



# OMPH School Scene

## A Look at Middle School Math

OMPH eighth grade students are avidly participating in the Stock Market Game this fall. Student teams each had a hypothetical \$100,000 to invest. As the students learn about investments, they are using tools such as Yahoo! Finance interactive graphs to compare their stock choices against the S&P 500 Index. The students are using Google Sheets to input data and produce pie and line graphs to track the composition and performance of their portfolios.



There is also a writing component, InvestWrite, in which students wrote about how they would “pitch their dream” to ask investors for seed money to, for example, start a business. Students had to research start-up costs and provide a 10-year investment plan to grow the seed money over time, recommending a combination of stocks, bonds and/or mutual funds. The students are hoping to replicate the success of last year, when OMPH had a winning Stock Market Game team and we had a state winner for the Investwrite Competition.

Another opportunity for our students who excel in math is offered by Mrs. Susan Miller. Mrs. Miller, a retired math teacher, generously gives of her time to meet with 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th grade students for a weekly math enrichment class. They can be found in the science lab most Wednesdays busily graphing, solving equations, or learning the many digits of pi.

MathCounts provides opportunities for middle school students to work on complex math problems in a team competition format. This club meets weekly under the direction of Mrs. Foltz and Mrs. Barrett. The students will practice at school, preparing for the regional competition at Millersville University in February.

Mrs. Ann DiNovis, Middle School Science and Math Teacher

## St. Nicholas Visits OMPH School

On December 6th, our students welcomed a special guest to their classrooms when St. Nicholas came to visit on his Feast Day. He shared with the children the story of his life and spoke about the true meaning of Christmas. Later in the day the children each left a shoe outside their classroom, and were delighted when St. Nicholas left a small gift for each of them.



For more information  
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## First Grade Potters Create Bird's Nest Masterpieces!



To culminate their study of famous artists who depicted birds in their work, our first grade potters used clay to create a nest with a small bird. Art teachers, Mrs. Holland and Mrs. Jacobs worked with the students as they learned the steps in pottery making. After being fired, the pieces were painted, fired again and then glazed.

