

# Orange City Elementary— February 2020

## Do You Like Chocolate?

Each year Orange City Elementary students, headed by our Orange City Elementary School Parents Group, sell candy. This is our only scheduled school-wide fund raiser. Profits are used to purchase equipment and supplies for our school. Past purchases have included playground equipment, the Reading Counts Program, library books, and other items that add depth and enjoyment to the educational experience of our students.

If you wish to support these efforts we encourage you to purchase some candy from your child. Children are not required to sell the candy. The candy sales kickoff will be held on Friday, March 6th. Students can sell candy from the 6th until Monday, March 16th. All candy sales must be turned in to your child's teacher on Monday, March 16th. Be sure to read the letter that will come home with your child on March 8th so you understand how the sales work. Candy will be sent home with students on Friday, April 3rd. Larger orders can be picked up that day or the next week in the office.

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## Kindergarten & Transitional Kindergarten Round Up for Parents

Monday, March 2nd at 6:30 PM is our Transitional Kindergarten Round Up. From 7-8 PM is our Kindergarten Round Up for parents of next year's kindergarten students. ***These meetings are for parents only.*** The round ups are placed together in case some parents would like to attend both. Students must be 5 by Sept. 15, 2020 to qualify for either the TK or the Kdg classes.

Please plan to attend this important meeting to hear from the teachers and the school nurse. **Parents are asked to bring a copy or original birth certificate and immunization record to this meeting.**

Kindergarten and TK Visitation Day for **students** is Friday, April 24th

There is no school for this year's TK and Kdg. students on Friday, April 24th.

**If you have a child who will be attending either TK or Kindergarten next fall please call the school office at 737-4606 so we can get their name on our list. Thank you!**

### Parent Round Up Time is Here!

Transitional Kindergarten Round Up is Monday, March 2nd at 6:30 PM in the OCE library.

Kindergarten Round Up is Monday, March 2nd at 7:00 PM in the gym.

## Iowa Assessments Coming in April

The state of Iowa has changed not only the dates but also the format for the Iowa Assessments. They even have a new name, the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP). This year we will begin testing during the first week of April. These tests are very important and we look at the results closely. They represent the collective efforts of 200 students and present a valuable picture of how effective we are in teaching and learning these basic skills. Results have been consistently strong for many years and we wish to continue this success.

We do not encourage stressing the assessments to young children. Results are important to us as a school and may be important to you as parents, but stress is not needed. We recommend that during the testing week your children:

1. Receive brief encouragement to do their best from their parents. It's good to ask briefly how these tests are going.
2. Eat a good breakfast each morning.
3. Get a good night's sleep each night.

## Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held March 23rd and 24th. We will try to keep the schedule close to the one used for Fall Conferences. Slips with your day and time will be sent home at the end of the month. **Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation and attendance.**

**Parent-Teacher Conferences  
for the second semester are  
scheduled for Monday and  
Tuesday, March 23rd and 24th  
from 4:00 -8: 00 PM.**

### Dates to Remember

February 7th and 21st	Early Dismissals-1:15/1:25 pm
February 14th	Full day of school-Snow Make-Up Day-Valentine Parties
March 2nd	TK & Kdg. Roundup for parents (TK @ 6:30 pm and Kdg. @ 7 pm)
March 6th	Candy Sale Kick-Off
March 6th and 20th	Early Dismissals-1:15/1:25 pm
March 16th	Candy Sale Orders Due
March 23rd and 24th	Parent-Teacher Conferences
March 27th	No School
April 3rd	Candy Orders go home

### CANDY SALE GUIDELINES

Your child will be bringing home a candy sale booklet and order forms on March 6th. Please look it over and familiarize yourself with it. Remember to ask your neighbors, family and friends if they would like to buy something. We have done this fundraiser for several years and the community is very familiar with it which makes the chocolate easy to sell. Students are not required to sell the candy so if your family is not interested simply have them bring the order form back to their teacher.

