**Osprey Team My School Mail – September 9, 2018**

**Good evening, Osprey Families and Friends!**

The Osprey Core teachers are delighted with our new students and the first week of school went very well! Our new 8th graders are rising to the occasion, adapting to our expectations for outstanding scholarship and comportment. Dr. Hedrick spoke to our students on Friday, encouraging students to be kind, respectful, collaborative, honest, and diligent. She also clearly laid out the consequences of student choices.

**Student Kudos:**

* A big round of applause and a sincere thank you to the Ospreys who volunteered to help Mrs. Fowler with technology this summer! The following students contributed the following number of house: Nick S. 93.5; Karsten B. 46.5; Manju M. 34.5; Ambrunee K. 22.5; Josh B. 16; Julia C. 14.5; Michael M. 12; Anna R. 12; Erika W. 11; Kevin C. 8; Ure E. 8; Sonia K. 8; Sarah T. 8.
* Thank you to Natalia D. who became a buddy to a new Osprey, and she did so with enthusiasm and delight. That is the kind of caring initiative we love to see in our students!

*Please send items such as scouting achievements, athletic achievements, and more to Dr. Luecke at* *Karen.Luecke@vbschools.com* *so we can celebrate the diverse talents on this team.*

**About Geometry Honors *from Mrs. Li*:**

Welcome to Geometry Honors! It has been wonderful meeting and getting to know your children and I definitely look forward to a great year! This past week geometry students spent class time becoming familiar with class expectations and taking baseline assessments to tailor our instruction. Students will began the first unit Reasoning and Proof next week with a look at logic, types of reasoning, and conditional statements  The first unit will prepare students for proving and building a system of geometry knowledge throughout the course. All students should have their supplies (compass, ruler, and protractor) for learning geometry.

**About English *from Dr. Luecke*:**

The first books have been issued! We start the year exploring *unlikely heroes* and students were able to choose a novel in which to investigate that theme.

Chromebooks were also issued in English class, and so far, students have been careful and responsible with them. It is so nice to always have access to computers, especially in English!

**About Civics***,* ***from Ms. Pullman:***

This week in Virginia Civics and Economics we discussed class expectations and got to know one another. We began our investigation into the grade level theme of Order v. Chaos by creating a Taba in small groups.  Students worked hard sorting factors of order and chaos they see in the world. We will complete this activity next week by exploring the relationships and patterns of those factors and connecting them to real world events.

**About Earth Science *from Ms. Young*:**

Welcome back! I had a great first week with your student! We started the year off by examining Earth as a system (biosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere and geosphere) and doing some analysis of the four main branches of Earth Science (astronomy, oceanography, geology and meteorology). Earth Systems analysis will be a continuing theme throughout the school year, as we try to help students understand the interconnectedness of our complex planet and beyond. Please ask your child what the four Earth Systems and four branches of Earth Science are and see if they can give you an example of how they may be connected.

If you would like to donate any supplies for our classroom, please consider hard candy (jolly ranchers are a favorite of the kids) or tissues. We would really appreciate your donation.

Finally, please do not hesitate to email me at jamie.young@vbschools.com if any questions or concerns should arise this year. I am excited to be able to share my knowledge about this amazing universe with your child and I look forward to a great year!

**Other Announcements:**

We are excited to announce a Special Series: Parenting the Twice Exceptional Child. This series will be offered monthly throughout the school year with the goal of providing parents of twice exceptional children an opportunity to come together and discuss topics relevant to their unique needs. The meetings will be held the third Thursday of each month. The first meeting will be Thursday, September 20, 2018, at 2:00 at Old Donation School. Please contact Janet Smallwood at janet.smallwood@vbschools.com to let us know that you will attending.