

# Newsletter

October 2023



*"Where there is strength in Community."*

Ottawa Crescent Public School  
75 Ottawa Crescent  
Guelph, Ontario  
N1E 2A8  
519 822 6880

Principal: Ruby Delill  
Office Coordinator: Alisha Chambers

Staff : [www.ugdsb.ca/ottawacres/staff/](http://www.ugdsb.ca/ottawacres/staff/)  
School Website: [www.ugdsb.ca/ottawacres/](http://www.ugdsb.ca/ottawacres/)  
School email: [ottawacresc.ps@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:ottawacresc.ps@ugdsb.on.ca)  
Council email: [sc.ottawacres@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:sc.ottawacres@ugdsb.on.ca)

## CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

- Photo Day Oct. 11 (AM only)
- Terry Fox Run Oct 13 (approx 2pm)
- School Council Meeting Oct. 23 @ 7pm
- PD Day Oct. 27 [October PA Day Description.pdf](#)

## CALENDAR 2023/2024

Our school calendar with school specific events can be found on the school website. Please find the approved 2023/2024 Calendar ⇒ [Elementary Approved 2023/2024 calendar](#)

## PARENT/GUARDIAN COMMUNICATION

### A special invitation to OC Families.

*Dear Ottawa Crescent Community,*

*Kate here, Charlie's mom. I'd like to invite you to join me in remembering Charlie's birthday and his favourite holiday. We will be carving pumpkins into Cat-O-Lanterns. Last year, there were so many great Cat-O-Lanterns and it was a really lovely way to honour Charlie's memory. If you aren't able to attend but would still like to participate, please post a picture of your lit Cat-O-Lantern to our hashtag #charlieinourhearts on Halloween.*

*Hope to see some familiar faces there.*

*Sincerely,  
Kate Osburn*

Annual Memorial Birthday Gathering for  
**Charlie Hesselink**

Come join us in remembering Charlie's favourite holiday and birthday (November 3rd) by joining us for an afternoon in Franchetto Park

Sunday Oct. 29th  
Franchetto Park  
2 - 4 PM

**Please bring a pumpkin**  
to be carved and decorated into  
a "Cat-O-Lantern"  
in Charlie's memory

Cookies and Apple Cider will be provided

Hand-washing Stations will be available

---

## RESOURCES

### UGDSB Mental Health & Grief Supports

Many families and students may have lost loved ones, and would experience grief differently. If you feel your child would benefit from school-based support or community-based support, please reach out either your child's classroom teacher or Ms. Delill through the main office so we better understand your child's needs and help facilitate support.

At Ottawa Crescent we have support available through our Child and Youth Counsellor, Ms. Aryanna Pyke as well as through a board Social Worker. Other online resources for parents/guardians to support grieving children can be located at: [www.ugdsb.ca/mhugparents](http://www.ugdsb.ca/mhugparents) under "supporting student wellbeing" and under "supporting grieving students"

If parents are looking for support in entering into conversations with their children about grief and death, preparing them for a funeral or memorial services, the following document "[Supporting Grieving Children](#)" from the Centre for Grief and Healing Bereaved Families of Ontario might be helpful.

### UGDSB Supporting Student Attendance

Does your child struggle to come to school? Are mornings stressful in your home? You are not alone, in the fall many students struggle with the return to school. Student attendance is important to student success. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher or the main office if you are seeking support. The following link provides some board information regarding [Student Attendance at School: Tips and Strategies for Families](#)

### UGDSB Speech, Language & Hearing

Did you know that over 10% of children have a communication disorder? A new resource for parents has been added to your school website. Parents of children who have a persistent difficulty in speaking, listening, reading and/or writing will find helpful information and strategies to support their child. [www.ugdsb.ca/clsparents](http://www.ugdsb.ca/clsparents)


### Heritage Language Programs

Are you interested in language classes in Dari, Hindu, Punjabi, Bengali, Spanish or Tingrinya for children in grades 1-8? [HLP 2023-24 flyer.pdf](#)  
Link to register <https://bit.ly/48dxySz>

