The Silverstreak Connection

September, 2025 **Osakis, Minnesota**

Osakis Public School Welcomes New Staff!

We are happy to welcome several new staff members!
They have been asked to share some things about themselves so the community can get to know them better. Here are their responses in their own words.



"My name is **Alicia Gapinski**. I am from Little Falls, MN. I recently moved to Osakis with my boyfriend, Gavin, and our dog Pepper. We are so excited to be part of this community! I am currently teaching Second Grade at Osakis Elementary. Prior to working at Osakis Public School, I taught for six years in Little Falls, MN as a Second-Grade teacher. When I attended Minnesota State University Moorhead, I also worked as a Teacher Aide on campus with children ages 18 months to five years old. One of the best times in my life has been becoming an auntie. I value every moment I am able to spend with my family and friends, so spending time with my niece and nephew is truly the best! The best book I've read is *The Women* by Kristin Hannah. I really enjoy Kristin's writing and her ability to develop such impactful characters and storylines. The most humbling experience I've had in life has been working with children and their families. I have learned so much from all of my students and their families, which I will be forever grateful for. The best advice I have ever been given is to find balance in life. Nobody would believe it if I were seen skydiving because I do not like heights! A person I greatly admire is my mother, Cathy, because she is so calm, supportive, dependable and encouraging. If I could spend two hours with anyone, it would be my niece and nephew because we would have fun and be silly in whatever activity we would participate in! My goals as an employee at Osakis Public School is to create a classroom community/environment where students can be successful every day and build meaningful relationships with students, families, staff and community members.



"Hello everyone! I am **Madisen Lara**. I am super excited to get the opportunity to teach third grade literacy in the exact classroom that I once went to school in! I was raised in Osakis my whole life with my family: Jeff, Stacia, Alexis, Jacob, and Chase Johanson. Currently, my husband Kobie (who I met in fifth grade here), my son Tobias, and I reside in Sauk Centre. Prior to returning to Osakis Public School, I worked in the Alexandria School District at Lincoln elementary. I was a fifth-grade teacher there for three years. The best time in my life was meeting my son because it was such a surreal feeling. The best book that I have read is *Holes* because it is my favorite book to read aloud to my classes and we always have to watch the movie after. My most played music is currently anything by Forrest Frank. The most humbling experience in my life was becoming a parent. The best advice I have been given is to not worry about what is to come, but rather be focused on what is right in front of you. A time I knew I was at my best was when I received letters from students saying how much of a difference I made in their life. If I could spend two hours with anyone, it would be my late Grandpa Craig because I need to catch him up on everything that has happened since he passed and we would spend the time fishing on his boat together or drinking a pop in his garage. I believe the greatest challenge facing students today is electronics addiction because it can completely alter their thinking patterns and behaviors. My goals as an employee at Osakis Public School include giving back to the community that gave so much to me, creating relationships with students that last a lifetime, and immersing myself into the community that I want to raise my own family in. Thanks for learning about me!"



"Hello Osakis Silverstreak parents, families, and/or community members. I am **Jason Schultz**, the new High School Special Education teacher in Osakis. I have the pleasure of teaching Juniors and Seniors this year. I previously taught Special Education at the high school and elementary level for the past four years at Sauk Centre Public School before coming back to my hometown. My academic journey started in Osakis, graduating in 1997. I was born and raised here, and my father was also a graduate of Osakis. I am married to my wife (Renee), and we have two children (Alayna-10th grade) & (Easton-8th grade), and a yellow lab (Harlie). They are all Silverstreaks. My roots run deep as a Silverstreak, and I plan to continue that with my students as well, upholding the core values that were instilled during my high school journey here. I am, and have been, very active in the Osakis community; that helps make me a better educator in our community. The positive connections in the community that I have made will help me better serve my students as I transition them into the real world. I have been involved with the Osakis Ambulance, President and training officer of the Osakis First Responders, Treasurer & Banquet organizer of the Osakis Sportsmen's Club, Organizer of a walk for Congenital Heart Defects put on by Lasting Imprint (our son was born with a hole in his heart), Chairman of the Osakis Ducks Unlimited Chapter, a volunteer coach for many Osakis

cont., page 5

Superintendent's Message

Justin Dahlheimer



Welcome to the 2025-2026 School Year! As we move into another year of progress, I'd like to review our school's successes and challenges in accomplishing the vision laid out in the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan. You can view the Strategic Plan at this link (use the camera app on your phone to scan the QR code below):

