



There are so many wonderful things springing up around OAS. Just take a stroll down our hallways, and you can see the change. The white walls are being transformed and coming alive with vibrant color and beautiful art work! Thanks to the hard work of many of our very talented OAS family members, our hallways will soon be transformed into scenes depicting various historical events and relating to the curriculum. Ms. Hooey did a beautiful job painting our new OAS logo on the wall by the gym. Ms. Merkel and her helper, Sean, have been working hard on a charming scene from historical Cranford by the main entrance. A scroll of the OAS Constitution, which was skillfully painted on masonite by Ms. Concannon, will be displayed on that wall as well.

Eventually, many more murals will be adorning our halls as well as with tiles created by staff, students, parents and family members. The PTA is sponsoring two family art nights in which beautiful tile, to be placed along the walls of OAS, will be designed and created. The theme will be *Cranford Pride: My home, my family, my hobbies, my school, my life, etc.* The two dates are March 2 for middle school students and March 9 for elementary students. These evenings provide an opportunity for the entire 3 – 8 grade population and their family members to work together to beautify the school and build community. It also provides an opportunity for all students to feel a sense of achievement and will be a permanent reminder to the students of the caring environment created by all members of their immediate community. We invite all of our OAS family members to an evening of artistic fun and to be a part of history at Orange Avenue School! Materials and guidance will be available for your artwork. There will be on premise babysitting available for children under 8 years old to help families with small children.

All are cordially invited to visit students' entries to the OAS PTA Reflections during both Family Art Nights. We would like to thank Ms. Concannon and Ms. Rokicki for their hard work in making this such a success. A huge congratulation goes to all the students who participated and submitted reflections. Award certificates will be presented both nights at 7pm in the cafeteria by Ms. Concannon and Ms. Rokicki. We are so proud that many of the reflections entries will progress to the state level of the competition:

- **Musical Composition:** Devin Kenney
- **Visual Arts:** Matthew Bellante
- **Photography:** Alexandra Valdes
- **Film Production:** Vaughn McConnell, Alyssa Gesslein, Liam Concannon

Please check out the PTA flyer for additional information on the family art nights. If you have questions please feel free to contact Ms. Vella at 908 709 6269 or [vella@cranfordschools.org](mailto:vella@cranfordschools.org) or Alisha Hooey at [alisha31@verizon.net](mailto:alisha31@verizon.net).

Hazel Street is open until 8:45 for all students during inclement weather. This street may be less congested than our main entrance, since it is less utilized. Please feel free to drop off students on Hazel St. during morning arrival.

