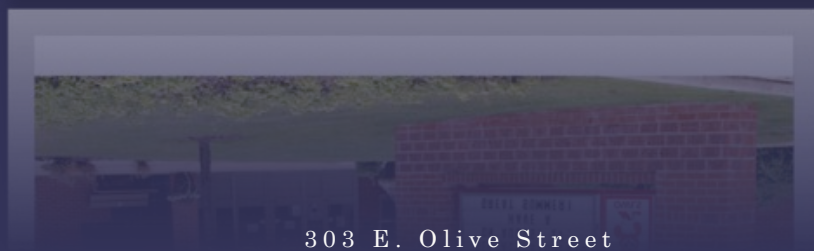
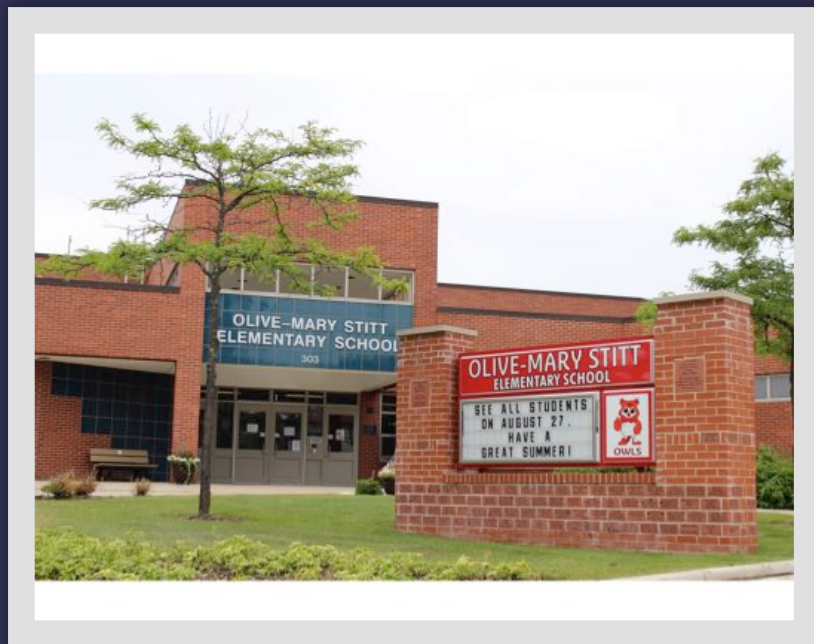




Olive-Mary Stitt Elementary School



303 E. Olive Street
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
Phone: 847.398.4282 Fax: 847.394.6935
Principal-Becky FitzPatrick • Assistant Principal-Erin Davis
<http://arling.schoolwires.net/Domain/13>

School Summary

Named for a former principal and world-renowned educator, Mary Stitt, Olive-Mary Stitt Elementary School celebrated its fiftieth anniversary during the 2012-2013 school year. Nestled in central Arlington Heights, the school serves approximately five hundred and seventy students in grades kindergarten through fifth grade, with twenty-eight classroom teachers.

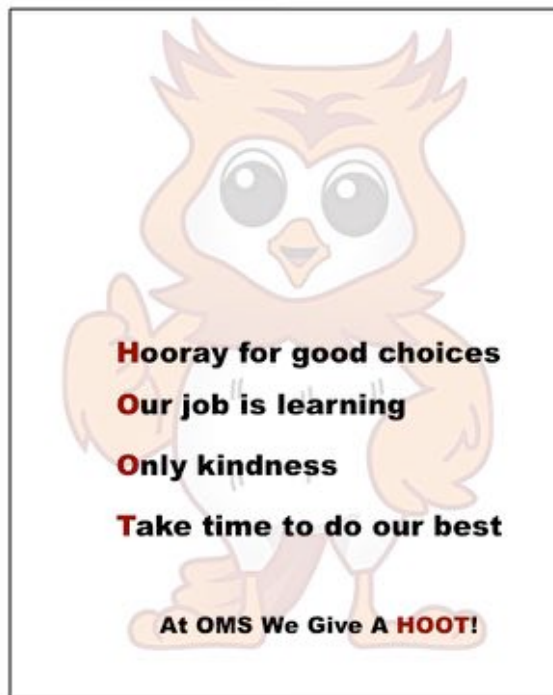
Olive-Mary Stitt prides itself on consistently providing a child-centered educational experience, dedicated to ensuring success for all students. Through inquiry and the design of purposeful and effective instruction, the staff at Olive-Mary Stitt Elementary School provides students with the opportunity to own their learning.

