Welcome to
The Olive Class!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Miss Wendy</th>
<th>Miss Shawna</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Worked as TA in Olive 2015-2016</td>
<td>Volunteered in Willow as a CMP parent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worked at CMP Orangevale as Lead Teacher in an Upper Elementary classroom 2016-2019</td>
<td>Realized CMP was where she wanted to be and work</td>
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<tr>
<td>BS from UCSB</td>
<td>Worked as a TA in Olive</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS from Cal State East Bay</td>
<td>Attends Folsom Lake College and is working towards California teaching credential</td>
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<tr>
<td>California Credential from Cal State Fresno</td>
<td>Mom of 5 amazing kiddos, the youngest 2 currently CMP Upper Elementary students</td>
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<td>Montessori Credentials in 6-9 years old and 9-12 years old (lower and upper elementary)</td>
<td>Loves fudge, movie theater popcorn, family game nights and Starbuck's coffee.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mother of 2 adult children, married to a Fire Captain, loves yoga, dogs, outdoors, skiing, books and travel</td>
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**Open Communication is A Priority:**

**Contact:** We value and appreciate open communication with our families. To ensure you receive our full and undivided attention, we encourage you to make an appointment for after school hours (before school hours available upon request). The best way to set that up is by emailing Miss Wendy wderrish@cacmp.org through Parent Square. You can also write a short note on your child’s planner found in the white Olive binder.

**Folders:** We use a binder system known as the Weekly Planner. We need your help to keep the school communication folder and the homework folders inside of the binder (between the ages of 6-9, this takes your support). Hawk Folders (red) have new information sent home each Monday and Homework Folders (blue) have new assignments sent home on Friday.

**Planners:** This is a great way to keep communication open with your child and teachers. You will see what your child has completed and learned each day, as well as the plan for the week. Planners go home Monday through Friday and should be initialed by a parent each day. They are found in the front page of the white Olive binder which will be brought home daily by your child.

**Newsletters:** Our grade-level newsletters and announcements are on the http://www.ss.cacmp.org/ web page and on the back of our planners as well. PLEASE read the newsletter each Monday to get up to date information on field trips, classroom updates, wonderful student photos, and more! 😊
The Circle of Life *Homework*:

Blue Plastic Folder/ Goes Home Each Friday Afternoon / Comes Back Next Friday Morning

**Homework assignments have been carefully crafted and chosen to:**

1. Build a foundation of responsible work ethics that will carry on through Upper Elementary, High School, College, and the Work Force

2. Practice skills recently learned in the classroom

3. Allow students to build confidence with presentation and public speaking skills

**2/3 Homework Folder:**

Book Reports/Projects: Instructions will be included

Weekly Spelling Practice (Tailored to your child)

20-30 minutes minimum of reading daily (Sight Words Lists OK)

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Student A Reads</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10 minutes per day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,600 minutes per school year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,600,000 words per year.</td>
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If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.

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**Reading** with your child, encouraging your child to read independently, or listening to audio books are all wonderful ways to support the process of reading and comprehension mastery. Reading 20 or more minutes a day is the single most effective way to boost reading scores and increase writing ability, as well as increase assessments scores. If your child is not enjoying reading, there is a very good chance he/she needs to find a more suitable book that will be more interesting and engaging. Please let us know if we can help in that search, because we love to read, and we love to help children find enjoyable books! Our class books are available for check out, so you may find a good book in tucked into your child’s bag.
Olive Classroom: We promote kindness, care for all living creatures, plants, and the environment, empathy, grace and courtesy, and respect for diversity in all ways. We accept and love each child as they are and for who they are. We embrace differences and individuality, and encourage kind and honest commutation and expression.

The above being said, we take a proactive approach to discipline by teaching good communication skills, self-advocacy skills, and appropriate problem-solving skills through teacher modeling, character education curriculum, emotional education, daily community meetings, and role-play. Our hope is to educate our students to know the steps for solving small issues before those issues erupt into big problems. When big problems arise, we intervene as guides and mentors, and sometimes become the choice-makers, for larger issues.

Some of the instruments and strategies that we use to build and foster strong problem-solving skills:

- Research-Based, character education vocabulary and lessons frequently presented in our classroom (Google: PBIS, Choices, Positive Discipline, Love and Logic)
- Direct teaching and role-play of classroom procedures, using grace and courtesy
- Our class agenda book, where students can write down concerns so that our classroom family can discuss and process the issue as a team
- Further development of the Peace Talk strategy, learned in K/1
- Community Meeting time that includes team-building and discussions
- Teachers who participate in frequent professional development and research up-to-date methods of supporting all learning styles

When Do We Communicate With You About Issues That May Arise?