Academics: *Every student is empowered to define his or her success through curriculum and programming that supports and enhances personal growth and achievement from preschool through graduation.*
Successes - We have joined a technology consortium, offering our high school students access to more classes and certifications, such as German, American Sign Language, a CNA nursing licensure, and more possibilities. Our school readiness program, Silverstreak Academy, offering 5-year-olds an all-day option prior to kindergarten, met its academic benchmark by having those students being among the most prepared for kindergarten based on initial academic screening.

Challenges - Due to space issues, we were forced to split up our early childhood programs. Head Start relocated to St. Agnes and this move resulted in over $10,000 in lost revenue and increased transportation/logistical costs.

Wellness: Engaged students, staff, parents, and community members supporting and valuing each other.
Successes - Our senior banners adorned our community with pride; community members participated in welcoming our students to school on Fridays throughout the school year, and our Silverstreaks Foundation raised over $100,000 in support of additional programming for our students thanks to the philanthropic support of our local community organizations - such as the VFW, Osakis Sportsman's Club, First National Bank of Osakis, and many more.
Challenges - Our junior and senior students lost their large lounge area due to the need to create another classroom to accommodate our interactive television classroom.

Staff: A supportive and empowering environment for all staff that fosters personal and professional growth, collaboration, and recognition.
Successes - We experienced the lowest staff turnover rate in over 8 years, retaining those valuable relationships our students depend on. Our high school agriculture program won the Regional Minnesota Agriculture Program of the Year. Ms. Jensen, one of those amazing teachers, was selected into the Teachers Turn the Key program. Our high school shop teacher, Mr. Kostrzewski, was selected for a week-long externship at FAST Global Solutions. BestPrep honored our social studies teacher, Mr. Stigman, with an educator excellence award.
Challenges - Many staff members had to move classrooms this summer to accommodate the growth in our staff and changes to academic programming. This was a large burden to our custodial staff and those staff members moving their classrooms and resulted in increased costs in equipping their spaces.

Community: Transparent communication on District challenges and successes that lead to increased community engagement towards mutually beneficial solutions, celebrations, and involvement.
Successes - For the 2nd consecutive year, our before-school community open house set attendance records. Our 2nd annual Career Fair grew in attendance and incorporated many alumni working in related businesses that could speak to their growth from graduation to their current jobs.
Challenges - We had low turnout for community meetings throughout the school year. We were limited in the number of community events we could support during the school day due to the security challenges posed by our current facility.

Facilities: A secure, accessible, and continuously improving school facility that students, staff, and community are proud to call home.
Successes - Walls were added in our Media Center to create a STEAM Lab, our 2nd floor nook to create extra space for our Business Lab classes, and a large elementary classroom was divided into two smaller classrooms to accommodate another teacher.
Challenges - A failed referendum in April meant large security and facility improvements were not possible due to the size of the investment needed. New equipment donated to our shop spaces are requiring expensive improvements to our aging infrastructure to properly use it. The wet summer led to many leaks in the roof over our 80-year old gym/auditorium area. We were unable to find an improved location for some of our special education programming due to our limited spaces that are accessible to those students.

Secondary Update

Brad Hoffarth, Secondary Principal



Thank you for your continued efforts to support Osakis Public School students and staff. Staff have worked extremely hard to connect with students, ensuring a productive and safe start to the school year. Ongoing communication plays a vital role in helping our school and community work together to maximize resources while providing high quality educational experiences in a safe environment.

