

WE ! OTC

OASIS TRAINING CENTER

About Thanksgiving



Thanksgiving Day is a legal holiday observed annually in the United States on the fourth Thursday of November. In Canada, Thanksgiving falls on the second Monday in October. Most people celebrate Thanksgiving by gathering with family or friends for a holiday feast. Thanksgiving was first celebrated by Pilgrims and Native Americans in colonial New England in the early 17th century. Its actual origin, however, probably traces to harvest festivals that have been traditional in many parts of the world since ancient times. Today Thanksgiving is mainly a celebration of domestic life, centered on the home and family.

FIRST THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA

The Pilgrims were a group of Puritans who landed at Plymouth Rock, in what is now Massachusetts, United States, in 1620. In 1621, Governor William Bradford of New England proclaimed a day of "thanksgiving" and prayer to celebrate the Pilgrims' first harvest in America. United States president Abraham Lincoln, following the precedent of a number of states, designated a national Thanksgiving Day in 1863.

TWO THANKSGIVINGS IN 1939

Before 1939, the president annually announced his Thanksgiving Proclamation and then governors followed the president in officially proclaiming the same day as Thanksgiving for their state. In 1939, many governors did not agree with FDR's decision to change the date and refused to follow him. The country became split on which

Thanksgiving they should observe.

Twenty-three states followed FDR's change and declared Thanksgiving to be November 23. Twenty-three other states disagreed with FDR and kept the traditional date for Thanksgiving, November 30. Two states, Colorado and Texas, decided to honor both dates.

This idea of two Thanksgiving days split some families, because not everyone had the same day off work.

THANKSGIVING IN CANADA

Thanksgiving is also a legal holiday in Canada. Because Canada is north of the United States, its harvest comes earlier in the year. Accordingly, the Thanksgiving holiday falls earlier in Canada than in the United States. The Canadian Parliament set aside November 6 for annual Thanksgiving observances in 1879. In 1957 the date was shifted to an even earlier day, to the second Monday in October.

A NEW NATIONAL HOLIDAY

By the mid-1800s, many states observed a Thanksgiving holiday. Meanwhile, the poet and editor Sarah J. Hale had begun lobbying for a national Thanksgiving holiday. During the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln, looking for ways to unite the nation, discussed the subject with Hale. In 1863 he gave his Thanksgiving Proclamation, declaring the last Thursday in November a day of thanksgiving.

THANKSGIVING MENUS

Usually include turkey, breadcrumb stuffing, cranberry sauce, squash, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, and pumpkin pie.

Information from Internet

Arranged by Crystal Ge



Thanksgiving in OTC

By Crystal Ge

November 17, 2006, all of the OTC teachers, interns and students celebrated Thanksgiving Day together. After the morning classes were finished, we went to one of the restaurants in Golden Century to have our thanksgiving feast. Some of the teachers and all the interns came earlier to get all the tables set up. Usually we will do some activities in the restaurant. Since we have the most students in OTC his-

tory, we moved our stage to the Big Apple. Before the other activities were begun, the teachers and students wrote thankful words or sentences on others' name tags. Three groups (teachers and interns, Grade two students and Grade one students) gave the singing performance. After the singing part, each teacher got a thanksgiving present from the students which showed the students' Thankful Heart to their dear teachers. Even

though our teachers are Far Away From Home, they don't feel alone.



Friends

By Jenna Liu

I am passionate about friends. Friends play an important role in my life. I think I cannot live without friends. As a saying goes, "We depend on parents at home; depend on friends outside of class. A friend in the market is better than money in the chest."

When I am happy, they accompany me. When I am suffering, they comfort me. We need each other to

share happiness and sorrow. When we make friends, we can understand that friendship is about feelings, and we must give as much as we take. Therefore, it is important to have someone to care about us, and we should care more about our friends. It also helps us understand who we are, why we need each other, and what we can do for each other.



Introduce New Staff

By Crystal Ge



In the past two issues I've introduced two teachers. The teacher I am going to introduce this time is Andre. He has already taught Math class and Study Skill class for one quarter. Let's read the following article and know more about him.

Some of the teachers began to teach different

subjects since the second quarter of this school year began. Andre is one of them. He got the responsibility to teach Grade two Computer Applications. He is excited to teach computer class because he has confidence in his computer skills. And the other most important reason is that computer is his next best class after math class.