Collaboration is evident throughout the school environment as teachers, parents, and community members work together to provide an educational program that challenges all students and engages them in learning opportunities that promote 21st century readiness skills such as critical thinking and problem solving, communication, collaboration, and creativity and innovation. Coupled with the Common Core State Standards and the district's WIRED (World Focus, Integrate, Reflect, Engage, & Discover) framework, the roadmap for student success is clearly defined for our school community. We remain focused on cultivating responsible students who are passionate, global learners.



The entire Olive-Mary Stitt community has established a positive school climate via our Give a HOOT expectations. In classrooms, on the stage, in hallways, and out at recess, our students exemplify positive behavioral attributes: Hooray for good choices, Our job is learning, Only kindness, and Take time to do our best. Our parent community has embraced the tenets and incorporated them outside of the school day.

Believing that all of our students can learn and grow, we have developed a system for monitoring the progress of our students so we are able to intervene early to provide targeted intervention and enrichment. Our students continue to perform well on standardized assessment measures. Named one of Chicago Tribune's Best-Performing School's on the PARCC test, 74% of our students met or exceeded expectations.



Our strong partnership with our PTA allows our families to participate in a variety of social and educational activities. The sponsorship of clubs and activities such as Camp Fit, Junior Great Books, Ecology, Chess, Art Awareness, and Yearbook provides a well-rounded experience for our students. Other school sponsored extra-curricular opportunities include Safety Patrol, Lego Club, Maker Club, Techsperience, Talent Show, Morning Announcements, Band, Science Club, and Student Council. Through the collaboration of our Service-Learning Club and Character Counts committee, our students have participated in community service projects throughout the year, including Share Your Soles, Warm the

Nest clothing drive, Saluting our First Responders, Valentines for Veterans, and Fill the Nest food drive.

Families

OMS is a wonderful school. The community of teachers, administrators, and parents work together to make this such a special place for our kids. The amount and type of fun events and projects that supplement the everyday learning make OMS a unique place to learn and grow. We are so very lucky to be a part of this wonderful community. -Parent of 1st & 4th Grade Students

Olive Mary Stitt is like a family. I could feel it from the very first week I walked into the school six years ago and Brenda in the front office already knew my kindergarten daughter's name. The Olive community has a passion for helping others, not only within our school, but all those around us that need it. Our Character Counts program is exceptional and our students really do understand and exemplify the Six Pillars of Character. These traits in our



children are strengthened every day they spend at Olive, watching and learning from the faculty, staff, parents, and each other. – Parent of 1st & 5th Grade Students

What makes Olive a special school is that there is an overall theme that everyone is always working towards, what is best for the child. We have a wonderful collaboration between the OMS Staff, Teachers, PTA, and the Parents. We offer wide ranges of events to the OMS students at each grade level. From cultural arts programs, author visits, activity nights for each grade and Field Day. In education, students are exposed to the newest technology, the most current learning strategies and are offered resources to assist in their particular learning needs. –Parent of a 1st Grade Student and Two Olive graduates



As a long time Olive parent I appreciate the teachers that care for and challenge our students and allow them opportunities to creatively write, design challenges or portray famous characters. Our parent population is also very involved which lets our children experience things like cultural arts, disability awareness, ecology, and service to others. – Parent of a 4th Grade Student

Olive-Mary Stitt has a remarkable staff that is truly dedicated to the students. I have been impressed with the academic resources, support staff and the extra curricular opportunities available for students. The parent community and PTA are welcoming and focused on building a strong sense of community for the student body

and their families. Our experience at OMS has exceeded our high expectations and we are thrilled to be a part of the OMS community. –Parent of 2nd Grade and Kindergarten Student

What makes Olive special is the staff. Both the teachers and administrators consistently go above and beyond for our kids. Whether that's addressing special educational needs, meeting with parents outside of the school day or coming out for events like school concerts or the Just Move It challenge. They are an amazing

group of people who really care about the students and families in the Olive community. -Parent of 4th and 2nd Grade Students

