

# O'Quinn James Island

## Welcome Back Terrific Turtles!

Parents Guild Newsletter  
Fall 2015



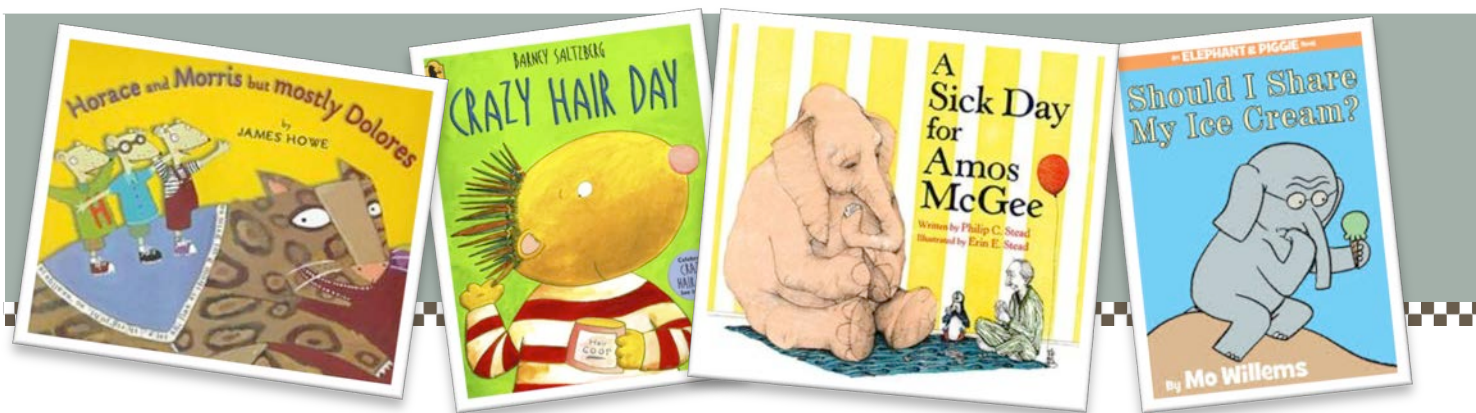
### Dates to Remember:

- Sept 30 Spirit Night! Triangle Char + Bar (p. 3)
- Oct 1 First Grade Fair
- Oct 2 Kindergarten Field Day at Porter Gaud Stadium
- Oct 5 Parents Guild Mtg, 6pm
- Oct 5-9 Lowcountry Orphan Relief Clothing Drive (p. 3)
- Oct 6-7 Speech and Language Screening at School
- Oct 9 O'Quinn Family Football night at Porter-Gaud
- Oct 19-20 Fall Break – School CLOSED
- Oct 29-30 Halloween Carnival Volunteers Needed! (p. 3)
- Nov 2 Parents Guild Mtg, 6pm
- Nov 9-13 Scholastic Book Fair (p. 5)

### Introducing Our New Mascot!

By now you've heard about it, or seen pictures of it, or maybe even seen it in person – our new mascot – the Terrific Turtle! It's a fun addition to O'Quinn and a little added excitement and source of pride for the children. The turtle led the way at the first Pep Rally (really, quite lucky kids to have experienced a pep rally already!) and has also made appearances at carpool and back-to-school events. We're thankful for the generosity of Pool Cover Solutions, who donated the mascot and also animal hand puppets for each of the classrooms this year!





## Book Recommendations From the Virtues Project

O'Quinn is now participating in a program called the Virtues Project; each month a different virtue will be introduced to the students. September's virtue is Friendliness, October's virtue is Respect and November's virtue is Cooperation. The teachers will discuss these virtues in class, and read books that tie in with each virtue. Here are some great books from September, with summaries from the Virtues Project:

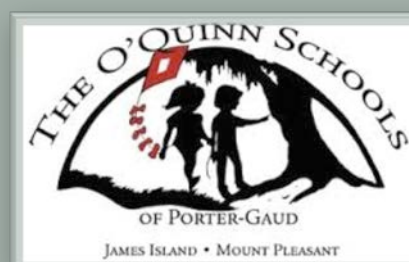
Crazy Hair Day: Readers will feel for the main character in this story, who mistakenly dresses up for crazy hair day when it is picture day, and appreciate his classmates' super, compassionate response.

A Sick Day for Amos McGee: A very sweet book about a friendship between a zookeeper named Amos and the animals he cares for. When Amos gets sick, his friends elephant, tortoise, penguin, rhinoceros, and owl come to his house to comfort and care for him.

Horace and Morris but Mostly Dolores: An entertaining story about three spunky mouse friends who mistakenly succumb to the lure of the Mega-Mice (No Girls Allowed!) clubhouse and The Cheese Puffs (No Boys Allowed) clubhouse. In the end, Dolores speaks up and starts an inclusive club devoted to activities that Horace, Morris and Dolores all enjoy.

## O'QUINN GEAR STILL FOR SALE!

If you are interested in a t-shirt for your child, they are still available! (\$12 or 2 for \$20, and some new colors.) This year, we also have water bottles (\$8) and reusable grocery bags (\$4 or three for \$10). They are all available in the front office, and there is also an order form on our website.