Cafeteria & Lunch Updates
An average of 970 meals have been served daily between breakfast and lunch. Students are encouraged to provide feedback on menu options and there has been an increase in the number of students reporting that they like the number of food options available each day.

Electronic Device Policy
The bell-to-bell electronic device initiative has produced many positives over the first month of the school year. Academic benefits included improved focus and attention. There has been higher classroom participation and overall engagement in

learning. Social and emotional benefits have included increased face to face interaction between peers and staff. Students have reported decreased stress and anxiety associated with social media and the pressure of constant comparisons to others leading to a healthier school environment.

E-Cigarette/Vaping Awareness Resources
Our staff is committed to helping students establish healthy habits. We need to work together to educate our students on the risks associated with e-cigarettes and vaping. These habits have the potential to negatively impact people of all ages. Please take time to discuss this topic with family, friends, and colleagues. Resources are available at https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/tobacco/ecigarettes/index.html and https://digitalmedia.hhs.gov/tobacco/educator_hub/about/for_parents

Homecoming Week Activities – September 22–27
Homecoming week kicked off with coronation on Monday, September 22. The week was filled with a number of fun activities including daily dress up themes. Students cheered on their classmates at the powder puff football and power volleyball games on Wednesday, September 24. On Friday, September 26, students, staff and community members lined the streets for the homecoming parade, followed by a spirited pep fest. The week concluded with the Homecoming Dance on Saturday, September 27.

Upcoming Events

October
10/13 – Grades 7 - 12 Academic Grade Check
10/16–17 – MEA Break
10/20 – Grades 7 - 12 Academic Grade Check Follow-Up
10/31 – End of Quarter 1

November
11/3 – End of Quarter 1 Workshop
11/4 – Parent-Teacher Conferences
11/7 – OHS Red Cross Blood Drive
11/18 – FFA Donkey Basketball (7:00, HS Gym)
11/19 – OHS Career Fair (Grades 9–12, HS Gym)
11/24 – Academic Grade Check (Grades 7–12)
11/26 – Early Dismissal 1:00 p.m.

Elementary Update

Shad Schmidt, Elem. Principal



Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,
Welcome to another school year! The year has started off well and our students have settled into a routine. As we get into the depths of the school year please continue to communicate and collaborate with us. We look forward to seeing you at Parent-Teacher Conferences in November.

Yours in education,
Shad Schmidt - Elementary Principal

Important Dates to Remember
- **October 16 & 17:** No School – MEA Break
- **November 3:** No School – Teacher Workshop
- **November 4:** Parent-Teacher Conferences 12:30-7:30 pm
- **November 26:** Early Dismissal 1:00 pm
- **November 27 & 28:** No School – Thanksgiving Break

Classroom Highlights
- **Pre-School:** Students are getting into the routine of school.
- **Silverstreak Academy:** Students are learning to adjust to everyday/full day school.
- **Kindergarten:** Students are learning to adjust to a school schedule and the rigors of kindergarten.
- **1st Grade:** Students are learning how count by twos.
- **2nd Grade:** Students are learning how to spell independently by "tapping out" words.
- **3rd Grade:** Students are learning about long vowel sounds in their English Language Arts class.
- **4th Grade:** Students are learning about identifying an author's purpose in their writing.
- **5th Grade:** Students will be going to Carlos State Park on October 1.
- **6th Grade:** Students are learning how middle school functions and how to be more independent and responsible.

Septembers' Featured Teachers:
This month we recognize our two new teachers to us this year. Third grade reading teacher Mrs. Madisen Lara and Second grade teacher Ms. Alicia Gapinski. Both Mrs. Lara and Ms. Gapinski have settled into our school and bring years of teaching experience from other school districts. We have been excited to see them working with our students and see how they will continue to impact our students and school this year.

Students of the Month:
In this newsletter we want to recognize our Silverstreak Academy students. This is our second year of Silverstreak Academy and we have already witnessed the impact it has had on some of our incoming kindergarten students this year. We are so proud of these students and the growth they have made. We are excited to see how much this year's class grows throughout the year.

