



The Charger Connection



December 2011/
January 2012

Orion Middle School

Volume 1, Issue 4

Special Dates to Note:

- **Start of Spelling Bee Practice**, Nov. 28
- **1st Day of Wrestling**, Nov. 28
- **End of second quarter** is December 20th
- **Winter Break**, which runs from December 21-January 2
- **Report cards will be distributed** on Friday, January 6th.

OMS READERS' BOWL CONTEST

We currently have 96 students participating in the OMS Reader's Bowl. Students are competing, as teams, to make their way from one end zone to the other.

Students are on Big Ten teams, such as the University of Illinois, University of Wisconsin, University of Iowa, etc. Students can earn points in the following ways:

1 point-Reading a book in the student's Lexile and filling out the reading strategy bookmark

1 point-Doing everything above **AND** having a book

that is 250 pages or more **1 point**-Blogging on the chargersread.edublogs.org site, under student's team heading, with at least a paragraph or more entry regarding the book they have read or one they are currently reading.

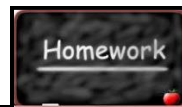
1 point-Posting on another person's blog and putting something very thoughtful and well-written regarding the book.

The contest started on Monday, October 31st and will end on Friday, December 16th—the day

before Winter Break! The winning team will have a super bowl party in the office and we will have TONS of food and fun!



Also, the top reader (may not be on the winning team—but they will get to attend the super bowparty) will win a FANTASTIC prize—we will not announce the prize until the end of the contest!!!



Please make sure your student is using his/her assignment notebook and writing down assignments. Teachers have this information posted on their boards each and every day. Also, please check out the Parent Bulletin Page to view the Curriculum for the Week!

Our Student Heroes!

6th Grader, Sam West

6th Grader, Daimon Zurcher

8th Grader, Aubrey Murphy



We will be starting practice for our School-Wide Spelling Bee, starting on November 28th. Mrs. Bugos will be leading the Spelling Bee Competition this year. Over the course of six weeks, the students will be able to study the spelling words, practice within their own English

classrooms **and** study them at home.



We look forward to students participating in this activity and working on building their vocabulary and spelling skills. After the classroom Spelling Bees take place, the students will then advance to our School-Wide Spelling Bee on January 11th! We are seeking to raise awareness for our students' academic talents and this is one more venue to use for this purpose!



MAP TESTING

MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) Testing will take place during a two week period, starting on Tuesday, January 17 and ending on Friday, January 27th. When all tests are completed and uploaded to the NWEA site—the host for our MAP testing—we will then get results within a one week time frame. We utilize these scores to help meet the needs of our students, identify students who are in need of more academic support, as well as demonstrate student progress throughout the year—for the purposes of showing growth.