I love Olive-Mary Stitt because of the community all of us work together to create. The staff, the parents, and the students make OMS what it is. There is a personal connection every time I am at school: a short conversation, a conference, a smile, or a hello. Each group contributing to the conversation, so that the result is excellence. -Parent of 1st & 4th grade Students

Students

Our school is special because we get to get friends all the time. -2nd Grade Student

Our school is special because we have lots of fun stuff like recess, gym, art, and music. - 4th Grade Student

It has a park right next to it with an extra playground for recess. -1st Grade Student

"Olive is special and meaningful to me because the teachers are the best! They are kind, awesome and they make learning fun. We have epic adventures at Olive. I have good memories from Olive. My 2nd grade teacher is the best. She is very caring. She is helpful and comes to my aid when I need it. She is the best teacher ever!" -2nd Grade Student



The teachers really care. -5th Grade Student

Olive feels like a special place because our teachers are like family and care about us. -1st Grade Student

The teachers make learning really fun. It's fun to go even when we are doing hard things like multiplication. -3rd Grade Student

I like to go to Olive because it makes me happy and I like to read and learn. -Kindergartener

Olive is a special place full of fun filled adventures. My favorite part of the year is Field Day with exciting games like Tug of War! During Halloween and Valentine's Day, we have parties to celebrate with parents and teachers. OMS is a great place that has left me with awesome memories. -4th Grade Student

Staff

Simply put, Olive-Mary Stitt Elementary School is a wonderful place to learn and grow! Parents and staff put the needs of our students at the center of all decisions made, truly striving to make the elementary years ones of wonder and delight for our Olive Owls. There is a warm and positive feel in our school. Olive is a school where staff members support and encourage one another, showing excitement for the ideas and achievements of colleagues. We are a team, but a team where individuality and risk taking are welcome. We learn from our successes and failures and grow forward, always with the needs of our students in focus. -OMS Advanced Learning Facilitator

Olive is an amazing family of students and teachers! In spite of our large school size, students are nurtured not only in their classrooms but also across the building by all staff members. Both students and teachers are encouraged and challenged to grow and learn each day. We value both tradition and innovation. Every day is a great day to be an Olive Owl!
-OMS 1st Grade Teacher

From the minute you walk in the door and meet our two amazing secretaries, you know that Olive is a special place.

The dedicated and professional staff is supportive and caring of students and each other, which translates into an environment conducive to positive academic, social, and emotional growth for all. -OMS Special Education Teacher

I am grateful for the opportunity to teach in District 25 and absolutely love Arlington Heights. I attended Arlington High School, began my teaching career here right out of college, returned after a few years at home with young children, and now look forward to many more years ahead... 17 years and counting...I feel very blessed to be part of the lives of my students. My colleagues are exceptional



professionals and good friends. I appreciate the supportive parent community. Lastly, I thank each teacher in District 25 who invested their time and talents with my own children who have thrived and have been extremely well prepared for high school. –OMS 5th Grade Teacher

The staff at Olive-Mary Stitt works together to intervene with students during Target Time and throughout the school day. Kids with learning and/or behavior differences succeed and thrive thanks to the work of teachers and student services staff. –OMS School Psychologist



What makes OMS so special? That's easy...the community. Everywhere you turn, there's a sense of community...from the community of parents that support our students and staff and take such great care of us all, to the community of teachers that work tirelessly to create the very best educational experience for the kids they can, to the community of students who never cease to amaze me with their

incredible sense of wonder and genuine encouragement of one another. Not only is the community at Olive one of support and encouragement, it is also one that constantly challenges us to be our very best and to always put the child first. It's a community I feel quite privileged to be a part of each and every day! –OMS 5th Grade Teacher

What makes OMS special? The kids and parents! Everyday I'm astounded by the creativity, good humor, compassion, and work ethics our students display. While many of those qualities are innate, our kids are fortunate to grow up in loving homes with parents that nurture these qualities. OMS is the best! –OMS Art Teacher

I feel extremely lucky to work at Olive! The kids are loving and respectful. My colleagues are so supportive, helpful, and passionate about our kids. The Olive families support the teachers by being our partners in their children's education. The Olive Way is unique to our school as we are welcoming, hardworking and we have a lot of fun each and every day! –OMS 3rd Grade Teacher

OMS is a unique place in that it is considered by the staff to be a

"family" more than just a place to work. We've had our share of ups and downs, but everyone pulled together to support or cheer on those who needed it. Each loss or triumph was felt by all. –OMS 4th Grade Teacher

From my personal perspective, I have felt an outpouring of support from many staff members during my ongoing difficulties. I believe that the saying "It takes a village..." could be reworded into "It takes an OMS village/community..." OMS is that village!! –OMS School Social Worker

Curriculum

Olive-Mary Stitt Elementary School is a collaborative school community with responsible students who are passionate, global learners. We maintain high expectations for all students, differentiating learning experiences to best enhance the social, intellectual, physical, emotional attributes of our students.

