

Otonabee Valley Public School Newsletter



November 10, 2021

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From the Office...

The month of November brings with it a number of important events to acknowledge and commemorate. For KPR schools, November is *Indigenous Peoples Awareness Month*. This month includes the significant occasions of Treaty Recognition Week (Nov. 1st to 5th), Inuit Day (Nov. 7th), National Aboriginal Veterans Day (Nov. 8th), and Louis Riel Day (Nov. 16th).

On November 11th, all KPR schools will be recognizing the significance of *Remembrance Day*. *Remembrance Day* is a time to honour and reflect on the sacrifices of those past and present who have fought for our freedoms and for peace.

Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week takes place from November 15th to the 19th. We work with our students over the course of the school year to develop the skills needed to be a positive citizen at school and in the community. We will continue to support our students to build positive relationships, to work together to stand up to bullying, and to be thoughtful, respectful, and kind.

Matt Gennings – Principal

Progress Reports & Initial Observations

Progress Reports, for students from Grade 1 to Grade 6, and Initial Observations, for our Kindergarten students, will be shared with families through Edsby at the end of the school day on Friday, November 19th.

The Progress Report and Initial Observations share information about student learning so far, highlight student strengths, describe work habits and learning skills, and identify goals and areas of growth for moving forward in the school year.

Additional information will be sent home later in the month regarding opportunities for parent/guardian interviews with classroom teachers. Interviews will be conducted by phone or done virtually this year.

Picture Retake Day

Picture Retake Day is scheduled for Thursday, November 18th. Individual pictures will be taken and to comply with safe distancing guidelines, there will be no class pictures at this time.



P.A. Day – Friday, November 26th

Friday, November 26th is a P.A. Day. There is no school for students on this day.



2021  2022

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. Our first meeting was on Wednesday, October 27th. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 24th at 6:15 p.m.

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

Chair: Chrystal Woodcock

Secretary/Vice Chair: Wendy Thompson

Treasurer: Laura Warren

Parent Representative: Amber Webber

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 you 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.

Daily Self-Screening

Prior to each school day, parents and guardians are required to check their child(ren) for COVID-19 symptoms. The Ontario Ministry of Health has released an updated screening tool found at: <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.

For more information about the Board's illness protocol, please visit www.kprschools.ca or feel free to contact the office by phone at 705-745-0651 or by email at matthew_gennings@kprdsb.ca

Masks and Water Bottles

Please send your child(ren) with two or more masks per day in case one gets dirty. Masks must be cleaned prior to being worn again and this can be done in the laundry or with soap and water. Masks must fit the child's face and **must have ear loops to keep them securely in place**. Please do not send your child with gaiters, as these do not provide a snug fit. Additional masks are available at the office as well.

Please also have your child(ren) bring their water bottle to school each day for filling at our filling stations as needed throughout the day.



Terry Fox Update

This October, Otonabee Valley Public School continued the tradition of taking part in the Terry Fox Run. The O.V. community came together to raise \$295 for the Terry Fox Foundation. Way to go Otonabee Valley! Thank you to everyone for your kindness and generosity in donating to such a worthy cause.



School Website and Edsby

Please contact the office with questions regarding Edsby or accessing your Edsby account. Our school website can be found at:

<http://otonabeevalley.kprdsb.ca/>

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.

Club and Intramural Update

We are excited to be able to provide opportunities for students to take part in intramural clubs and activities this year.

The Otonabee Valley Drama Club had its initial meeting this week. Students who've signed up will be able to take part in a number of dramatic activities and exercises.

Our intramural soccer leagues have started this week, with games taking place at recess times and some of our Grade 6 students volunteering as referees and coaches.

Thank you to our students for taking part and to our teaching staff for organizing these opportunities!

Volunteering at Otonabee Valley Public School

If you are interested in volunteering at Otonabee Valley Public School, please contact the office regarding opportunities and for further information regarding requirements, including Police Record Check and Vaccination Attestation.