Upcoming Events this Fall
- **September 22-26:** Homecoming week activities
- **October 1:** 2nd grade field trip to Otter Cove / 5th grade field trip to Carlos State Park
- **October 31:** Fall classroom parties and costumes
- **December:** Elementary Music Concerts

Enjoy your fall!
Stay connected by following us on Facebook, Instagram, X, and our school website.

Community Baby Shower

Be on the lookout for our Community Baby Shower next spring! Gift bags for attending and prizes to win! Open to all expectant area families and families with children under age 2!

More information will be shared prior to the event next spring. This will be a great opportunity for families in the community to get connected with each other!

MENTAL HEALTH

Mikayla Johnson, Mike Steinbeisser, Lindsey Hinnenkamp, and Deputy Nicole Swanson



Back to School - A Time to Practice Resilience

The start of the school year is an exciting time, but regardless of age it comes with some inherent opportunities for increased anxiety and pressures for all of us. This year, we wanted to put a focus on using this time as an opportunity to practice Resilience Skills. Here are ten tips to help build resilience.

1. Be Proactive and Focus on what you can take action on
A key to building resilience is taking action and limiting the stress of things that can be under our control. A simple example of this might be to limit the bustle of getting ready for school in the morning by having an outfit picked out and ready to go and the backpack packed the night before.

2. Monitor and Manage how you use your time
During the busyness of the school year, our time can be a precious commodity. Encourage your student to set aside time for homework and to use their time wisely during the school day. In addition, it is important to set aside and protect some down time for your student to unwind and recharge. Monitoring and limiting time on technology is an important piece of this, as well.

3. Practice seeing Adversity as an Opportunity to Grow
There will be challenges that come up during the school year. Reframing these challenges as an opportunity to learn and grow can help keep them in a positive context.

4. Build Relationships
Having healthy relationships is key to fostering resilience. Establishing healthy relationships can take some work though. We might start by taking stock of the relationships we currently have and evaluating their health. We may need to be intentional about making new friendships and choosing to support ourselves with positive people.

5. Focus on the Present
Stress can become overwhelming if we're stuck on events from the past, and worried about what lies ahead in our future. Keeping our focus on where we are and what we are currently doing can help limit some of this stress. Sometimes some simple breathing or grounding exercises can help to keep us focused on the present.

6. Accept that Life isn't fair
This may seem harsh, but one way to protect ourselves and limit our stress is to limit our focus to things that can have a direct impact on our lives. There are times and situations that may seem unfair, but we can tire ourselves out by getting stuck on some of these situations. If a referee makes what we deem a bad call early in a game, it does us no good to complain and focus on that for the rest of the game. We will certainly miss several opportunities during the rest of the game to make a positive impact if that is where our focus lies.

7. Stay Flexible
It is important to be planful and have an idea of where our day is heading. But it is just as important to be flexible and understand that things can change. Instead of letting those changes knock us off course, be ready to adapt to those changes and accept them as they come.

8. Focus on what you can change
Similar to some already mentioned, it can be easy for us to focus on things outside of our control. If we work to keep our focus on the things we can change, we can improve our mood and ultimately our own situations. Sometimes, the only thing we may be able to change is our attitude.

9. Be grateful
Another key to building resilience is to get into the habit of identifying what we are grateful for. Intentionally practicing this on a daily basis by naming 3 things we are grateful for each day, is a great way to prepare ourselves to be able to do this during times of duress, as well.

10. Practice Resilience in the Real World
Practicing Resilience in the Real World ties in with tip number three. If we can reframe challenges as an opportunity to learn, grow, and practice our resilience in the real world, it helps keep our focus on moving forward and hopefully come out the other side a stronger person.





This summer, Kyle Kostrzewski attended the Teacher Externship Program hosted by FAST Global Solutions. Offered through Resource Training & Solutions, this program is designed to expose teachers to the skills and knowledge employers expect of future employees.

