



JUNE 2019 NEWSLETTER

ADMIN MESSAGE

We are nearing the end of an exciting, eventful year. June is the month where we reflect back on the school year and celebrate our many achievements. Olympic Heights School is rich in culture, diversity and learning opportunities, and we are proud of our accomplishments this year. When reflecting on our instructional and external programs for students we strive to ensure that all students gain the following:

Academic Success - Each student will possess the knowledge, skills and attitudes required for academic success.

Personal Development - Each student will possess the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to achieve personal highest potential.

Citizenship - Each student will be a responsible citizen by being an informed and involved member in his or her local, national and global communities.

Character - Each student will possess the character to do what is right, act morally with wisdom, and balance individual concerns with the rights and needs of others.

In the spirit of generosity, we would like to thank the students, parents/guardians and especially all of the volunteers who have supported student learning in so many different ways. We have a lot to be proud of this year.

This year at Olympic Heights School current teaching and learning have evolved and connected around the work of the Calgary Board of Education's Three Year Plan, the OHS School Development Plan and through the learning of staff on PD days and through Professional Learning Communities. Staff meetings and PLC meetings defined a common understanding and coherence around assessment, and the teaching of literacy and mathematics. This work has influenced student achievement and engagement in the classroom as demonstrated through evidence of student learning, artifacts and learning data collected.

The Circle of Courage continues to be an authentic tool for students to use in developing their character and global citizenship skills. Students used the skills and knowledge from the Circle of Courage to utilize in their everyday life at Olympic Heights School, in their homes and in their community. Using the "I" message also carried a powerful message in that we use words and not physical actions to solve conflicts. It has been a remarkable year as students and staff continued to build a sense of belonging for everyone, be generous with words and actions, work to make a difference in the world around us, develop student independence and master the skills, knowledge and attitudes at the students best learning and social potential. Our students, staff and families have proven their commitment to making the world a better place and making a difference to the people around them. We are proud of our learning community.

As the school year ends all grades, continue to participate in culminating projects and assessments. Students continue to be supported to evaluate their growth over the past year and look ahead to set learning goals for next year. Throughout June, teachers in all grades continue to assess student achievement. Students have also self-assessed their progress on a regular basis through rubrics, presentations of projects, written journal reflections and portfolios of their work. This comprehensive, on-going assessment is the best way to measure the overall growth in learning for each student. Students are learning to have a voice and advocate for themselves based on their understanding of themselves as learners.

During May and June, Grade 6 students have prepared for and will be writing the 2019 Provincial Achievement Tests. The Provincial Achievement Tests are written to measure the student's best effort on each test on a specific day. It is one opportunity for students to show their knowledge and skills they have learned throughout the school year. We are proud of the academic, social and personal growth of these students.

As we reflect, we look at what we have done, what we have remaining to do, as well as where we are going next year. Planning conversations continue to take place with staff students, and parents. School organization and staffing continues for the 2019-2020 school year. The opportunity for teachers to move and explore new teaching opportunities at both Olympic Heights School and the CBE is encouraged, as teachers reflect on their talents and gifts and apply them to possible new learning environments. When staffing a school, it is important to look at the gifts and talents of the teachers/staff and strategically and collaboratively match them to positions that will benefit the entire learning community. At this time, we have some internal changes happening where teachers/staff are choosing to teach and team in a different grade. Once finalized an updated school staff list will be included with the report card. This is due that staffing in the CBE is late and will not be completed until the last week of June. Due to the financial situation with the CBE, Olympic Heights has had to make some difficult decisions around staffing as the OHS 2019-2020 budget was cut and in addition, there has been a reduction in student enrolment for the 2019-2020 school year. To accommodate this, the reality is there will be less teachers next year. Gratitude to staff who have problem-solved and come up with best possibilities for staffing with minimal impact for student learning.

We also appreciate the support and all the work of School Council. Thank you to Kelly Hume and Katey Fok, co-chairs and their executive members, who truly make a difference at Olympic Heights School. Thank you to everyone else who attended council meetings, held different roles and worked so hard to support student learning. Students greatly benefited from our collaborative efforts because of School Council's commitment and support. Our last School Council meeting will be on Thursday, June 13th at 6:30. Please join us for celebration of this year's school year. Snacks and refreshments serve. We invite all parents to join us in September for our first meeting as we begin a new school year. We look forward to working with all the members of School Council again next year.

We have enjoyed working with our families and appreciated the encouraging comments and advocacy for the students and school. Working with many of you throughout the year along with your continued support for our students, makes Olympic Heights School an exceptional learning community.