Our literacy curriculum engages students in exploring nonfiction, fiction, poetry, and content literacy. Following a workshop model of instruction, students are provided tools for selecting, interacting with, and comprehending fiction and non-fiction texts



Olive-Mary Stitt applies best practices in mathematics using *Everyday Mathematics*, developed by The University of Chicago, School Mathematics Project. Students explore abstract math concepts through real-world application. Teachers focus on deep mathematical understanding by employing Common Core State Standards (CCSS) mathematical practices and by encouraging multiple strategies to solve problems.

The focus of our science curriculum is an inquiry approach that fosters scientific thinking through hands-on activities. Aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) students investigate topics including light and sound, life cycles, forces in action, Earth's changing surface, and human body in motion.

Our social studies curriculum encourages our students to explore topics related to civic competence. Focusing on community and local history, students study Arlington Heights, Chicago, and Illinois culture and geography. In the intermediate grades, students study the history of the United States.

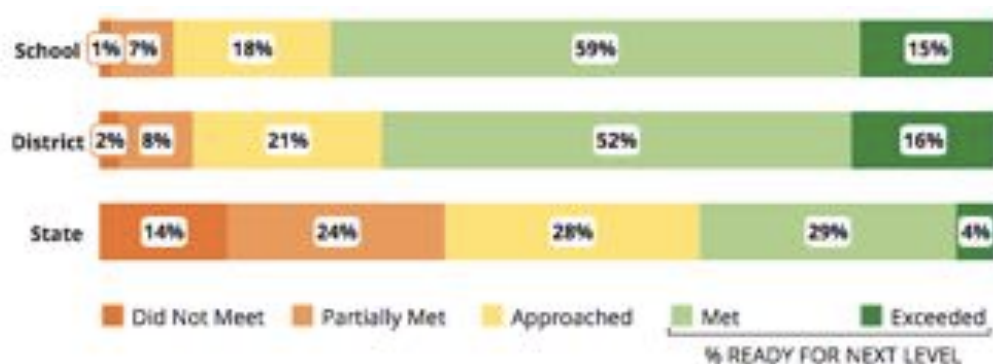
All students participate in art, music, and physical education classes. Fifth grade students have the option of participating in instrumental music instruction. The American Association of School Librarians learning standards and Standards for the 21st-Century Learner guide collaboration between our library media services and classroom teachers, integrating information literacy, digital literacy, literacy acquisition, and educational technology. Social and emotional competencies are fostered through the Second Step program. Students practice skills for empathy, conflict resolution, and friendship building.

Demographics & Performance

School Report Card (2014-2015)



