

THE OWL'S HOOT

By Natalie Harris and Russ Harper

Oak Hall Episcopal School

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Editors' Note

Welcome to this year's first edition of the Owl's Hoot Quarterly. Natalie and I are very excited to finally bring you the Owl's Hoot. I'm Russ by the way. Everything you will see here was written by us. This year our goal was to create a positive review of this past quarter, kind of a self pat on the back. If you look at our last newspaper we were always looking to the future, but we never looked back to appreciate all we had already done. Well, this time you will learn all about our school, what we have done, and what is to come. So please, sit back, relax, and enjoy the Owl's Hoot.



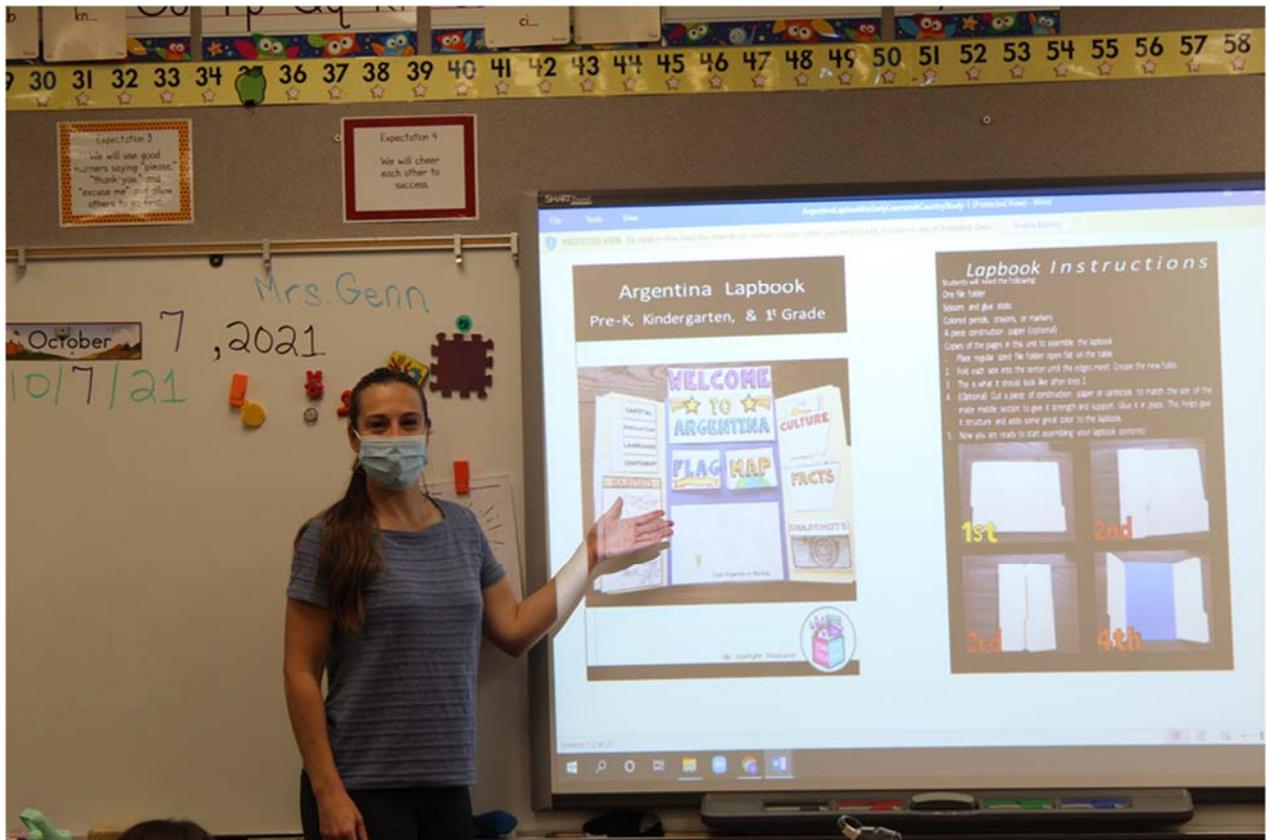
About Our School

Here at Oak Hall we strive to create a healthy learning environment where kids can learn about important skills and about the love of Christ. We teach grades from EC3 (Early Childhood) to Eighth Grade. We give all of our students opportunities to learn about the world around them. We want our students to be the best that they can be.



Mrs. Wallis

- *How long have you been a teacher?* I've been a teacher for 42 years.
- *Where did you teach before coming to Oak Hall?* I taught at Sulphur for 14 years.
- *Did you have a job before you were a teacher?* I used to be a Speech Pathologist.
- *Did you always want to be a teacher?* At first I wanted to be a pharmacist.
- *Who is your favorite student?* I love all of my students.
- *What is your favorite subject to teach?* My favorite subject to teach is language.
- *Where did you go to school?* I went to Ardmore High school, and I went to college at Oklahoma State University, Philip's State University, and Southeastern Oklahoma State University.
- *Is there anything else you would like to share?* My new grandbaby was born, and my husband is retiring this year!



Mrs. Genn

- *How long have you been at Oak Hall?* This is my first year.
- *Have you worked at any other schools?* Yes, I have worked at two schools in Florida.
- *What did you do before you were a teacher?* I used to work in a bank, and at a car auction.
- *Have you always wanted to be a teacher?* Yes, I used to play school with my dolls.
- *What is your favorite subject to teach?* I enjoy teaching science.
- *Do you have children?* Yes, I have one son named Asher.
- *What school did you go to?* Florida Atlantic University.
- *Why did you choose First Grade?* It was the only opening at Oak Hall.
- *What are your hobbies?* I like outdoor activities like camping.
- *Is there anything else you would like share?* I really enjoy working at Oak Hall.



Mrs. Bartgis

- *How long have you been a teacher?* I've been a teacher for 17 years.
- *Did you teach at a school before Oak Hall?* I worked at Plainview Elementary.
- *How many years have you taught at Oak Hall?* This is my sixth year at Oak Hall.
- *What was your job before you were a teacher?* I was Mrs. Wallis' helper at Kiddie Land.
- *What job did you want to have?* I have always wanted to be a teacher.
- *Who is your favorite student?* I love all of my students.
- *What is your favorite subject to teach?* My favorite subject to teach is language. I also love teaching and fostering the love of reading because Second Grade reads to learn.
- *What are your hobbies?* I like sitting on the back porch enjoying the view of nature.
- *Where did you go to school?* I earned my degree from East Central University.
- *Is there anything else you would like to share?* Yes—My mom is British, and I was born in England.