## BUSSING

Many families have inquired about courtesy bussing. Please note that transportation is managed by the student transportation consortium, not staff at Ottawa Crescent P.S.  
**Please refer to the transportation website at [stwdsts.ca](http://stwdsts.ca) for eligibility and all information related to busing.** If you are specifically looking for the courtesy bussing using the [stwdsts.ca](http://stwdsts.ca) site go to **communications>forms>form code TF006**

Note is a parent app to notify you of bussing delays or cancellations. Please refer to the following document for setup instruction


 [How-to-Subscribe-for-Bus-Delays-Cancellat...](#)

## SCHOOL COUNCIL

### *A message from your School Council...*

Thank you to everyone who came out to our first School Council meeting! We are starting our fundraising efforts this year and welcome any and all ideas and volunteers to support us! If you have anything to share, want more information or have questions you can reach your School Council by emailing [sc.ottawacres@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:sc.ottawacres@ugdsb.on.ca)

Our first fundraising initiative will be MacMillan's sales! Click the link for full details:

 [MacMillan Fundraiser](#)

A list of all Council dates for this year can be found on the school website. Our next meeting is October 23, 2023 at 7pm at Ottawa Crescent, child care is provided! We look forward to seeing you there!

Ottawa Crescent School Council  
Co-Chairs Ashley and Chelsea

---

## HALLOWEEN

With Halloween just around the corner please refer to the following PDF for lots of important information around our Dos and Don'ts at Ottawa Crescent P.S. [Halloween2023.pdf](#)

## WALK/WHEEL to SCHOOL

At UGDSB we are celebrating iwalk/iwheel to school this month! Take advantage of the nice weather while it lasts, get active and walk/wheel to school. If you are unable to participate or ride the bus you can still be active at recess or participate or from home. The board wants to see your pictures to #iWALK and #iWALK2School.

## TERRY FOX

We are excited to announce that our school will be proudly taking part in the 2023 Terry Fox School Run, on Friday, October 13th. Our school's goal is to raise over \$1000 for cancer research! [Terry Fox Letter for Families](#)

## PIZZA

Pizza Days are up and running! The next ordering session for 7 weeks will begin the week of October 30th 2023. Ordering is available with School Cash Online (preferred) and forms will be sent home.

## VOLUNTEERS

We are excited to have many of you volunteering in our school/classrooms this year! Please complete the attached [Volunteer Agreement Form](#) for the current school year.

If you provided the school with a Vulnerable Sector Check during the 2022-2023 school year, we require that you complete the attached [Annual Offense Declaration](#) form for the 2023-2024 school year. (A new Vulnerable Sector Check will not be required).

If we do not have a Vulnerable Sector Check on file for you from last year, then please visit the following link to have a Vulnerable Sector Check completed:  
[https://www.guelphpolice.ca/en/request-for-information/records-and-background-checks.aspx?\\_mid=13249](https://www.guelphpolice.ca/en/request-for-information/records-and-background-checks.aspx?_mid=13249)

If you are unsure if you sent in a Vulnerable Sector Check, then please reach out to the school office.

### Volunteer Forms:

- [Annual Offense Declaration](#)
- [Volunteer Agreement](#)

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It was great to see so many people out at our first School Council meeting on September 25th. All executive positions were acclaimed based on those who volunteered, due to the number of nominations we did not require a vote. We welcome back Ashley Hughes and Chelsea Garrard as Co-Chairs, Marianne Fallis and April Simpson as Co-Secretaries, and Tina Macpherson as our Treasurer for this school year! As always, all members of our school community are invited to attend any meeting as a general member. Some general members take on added responsibilities throughout the year and others may choose just to attend meetings. Everyone is always welcome at our School Council Meetings!

Repairs and renovations continue in our Library Learning Commons. We hear and see things happening daily. Once the inside repairs are completed, the next steps are to make repairs to the exterior wall. The library will be able to be open while the exterior repairs occur. We look forward to welcoming students back into our Library Learning Commons very soon!

Please take a moment to review the UGDSB Communication Newsletter for October.

[October 2023 Communications Newsletter...](#)

Ruby Delill / Principal  
Ottawa Crescent Public School