Percentage of Students at each performance level on the PARCC Assessments



Chicago Tribune 2015 Illinois PARCC Scores Best Performers

English and Language Arts

School	% passing	Eligible students	% not tested
Edison Elementary Regional Gifted Cntr	97.6%	188	11.2%
Keller Elementary Gifted Magnet	96.4%	176	6.3%
McDade Elementary Classical	95.7%	96	2.1%
Skinner North Elementary	93.9%	238	4.2%
Decatur Classical Elementary	93.4%	133	9%
Skinner Elementary	87.6%	507	3%
Meadow Glens Elementary	86.3%	263	0.4%
Oak Grove Elementary	84.3%	590	1.5%
Marie Murphy	84.1%	256	2%
Half Day	83.9%	342	0%
Daniel Wright Jr. H.S.	83.4%	827	1.6%
Walden Elementary	82.9%	228	0%
Wood Oaks Jr. H.S.	82.5%	420	1%
Longfellow Elementary	82%	201	0.5%
Pleasant Hill Elementary	81.5%	356	0%
Twin Groves Middle	81%	541	3%
Highlands Middle	80.9%	305	3.9%
Poe Elementary Classical	80.9%	116	0.9%
Butler Junior H.S.	80.7%	163	1.2%
Sunset Ridge Elementary	80.7%	282	2.8%
Lincoln Prairie	80.6%	250	0.8%
Greenbrier Elementary	80.6%	125	0.8%
Thomas Middle	80.5%	922	1.7%
Lincoln Elementary	80.4%	560	4.3%
Bell-Graham Elementary	80.2%	250	1.2%
Kennedy Junior H.S.	80.1%	935	1.6%
Marion Jordan Elementary	79.9%	270	0.4%
Oak Elementary	79.5%	128	0.8%
Thomas Dooley Elementary	79.4%	204	0%
Woodlawn Middle	79.2%	652	3.4%
Madison Elementary	78.9%	199	0%
Willowbrook Elementary	78.8%	132	0%
Kipling Elementary	78.8%	236	0%
Shabonee	78.8%	398	0.5%
Everett Dirksen Elementary	78.8%	236	0%
Madison Elementary	78.6%	197	0.5%
Olive-Mary Stitt	78.6%	320	0.6%
Hawthorne Elementary Scholastic Academy	78.6%	381	6.8%
Spring Ave Elementary	78.6%	203	1%
Proviso Math and Science Academy	78.5%	149	0%
Highlands Elementary	78.5%	323	0.6%
Naperville Central H.S.	78%	726	1.1%
Horace Mann Elementary	78%	248	1.2%
Fairview Elementary	77.9%	341	0.3%
Lincoln Elementary	77.9%	172	0%
Western Avenue Elementary	77.5%	160	0%
Central	77.4%	585	0.2%
Ogden Ave Elementary	77.2%	389	0.8%
Willard Elementary	77.2%	128	0.8%
New Trier Township H. S Northfield	77.1%	454	2.6%

http://apps.chicagotribune.com/news/local/parcc-scores-2015/#/?_k=0bogdy

Owls for Others

Our faculty sponsored service-learning club, in partnership with our PTA, provides a vehicle for students to learn about others in need around the world and to investigate ways to make a difference. Projects throughout the year have included the following activities.

In August we raised enough money to create 1,700 meals for nokidhungry.org through our Ice Cream Social.

In September we saluted First Responder parents on the morning announcements with huge cards signed by the entire school. It was an incredibly exciting & moving experience for everyone!

In October we celebrated National Character Counts week with millions of students around the world. The "What's My Superpower" banner was created by our kids, hung outside the library media center & generated inspiring conversations. Staff taught formal letter writing skills that were used to participate in Operation Gratitude. Those letters of thanks were embellished by our 5th Grade Service Learning Club and included in care packages for deployed military.

In November we piloted *Warm the Nest* with our partners, JOURNEYS & the Mt. Prospect Public Library. OMS families donated a total of 442 pieces of winter gear, which were sorted & bagged by our 5th Grade Service



Learning Club and delivered to serve homeless families in suburban Cook County. November perfectly illustrated how many hands working together can show OMS cares in a big way!

In December we collected a trunk load of pop-tops to benefit the Ronald McDonald House. Students viewed a personal testimony during their lunch hour of the impact RMH had in the life of a family in our Olive community.

In January students collected \$437.50 in coins for Charity Waters, an organization that serves the 1 in 11 people on our planet that do not have access to clean drinking water. Students learned at lunch about the challenges kids and families face that do not have access to clean water. Students also collected water bottles for the Buffalo Grove Police Department to take to first responders in Flint, Michigan, who are battling a local water crisis.

In February we joined a national campaign making Valentines for Veterans during our lunch hour. Cards were delivered to veterans seeking treatment at North Chicago Veteran's Hospital & our efforts were featured on the front page of the local section of The Chicago Tribune!

In March we raised enough money to educate a child for ½ a year at our Steak & Shake benefit for Pencils of Promise.

In April we partnered with the Ecology Club for the Share Your Soles event. Students collected 596 pairs of gently used footwear for this important organization that puts shoes on the soles of children and adults in the most impoverished areas of the world. Our shoes are making their way to the Nakivale Refugee settlement in Uganda & will be given to Syrian refugees arriving in North Chicago.

In May for our final event, we *Fill the Nest* to benefit Wheeling Township Pantry in partnership with our 5th Grade Service Learning club. Our human chain moves food collected from the OMS stage to the Township Truck. This beloved OMS tradition is a meaningful finale to our service work!

