



Ottawa Crescent Public School

Principal: Sean Cameron

Office Coordinator: Heather Pollard

Phone: 519-822-6880 Fax: 519-822-5131

September 2017 Newsletter

I am excited to begin my first September with the Ottawa Crescent community. Our school renovations are nearly complete, with the library and a few other areas left to go. All of our classrooms have received new flooring, lighting and paint (as did the halls). So, when it feels 'lighter and brighter' in OC this year – it's not your imagination....it actually is lighter and brighter. We will be formally 're-opening' our library in October with our open house and book fair. Stay tuned for our open house date – as we will be coordinating this with the completion of our library.

There is a lot of important information sent home during the first week of school, so please take some time to review it.

New UGDSB App

In an effort to be environmentally conscious (ie., less paper), we will be moving to digital newsletters from here on. A Board app has been created to easily keep up to date with school news and dates. If you use this app, you will be notified of any school news or newsletters. As always, if you require paper copies of important news, please let us know if the office and we can accommodate this

To download the Upper grand app, you can do a search for "Upper Grand" in both the iTunes app store and the Android app store. Direct links are here:

iPhone/iPad app: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/id1242445465>

Android app: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.relianceco.cma.uppergrand&hl=en>

Once you select Ottawa Crescent as a school, you will have direct access to any news or school-wide calendar items. As always, please chat with your child's teacher for any student or class-specific information.

I look forward to an amazing year at Ottawa Crescent!

Sean Cameron
Principal



2017/2018 Ottawa Crescent Staff

Principal	Mr. Cameron
Office Co-ordinator	Ms. Pollard
Custodian	Ms. Morrison
JK/SKA	Ms. Doty
JK/SKB	Ms. Drew
	Ms. Gillman
1A	Ms. Hart
2A	Ms. Cheng
2/3B	Ms. Danylchuk
3A	Mr. Grieves & Ms. Watkins
4A	Ms. North
5A	Ms. Miller (Ms. Myer in Feb.)
6A	Ms. Simon
Jr. Self Contained	Ms. Bruner
Resource	Ms. MacLean
Library/Planning	Ms. Hornett
Core French	Ms. Esposito
Educ. Assistants	Ms. Beaver, Mrs. Weir, Ms. Sonoda, Ms. Graver
CYC	TBA
Lunch Supervisors	Ms. Hawkes, Ms. Manes

Volunteering at Ottawa Crescent

We are looking forward to a rewarding year of learning and hope that you are as well. We invite everyone to become involved in the education of their children. School Council welcomes new members, and volunteering in the classroom/library is encouraged. Please come into the office to pick up the required paperwork.

Lifetouch Photographers

Lifetouch Photographers will be in the school Wednesday, October 4 for individual and class photos.

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 to be used for parents 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 Calendar Drive and Laverne Avenue. We appreciate your understanding and compliance.

Forms Coming Home

A number of forms will come home over this week and next. Please ensure that you read them thoroughly. If you have any questions regarding these forms please contact your child’s classroom teacher or call Mrs. Hambleton.

- ✓ Student Information Verification Form
(**Please make changes, sign, date and return to school.**)
- ✓ Community Walk Permission Form (**Sign, date and return to school**)
- ✓ Agendas/\$7.00 – (**Payment may be sent to the school or you may wish to use school cash online**)
- ✓ September and October Milk/Pizza Order Forms – **due to school by Tuesday September 12 – late orders will not be accepted.** *subs will begin in October
- ✓ Student Personal Information Routine Uses and/or Disclosures Letter and Consent to Share Personal Information Form (**Please sign and return to school immediately.**)
- ✓ Conditions for Use of Computer Networks and Internet (**Sign, date and return to school**)

Please complete and return forms to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Visitors to Ottawa Crescent Public School

For everyone's safety, if you are visiting the school or coming in to pick up your child we ask that you report to the office. Thank you.

Ottawa Crescent Handbook

Our 2017-2018 school handbook is available on our school website, www.ugdsb.on.ca/ottawacres. In it you will find information relating to our school including Codes of Behaviour, Progressive Discipline Policy, Inclement Weather Procedures, etc. Please take some time to read and discuss the contents of the handbook with your child(ren) as it provides the perfect opportunity to share school life and expectations. If you would like a hard copy of the handbook, please send a written note to your child's teacher and we will send one home.

Breakfast Program

The Breakfast Program will continue at Ottawa Crescent to make sure that there are no hungry students. Children learn better when they have eaten healthy foods. Breakfast will be served every morning, beginning Tuesday, September 5, from 8:40 a.m. – 8:55 a.m. in Room 15. Everyone is welcome to enjoy a healthy morning meal. If you would like to be involved in this program as a volunteer, or help provide financial assistance, please contact us.

Neighbourhood Trips

Occasionally students may leave the school with their class to visit John F. Ross C.V.I to watch a performance, visit a local park or perhaps to enjoy a nature walk. A "Community Walk" permission form is being sent home to obtain consent for these outings for the school year. Please sign, date and return this form to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Safety Patrols

Thank you to all of our parents who encourage their children to cross with our Safety Patrollers. This helps to make our community safer for both pedestrians and drivers. A big thanks also goes to all of our Safety Patrol Team and their parents for helping them do such an important job for our school. Please remember that patrollers will be at their posts with their vests at 8:35 to 8:55 a.m. and again at 3:15 to 3:25 p.m.

