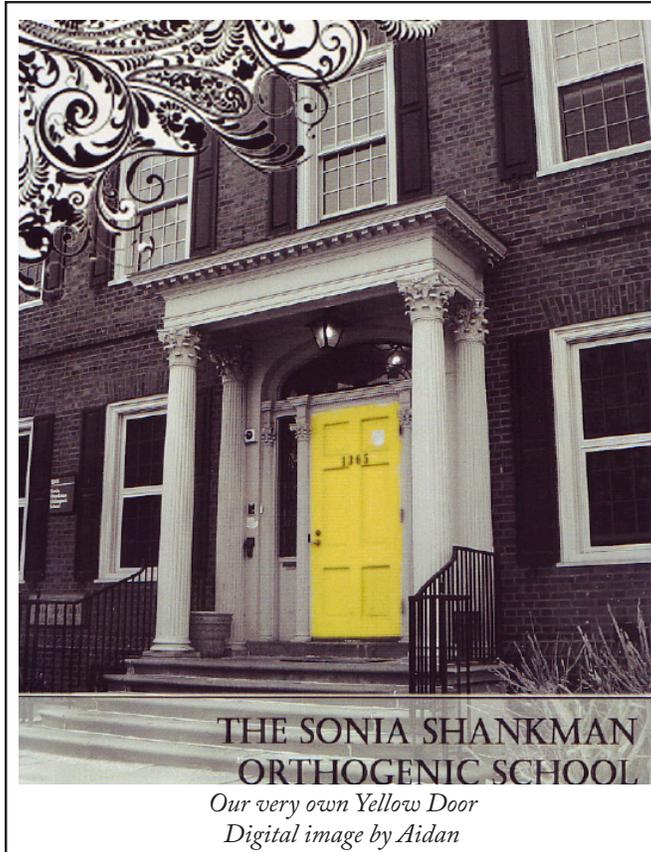


Looking Back At An O'School Year

By India

From the end of August until now, so many things have happened at the O'School. For those who have been at the school for that long, you will look back on these days, smiling, and remember how much fun you had, or how much of a disaster you thought it was. Either way, these things were very uniquely O'School.

Many people remember the talent show and holiday party. Many classrooms, as well as individuals, performed at the talent show. Highlights included the Xenophiles doing a skit, Valaria doing a news cast, Olivia dancing and rapping, Jordyn singing "The Climb" by Mi-



THE SONIA SHANKMAN
ORTHOGENIC SCHOOL

*Our very own Yellow Door
Digital image by Aidan*

Continued on page 8

O'School Olympians To Your Positions

By Kevin D.

The O' School Olympics come around only once a year and are a special treat, sort of like your birthday. It is full of events ranging from sports to crosswords and sudoku. The following paragraphs explain the events that the students participated in, and the staff that made them possible. These are their stories. DunDun.

The O' School Olym-



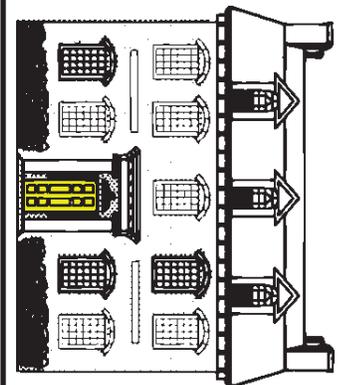
*The Olympic Rings
Photo by YDC staff, Chris*

Continued on page 7

Volume 6
Issue 4
JUNE 2011

Year 11 Door Chronicles

The student newspaper of the
Sonia Shankman Orthogenic School



yellow Learn

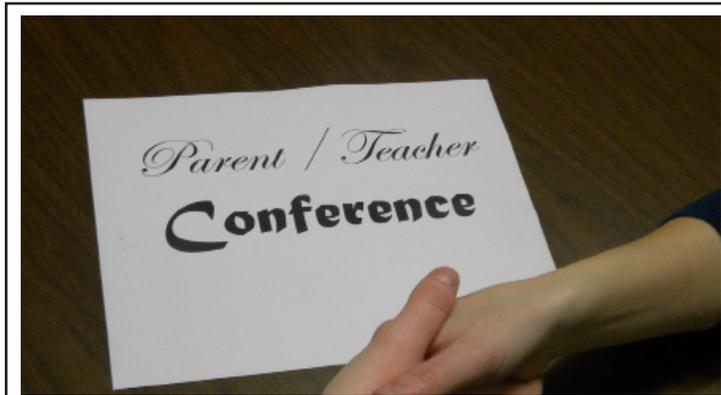
Parents and Teachers Meet and Greet

By India

On Monday, April 11, at 2:30, your base class teacher exits the room, leaving your class with just one adult. At 2:35, maybe you hear unfamiliar footsteps walking up to the gym. It happens the next day, then again on Thursday. Then you realize; it's the week of parent/teacher conferences!

Many people play a role in parent/teacher conferences; parents are one very important, and obvious, part of conferences. Many parents come to the school to meet with their child's teachers. They meet in the Big Gym. Parent/teacher conferences are like speed dating, in that teachers and therapists are sitting at tables, divided by subject, (or, in the therapist's cases, all at one table). Parents then have the opportunity to travel around the gym, hearing teachers' reports on how amazing their child is. Sometimes, conferences are almost as awkward as speed dating, too, depending on what news teachers have to tell parents. One parent was particularly thrilled with the conferences. She said that "[the teachers] are fabulous! They're so good to us, and so patient." She went on to talk about how much she loved all the teachers, and how "they know [her son] so well." Though the teachers were "fabulous," she did wish for one thing; examples of her child's work.

Another very obvious part of parent/



*So we meet again...
Photo by YDC Staff*

teacher conferences is, well, the teachers. The teachers' jobs are to accurately portray their students' achievements, and inform parents of any concerns they have with the student. Talking to all the parents, which is not something that teachers do very often, as they talk primarily with the parents of their base class students, can be difficult. Teachers all have their ways to prepare for a meeting with parents. For a conference to be effective, teachers must have their gradebooks up to date. Then, teachers must fill out a form describing what their classes have been doing in the class, and the student's strengths and weaknesses. Before conferences, many teachers, such as Mirielle and Michelle P, look over their notes so that they have the information fresh in their minds.

As we well know, sometimes teachers have news for parents that may not be necessarily positive. Different teachers

handle relaying concerns to parents in different ways. Michelle P thinks, "it's very important to be honest about the struggles [a student] is having." She said that it's important to balance the positives and the negatives, as it's very important that a parent know that conferences are about many things, not just a grade, or one struggle.

Many teachers look forward to certain things before conferences. Mirielle said that she looks forward to seeing familiar faces, as they "tend to represent a side of the program that reflects progress." Many teachers also have favorite reactions that they get from parents. Michelle P, for instance, likes when parents act "surprised or gratified" when they find out that she likes their child. In addition to favorite responses, though, most teachers have least favorite reactions. Mirielle said that her least favorite reaction is when a parent gets upset "over homework not being completed, or a low grade." Michelle P, too, dislikes when parents become upset when they are made aware of bad grades.

Though talking to parents can be difficult, there are many ways for teachers to prepare. Also, though many parents may be informed of lower grades than they expected, they're informed in a gentle, understanding way.

The O'School Jumps for Japan

By Olivia

No, the actual O'School building did not jump, but that would have been quite magnificent. However, on Friday, May 6th, 2011, there were a few O'School students catching air. These students were participating in the Student Leadership Group's fundraiser to aid Japan in rebuilding after a recent natural disaster or two.

On March, 11, 2011 the most powerful earthquake in Japanese history struck the country. The quake registered as a 9.0 on the Richter Scale, the standard scale of measurement for earthquakes. It was followed approximately half an hour later by a tsunami with 'water walls' of over 30ft.

Continued on page 4



Jump like you mean it, because Japan needs it.

Photo by YDC Staff

Staff Profile, Mark.

By Chris

Mark was originally from Austin, Texas. He went to the University of Texas and graduated with a bachelors in both psychology and philosophy. His first job was as a cashier, which he found just didn't fit right. "Too many kinds of food," was his explanation.

Though he was fired from that job, on the very same day he saw a now hiring at a psych facility. He got the job and the shoe of life fit fine. He contin-

ued to pursue jobs of this sort. He worked as a psychologist and helped people. Today he works at the O'School where many of you know him as Mark the therapist.

He tries very hard to see the perspective and point of view of the students. His favorite part of the job is "being



Therapist extraordinaire, Mark

Photo by YDC Staff

able to talk to interesting people." In his free time, he enjoys drawing, painting, and listening to music, his favorites of which would include Folk and Indie Rock. He does still enjoy listening to a large variety. He also is a collector of old record players and some baubles from his shopping visits to thrift stores for vintage and antique items.

Another interesting thing about Mark is that he lived in Rome, Italy for a year where he taught English as a foreign language alongside music

and art; two others of his favored subjects.

Next time you see Mark, whether it be for therapy, a crossword, or just passing by in the hall, remember to say, "Hi," and thanks for being a wonderful member of the O'School team.

Treble-Making O'School Music Tutors

By Brooklyn

If you've been searching for a way to hire a private tutor to help you improve your abilities as a singer or musician while continuing your treatment here at the O'School, then you'll want to meet the school's music tutor, Doris, who is a speech therapist here. "If a student has a strong interest and the family is interested in providing lessons we are happy to help facilitate— as long as it makes good sense and is in line with a student's treatment at the school," reported Michelle Zarrilli, the head of the O'School fine arts department.

On and off for about 16 years, Doris has played the dual role of providing speech therapy to select O'School students and teaching private music lessons to a certain number of students here. "While my singing and teaching have concentrated on classical music, I have taught all types of singers since the basic knowledge necessary for all singing is pretty similar, requiring healthy, supported voice-breathing coordination," reported Doris. Even though she specializes in voice training for classical music performers, she has also instructed certain music students interested in learning instruments such as the piano, violin, and guitar. The 30-45 minute lessons are held after school or during a free base class period once a week for a period of 8 weeks. In terms of payment options, a payment plan is developed ahead of time between Doris and the music student's parents or guardians.

The roles Doris takes on at the O'School are not the only ones she's had in the field of music. Before Doris came to work here, she began her career in music after becoming

classically trained as a singer in the Chicago area, and she has performed with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and in the Chicago Ensemble, a chamber music ensemble group. She has also performed as a singer for Jesse Jackson's Operation Push, along with singing at Holy Name Cathedral when the Pope came to Chicago. In her more recent history, Doris works at First Presbyterian Church in Woodlawn on Sundays as a soloist and a pianist. "I believe that there is a strong connection between expressing one's self through words and through music; that music can, in fact, be more expanding emotionally than speech at times," says Doris of her musical career choices.



*Doris and her musical talents
Photo by YDC Staff*

Jump for Japan, Continued

By Olivia

in height. That means the Japanese people suffered two deadly natural disasters in less than 24 hours. The earthquake and tsunami weren't exactly weak either.

This devastating natural disaster left a death toll of 14,340 people and a total of 11,889 people yet to be found. Survivors have been misplaced as their homes and community were destroyed. The damage is estimated to require the largest reconstruction in the nation of Japan since World War II. Individuals in the direct vicinity of the damage have not been the only people affected by this unfortunate event. Produce from farmers around the area has been banned from being sold, because the tsunami caused a minor nuclear reaction and no one knew if and what produce was

infected, leaving those farmers unable to sustain a living.

The Student Leadership Group fundraiser took place in the Big Gym during base class. Those who had asked and received pledges were brought by base class to the event. Participants were able to choose to shoot jump shots, jump rope, or perform the well-known jumping jack. India, a Jump for Japan participant exclaimed, "Jump for Japan was a great opportunity to have fun and raise money for those poor victims of a horrible disaster."

yellow

Leisure

And There's the Buzzer!

By Kevin D.



*Our local playoff supporters.
Photos by Chris, YDC Staff*

I'm sure you have heard Olivia and Geoff raving about the Red Wings, or seen Marshall wearing more Penguins and Blackhawks gear. What time is it? Its NBA and NHL playoff time at the O' School!

The Playoffs are a series of games played by the best teams after the regular season. The playoffs are also called the postseason. There are seven games in all of the series in the NBA and NHL playoffs. The teams need to win four games out of the seven. This pattern continues until the playoffs are over and the victors are crowned.

In the NBA playoffs it looks like the Bulls are on their way to a 7th championship. The Chicago Bulls are arguably the best team in basketball. Derrick "D" Rose has been on absolute fire, so much so that he was favored by many people to win the MVP award, and, in fact, earned this honor during the Bulls first series. This year's amazing pickup Carlos Boozer, has also played a crucial role in the Bulls success. When asked if the bulls deserved to be in the playoffs, Geoff, he said "obviously,

they are the best team in basketball." The Bulls had a tighter than expected series against the Pacers and then went on to beat the Hawks in six games. If the first game of the series against the Heat is any indication of what to come, Bulls fans will be on the edge of their seats. With their rebounding on fire and their team play leading to high assist levels, the Bulls are a team to reckon with this post season.

In the NHL, last year's Stanley Cup champs were at it again. They got in by the skin of their teeth when the Dallas Stars lost to the Minnesota Wild. It's a little ironic winning because you lost. So it goes. The Blackhawks got the wild card and were in the hunt for the Stanley Cup once again. The Canucks were the number one seed and the Blackhawks were the number eight seed. The series started out rough for the Blackhawks who ended up being down 3 games to none. They stormed back to tie the series only to lose the seventh game in overtime. An exciting if disappointing end to their title defense.

Continued on page 7



*Go Chicago! The Chicago Bulls and Chicago Blackhawks are represent Chicago in the NBA and NHL Plaoffs.
Drawing by, Olivia YDC Staff*

Taking Musical Medicine

By Chris

Music over the years has been a very important part of our culture. In fact, Music is, in general, a very important factor throughout history. Even in ancient times, music was very important. An old saying exists, "Music soothes the savage beast." What if this saying was true for humans as well? It actually is! It's Called Music Therapy and today it is growing widely in use throughout the US.

Music has already been proven to be able to change brainwaves and the magnitude of them. In a Therapeutic sense, faster upbeat music improves alertness and awareness, and boosts cognitive senses, while slower more relaxed music, can reduce stress, calm, and allow the brain to adjust to a slower, more relaxed wavelength process causing us to be soothed. Furthermore, it has been proven that alternation between different types of music and different speeds allows our brain to develop a better ability to adjust to change. Extended use, allows it to adjust to change faster,



Musical Meds
Drawing by Olivia, YDC Staff

and with less stress.

Music therapy has no age boundaries. Young children as well as grown adults, teenagers, and even the elderly can enjoy the benefits of music therapy. It can be used to help memory, to allow mood stabilization, and even to improve learning. People with disorders, such as ADHD, ADD, and Aspergers, may find it helpful. People with mood disorders also find sanctuary in it. To be honest, you don't need to have anything

for it to help, People who are without any diagnosis can still find it comforting and powerful to help their daily lives.

Here at the O'School, there are many dorms that allow the use of music at bedtime, and on long outings to help kids to relax and function. In some dorms you will still be allowed music, even if you do not have electronic privileges. This is because "To some students, music is an important mechanism in their coping strategies to advance in their treatment."

Music is obviously important on the school side as well. It can help many of the residents with their treatment. Belinda,

a therapist, believes it "fills a space" and calms people. Doris, though not familiar with music therapy, does play therapeutic and calming music. Many students also say that music calms them down, or helps them to feel better or better regulate their mood.

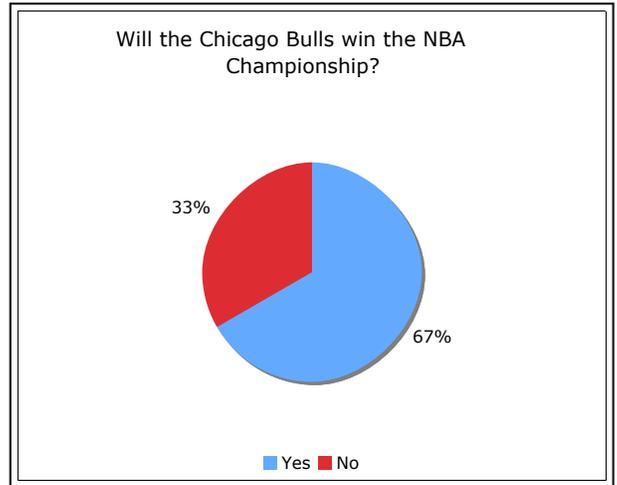
You've read the notes, and heard the tune, now how about taking your daily dose of musical medicine.

And There's the Buzzer!

By Kevin D.

Continued from page 5

The 3rd seed Detroit Red Wings returned to the race for the twentieth consecutive season, along with the 4th seed, the ever formidable Pittsburg Penguins. The Washington Capitals are the 1st seed in the eastern conference, while the Boston Bruins have been solid all year and own the 3rd seed. Marshall, a life long Penguins fan and non bandwagoning Hawks fan, said "I'm really impressed how well the Pens did because of injuries." One of these key injuries is that Sidney Crosby, who is credited with an Olympic gold medal, is out with a concussion.



O'School Olympians, Take Your Positions

By Kevin D.

Continued from page 5

pics are planned by student council, along with help from Michelle Z., Ellie, Coach and Lorrie. Michelle was unable to contribute as much as the others because she was on maternity leave with her baby, Henry.

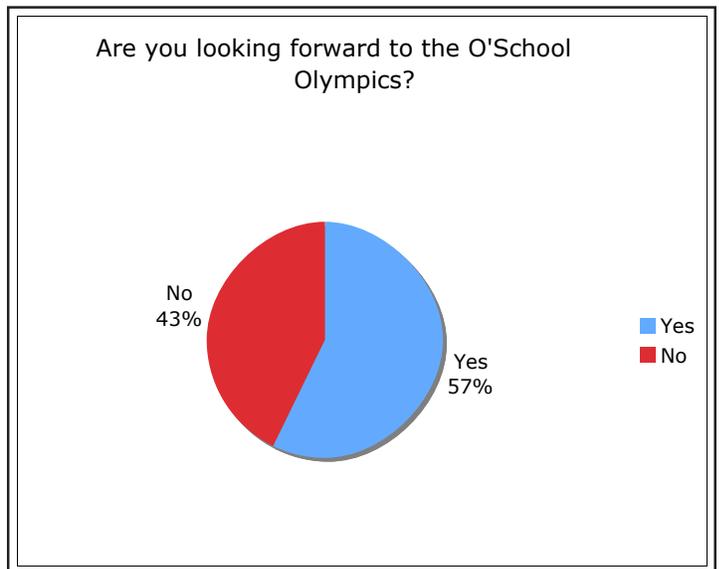
Some events that were held last year were relay races, Soccer and Wally Ball. All activities were not athletic based. Some events were crosswords, sudokus and drama games. "This year's games will most probably include a relay race as well." Reported Ellie.

The Olympics will take place during spirit week. Spirit week is one of the last weeks of school in which there are lots of activities. Including a scavenger hunt and of course the Olympics. The O' School did not always have the Olympics. Before last year there were movies, sports activities and even spa and hair days for the girls.

Infectious Tees will be making t-shirts for the teams. Last year's tees were different colored shirts with a medal printed out onto them. The design was a medal on different colored t-shirts. This design was a collaboration of students and Infectious Tees workers. It looks like this year's teams will have to be color coded as well for material saving sake.

Last year's winners were the Grapes of Wrath. From

the opening ceremony they were ready to take home the gold. Other teams were the Bo Peep Sheep, Fighting Irish, The Happy Shiny People, the My Little Ponies and the Rhythm and Blues. All of the teams did a great job working together and working towards a common goal; winning the gold.



yellow

Letters

Looking Back at an O'School Year

By India

Continued from page 5

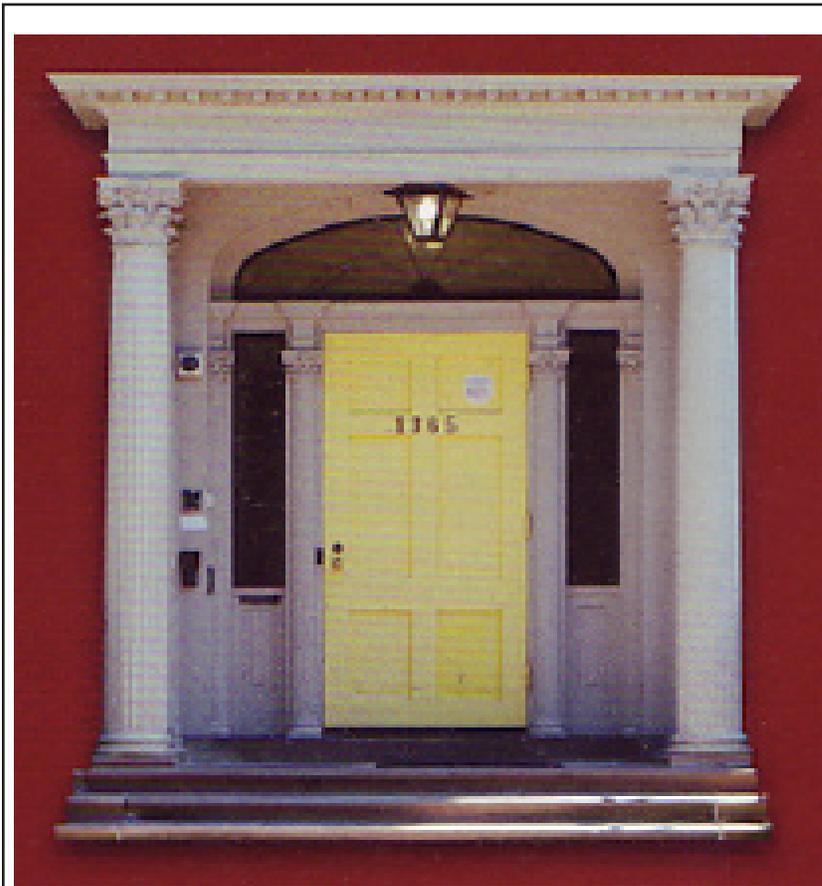
ley Cyrus, and, of course, the Rhetoricians doing their take on Lady Gaga's "Bad Romance." That night, dinner was held in the big gym, and all attending joined in a unique, O'School written, Christmas carol.

Along with the holiday party, the O'School had many other holiday celebrations. Some of the bigger ones were the Halloween and Valentine's Day dances, where students and staff gathered in the big gym to dance, or the art room to, well, do art. Other holiday celebrations at the O'School this past year include; a dreidle party for Hanukkah and an Easter egg hunt and brunch at Mellow Yellow. What may be considered the lowest point of the O' School's holiday experience this year is the chocolate fountain at the Halloween dance.

At the very beginning of February, Chicago was hit with the biggest snowstorm in years. The O'School had a snow day. Day schoolers didn't come to school on that memorable Wednesday, and residential students got the opportu-

nity to "chill" (pun intended) for the day. Only half of the teachers got to school, some having to walk far dis-

tances in the snow. One amazing teacher, Michelle P., woke up at four in the morning so she could shovel out her driveway for two hours in order to get to school. The day was treated much like summer break; students got choices on what they wanted to do during that school day. Many dorm counselors didn't come in, leaving most dorms with only one counselor. Most of the counselors who did come in stayed overnight, sleeping in the unit and the staff room, among other places. One highlight, according to an inside



*The Nostalgic Yellow Door
Image Property of the O'School*

source, was seeing Diana walk around from dorm to dorm in what "had to have been her pajamas." She denied it, but this source had never seen her in sweat-

pants! Also, another wonderful part of the snow day was playing in the snow. Though some would argue, a source says, “it wasn’t cold at all!” Granted, this source had on enough layers that it made it difficult to even move, let alone feel temperature.

Also, there have been many changes to staffing. One major change was when Sara, the former Archaeologist’s teacher, left, and Rob took her place. This was so significant because it’s very rare that a teacher will leave in the middle of a school year. Also, Jessica, the teacher’s assistant in the Conquerors classroom, as well as Tina and Jillian, left. In addition to the tragic losses of school staff, we lost many Residential counselors, such as Nikki, who worked in the Starz, and Lucas, who worked in TLC. On a brighter note, though, we’ve gained many amazing counselors, as well as teachers and TA’s.

This year, student leadership also held a fundraiser for disaster relief in Japan, called Jump For Japan. Students

got the chance to shoot jump shots, do jumping jacks, or jump rope, in hopes of raising money. Because people didn’t initially “jump” at the chance to jump, (again, pun intended) the date was pushed back a few days.

Also, drama group got a chance to perform what they’d been working on for the whole year on May 19. Overall, it was a huge success, with skits such as “Farting In Gym Class,” by Jared, “Square and Diamond,” by Jessica, “Campfire Jokes,” by Brooklyn, and “Barber Shop Quartet,” by the whole drama group. In addition to performing, O’School students got the chance to see four different plays this year, depending on what they’d read in English. The plays, “Samuel J and K,” and “To Kill A Mockingbird,” were attended at the Steppenwolf Theater, while “Romeo and Juliet,” and “Macbeth,” were the features at the Chicago Shakespeare Theater.

Time For Graduation

By Brooklyn

If you’ve been looking for some insider tips and guidelines about how to get ready for an O’School graduation, then you’re finally in luck! Although many of you have attended an O’School graduation ceremony at one time or another, you may not have ever given thought to how you should prepare for each one. Whether you’re already preparing for your graduation or you’re just attending one, having a plan in place can help you out.

When planning your graduation, it’s im-

portant to note a few rules and guidelines about the structure of the ceremony. Once you have a date set in stone for your graduation, you might want to think about who you want to invite to attend the ceremony. According to Meagan Harlow, one of the base class

teachers in the Pythagoreans classroom, “As many [family members] as deemed appropriate by the treatment team members [are allowed to attend the ceremony.]” The maximum number of family members that have been present at a graduation ceremony is



*Graduatini' O'School
Photo by YDC Staff*

Continued on page 10

Time For Graduation

By Brooklyn

Continued from page 9

“about seven,” according to Katie Wyss, dormitory manager of the Phoenix dorm. Katie later reported that, “The typical number of family members who attend a graduation ceremony is usually around three or four.”

You’ll also want to invite one to two O’School speakers on your behalf, as well as an emcee for the ceremony, although you might want to invite either a parent or a special family member to speak on your behalf as well. After everybody else speaks on your behalf, you have the opportunity to speak as well. Keeping this in mind may give you some time to write a speech beforehand. Some former speakers have used visual aids for their speeches, such as life-size hand turkeys or maps, but most of the time the speakers have delivered speeches about the various aspects of a

graduate’s treatment at the O’School.

You should also talk to your dormitory managers or Chef John West, the head of the O’School food department, about what sort of snack you would like to have served at your graduation. “The most popular O’School graduation snack is most likely puppy chow and some sort of soda,” John reported. Other possibilities of a graduation snack would be: ice cream cones, cakes, cupcakes, ginger ale, tea, etc.

“When you’re attending a graduation ceremony, you should be a respectful audience member,” said Meagan. Being a respectful audience member means not having side conversations during the ceremony and also paying attention to what is being said.

The Times They Are A Changin’

Editorial by YDC Staff

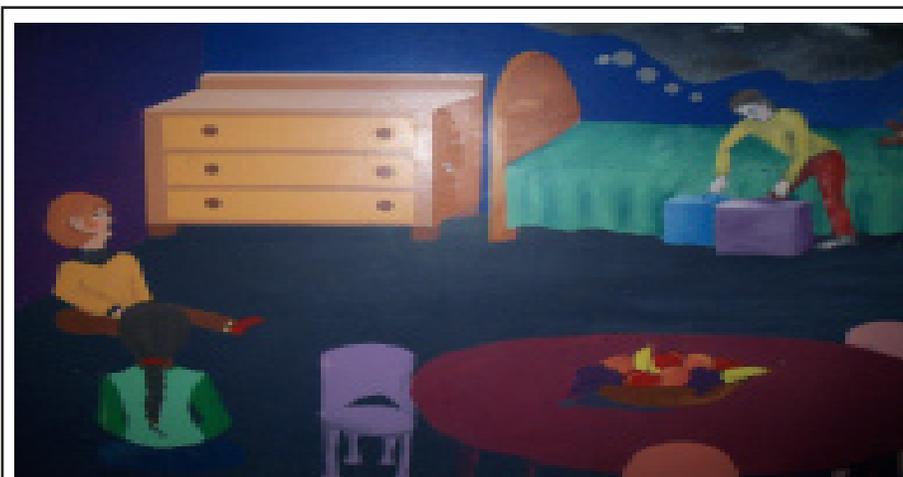
A day may come, or may have already passed that you find someone is missing from your usual community. You may not have been able to say goodbye or to wish them good luck on their future endeavors. The Orthogenic School is a place for people, staff and students alike, to grow and transition. The school is not a place that individuals will remain for their lives. Fortunately, this means

that people can move on and progress further. Unfortunately, it means that we all have to part ways at some point or another. Don’t worry though, there are ways to maintain contact, come to a good closing point, and cope with a

change in everyday dynamics.

Saying goodbye to people can often be difficult, but here are some helpful hints for saying goodbye appropriately at the O’School. One of the major settings designed for saying goodbye are the student graduation ceremonies. The structure of each ceremony allows time during the snacks to say your individual goodbyes to the graduate,

and there’s usually a goodbye journal for people to fill with a positive affirmation about the graduate and a friendly farewell message. Another way to say your goodbyes to people at the O’School is to schedule a leaving activity, either in your dorm, a group therapy session, or



Treat every new student at the O’School with a welcome
Photo by YDC Staff

The Times They Are A Changin'

Editorial by YDC Staff

in your base class. Yet another event to keep in mind is that every graduate has a pizza lunch in their base class before they leave.

When you're planning to say goodbye to people at the O'School, it's important to keep in mind how to keep your goodbyes appropriate. If you're attending a graduation ceremony for another student, for example, you should be a respectful audience member. This means that you shouldn't be having any side conversations during the ceremony and that you should be listening to what each speaker has to say. Perhaps you'll be inspired to think about how you want your graduation to look or you'll hear something that will impact you in a positive way. On the other hand, if your graduation is coming up, the best way to say goodbye appropriately is to be a good role model for the other students through your behavior and academics. Be thoughtful about your graduation speech, as well. Don't focus on individuals or negative experiences – this is not what you would want to be remembered for when you leave. By behaving this way around the other students you'll be able to make a lasting positive impression on them, and you'll also be proving that you're ready to graduate from the O'School.

Because people will always be leaving the O'School, new people will always be coming. For residential and day school students alike, greeting new people can be an awkward and often scary experience. Though there are many things one could say to a new dorm or class mate, good icebreakers include introducing yourself, asking them about their interests, and offering them help in adjusting to the routine. Though these could be used for day school students as well as residential students, sometimes greetings are different in the dorm than in class, because, often times, the person that one is greeting is a person with whom they will live for an extended period of time.

When greeting someone for the first time, it is important to be attentive and pick up on social cues. If they seem like they don't want to talk, give them some space. If people want to talk, they'll talk, and if they don't, they'll be quiet. It's very important that you don't ask a new student why they're here, as it can be an uncomfortable topic at times, especially when one is new. Also, it is very important that you remember, even though a new student comes shortly after one leaves, they are not replacements. If your friend leaves, and a new student comes, the new student is **not** replacing your friend, just taking the bed or desk your friend had for a while when he or she was here. It is crucial to treat the new student as an individual. Don't hold any initial standards for new students, as these standards are often high (even if you don't intend them to be) and can be difficult to attain right away.

Though admissions and graduations are carefully planned out at the Orthogenic School, there are unplanned leavings throughout the year. Sometimes these departures can blindsides you or appear out of nowhere, and result without an opportunity to say farewell. In these cases it is important to keep in mind the good thoughts and memories regarding that person. Also, know they had a reason to leave, they had to move on with their life and try other things. This does not mean that they are leaving your life, or that they wanted to be rid of you. In most cases you should be able to find a way to contact them, and, even if you're not sure, ask counselors and teachers. It may be hard to become used to the lack of their presence, but try to focus on being hopeful that they are finding what they need. Whether or not you are able to keep in contact after the departure, cherish the good times.

yellow Live

The Orthogenic School Screams For Ice Cream

By Kevin P.

On Wednesday April 27th, 2011 the Orthogenic School hosted an Art Exhibit and Ice Cream Social. The event took place after group therapy instead of the usual weekly Community Meeting.

The Art Exhibit showcased several works of art created by students specifically for this exhibit. The students were asked to submit artwork that “reflected on their experience of the O’ School.” There weren’t many guidelines for the types of work that could be submitted, except that they had to be able to be displayed. As a result, there was variety of mediums displayed including models, hand drawings, and computer graphic design work. The students who submitted their works were given a gift by student council the following week for their participation. The participants received a water bottle, a set of mechanical pencils, and a small composition notebook as a token of Student Council’s appreciation.

For the Ice Cream Social there was a large variety of toppings and ice creams. Ellie was serving mint chocolate chip or cookies and cream ice cream to the students, while Angie and Lorrie handled the toppings. The toppings included hot fudge, caramel, crushed Oreos, Reese’s, pineapple, and more. There was also the option of having either a sherbet push pop or a Neapolitan ice cream sandwich instead of ice cream by the scoop.

Both the Ice Cream Social and Art Exhibit were received well by all the students interviewed. Shyra said



Some of the entries in this year’s art exhibit

Photo by YDC Staff

she thought the event was “pretty cool.” Jared agreed with Shyra, and added that he thought “it was a good idea.” Peter said that he liked the ice cream, but did not even notice there was art on display. “It was fun none the less though,” he concluded.

The event was organized by Student Council as a way to bring the O’School community together. It was a combination of the two most popular ideas Student Council had after brainstorming for a new O’ School social event. Student Council wanted to use the students’ opinions to help shape the new O’School event. And as Ellie so truthfully said, “it made the Ice Cream Social seem more legitimate....” Although the point was to get students’ serious opinions on the O’School, it was still just as much about “Good old fashioned FUN,” said Ellie, “and sugar.”

Bouncing Basketballs on a Monday Afternoon

By Olivia



Coach scores a slam dunk!

Photo by YDC Staff

The past few Monday afternoons you may have heard some bouncing balls in the big gym. These repetitive sounds were the O'School Basketball Clinic athletes practicing their game. They were being coached by Claude, a Bulls counselor, and Dane, a Broncos counselor.

The reason that Claude and Dane started the basketball clinic was because they both "really enjoy playing," shared Dane, and "decided that it would be fun to share [their] passion with the students."

They started to discuss the pos-

sibility of doing a clinic in January, but as Claude and Dane work different schedules they had to collaborate and find a time that was good for both of them. The O'School Basketball Clinic's opening day was February 28th and was continued weekly until April 25th. Similar to past O'School sports clinics, the basketball clinic ran for approximately six to seven weeks.

The clinic was open to all O'School students who wanted to participate. They could choose to attend every week or just a couple. Dane esti-

imated that, "there were approximately eight to twelve students every week, sometimes more, sometimes less."

Claude and Dane led the students in drills that focused on the essential basketball skills of passing, shooting, and dribbling. The drills that were done every week were those that built on dribbling and shooting. During weeks three to six the participants had a chance to scrimmage each other and test their enhanced or newly acquired skills.

"I think the students enjoyed the scrimmage. This gave them an opportunity to practice the skills they learned in the context of a game," said Dane.

Y
e
l
l
o
w
Live

Continued on Page 15

Reconsidering the Dress Code

By Kevin P.

Summer is “coming in hot” and the beaches and public pools are preparing to open for Memorial Day Weekend. It’s time to put away your winter clothes and bring out the shorts and sandals. As the warm weather approaches there has been debate over the O’School dress code pertaining to summer wear.

The Student Council decided in early April of this year to take another look at the dress code in consideration of the complaints they had received from other students. They had received complaints from girls who feel that “shorts have to be too long” and complaints about the swimming dress code “from girls and boys almost equally,” says Ellie Badesch, Student Council Supervisor. The dress code currently follows the basic rule of having to cover all skin between your shoulders and knees without showing under garments. If an article of clothing does not meet these requirements, a student must comply if a counselor or teacher requests that they change their clothes. In the moment, the student does have to change their clothing to something deemed appropriate, but they can later go to their dorm manager to appeal the decision that the clothing is inappropriate to wear at the O’School.

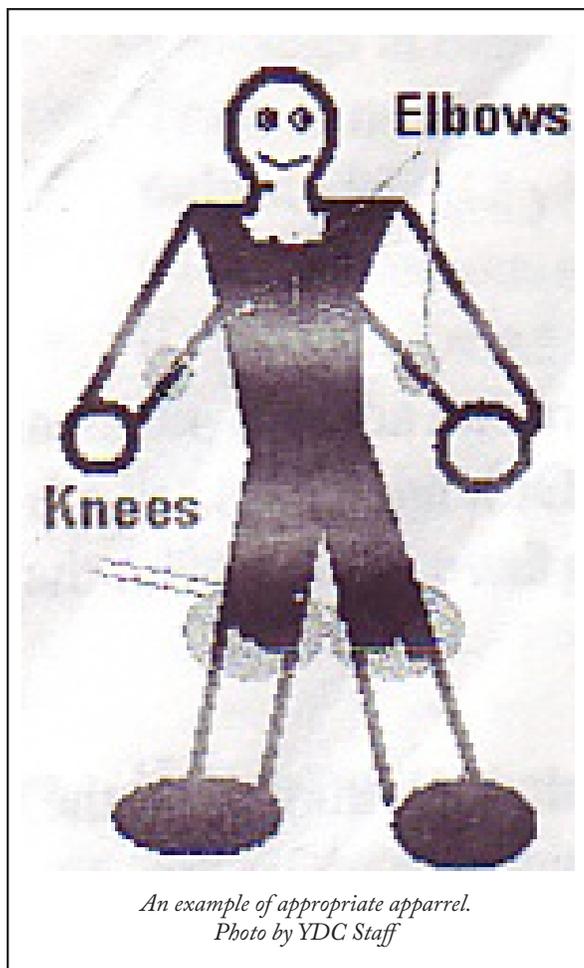
The Student Council of 2007-2008 created the previous dress code because they wanted a “gender-neutral and more open dress code,” says Ellie. They also changed the dress code to allow students to wear hats at school at

the discretion of teachers and developed the “appeals process” for contesting clothing said to be inappropriate. After being reviewed and approved by the board, the Student Council’s version replaced the previous staff created dress code which Ellie says was “WAY longer, more specific, and was gender-divided.”

At the Orthogenic School you are allowed to swim at places such as the Ratner Gym, public beach, and water parks, as well as at the the O’ School Waterday. Although it was not listed on the official dress code, there were specific rules in place that differed for each of these situations.

When swimming at the Ratner or a public pool, both boys and girls are able to wear just their swimsuit without additional covering because of pool sanitation and safety requirements. Although, the dress code for swimming other places, such as the beach or on Waterday, was different. The past rule required students to adhere to the general dress code guidelines even when swimming. The boys had to wear their swimsuit with a shirt or tank top and the girls had to wear a one-piece swimsuit that was covered by a shirt and shorts.

The new dress code proposed by Student Council aimed to define



the rules, so that all the counselors are aware of the current rules, while also adding a few changes to make the dress code easier to abide by, but without sacrificing any of the students comfort or safety.

Student Council has proposed that there be a section in the dress code that specifically outlines the guidelines for swimwear. Their suggestion was that both boys and girls should be allowed to swim with only a “modest” swimsuit, but have to cover-up and abide by the basic guidelines of the dress code when they are not swimming.

The Student Council also pro-

Bouncing Basketballs on a Monday Afternoon

By Olivia

Continued from page 13

At the end of this O'School Basketball Clinic, on Saturday, April 30th there was a staff versus student basketball game. The students ended up on top, winning by one point. Congratulations students! Better luck next time staff.

Dane shared that the basketball clinic "has absolutely been a great experience. It has been great to see the students improve from week to week. Many students had different levels of skill, but they were able to work together and encourage each other."

As the O'School Basketball Clinic ended during the NBA playoffs, as a reporter I had to ask Dane what his favorite NBA team was. "My favorite team is the Chicago Bulls of course. Derrick Rose has put the Bulls back on the map," he answered. To further comment on Derrick Rose as a player, Dane said, "Not only is he one of the top five players in the league but from what I hear he is very humble, a great teammate, and always working to improve his game.



These basketballs got a workout from the clinic.

Photo by YDC Staff

He is the definition of a true role model."

After their hard work and dedication, congratulations to the students of the O'School Basketball Clinic 2011!

Reconsidering the Dress Code

By Kevin P.

Continued from page 14



Seim turnks must be worn with a shirt or tank.

Photo by YDC Staff

posed that a change be made to the general guidelines of the dress code that would make the required length of shorts to be "mid-thigh" instead of "right above the knee." This was one of the main complaints about the non-swimming dress code. For the boys, this generally does not present as much of a problem because it is uncommon for boys' shorts to be much higher than the knee, though girls complain that it is very difficult to find shorts that are not shorter than the knee. "I can't find any shorts are long enough and still look cute," says one female student.

The Student Council wrote up the new dress code and submitted it for approval in early May.



Infectious T'ees



Catch the fever.