Important Dates to Remember:

Orders taken – March 6th-March 16th

Orders due to school – Monday, March 16th

Orders sent home with students – Friday April 3rd

**We are requesting one check or cash to cover the full order. If paying with check please make the check out to: OCESP.** This means that you will need to collect the money from customers as they place their order. Have the customer simply pay you cash or write a check directly to you. You will then need to total your order and write one check or have cash for the total amount and place that with your order. Your check will not be cashed until you pick up your order. We cannot place any orders that are not accompanied by full payment. This change was necessitated by problems we had in the past where some orders were not picked up which left us with extra candy and customers that didn't receive their order. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

### MOC-FV District Weather Alerts

MOC-Floyd Valley Schools will again be sending weather alerts using Infinite Campus. You may sign up to receive these alerts via email, voice message or text message. You may choose your message type by logging into your Infinite Campus parent portal. If you do not have an email address, parent portal or a current student in the district but you still want to receive school alerts, you are still able to receive messages to your home phone or cell phone number. Simply call the school office at 737-4606 and we will be happy to set that up for you.

## Teach Your Child to Talk Calmly When Feeling Angry

Teachers report that more and more kids seem to lose control at school. They may even strike out at other children— or even adults.

Help your child learn how to control anger before it becomes a problem. Here's how:  
Suppose your child comes home and yells in an angry voice, "The teacher was so mean to me today. I'm never going back to school."

Don't respond in anger. ("Stop talking like that.")  
Don't try to fix it. ("Here's what you need to do.")  
Instead, let your child know you are listening. "It sounds like you are really angry about that."  
Then set clear limits. "I want to listen to you, but I can't listen when you're angry. Come back when you can talk calmly and I will give you all the time you need."

For some children, that may be all it takes. But other kids may be so angry that they can't calm down. If your child won't leave the room, then you must leave.

When you listen to your child as he speaks calmly, you are showing him how to calm himself. You are also being a great model of how to deal with angry feelings in a positive way.

## How do other parents discipline their children?

It's happened again. Your child had a meltdown in the grocery store. Or the teacher called to say he lost his temper on the playground.

How do other parents get their kids to behave? They know that discipline is really a matter of being consistent. They work with their children to set clear rules. They make sure their kids know what happens if the rules are broken. Then they follow through every time.

Here are some other tips on helping your kids behave:

- **Help your child see** why rules matter. Talk about school rules, and let your child know you support them.
- **Listen to your child.** If he has problems try to work them out together.
- **Make sure your behavior** matches the behavior you want to see in your child.
- **Let your child experience** the results of his actions. If he doesn't do the project, don't do it for him.
- **Don't jump to conclusions** if the teacher calls with a problem at school. Listen and hear the facts before you take sides.

## Focus on How Your Child Can Learn From Mistakes

Your child brought the wrong book home and now her project will be late. We all make mistakes like that from time to time. When mistakes are viewed negatively, children learn to fear failure. Then they're less likely to take chances. They may not finish what they start because they fear they won't do it perfectly.

When your child makes a mistake, avoid making negative comments. Instead, use this as an opportunity to help her learn from her mistake. Here's how:

- **Stay calm** when you make a mistake.
- **Admit** when you make a mistake. Don't blame others. Say what you will do to correct it.
- **Thank your child** for pointing out a mistake you make in a kind and helpful way. Say it helps you improve.
- **Share mistakes** you made when you were a child. Stress what you learned.
- **Don't get angry** or say demeaning things when your child makes a mistake.
- **Be encouraging.** "Don't worry. We all make mistakes." "What can we learn from this?" Never say, "I knew that you couldn't do it."
- **Focus on things** your child does right – not always on what she does wrong.

# February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 January	27 Day 6	28 Day 1	29 Day 2	30 Day 3	31 Day 4	1
2	3 Day 5	4 Day 6	5 Day 1	6 Day 2	7 Day 3  Early Dismissal 1:15 PM	8
9	10 Day 4	11 Day 5	12 Day 6	13 Day 1	14 Day 2  Valentine Parties 2:00 PM  Snow Makeup Regular School Day	15
16	17 Day 3	18 Day 4	19 Day 5	20 Day 6	21 Day 1  Early Dismissal 1:15 PM	22
23	24 Day 2	25 Day 3	26 Day 4	27 Day 5	28 Day 6  Lori Lux's Birthday	29