# Upcoming Events, Volunteer Opportunities, & Community Outreach Efforts

## Lowcountry Orphan Relief Clothing and School Supply Drive

When: October 5-9

Where: Drop-off at school front entrance

What to Donate: Children and adult sizes of new or gently-used pants, jeans and tops, new underwear and socks, new or gently used closed-toed shoes or sneakers, bookbags and any school supply items



**TRIANGLE**  
Char + Bar

## Close the Gap Campaign

THE O'QUINN SCHOOLS  
OF PORTER-GAULD  
James Beards • Student Planning

**Join us for The O'Quinn School SPIRIT NIGHT!**

**Wednesday, September 30**  
**5:00 – 10:00pm**  
**Triangle Char + Bar – West Ashley**

It's Spirit Night at Triangle Char + Bar in West Ashley! Dine with us on September 30 and at the end of your meal, simply write "O'Quinn" on your check. Triangle will keep a tally and at the end of the promotion, we will cut your school a check for a portion of the sales.  
Your entire food & beverage amount will count towards the promotion.

**The Attendance Benefits:** More participation means more money!

- 20 ppl = 10% of sales (pre-tax)
- 21 – 50 ppl = 15% of sales (pre-tax)
- 51 and up = 20% of sales (pre-tax)

**Join us as we "Spirit Night" September 30th!**  
**Triangle Char + Bar**  
828 Savannah Highway  
(843)377-1300

Can you help with our  
Halloween Carnival?

October 29-30

Every Halloween, the Parents Guild puts on a Halloween Carnival that is quite a treat for the kids! It takes a lot of parent volunteers to make it run smoothly, though. If you can volunteer to help set up, clean up, or work a shift, please contact Amelia Hale: [oqhalloween2015@gmail.com](mailto:oqhalloween2015@gmail.com)





# Faculty Updates

## Update on Director Sharon McCuen

Last semester, there was a huge hole in our school as Sharon was away for a kidney transplant. We're so happy to have her back, and thankful for this positive update from her:

*It's true. Never take your health for granted. This past March, I received a kidney from my younger sister, Angel. My family and I have known for years that I had a hereditary kidney disease and a transplant was probable. But, when my kidneys began to fail, neither of my sisters hesitated to be my donor. Angel sent in her donor information first, and she won the prize! She and I were found to be a good match.*

*Since the surgery, Angel and I have done well. Angel went back to work before me (in just 3 weeks!!) and worked through her recovery. She's just had her 6-month check-up and is doing great! I was away from school for 8 weeks. I feel great, and my kidney function is up to where it should be.*

*Angel and I are so thankful for the cards, gifts, thoughts, and especially prayers as we had our surgeries. Thank you to my school family for caring for us!*

### Building Update:

Have you been out back to the 4's and 5's playground? If so, you may have noticed that one of our summer projects was new, large windows along the deck and gym. The classrooms are so much brighter! Only 3 more classrooms and all of our windows will be replaced! Also, rooms 7 and 9 had new cabinets installed. Stop by to take a look!

## MEET YOUR PARENTS GUILD REPRESENTATIVES

President: Mollie Dadin

VP: Leah Ellis

Secretary: Livy Everly

Treasurer: Michelle Diminich

Assistant Treasurer: Julie Leal

Community Outreach: Sarah Moore & Julie Leal

Book Fair: Melinda Sander & Kate Langlois

Social: Sara Corbett

Halloween Carnival: Amelia Hale

Fundraising: Tara Beldner

Sunshine Outreach: Leah Ellis

Teacher Appreciation: Nicole Alexander & Chandler Dodds

Newsletter: Shayna Howell

*We're here to provide a parental "support group" for our great faculty and staff, and a formal parent-school connection. If you're a parent – You're In! Contact us at [parentsguildji@oquinnschool.org](mailto:parentsguildji@oquinnschool.org) with ideas or questions!*

## Scholastic Book Fair

### November 9-13

The Parents Guild will be sponsoring a Scholastic Book Fair the week of November 9-13. This is a "cash and carry" bookstore with the shelves full of books ready for purchase right here at our school. It's a great opportunity to buy Christmas gifts and restock your birthday gift stash! You can also buy books for your classroom off the teachers' wish list. **Best of all, 50% of every dollar you spend comes right back to our teachers - they get Scholastic dollars to buy books and supplies.** Last year the fair raised \$3,314.77 for the teachers to use in their classrooms! The fair is completely staffed by parent volunteers with a variety of shifts available. Please consider helping out this year! Contact Kate Langlois ([katelanglois@gmail.com](mailto:katelanglois@gmail.com)) or Melinda Sander ([sand4945@yahoo.com](mailto:sand4945@yahoo.com)) with any questions or to volunteer.



Another great way to (almost) effortlessly raise money for the school is to link your Target Red Card (both the debit and credit versions work) or your Harris Teeter Vic Card to O'Quinn James Island. A percentage of your purchases will then be given to the school. Please take a few minutes out of your day to link your cards if you have them! (As of right now, 11 Target RedCard holders have designated O'Quinn James Island to receive



rewards, and it has earned us almost \$500! We also collect Box Tops – there is a collection box in the front office. Thanks for all you do to support the school!

Check in on what all of the classes are up to by following The O'Quinn School – James Island on Facebook. Ms. Rossie posts photos frequently – it's fun to catch a glimpse of your kids in action at school!



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