

# "Arrr" News

November 13, 2009  
Issue 116



## Diversity Quote of the Week:

We have become not a melting pot but a beautiful mosaic. Different people, different beliefs, different yearnings, different hopes, different dreams.

—Jimmy Carter

## Plank Spirit Week—Nov. 16-20

Mon., 11/16 PJ Day (Yes, again!)

Tues., 11/17 Fancy Feet Day—wear crazy shoes or socks

Wed., 11/18 Twins/Multiples Day—dress as a group of siblings

Thurs., 11/19 Crazy Hair/Hat Day

Fri., 11/20 Pirate Pride Day, dress like a pirate OR  
8th—Black, 7th—Purple, 6th—White/grey

## This Week's Top Pirates

Congratulations to this week's Top Pirates for displaying excellent character!

6th Grade: Arturo DeLaCruz

Omar Salcedo

7th Grade: Kyle Kane

Chris Rivera

8th Grade: Dianne Mendiola

Dylan Schaack



Keep it up, Pirates!

**Plank Home and School invites you  
to come and shine at the...**

# Neon Dance

**Wear your neon color outfit and join your friends  
in the brightest dance of the year!**

**Friday, November 20th**

**7-9 pm**

**Admission \$2**

*(Must bring your School ID)*

**There will be soda pop, water, pizza, candy and glow in  
the dark bracelets and necklaces for sale.**

## 8th Graders to take EXPLORE Test

All 8th grade students will take the EXPLORE Test the morning of Tuesday, November 24. The results of the EXPLORE will help us make appropriate high school placement decisions for students during spring registration. The EXPLORE also gives us valuable information about student interests which we use to help students build plans for their future. More information will be shared with students next week, but students are encouraged to read more about the EXPLORE and do the sample test questions at <http://www.explorestudent.org>.

## Upcoming Sports Events

Mon., 11/16 Boys Bball v. Thompson — 8 Away, 7 Home

Tues., 11/17 Boys Bball v. Plano — 8 Away, 7 Home

Wrestling v. Simmons — Home

Thurs., 11/19 Boys Bball v. Traugher — 8 Away, 7 Home

Wrestling v. Traugher — Home

Games and matches begin at 4:15PM unless otherwise noted. Students who come to cheer on the Pirates must leave after school but may return at 4PM.



**November 21  
through  
December 14**

Plank Junior High will be hosting our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Toys for Tots drive. We will be collecting new toys to donate to families in the community who are currently having financial difficulties. Please bring all toys to your homeroom teacher in exchange for a raffle ticket. On December 17, the lucky raffle winners will be able to serve as elves and help the Fire Department load up all the new gifts that Plank families have donated. Afterwards, all elves and their families will be invited to eat breakfast at the new firehouse on Woolley Road. They will also have their picture taken with the Oswego Fire Department which will be submitted to both of our local newspapers. The more you donate, the better chance you have to take part in this special event and brighten someone's holiday.

## Has your contact info changed?

Do you have a new cell number?  
Don't use your home phone anymore?  
Have you opened a new email account?  
Have you moved?

Has there been a change in your student's guardians or emergency contact person?  
Have any of their phone numbers or addresses changed?  
Did you change jobs?

We have recently come across many incorrect or disconnected contact numbers or addresses for our students and we need your help! If any of your contact information has changed recently, please be sure to call the Plank office at 630-551-9400 and help us update our records. Thank you!



## Want to help us spread some holiday cheer?

Home and School is looking for **volunteers** for our **Plank Holiday Celebration** Saturday, December 12 at Plank from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

### Volunteers are needed for:

- Set up and decoration (Friday, December 11th starting at 3pm)
- Final set up, vendor registration, concession stands, ticket booths, etc. during the activity. (Three shifts: 8-10 am/10-12:30pm/12:30-3pm)
- Turn down (beginning at 3 pm).

Admission to the activity will be a new, unwrapped toy or cash donation starting at \$5 for the Mutual Ground Center for Battered Women and Children. All additional funds raised will go towards our Teacher Grants Program.

For more information or to sign up as a volunteer, contact us as soon as possible. Please leave your name, your student's name and grade, contact information and availability to volunteer.

Ilia Rivera at (630) 696-2601, Crystal Reed at (630) 551-7667 or email us at [plankvolunteers@yahoo.com](mailto:plankvolunteers@yahoo.com)

## Last Chance to Donate PJ's

The 8th grade Language Arts classes will be collecting PJ's through November 24. They are participating in a Service Learning project, The Plank Pajama Program, and have already collected over 80 pairs of pajamas for needy children. Plank students are partnering with Scholastic Books, who have pledged to donate a new bedtime story book for each pair of pajamas collected. Panera Bread of Oswego has also begun advertising for this wonderful cause. For more information, visit the Plank Pajama Project blog at <http://plankpajamaprogram.blogspot.com/>



## Happy American Education Week! November 18-20

### Vote for OEHS — Earn \$5,000 for Athletics

The Oswego East Athletics Department is participating in a local high school contest presented by Red Gold Tomatoes. The high school with the most votes by November 30 will win a \$5,000 donation to their Athletic Department. Please visit [www.redgold.com/chicago](http://www.redgold.com/chicago). Enter your information and choose **OSWEGO EAST HIGH SCHOOL** as your school to sponsor. We are currently ranked in the Top 5 schools. Anyone living in Illinois or Indiana and who are 18 or older can enter.

OEHS is also collecting Red Gold Tomato can labels (including the UPC code) from now until Friday, November 20. Each label is worth one vote, and they may be turned into the office at school. We will forward them to OEHS, and they will be turned into Red Gold Tomatoes by the deadline date. On the back of your label, please print:

**Oswego East High School  
Oswego, IL**

Thank you for your support of this tremendous opportunity to earn money for OEHS Athletics. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Conlee, OEHS Sports Boosters representative, at 554-2105.



## P/T Conferences filling up fast!

All parents are strongly encouraged to sign up for Parent-Teacher Conferences, which will take place on Monday, November 23 and Tuesday, November 24. Sign up is online at <http://pljh308.ptcwizard.com>. If you do not have Internet access, please contact Mrs. Zenia Cisneros at 630-551-9408.