Safety First

Safe Arrival/Departure Program

During the school day, your child's safety is of utmost importance to us. It is IMPERATIVE that you call the office before 8:55 a.m. if your child is going to be absent or late. For your convenience, we also have voicemail which allows you to contact the school at any time during the night, over the weekends and early in the morning. Our phone number is 519-822-6880. When you leave a message, please be sure to note your child's full name, teacher and reason for absence. If a child is absent and we have not heard from you, we will attempt to contact you to ensure that your child is safe. If you cannot be reached we will call your emergency contact(s).

It is very important to make the school aware of any change in personal information such as home/work contact number, emergency contact, address changes, etc. In the event of an unexplained absence or emergency we will then be able to contact you. If your child's dismissal arrangements change please send a note in the morning. If a change arises throughout the day please call the school by 2:30 p.m. Please report to the office if you are picking up your child before dismissal. This will assist us in our efforts of ensuring the safety of Ottawa Crescent students.

Administration of Medication at School

In order for your child to receive any medication at school you must complete a "Consent for Administration or Oral Medication" form. All medications must be kept in the school office (including non-prescription items). Please contact Ms. Pollard should you require this form.

Terry Fox National School Run Day

On Thursday, September 28 our school will be taking part in the Terry Fox National School Run Day. An assembly will be held at 2:00 p.m. for a brief presentation about Terry Fox's legacy. The neighbourhood walk will follow at 2:15 p.m. (weather permitting). Students can bring in "Toonies for Terry" during the week of September 26 – 29. All contributions will be given to the Terry Fox Foundation. Students are encouraged to wear red and/or white for the day. Parents are welcome to join us for the walk. Please contact your child's teacher if you are able to attend.

School Cash Online Is Now Available!

For safety and efficiency reasons, we want to reduce the amount of cash and cheques coming into our school. School related expenses such as pizza, milk, field trips, agendas, etc. will be available for online purchases/payments. Please take a few minutes to register now so that you can enjoy the convenience of online shopping.

Here's how to register:

- Step 1: Go to the website: <https://ugdsb.schoolcashionline.com>
- Step 2: Register by selecting "Get Started Today" and follow the steps.

Step 3: After you receive the confirmation email, select the 'click here' option, sign in and add each of your children to your household account.

Milk and pizza orders and agenda payments are due.
Please try School Cash Online as a new way to pay for these items.
Feel free to contact Ms. Pollard if you have any questions.

Milk, Pizza and Sub Program

Once again, Ottawa Crescent students will be able to purchase milk, pizza and subs. Chocolate or white milk will be available every day at second break. Pizza will be available on Fridays (Thursdays if Friday is a holiday or PD day). The cost will remain \$1.50/slice of pizza and 80 cents/250 ml carton of milk. Please use one order form per student with EXACT payment. The first pizza day will be Friday, September 22. The first day milk will be available is Monday, September 25. Sub order forms will be coming home soon. Please have your child/ren give their order forms to their classroom teacher. **You may also choose to place your order by going online – ugdsb.schoolcashonline.ca.** (Please see above for further details.) Late orders will not be accepted. Any funds that may be raised from our pizza/milk and sub programs will be used to supplement student activities and resources.

Student Agendas

Student agendas will be used by Ottawa Crescent students again this year. Student agendas help children to prioritize, plan and pace their tasks and is an effective communication tool between home and school. The cost is \$7.00. You may pay for these by sending payment to the classroom or by going online to ugdsb.schoolcashonline.ca.

Important Busing Information

Ottawa Crescent Junior/Senior Kindergarten and Grade 1 busing students must be accompanied to the bus stop for pick-up by the bus AND met at the bus stop when being dropped off after school. Alternative arrangements must be made in writing to the school. If the parent or designated caregiver is not waiting at the bus stop to meet the student, the bus driver shall:

1. Contact his/her dispatcher, who will telephone the school to inform the staff that the student will remain on the bus and will be returned to school. The dispatcher will also notify the Transportation staff.
2. At the direction of his/her dispatcher, entrust the student into the care of the police if the school and Transportation are unable to contact the parent or designated caregiver, and if the bus driver is unable to return the student to the school.

A \$50 return-to-school fee payable by the parents or guardians will also apply to students who have had to be returned to school. Parents and guardians acknowledge that failure to abide by the procedure may result in the suspension or cancellation of their child's transportation privileges. Such a decision can only be made by STWDSTS and cannot be appealed. Please call transportation if you have any questions: 519-824-4119. Parents can also go to the Wellington Dufferin Student Transportation Services website at <https://www.findmyschool.ca> for information on school bus/taxi delays and cancellations and more. Go to 'Student Login' where you will need your child's OEN which can be found on the top right corner of your child's report card. Check It Out!

Student Accident Insurance

Parents or guardians are responsible for expenses related to student injuries on school premises during school activities. Accidents can and do happen and the costs involved might not be fully covered by Provincial Health Care or employer group insurance plans.

The Upper Grand District School Board is empowered under the Education Act to offer Accident and Life Insurance for students.

Information will be sent home the week of September 11 with respect to Student Accident Insurance offered by the Reliable Life Insurance Company. Reliable Life Insurance Company offers a variety of options, including family rates and multi-year plans, at affordable prices. The cost must be paid by parents or guardians.

Subscription is directly through Reliable Life by mail or on line. Questions should be directed to Reliable Life at 1-800-463-5437 or www.insuremykids.com.