Counselor's Corner

Lindsay Kugel



Welcome back to another great school year! Fall activities and classes are in full swing. Getting into a good routine is very important for setting up a successful school year. Organization is also very important.

I encourage all students to use a planner for due dates for assignments, test/quiz dates, discussions and project deadlines. Whether you are taking high school classes or college classes, they can be stressful. Please let me know if you are struggling at any time so we can work out a plan together to be successful.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY
Applications have been distributed to qualifying juniors and seniors. Those wishing to apply will submit their applications to the NHS faculty council for review and consideration. Once they make their acceptance decisions, students will be announced and a ceremony will be held to induct the new members.

SENIOR BANNERS
We are working on a community partnership to celebrate our seniors with banners depicting each seniors' name and picture. These banners will be showcased on our street lights around the city from October through May. To make this possible, we are working with Rose City Canopy to produce the banners and have received generous donations from the VFW, Nelson Community Association, Osakis Lions, and the Osakis Women's Association. The cost of the banners is $95.00. If you would like to use funds from the donations, a discounted rate of $50.00 is available. Sponsorship to cover the entire cost of the banner is available as well. Please indicate which option works best for you on your order form. If you have not turned in your order form, please do so as soon as possible. You can contact me at lkugel@osakis.k12.mn.us or by phone at (320) 859-2191 ext. 1304.

If you are interested in sponsoring a student, please contact me as well.

DIRECT ADMISSIONS
Osakis High School is now a Direct Admission school! This means that student information will be uploaded to the Office of Higher Education. Students will be notified as to which colleges they are accepted at and from there they can continue to have conversations with the representatives from their colleges of interest.

FAFSA
The FAFSA form is set to open on October 1st. I will be available on Monday, November 4 during conferences for any families wanting help completing their FAFSAs. More information will be coming.

CAREER EXPO 2025
We will be hosting the Career Expo again this year on November 19 from 10am to 12pm in the High School Gymnasium. This is a great opportunity for local businesses to come in and visit with our students about career areas and potential opportunities. If there are any businesses that would like to attend, please contact me at lkugel@osakis.k12.mn.us and I will get you a space reserved. We want to provide as many opportunities and career areas to our students as possible.

Some important dates:
October 1- FAFSA opens
October 8- 9th grade Career Expo at Alexandria Technical & Community College from 9:00-11:30
November 19- Osakis Career Expo 10:00am-12:00pm

Seniors:
- Be filling out college applications. Direct Admissions information will be provided soon.
- Apply for any scholarships you qualify for.
- Submit your Free Application for Student Aide (FAFSA) as soon as possible to ensure you don't miss out on any federal grants you may qualify for.

Juniors:
- Start looking at colleges - go on tours of colleges you are interested in.
- Start a folder or binder for all your college planning information.
-Volunteer and participate in events. Those look great on your college and scholarship applications

(New Staff (cont., from page 1)

youth boys' and girls' teams, being an official for youth sports in Osakis, and have given many other hours of volunteering to other local organizations. Some other hobbies I have when I am not volunteering are hunting, fishing, golfing, and spending time with the family. When listening to music, the only music I listen to is country and I like to attend country music festivals. One of my best life experiences was taking a trip out to the Black Hills with my family a few years ago. Many great experiences and memories were made. I have also traveled to Yellowstone National Park with my son, nephew, and mom. Before teaching in the public-school setting, I worked at North Memorial Ambulance out of Alexandria for over 20 years as an Emergency Medical Technician. I have also taught basic First Aid/CPR courses, along with EMT initial and refresher courses. Those work experiences as an EMT have been very rewarding and humbling on many different occasions. Helping people on their worst day by showing empathy and compassion, and seeing the smiles on their faces when we have made a difference in their eyes. The greatest challenge in teaching students is to help them understand their full potential and develop confidence in their knowledge. My goal as an Osakis Public School teacher is to continue the strong tradition of excellence in our students, both in and out of the classroom, just as it was instilled in me many years ago. I believe the greatest challenge facing students is stress, because they're being pulled in so many different directions that sometimes it's hard to just be a kid. My goal as an employee at Osakis Public School is to positively impact as many lives as I can."

