goalie." The object of the game is to kick soccer balls toward the other team's pins to try and knock them down. The team that knocks down the most pins in the

allotted time wins. They really enjoyed this game. We will finish up soccer next week before moving on to something new.



**Molly Baker**

Molly is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters