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June 2016

It's hard to believe that it is already time for our June newsletter! Where has the school year gone? For me, June is a time of reflection. It is a time to look back at the school year and think about all of the great memories that were created with students, staff, and families. The year has been full of excitement, opportunity, change and learning. It has been wonderful working alongside a team of enthusiastic students, great staff and dedicated parents. I am very proud of the students and all that they have accomplished this year.

A special thank you to all of our volunteers. Whether you were a member of school council, helped on a field trip, read with students, shelved books in the library, participated in Scientists in the School or helped out in any of the many ways we needed you, please know how appreciated you are. THANK YOU!

June is an extremely busy month at the school, with something special taking place almost every day! Swimming, track and field, play day, field trips and Family Fun Night (Thursday, June 2) are just a few of the exciting experiences that await our students.

Please be sure to check the O.C.P.S. calendar on our website for a complete list of upcoming activities.

Allison Stoffman, Principal

Jump Rope for Heart

Friday, May 13 was our annual Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser. Thank you to everyone for donating to a great cause! We raised over \$3,500. A special thank you to Mr. Brad Howell for providing the music.

SHARK Swim Program

Once again our grade three and grade five students are participating in the YMCA-YWCA SHARK swim program held at the Victor Davis Pool. The Guelph YMCA-YWCA and City of Guelph, with the help of the Lifesaving Society, have teamed together to bring this program, free of charge to grade three and grade five students in Guelph.

Medications

All parents must pick up their child's medication by the last day of school, Wednesday, June 29. Any medications left in the office will be safely disposed.

Time Change for Next Year

In order to facilitate learning there will be a slight change in our day next year. Our second nutrition break will take place at 12:55 – 1:35 p.m. Start of day time (8:55 a.m.) and end of day time (3:15 p.m.) will remain the same.

New Climber

Please be sure to check out our new primary climber. We are very excited to have a new piece of outdoor equipment for our students to play on.

June 3, 2016

P.D. Day

No School for Students.

Volunteer Tea Party Social

As a token of our appreciation and gratitude for all that you do, the staff is hosting a Volunteer Tea Party Social Wednesday, June 15 at 1:10 p.m. in our Library.

Please join us for this informal time of socializing with other volunteers and staff. We look forward to seeing you there!



OTTAWA CRESCENT PUBLIC SCHOOL
FAMILY FUN NIGHT
THURSDAY, JUNE 2
5:00 – 6:30 P.M.

Join us for pizza, cotton candy, games,
face painting and so much more!

Rain or Shine

Final Report Cards

Ottawa Crescent's final report cards will go home June 27. Please be sure to sign page 4 and return it to your child's teacher by Wednesday, June 29.

Year-End Assembly

Ottawa Crescent's year-end assembly will be held Wednesday, June 29 at 9:15 a.m.

Track and Field

Our track and field team is now practicing for the city track and field meet being held at the University of Guelph Thursday, June 16 (raindate Friday, June 17). We look forward to cheering them on. Go, Ottawa Crescent, Go!

Thank You Guelph Redcoats

A sincere thanks to the Guelph Redcoats Rugby Team for their generous and thoughtful donation of a field liner to Ottawa Crescent P.S. This handy tool will make our job much easier of marking lines for track and field and other sporting events.

Camp Brebeuf

Once again our Grade Six students will be heading off to Camp Brebeuf on Thursday, June 23 and returning Friday, June 24. We hope they have a lot of fun and bring back many happy memories.

Ottawa Crescent's Talent Show

It's that time of year again! Ottawa Crescent students are gearing up to show off their talents and skills. Permission forms have been handed out, and auditions will be soon. Please come and join us June 22 while we celebrate the talents of our students. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. North, Ms. Hart or Ms. Esposito.

Ottawa Crescent Play Day

On Thursday, June 23 (weather permitting) students in Grades 1 – 5 will be participating in a variety of fun-filled outdoor activities starting at 11:15 a.m. Children are reminded to wear proper footwear in order to participate safely. Please apply sunscreen at home and provide your child with a hat for protection from the sun.