Third Grade Forest Dioramas

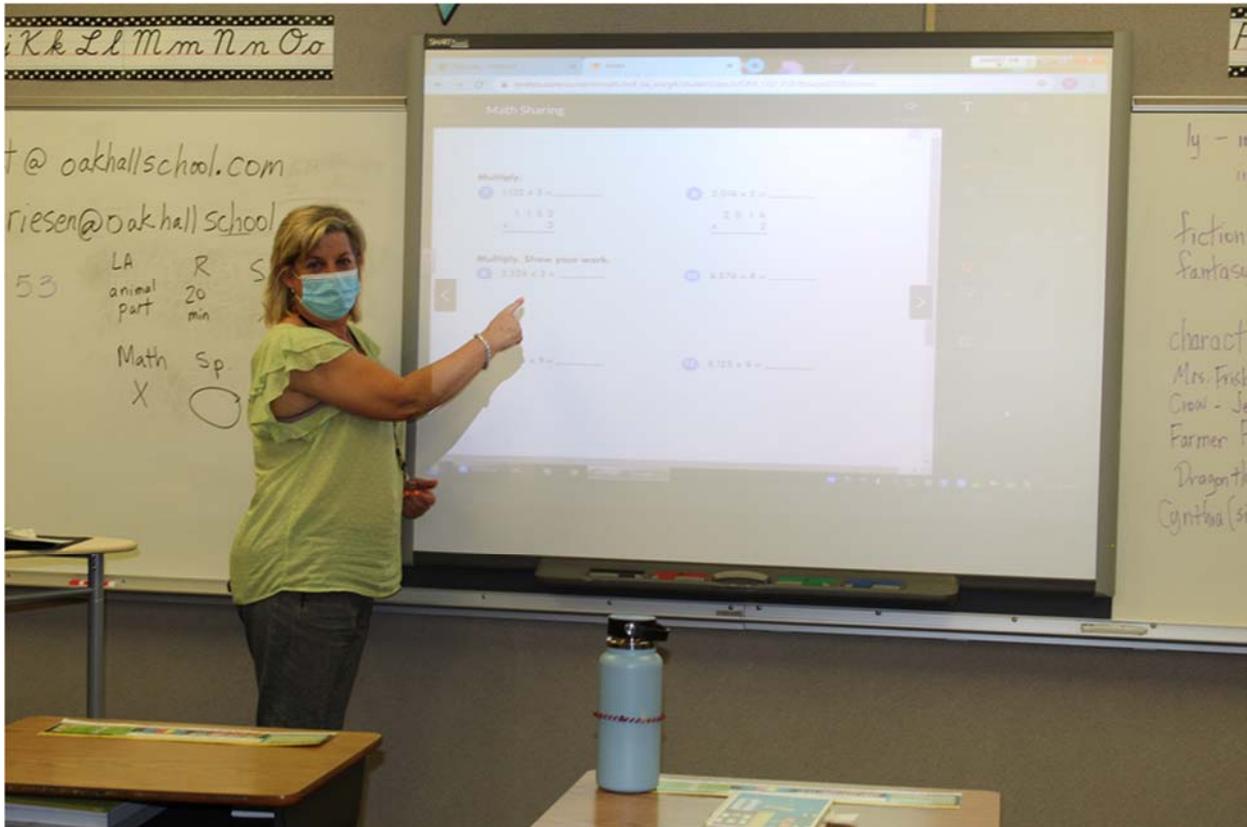
Last summer our Third Grade was assigned with reading “Magic Tree House – Afternoon On The Amazon”.

When students got back to school, they created forest dioramas to represent the setting in the Amazon Rain Forest.



Mrs. Beard

- *How long have you been at Oak Hall?* This is my third year at Oak Hall.
- *Where did you teach before coming to Oak Hall?* Before I worked here, I worked at Lincoln Elementary for 14 years.
- *What grades have you taught?* I have taught First through Fifth Grade.
- *Did you have a job before you were a teacher?* I used to be an accountant.
- *Did you always want to be a teacher?* I've always wanted to be a teacher. "Life takes detours along the way".
- *Who is your favorite student?* I don't have a favorite student.
- *What is your favorite grade to teach?* I don't have a favorite grade.
- *What special project is your class working on this quarter?* The summer reading project is over the summer book, "Magic Treehouse — Afternoon on the Amazon". Now they have also created Forest dioramas.



Mrs. Riesen

- *How many years have you taught at Oak Hall?* This is my 35th year to teach at Oak Hall.
- *Where did you teach before Oak Hall?* No where. I used to be a clothing store manager.
- *Who is your favorite student?* All the students are my favorite.
- *What is your favorite class to teach?* My favorite class to teach is math.
- *Do you have children, and where did they go to school?* We have two boys, and they both attended Oak Hall. My son Andrew now lives in Miami, Florida, and Blake lives here in Ardmore.
- *What are your hobbies?* I like to read, play cards, travel, and work puzzles.
- *Have you always wanted to be a teacher?* At first I wanted to be a fashion designer, but my mom said that being a teacher would be rewarding.
- *Where did you go to school?* I attended the University of Oklahoma.
- *Is there anything else you would like to share?* I love teaching, and I feel blessed to work at Oak Hall.

Fifth Grade Landforms Project

Here in Oklahoma we have a lot of different landforms, so it is good to learn about them. Each Fifth Grade student created a clay version of America which identified the unique landforms. Forms included the Mississippi river, the Great Plains, and the Rocky and Appalachian Mountains.