School Resource Officer Update

Deputy Nicole Swanson



Summer flew by, and I'm truly grateful to be back at Osakis Public School for the second year of my two-year contract as the School Resource Officer. From the start, this school community has welcomed me with open arms and supported meaningful improvements in school safety. That support has made my role both impactful and rewarding.

During Staff Development Day, I had the opportunity to present to Osakis teachers and staff important safety reminders, reunification training from the "I Love U Guys" Foundation that Superintendent Dahlmeier and I attended this summer, and updates on the multi-jurisdictional law enforcement training at the school. Together, we've made significant safety improvements in just one year and I'm proud of what we have accomplished as a team.

When I reflect on school safety, I always come back to one key factor: relationships. Trusted, positive relationships, whether at home, in the community, or in school are the foundations of a safe and supportive school. When students feel connected and have trust in their environment, it greatly enhances their emotional well-being and academic success.

One way Osakis Public School has supported these goals is by eliminating cell phone use during school hours. While this can be a controversial topic, it has been a powerful step in creating a more focused and connected learning environment. Without constant digital distractions, students are engaging in more face-to-face conversations, developing empathy, seeking support from trusted adults, and being fully present in class. Limiting cell phone use has also helped reduce cyberbullying, prevented the rapid spread of misinformation, and has limited inappropriate content on school grounds, all of which directly contribute to a safer school community.

Please remember that my role here is to support students, staff, and families. If you see something concerning, say something, either by reaching out to the school directly or using the anonymous tip line on the school website. Additional resources can also be found under the "School Resource Officer" tab in the Student and Family Services section online.

If you ever have questions or concerns, feel free to stop by the school, call the school office, or reach out to me directly.

I'm looking forward to another safe and successful year at Osakis Public School. Thank you for your continued support!

Stay Safe,
Deputy Nicole

Nurse Notes

Angie Baker-Milhausen



Another year has started here at Osakis Public School and we have all been very busy getting things back on track. One of the big concerns at the start of every school year is making sure that all the students have their required immunizations. Immunizations are tracked by clinics and schools, but should also be done at home. Before a child enters kindergarten, they are required to have 5 Dtap, 4 IPV, 3 Hep B, 2 MMR and 2 Varicella vaccines. When entering seventh grade a TDAP injection and meningitis immunization is required, also after the age of 16 and before senior year there is another meningitis vaccine that is required. Having a copy of childhood immunization at home can be very helpful, not only for a student's school age years, but also as they get older and head to college and on to employment. Please take a minute to look through your children's vaccination records and if you don't have one already, consider getting a copy from the clinic or your child's Skyward account under the health tab. Once there you will see all the vaccination dates that have been provided to the school. If you choose to be a conscientious objector to vaccines for either personal or medical reasons there is a form that will need to be filled out and have notarized on file with the school. Anytime there is a new required dose a new form will need to be filled out and notarized. Currently the requirements are Kindergarten, 7th grade and after the age of 16 before senior year; these are the times new forms will be needed. Please contact me if you would like to get an objection form and I will get one to you.

Medications In School: No student can carry any medication, (prescription or over-the-counter), with them during the day. The only exception to this policy is an inhaler for asthma, and then a doctor's order is required to be on file in the health services office. These orders have to be renewed every year.

If you want your child to take ANY medication during school hours, whether it's prescription or over-the-counter, we need to have parental permission. For all prescription medications a note from your child's doctor is required with the directions on how they would like it administered, along with an original bottle from the pharmacy. Having the directions on the bottle is not enough. If at any time you have questions regarding our Medication at School Policy, please contact me and I will try to answer your concerns.

There are currently a lot of concerns regarding food allergies and intolerances. If your child has either a food allergy or intolerance and you need the classroom or the cafeteria to make them a special diet at school, we have forms that need to be filled out and signed by a medical doctor. SFE has forms on the school website. Please contact me so we can make these dietary changes a smooth transition for your child.

