



Ottawa Crescent Public School

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www.ugdsb.on.ca/ottawacres

March 2016

It is hard to believe that Spring is hopefully right around the corner! It has been a very busy month at Ottawa Crescent. We have had our Dance-a-Thon, River Run trips, and more. The students continue to work hard in their classes, both independently and collaboratively with their peers. We are continuing to focus on teaching math through problem solving school-wide. This provides our students with the chance to solve real-life problems linked to the math curriculum.

Often parents wonder how they can support their child's learning at home. In this newsletter you will find some helpful tips to make learning at home a positive experience for everyone!

Have a wonderful March and a safe and active March Break.

Allison Stoffman
Principal



School Climate Survey

During the week of February 29 - March 4, students in grades 4 - 12 will be completing a School Climate Survey. The purpose of this survey is to determine whether or not our students feel that their school provides a safe and inclusive learning environment. The survey asks general questions about how the student is feeling at school, as well as specific questions about bullying. Staff and parents are also being asked to complete a climate survey about their school. Parents can use the following link to access the survey, or the survey can be accessed through our school website. https://uoguelph.eu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_87VAOCZ4TdwN52Z

School Council Meeting

The next Ottawa Crescent Public School Council Meeting will be held Monday, March 7 at 6:30 p.m.
Everyone is welcome.

Bus Cancellations and School Closures Due to Inclement Weather

Daily information regarding school bus cancellations and school closures are posted on the Upper Grand District School Board's website: www.ugdsb.on.ca by 6:30 a.m. each day. To access inclement weather information from the Board's website, click on "school bus cancellations and student closures" below the little yellow school bus. It will be noted here if buses and taxis are running and whether schools are open or closed. You may also tune in to CJOY (1460 AM) and MAGIC (106.1 FM) in the morning to learn about bus cancellations or school closures. When you hear the radio announcement "ALL SCHOOL TAXIS AND BUSES IN SOUTH WELLINGTON AND THE CITY OF GUELPH WILL NOT BE OPERATING TODAY" – your child's bus or taxi is cancelled. When you hear the radio announcement "ALL SCHOOLS IN SOUTH WELLINGTON AND THE CITY OF GUELPH ARE CLOSED" Ottawa Crescent Public School will be closed.

March Break

March 14 – March 18

Math Games to Play at Home

Do you read with your child every night? Is it a positive experience that creates a love of reading between you and your child? Do you play a fun math game with your child every night? Is it a positive experience that creates a love of math between you and your child? Does your child bring home a library book from school? Does your child bring home a math game from school?

Did you answer these questions differently? Do you view reading differently than math? Are you looking for a way to practicing math skills at home more fun and exciting for your child? There are lots of computer games and apps that make practicing math skills more engaging for your child.

1. Go to <https://www.prodigygame.com/Canada> for a free online Math game that supports Mental Math abilities and builds confidence with problem solving questions.
2. “Race to 10, 50 or 100.” Roll the dice and add up each turn. First one to 10, 50 or 100 wins. Multiply the numbers for older students.
3. “Guess My Number.” Place a sticky note on your child’s back and have them guess the number by asking only yes/no questions. (Is it bigger than 500, is it odd/even, etc.)
4. Play Dominoes, Cribbage or Yahtzee.

Send us an email with your favourite math game, so that we can share the word with all our families and send a message to our students that learning math happens every day around us.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up

Parents are reminded to please drop off and pick up their children at the appropriate entry/exit doors. The front hallway is becoming too congested for the safe entry and or exit of our bus/taxi students. Thank you for your cooperation.

Moving?

Planning for the 2016 – 2017 school year is already underway. If you will be moving this summer, or know of someone moving into the school area, please notify the office as soon as possible. This will help with the organization of teachers and classrooms at Ottawa Crescent for next year.



Visitors to Ottawa Crescent Public School

If you are visiting the school or coming in to pick up your child during regular school hours or dismissal time we ask that you go to the office first. Thank you.