Besides teaching computer class, he also likes to surf on the Internet, listen to music, chat with his friends on Internet, ride a bike. In addition, he also is a long distance competition swimmer.

Parents Day

By Crystal Ge

On November 4, 2006, Oasis Training Center held our annual parents day. Parents day provides an opportunity for the parents to get a better understanding of our school, and also gives a chance for the parents to know how their children are doing at school.

The speeches that the Grade two students gave on Parents day, not only gave them a chance to tell their parents what subjects they

have at OTC, but also showed their parent how much they have gained during these years' studying. After the speech, the students led their parents around our school environment.

About 3:20 pm all the parents, students and teachers went to the Big Apple. In the Big Apple, the parents communicated with some of the teachers with their kid's translating. Parents day

ended with the picture slide show (the precious pictures were taken by Mr. Dennis and other teachers).



Books

By Kayla Gao



I am passionate about a variety of books, especially novels. My father wants to widen my view, and he orders many books for me. All the books are classified according to different kinds in the bookshelf. I appreciate all of them. Some I even have read more than five times. I urgently borrow books from my friends

when they get some interesting ones. Once, I pleaded with my friend to lend me a thick book that talked about an imaginary world. I read it with enjoyment and could not sleep until midnight. When I finished it, I erased the dirt on the cover because I think books deserve careful treatment. I value books like treasures.

“The road to knowledge begins with the turn of the page.”

— Anonymous

“Every man must die sooner or later, but good books must be preserved.”

— Don Vincente

My Parents

By Jon Zhao

I am passionate about my parents who are very common, but they are great in my heart. They gave me life, and they raised me. Not only because of these things, but also their honesty, kindness, good temper, etc. They live a very simple life. They give the best food and the best clothes to my sister and me. They do the

best they can for us. They care about us all the time. They work very hard, even if they are hurt or ill. They do all that parents should do for their children, even more. With gratitude, I will care about them my whole life with a grateful heart.



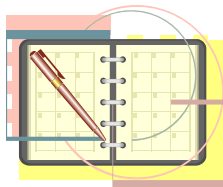
I'm Thankful For

By Jesse Zhu



- A: American government.
- B: Benevolence Barbara who teaches us Character First.
- C: Clever colorful computers that help us learn.
- D: Dad who paid my tuition.
- E: English books which help me to learn.
- F: Friendly Foreigners who came to Beijing Connection last winter holiday.
- G: Girlfriend who supports me.
- H: Headmaster of ZZ.
- I: Incredible internet that helps us to learn.
- J: Job for Jesse to tutor.
- K: Kirk who set up OTC.
- L: Logical Longman Dictionaries that we are using.
- M: Marvelous speech teacher Mrs. Diane.
- N: Nathan who teaches us Business Jobs which helps us to easily find a job.
- O: Optimistic young man—Josh who plays Piano for us.
- P: Pingliang government.
- Q: Questions that my classmates solved for me.
- R: Resources that OTC offers us.
- S: Sandy who solves all the computer problems for OTC.
- T: Teachers who are teaching here.
- U: Uniforms that OTC made for us.
- V: Video Projector that we use for literature class.
- W: Writing teacher Mrs. Heather who teaches us unique writing skills.
- X: X-rays that doctor used to check our body in order to make sure our body is healthy.
- Y: Young beautiful lady who makes our school newspaper for us — Crystal.
- Z: ZZ teachers who taught me when I was in ZZ.

Crystal's Corner



The Second Quarter of this school year began on November 18, 2006 and it will end on January 12, 2007. As the second quarter starts, many new courses were open for the student; also some of the teachers got new subjects to teach. Christmas is coming soon, and OTC will have some activities that day. In addition, Grade one students will go to Beijing to participate the Beijing Connection of 2007 in January. I hope they can make a good preparation for their Beijing trip, and do a good job on their Beijing Prep Class. Here, is a list of coming events.

◆ Christmas schedule

December 8 afternoon Decorate the school for Christmas

December 22 evening School party at the Big Apple

December 22 5pm to 26 morning 7:30am School closed

◆ New Year's schedule

December 29 5pm to January 2 morning 7:30am School closed

◆ Beijing Connection schedule

January 12 evening Leave Pingliang

January 22 Back to Pingliang