Lastly, please think about any health concerns you feel need to be shared with the school. Concerns such as medications that they are taking, (even if they are taking them at home as there is always the possibility of a reaction) diagnosis of any disease, allergies, and behaviors. We all do the best we can to educate children and keep them safe, but we also need education on their health care needs.

I am in my office from 8:10am to 3:10 p.m. any day that children are present. Please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns that you may have at 320-859-2191 and when you hear the recording press 4 for health services.

Media Center News

Jennifer Otremba, District Media, Innovation & Design Specialist



Preparing Leaders

Each week in the STEAM Lab, our students not only explore hands-on projects in science, technology, engineering, art, and math, but also build essential digital skills guided by the ISTE (International Society for Technology in Education) Standards for Students. These standards help prepare children to thrive in a world where creativity, collaboration, and responsible technology use are more important than ever. ISTE standards that we focus on in the STEAM Lab are:

- Digital Citizen – Understanding safe, responsible, and ethical use of technology.
- Innovative Designer – Applying design thinking to solve problems creatively.
- Computational Thinker – Breaking problems into steps and using logical strategies.
- Creative Communicator – Expressing ideas clearly in collaboration with others.
- Empowered Learner – Using technology to take an active role in their learning.

By weaving these standards into our weekly activities - whether it's programming robots, building things, or completing a team challenge together - students are building the confidence and skills they need to become capable problem-solvers and thoughtful digital citizens.

Supporting Readers

The library is up and running for the school year with students eagerly checking out books to bring home each week! Here a few reminders:

- Take time to enjoy the books - Students can keep their books for multiple days (and over the weekend!) so they have plenty of time to read and enjoy them. Earlier readers may want to bring their books back on Monday/Tuesday so they can check out new books on Wednesday/Thursday. Readers enjoying chapter books are welcome to keep them for a couple of weeks so they finish them, and if they check in with Chris, they can renew them for longer, if needed.
- Treat books with care - We want our books to last a long time so other readers can enjoy them, too! Remember to avoid reading books while eating or drinking, take precautions to keep books clean and intact, and establish a place where students can safely store and enjoy their books until they are ready to bring them back.
- Read together - Carve out some special time to read with your younger kiddos, they love reading with their loved ones! If you're not available to read each day, invite them to read a book to a stuffed animal or calm pet in the household. Practice makes permanent!

We are thrilled to see the excitement among our students as they explore and enjoy their books. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me at jotremba@osakis.k12.mn.us.

High School Activities

Pat Kalpin, Activities Director



It has been a great start to the new school year! At this time, we are in the fall sports season. It has been an enjoyable fall school year to date!

Every year, we like to remind everyone who attends events at home and away of the responsibilities and expectations at events, and let's not forget that when we travel to another community, it is everyone's responsibility to make sure we leave a positive lasting impression as visitors to their school and community.

Participants

- Be respectful of teammates and opponents before, during, and after each contest.
- Be gracious in victory or defeat.
- Play within the rules and accept the outcomes, win or lose.
- Conduct themselves at all times with honesty, integrity, poise, and composure.
- Be respectful of the officials.
- Demonstrate sportsmanship at all times and act as positive role models.

Coaches

- Set, promote, and maintain standards of good sportsmanship with their coaching staff, students, athletes, and fans.
- Respect the decisions of game officials and behave appropriately in their interactions with officials.
- Maintain their composure at all times.
- Use positive coaching techniques to motivate and teach desired results.
- Treat mistakes as opportunities for learning.
- Positively acknowledge the efforts of their opponents.

Spectators

- Respect game officials, players, coaches, and fans.
- Recognize outstanding performances on either side of the playing field.
- Be exemplary role models of sportsmanship by supporting teams in every positive manner.
- Maintain composure at all times.
- Respect the effort and decisions of the coaches, officials, and athletes.
- No insults or personal comments of any kind are to be directed towards game officials, coaches, or athletes.
- Attendance at Interscholastic Activities is a Privilege with the Expectation to Exhibit Positive and Respectful Behavior.