Parking and Student Safety

Thank you to all parents who have recognized and avoided the “No Stopping No Parking” zones around the school. Please note that the **staff parking lot is not be used by parents for dropping off and/or picking up children**. There is a drop off area on the bend near 61 and 63 Ottawa Crescent and walkways off of Callander Drive and Laverne Avenue. Please continue to respect our neighbours and park only in designated areas on the street. The area west of our bus drop-off/pick-up is a NO STOPPING area. If you have any questions regarding parking in the Ottawa Crescent P.S. area please call Guelph By-Law at 519-836-7275.

Also, please remind your child(ren) to walk to and from school using the sidewalks. Often, if children walk on the snow banks they cannot be seen by moving vehicles. Please stand back from curbs and snow banks to ensure everyone stays safe.

Head Lice

Parents are reminded to regularly check your child’s head for head lice. Be sure to pay careful attention to the areas behind the ears, at the back of the neck, and on top of the head. We kindly ask that parents contact the school if lice have been found. Your pharmacist can help you choose the best product to treat your child’s hair.

Keeping Student Information Up to Date

In order to be able to reach parents, should the need arise, we ask that you inform the school if your contact information changes. Information such as phone numbers, emergency contacts and their phone numbers and places of employment are some of the items that can change during the year. We appreciate your assistance.

Live Free Fundraiser for Nutrition Bins on March 4

On March 4 our school will be participating in The Children's Foundation Food and Friends, "Live Free Campaign". This campaign supports our school's Breakfast program.

We ask that students Live Free, on March 4, of something they take for granted and to bring in a toonie to support our school's breakfast program. Every dollar raised by the Live Free Campaign will be used to support our breakfast program. You can also go <http://livefreewdg.villagecms.com/donate> to make a donation.

Thank you to those who have already sent in donations or donated on-line to our Nutrition Bin Program. Your support of our program is much appreciated!

Free to Play Program

The Children’s Foundation of Guelph and Wellington’s Free to Play Program can help low-income families pay for their children’s recreational activities, such as sports, camps and the arts. Up to \$400 per child per year is available for youth from birth through to 18 years who live in Guelph or Wellington County and fall below the low-income cut off. Applying is easy and confidential. Go to: www.childrensfoundation.org/free-to-play or call 519-826-9551, ext. 23.

Lost and Found

Please stop by our Lost and Found to check for missing items. There are lots of hats, mittens, coats and, many other items that have been accumulating over the past few weeks. Items not claimed by March 4 will be packed up and taken to a charitable organization.

Dance-A-Thon

Once again our Annual Dance-A-Thon was a huge success. We raised over \$1,400.00! These funds will be put towards our music programs and extra-curricular activities. Thank you for your generous donations.

Feedback welcome on draft policies

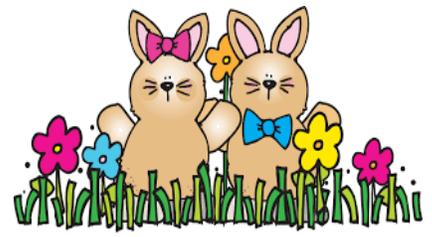
The Upper Grand District School Board is welcoming public input on draft policies. Currently under review are Equity and Inclusive Education (#504) and Alcohol and Drugs (#513). You are invited to review the draft documents and submit online feedback at www.ugdsb.on.ca/policy. The deadline for public input is April 13, 2016. Persons without internet access may call 519-822-4420 ext. 723 to request a printed copy of the draft documents.

If your school attendance area is long distance from Guelph, please use this version with our toll-free number...

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March 2016



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Drama Club	2 Sub Day	3	4 LIVE FREE Fundraiser – help support our Breakfast Program Pizza Day	5
6	7 Final of the Year Pizza/Milk and Sub Orders Due	8 Drama Club	9 Sub Day Basketball Tournament at Ken Danby P.S.	10	11 Pizza Day	12
 CHaNGe YOUR cLOCK	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	19	
	March Break					
20 First Day of Spring	21	22 Drama Club	23 Sub Day	24 Crazy Hair Day Pizza Day	25 Good Friday	26
27	28 Easter Monday Holiday	29 Drama Club	30 Sub Day	31		