Mrs. Williams

- *How long have you been a teacher?* I've been a teacher for 11 years. I taught Fifth Grade at Lincoln for four years.
- *What did you do before you were a teacher?* I used to be an orthodontic assistant.
- *Who is your favorite student?* All of my students are my favorite.
- *What are your favorite classes?* My favorite classes to teach are science and history.
- *Why did you choose Fifth Grade?* I chose Fifth Grade to have a better connection with my students.
- *What are your hobbies?* I love fishing and going on cruises.
- *Did you go to school in Ardmore?* Yes, I went to Plainview.



Mrs. Beard



Mrs. Williams

Sydney Daugherty

Sydney started at OHES in EC3 and graduated Eighth Grade in May 2021

- *What school do you go to?* I go to Plainview High School.
- *What is different about your school?* It's a lot bigger, there are older kids who can drive, are about to drive, and are about to be in college.
- *What subjects are you studying?* Currently, I am studying Algebra 1, Public Speaking, Biology, Pre-AP Art, OK History, and Pre-AP English.
- *What is the hardest subject?* Without a doubt, Pre-AP English.
- *Do you have homework?* Yes, I have homework every day. It's very rare for me not to have homework.
- *How much per day?* I would say about three to four things in most subjects.
- *What sports do you play, if any?* I am running Cross Country.
- *Is your new school harder than Oak Hall?* It really depends on the subject I think, but it's both harder and easier.
- *What do you miss about Oak Hall?* The fun field trips and team building.
- *What is one of your favorite memories of Oak Hall?* There are several things that stand-out. Seventh Grade Alumni Day when my best friend Sam came to school and hung out with my other friends and me; the Boston trip; and, the Fifth Grade lock-in when we played hide and seek and one of my friends stood in the sink.

Gemma Willy

Gemma started at OHES in First Grade and graduated Eighth Grade in May 2021

- *What school do you go to?* I go to St. Stephen's Episcopal School.
- *What is different about your school?* It's a boarding and day school for grades 6-12. There are a variety of sports. The campus is big and to get from class to class you have to walk outside.
- *What subjects are you studying?* Currently, I'm studying Biology, World History, Geometry, Chinese 1, and English.
- *What is the hardest subject?* My hardest subject is probably Geometry or World History.
- *Do you have homework?* Yes, it is highly unlikely to go a day without homework.
- *How much per day?* I would say I get one to three things in almost every class.
- *What sports do you play, if any?* Currently, I do cheer, but I'm doing fitness training and track later in the year.
- *Is your new school harder than Oak Hall?* It depends on the subject, but yes, my school is very tough academically.
- *What do you miss about Oak Hall?* Going to a new school in a different state is difficult. I miss my friends and teachers. I miss not having homework every night.
- *What is one of your favorite memories of Oak Hall?* I have so many good memories of Oak Hall. Two of my favorites are the lock-in we had in Fifth Grade, and the trip to Boston, Massachusetts, in Sixth Grade.

A Note From Dr. Willy

This newsletter was created by Natalie and Russ as part of their Middle School elective. This one hour class was held three days each week. During this time, the two students were responsible for taking photos, gathering information including interviewing teachers, and e-mailing questions to Sydney and Gemma. They also needed to decide on the layout for their work.

Sadly, at the beginning of October, Russ left the School as his family relocated to Pennsylvania. Although a large proportion of the information gathering had been completed, Natalie finished the remaining interviews, took more photographs, and worked on the editing and formatting of the written portions.

I hope you join me in congratulating these two students on their work.

Jokes

Why couldn't the pony sing a lullaby?

She was a little "horse".

Why did the scarecrow win an award?

He was outstanding in his field.

Why do bees have sticky hair?

Because they use honey-combs.

Why do we tell actors to "break a leg"?

Because every play has a cast.

Activities

Scavenger Hunt

Can you find these items in your house?

Try and find...something:

1. fluffy

2. round

3. with legs

4. that rolls

5. keeps you warm

6. you color with

7. that floats

8. red with stripes

9. you play with

10. shiny

11. with buttons

12. you can wear