If we all can follow these simple expectations, the experience for our student-athletes, coaches, spectators, and officials will be enjoyable and successful. Remember, students participating are working hard and are there to have fun!

GO SILVERSTREAKS!

OSAKIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
P.O. Box X
Osakis MN 56360

POSTAL CUSTOMER

Non-Profit Org.
Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage Paid
Osakis, MN
56360
Permit No. 3

Early Childhood Screening Information

EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING IS A CHECK ON HOW YOUR CHILD IS GROWING AND DEVELOPING. EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING HELPS YOU:

FIND OUT HOW YOUR CHILD IS DOING. CONNECT YOU AND YOUR CHILD TO EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS AND OTHER COMMUNITY SERVICES. ANSWER YOUR PARENTING QUESTIONS.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING SCREENING?

TRAINED PROFESSIONALS WILL CHECK YOUR CHILD'S:

VISION & HEARING, HEALTH HISTORY, IMMUNIZATION RECORDS
HEIGHT/WEIGHT/GROWTH, SKILLS IN THINKING, COMMUNICATION & LANGUAGE
LARGE/SMALL MUSCLES, SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ALL OF THIS INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT FOR YOUR CHILD'S CONTINUED LEARNING AND READINESS FOR FUTURE SCHOOL SUCCESS. AFTER THE SCREENING, YOU WILL BE GIVEN A FULL REPORT OF YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING AND GROWTH. INFORMATION TO SUPPORT YOUR JOB AS A PARENT WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE. SCREENING IS REQUIRED FOR ENTRANCE INTO KINDERGARTEN.

CONTACT SHARI KLUKKEN, ELEMENTARY SECRETARY, 320-859-2191 X 1195 TO SCHEDULE TODAY



The District 213 Newsletter publishes several issues per year. If you have questions please contact Justin Dahlheimer, School Superintendent, at 320-859-2191

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Osakis Agriculture Education/ FFA Report:

Osakis FFA Gears Up for a Fun-Filled Year

The Osakis FFA chapter is off to a busy and exciting start, filled with activities that combine learning, leadership, and plenty of laughs.

This past summer, members enjoyed Summer Ag Class, where hands-on learning was just as fun as spending time with friends. The Summer Officer Retreat took the new officer team to Itasca State Park for three days of planning, leadership activities, and outdoor adventures. With campfires, teamwork, and plenty of bonding, the retreat set the stage for a strong year ahead.

The new officer team includes Levi Middendorf, Leila Sanford, Riley Kreemer, Addie Roering, Ava Kallstrom, Tucker Kreemer, Abigail Fiskness, Jaxon Christner, and Justin Maus, who are excited to lead the chapter into another successful year.

FFA members also got involved in the community this summer at the Douglas County Fair, where kids enjoyed visiting the FFA Barn. Members Abby Fiskness, Riley Kreemer, and Leila Sanford even made it to the Minnesota State Fair, helping out at the popular Miracle of Birth Center where thousands of fairgoers learned about agriculture and witnessed baby animals being born.

Looking ahead, the calendar is already packed. The much-anticipated FFA Tractor Drive rolled in on September 20, bringing plenty of horsepower and school spirit. Then in November, FFA will host Donkey Basketball on November 18, with tickets priced at $10 in advance and $15 at the door; a guaranteed night of laughter and fun.

September has been a busy month, with the Chapter Meeting on September 22, followed quickly by Fall Rally and COLT on September 24. Both events promise leadership, new experiences, and chances for members to connect with other chapters.

And just around the corner, the National FFA Convention is happening at the end of October. This incredible event draws thousands of FFA members from across the country for days filled with workshops, speakers, and unforgettable experiences; our chapter can't wait to be part of it!

Through it all, the Osakis FFA chapter continues to live its motto: "Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve." With so many exciting activities ahead, it's clear this year will be one to remember!