We communicate with our families FREQUENTLY. Parent Square messages, or emails with positive observations and precious photos will come to you, as well as when we have concerns and need for family follow-up. As parents ourselves, we want to hear the good news and positive progress stories about our own children. We don’t want to hear from our children’s teachers only for negative reasons. That is not a way to build a strong, lasting connection between your family and our classroom family.
**Class Manager** is a very special job that your child will have in Olive a few times per year. The Class Manager position lasts for one week at a time and allows each student to learn and practice: good leadership skills presentation skills, and grace and courtesy skills.

Class Manager Job Includes:
Managing and Leading Classroom Meetings
Answering Phone
Sharing “All about Me” Bag
Helping to Feed Class Pets

**Personal Snacks and Lunch**

Your child is at that age where they are able to learn how to pack a healthy snack and lunch for themselves each day, get a quick O.K. from a parent, then off too school. Healthy food choices provide the all important fuel for moving bodies and thinking minds. For major brain power and good gut health, protein, fresh salads with ingredients like broccoli, kale, pasta, and vinaigrette, probiotic infused yogurt, and small helpings of fruit with a cold water bottle make a winning combination, according to Harvard Medical School. Make sure your child includes an ice-pack or uses a thermos-style container because we do not do warm-ups anymore.

* We are a Nut-Free classroom. Please NO nuts in the classroom. Nut lunches are perfectly fine since we have alternating seating, but morning snack is kept inside Olive, so please support snack choices that are nut free. Thank you for your understanding and support!

**Birthdays**

Birthdays are fun and exciting! It is also difficult to bring focus back after a big celebration. In Olive, we make birthdays extra-special by:

- Having a Sun Celebration: This is a special honor as the birthday child tells one special thing from each year of life. Helping your child make a list for this moment is highly recommended.
- Offering the option of bringing a bagged to-go style treat to pass out at dismissal time
Important CMP Policies:

• Absences and Tardies:
  None of us LIKE to be tardy or absent. No one likes to walk into a room having missed important information or introductions. It’s just not fun. That being said, if your child is sick with fever, is throwing up, having other tummy issues, etc. PLEASE keep them home for the CDC’s recommended 24-48 hour waiting period to not pass along germs. Sharing IS caring, but...well, you know. We DO understand however, that tardiness or absences must happen occasionally. Please let our office staff know as soon as possible, if your child will be tardy or absent. If your child will be tardy, make sure to drop them off in the office in order to check in and receive a tardy slip before walking to class. Please remind your student to enter the classroom quickly and to quietly come to the T.A. or teacher’s side to check in and present their tardy slip. If you know your child must be absent for several days, please text Miss Wendy to ask which work your child can bring home to stay on top of that week’s work.

• Dress Code and “Logo Friday”:
  Thank you, in advance, for continuing to have your child dress themselves in dress code appropriate clothing! Please refer to your CMP handbook for a complete list of board-approved clothing. If you ever want to know about great places to find non-logo clothing, please ask us! In addition, trust us when we tell you that there is a clear and distinct POSITIVE difference in the social atmosphere of a school that is free of logos! That being said, the last Friday of each month is FREE LOGO DAY!!! All school-appropriate logos can be worn on this special CMP day!

• School Lunch Orders: Order forms go out monthly and must be returned TO THE OFFICE by the due date. This due date is kept SACRED in order to ensure everyone’s order is accurate. The price is only $5.00 per meal and is used by the middle school as a fund-raising opportunity as well as a real-world lesson in economics and entrepreneurship. Please keep a record of the days you have ordered food, with your child, so that they can be a part of learning how to keep and manage their weekly schedule.

• Drop Off and Pick Up: Our classes begin at 8:30. Students may arrive at 8:20 to put away their backpacks, jackets, lunches, and snacks, and then to have time to use the restroom and play. Students arriving before 8:20 are directed to Club M for supervision because there are not adults on the playground to ensure the safety of the children until 8:20 am. School ends at 3:00. Please make sure to go over your assigned pick-up time and location with your child so that they feel confident and competent when it comes to their end-of-day schedule. If you must change your pick-up details on a certain day, please notify the office and email Miss Wendy ASAP to avoid a problematic pick-up. It hurts our teacher hearts to have to tell students that we don’t know where you are; that can be scary for any child!
• Lastly, THANK YOU for partnering with us on behalf of your precious child!