Math and Reading This Summer

This summer don't forget about math and reading! On a rainy, cool summer day (I know after the winter we've had, hopefully they will be few and far between) check out these websites.

Parents of Elementary Students:

Find tips on helping your child with reading, writing and math, as well as tips on homework, talking to teachers and more. Tips are available in multiple languages at Ontario.ca/abc123

Information obtained from Parent Matters Ontario.ca/EDUparents

Last Day of School

The last day of school for students Wednesday, June 29. Dismissal will be at 3:15 p.m. Students return to school Tuesday, September 6, 2016.



Forest of Reading Festival

A huge thank you to all of the amazing volunteers who spent the day with us in Toronto at the Festival of Trees! Not only was this an incredible experience but we were very fortunate to have the entire trip sponsored. A total of 45 students and volunteers were able to attend this inspiring event. Congratulations to Maxine Wagner who flawlessly presented a beautifully written and memorized introduction to over 3,000 authors and students.

Running and Reading

Ottawa Crescent Public School has recently met with the START2FINISH Running and Reading Program coordinators in hopes of bringing this fabulous program to our school next year. The mission of the program is to support at-risk children throughout the school year and empower them to succeed through nurturing mind, body, and social health. This proven program starts in September and will run after school hours throughout the school year providing students with 45 minutes of physical activity, 20 minutes of character building and healthy nutrition followed by 45 minutes of literacy coaching by dedicated volunteers. **To bring this program to Ottawa Crescent will be a huge accomplishment but we need your help and community support to make this happen.** A meeting will be held in the Ottawa Crescent P.S. Library Learning Commons on June 15 at 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. The speaker will address the benefits of this program to our community and will reach out to neighbourhood partners willing to contribute to this worthwhile endeavor. Please plan to attend this very important event.

Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to the community for supporting Ottawa Crescent at the Scholastic Book Fair this month. We raised \$1,200 for our library. We greatly appreciate all the support we get from our parents and community. The money will be used to purchase books as well as materials for the Library Learning Commons.

Ontario Eco School

Thank you to the students and teachers who have worked all year to instill the importance of the environment in the school and classrooms. Last month we were pleased to have hosted representatives from Ontario Eco Schools to review our school and see all of the great things being done here. We are aiming for our first year as a designated Eco School and are excitedly waiting for the final report. Special recognition goes to all of the students on the Eco Environmental Team who were responsible for assisting with recycling this year and starting up some new eco initiatives that we will continue to build on next year.

Playing and Having Fun in the Summer Sun

The summer holidays are almost here and children will have more time to play inside and outside your home.

Play helps children of all ages build social skills, be more creative, and solve problems. Children who play often are happier and healthier.

Children need free time every day to play. It is important for children to choose how they would like to play and what they would like to play with. Younger children may choose to build with blocks, play chasing or tag games, paint, draw, make a puzzle or play with dolls, cars or trucks. Older children might like building a fort, riding a bike, playing ball, building with a construction set, or playing a board game.

Encourage your child to play actively more often than they play video games and watch T.V. Children enjoy playing with water or sand, playing games like hide and seek, or with bean bags, balls, skipping ropes or bikes.

Many children enjoy putting things together and taking things apart. Children also like to play games in which they can pretend such as dress-up, puppets and role playing. What did you like to do when you were a child?

Play is good for adults too. Adults who take time to “play” and relax are less stressed and happier. Have some fun this summer!

For ideas about toys and play at different ages go to:

<http://www.parents.com/baby/development/growth/how-they-play/>

For information on pretend play go to:

<http://www.hanen.org/Helpful-Info/Articles/The-Land-of-Make-Believe.aspx>

For ideas for outdoor play go to:

<http://www.goodhousekeeping.com/family/travel/play-outside-47060105#slide-29>

