**Upcoming Events...**

- Sun Nov 20 1:00pm - WAIM Walk for Warmth - join us, if you can, to support our local community in this annual event
- Mon Nov 21 - Muffin Monday
- Tues Nov 22 - Stone Soup - All the children will make the soup in the morning and sample it at lunchtime as part of their lunch
- Nov 23-25 - Thanksgiving Break, No School
- Thurs Dec 1st 6:30 pm - Lower and Upper Elementary Classroom Story Telling Night
- Fri Dec 16th 6:30 pm - All School Winter Music Concert

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**November - the month of Thanks and Giving**

November is a time for giving thanks and remembering all the gifts we have in our lives. It is a time to reflect and give thanks for the year behind us, and to give thanks for the possibilities that lie ahead.

This has been a whirlwind of a fall for my family, as we have had three of our children start at new schools. The gratitude that I have always had for Oak Grove grows deeper as my children have left here and have moved on. This school is a part of them. I see that in each of them every day. The choices they make, the paths they travel and the speed bumps they encounter, are all navigated by the foundation that they built here. I hear from their teachers and their friend’s parents that they have brought a kindness and a balance to their peer group that is noticeable. Do I still get frustrated that they leave their dirty clothes all over the house? Yes! And getting them out the door in the morning is like herding cattle! But as my children’s choices get harder and their struggles become more intense, my gratitude and deep appreciation and understanding for Oak Grove grows stronger. I am excited for them and their futures. I am thankful to welcome their journeys with joy and not anxiety.

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**Sue’s Picks**

Recommended Reading:

*Blessings of a Skinned Knee* by Wendy Mogel. The author covers realistic expectations for each child, respect for adults, chores, mealtime battles, coping with frustration, developing independence and self-control, and resisting over-scheduling and over-indulgence.

*The Gift of Failure* by Jessica Lahey. Lahey reminds us that over parenting robs children the opportunity to learn to solve their own problems. She helps the reader find the right parenting balance.

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A huge thank you to all who helped make this year’s Hibernation Festival such a wonderful success!

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As we head toward Thanksgiving, I give thanks to the entire Oak Grove community. It is all of you who make our school so special. May your holiday season be filled with family, friends and the spirit of gratitude.

Thank you. Sue Angelides
And here are a few reminders of why we are Grateful and Thankful for Oak Grove...