

# Otonabee Valley Public School Newsletter



October 7, 2021

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Phone: 705-745-0651



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## From the Office...

Thank you to our students, parent, guardians, caregivers, staff, and community members for your cooperation during the first month of the 2021-2022 school year as we've worked together to follow the safety protocols and procedures as directed by the Ministry, the Board, and Peterborough Public Health.

Students, families, and staff are to use the Daily Symptom Checker each day before school and to follow the instructions provided. This is found at the following link: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

For everyone's safety, students experiencing possible COVID symptoms **must** take the steps that are identified in the screening based on the symptoms experienced. If a child begins to experience symptoms of illness while attending school, parents, guardians, or emergency contacts will be contacted for pick up.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the office at 705-745-0651 or by email at [matthew\\_gennings@kprdsb.ca](mailto:matthew_gennings@kprdsb.ca)

Matt Gennings – Principal

2021  2022



## Reminder: Plans of Care

If your child has a life-threatening allergy, or serious medical condition, and you have not already done so, **please notify the office immediately** so that we can create a *Plan of Care* for your child.

Also, please be advised that for safety reasons, no child should bring any form of medication to school without prior approval from the office. The school will store necessary medication if an Administration of Medication Form has been filled out and signed by the doctor. These forms are also available in the office. Please contact the office should you have any further questions or concerns.

## Nut Safe and Scent Sensitive School

Otonabee Valley Public School is a nut safe and scent sensitive environment. Please avoid sending **any food containing or that may contain nut products** with your child to school. Also, we ask that you and your child(ren) please do not bring or wear perfumes, colognes, or strong fragrances to school. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

## School Website and Edsby

Our school website can be found at:  
<http://otonabeevalley.kprdsb.ca/>

You can also access additional information through Edsby. Please contact the office with questions regarding Edsby.



## ***O.V.P.S. School Council***

Parents, guardians, and community members are invited to take part in the Otonabee Valley School Council. New members are always encouraged and welcome. If you would like to take part in this year's School Council and have not yet notified the office, please do so ASAP so we can share details before our first official meeting of the year.

### **O.V.P.S. School Council Executive:**

**Chair:** Chrystal Woodcock

**Secretary/Vice Chair:** Wendy Thompson

**Treasurer:** Laura Warren

## ***Terry Fox Events***

Otonabee Valley will be participating in the Terry Fox Run this year on Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. Students will also be learning more about Terry Fox and the history behind the Marathon of Hope over the days.

If you would like to make a contribution to the Terry Fox Foundation, donations may be made through School CashOnline or brought to the office. Donations may be made through the school from October 7<sup>th</sup> until October 15<sup>th</sup>.

While the common phrase is "Toonies for Terry", all donations are greatly appreciated.



## ***National Custodial Workers' Day***

Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> marked National Custodial Workers' Day. We would like to recognize and thank our custodial and maintenance staff for their dedication, professionalism, and outstanding work in keeping our school environments clean.

## ***World Teachers' Day***

Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> was World Teachers' Day. We would like to thank and congratulate our teachers for their hard work, dedication, and the caring and generous ways in which they help our students develop important life skills and fostering a love of learning.

## ***Drop-Off and Pick-Up***

Supervision begins on the school yard at 8:55 a.m., with our school day starting at 9:10 a.m. Please drop your child(ren) off at the school as close to the start of the school day as possible. Students who walk or bike to school are asked to come no earlier than 8:55 a.m. Thank you for your co-operation!

At the end of the day, parent/guardians are asked to please wear their masks and keep an appropriate distance from others when on school property.

If you are picking up your child(ren) at the parking lot gate, please ensure that the concrete steps and platform remain clear. The grassy hill to the side of the parking lot is a great spot to wait, as parents and guardians can remain distanced and children will be able to see you. School staff will help direct students to their parent/guardians at the end of the day.

If you are picking up your child(ren) at the Humber Road gate, please be mindful of traffic and please continue to respectfully work together with our neighbours in the community. Students will let staff know when they see their parent/guardian prior to exiting the gates.

Our school day ends at 3:30 p.m., with supervision until 3:45 p.m., when remaining students come to the office. Students who walk or bike to school are reminded to please use the crosswalk when crossing in front of the school and to be careful and cautious when crossing at Humber Road.

## ***Be Thoughtful, Respectful, and Kind***

Each day on the announcements, students are reminded to be thoughtful, be respectful, and be kind. We will be having conversations with classes to create a common understanding of what it means to be thoughtful, respectful, and kind in the classroom, on the school yard, and at school. We'll also connect these traits to interactions and experiences outside of the school to help our students to learn and grow.

Students are reminded to use kind words when interacting with others, to keep hands and feet to themselves, and to get a staff member for help when needed if there is a problem.

## ***KPR's Annual Parent Conference***

All parents, caregivers and staff at KPR are invited to join the free, 20<sup>th</sup> annual KPR Parent Conference. This virtual conference will take place on Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The theme is “You’ve Got This! Mental Health After COVID: Getting Back to Normal” featuring Dr. David Templeman.

As always, there is no charge for this much-anticipated conference. Registrants will receive a link to the virtual presentation, which will feature practical advice on supporting your child's or teen's mental health from Dr. David Templeman. A Child and Youth Psychiatrist based in London, ON, Dr. Templeman also is an engaging speaker and author of *A Teenager's Guide to Life: The Secret to Living Life and Being Happy*.

This year’s virtual conference also marks a significant occasion, as we Celebrate 20 Years of Learning! In honour of the Parent Conference’s 20th Anniversary, we have a special conference surprise for registrants from KPR. Enjoy a treat on us, and receive a practical keepsake. Attendees who provide their contact information also will be eligible to win one of five copies of Dr. Templeman’s book.

While there is no charge for the event, [registration is required here](#).

### ***Thanksgiving Holiday – Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup>***

The school will be closed on Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving holiday. On behalf of the staff at Otonabee Valley Public School, we wish you and your family a wonderful weekend and extend our thanks to you for being such an important part of our amazing school community.