Some of this year's school highlights include:

- Winter and Spring Choir Performances
- WE Club
- Circle of Courage as a way of living at OHS
- Student Environmental Group
- Daily Physical Education
- Grade sponsored Assemblies
- Learning Celebrations for all Grades
- Student-Led Conferences
- Inquiry School focus – "What is my Story"
- Service Learning Initiatives – Terry Fox, Unicef's Scare Hunger, Entrepreneurial Adventure Program – Homeless Shelter, Kindergarten Gift of Caring Gardens

- Cards for the seniors at Bethany Nursing Home
- Knowledge and skill around the Indigenous ways of life – Elder Randy Bottle - land walk and Jason Plain Eagle – Indigenous Games
- Open Minds School – Grade 5
- Fundraising for Feeding Nunavut
- Grade Five Skiing
- Handbells Club
- Patrol celebrations
- Rugby with the Rams
- Lacrosse
- Swimming for K-2
- Ice Skating at the Community Center for Grade 3 and 4
- Alien In Line Skating
- Outdoor School for Grade 6
- Danceplay/Prestige Dance
- Positive Mental Health and Mindfulness with our Comprehensive School Health Committee
- Sports Day
- Pancake Breakfast
- Grade 6 Farewell

The pancake breakfast to celebrate the success of the 2018-2019 school year turned out perfectly given the weather and the smoke. We fed 1100 people and it was a wonderful turnout by students and families. We want to thank the Calgary Stampede Community Special Events for supplying the pancakes and sausages and for cooking for our community. Everyone enjoyed the Stampede mascots. We also want to thank Sobey's for providing the bananas for this event. Thank you to the Olympic Heights staff for working hard to put on this event for our learning community and lastly to our students and families for making this event so successful.

As we move towards the end of the year, we would like to wish our Grade 6 students all the best as they move ahead into Grade Seven, many of whom who will be attending Vincent Massey School. On behalf of all our staff, we wish them much success and happiness for the future. Some of our families are also relocating. To everyone who are leaving, we bid each of you farewell with a deep sense of pride and affection. It takes everyone, working and learning together to make Olympic Heights School such a successful and excellent place to learn. We will continue to work together to reach new heights. Our **Grade 6 Farewell Celebration: Thursday, June 20th – 10:00-11:00 followed by a luncheon and afternoon dance celebration.**

For the 2019-2020 school year, Olympic Heights School is pleased to welcome a new system class added to our current enrolment. "The Class" is for eight students in Grades 4-6 who require targeted strategies to support their mental health. This is a new class to our school where students will be relocated from various schools throughout our city to attend. The program is supported by one teacher, an educational assistant and a lunchroom supervisor. Darci Fulton, CBE Behaviour Mental Health and Wellness Strategist, is presently involved in this transition and is supporting Olympic Heights School to plan for any building modifications and resources that may be required. In the Spirit of the "Circle of Courage", we want to welcome this class to Olympic Heights School. Our school has a reputation for being a generous learning community where we create a sense of belonging for everyone.

Lastly, we want to thank the staff for their hard work and commitment to student learning, support for students, student advocacy, student clubs and programs and everything they do for the learning community at Olympic Heights School. We have an exceptional staff at Olympic Heights School. It takes everyone, working and learning together to make Olympic Heights School a successful and positive learning community.

June is a time of celebration and mixed emotion as we end the school year.

End of Year Celebration Assembly: Wednesday, June 26th – 9:30 -10:30 – Everybody welcome!

School Times – 2019-2020 School Year

Monday ~ Thursday Schedule

Program		Morning Classes	Lunch	Afternoon Classes
AM Kindergarten	Monday to Thursday	9:10 - 12:03		
PM Kindergarten	Monday to Thursday			12:56 – 3:50
Grades 1 to 6	Monday to Thursday	9:10 – 12:16	12:16– 1:10	1:10 – 3:50

Schedule ~ Friday

Program		Morning Classes		
AM/PM Kindergarten Alternates Fridays	Friday	9:10 - 12:02		
Grades 1 to 6	Friday	9:10 - 12:06		

These times ensure that all students in Grades 1 to 6 receive a minimum of 950 instructional hours and all students in Kindergarten receive a minimum of 475 hours. These hours are mandated by the Province of Alberta – Alberta Education.

Family Moves

Is your family moving? If you know that your child(ren) will not be returning to Olympic Heights School in September 2019, please fill in the attached form of this newsletter and return to the office, or call the main office at 403 777 8370 to inform the school. Thank you for your cooperation – this makes our next year’s planning much easier. **It is crucial that we have accurate counts for next year as our school organization – staffing and number of classrooms is based on these counts.**

Provincial Achievement Tests – Grade 6 Students

On Tuesday June 11, Grade 6 students are writing their final set of Provincial Achievement Exams. The Provincial Achievement Exams are written to measure the student's best effort on each test on a specific day. Please make sure your children are well rested and fed so they are prepared to do their best. It is a wonderful opportunity for students to show their knowledge and skills and for teachers to evaluate their own practice as reflected through the student's work. We are so proud of our students and their academic, social and personal growth. More information will be coming home but please do not hesitate to contact your child's classroom teachers if you have any concerns and questions regarding these tests and dates.

Tuesday, June 11	A.M.	Grade 6 Social Studies
Wednesday, June 12	A.M.	Grade 6 Mathematics Part
Thursday, June 13	A.M.	Grade 6 ELA Part B
Friday, June 14	A.M.	Grade 6 Mathematics Part A
Monday, June 17	A.M.	Grade 6 Science

School Council

Our next School Council evening is Thursday, June 13th at 6:30 PM. All parents and guardians are welcome to attend. This is an excellent way for our families to stay connected and informed about what is happening at Olympic Heights School. This is the last meeting for the year and it will also be a celebratory meeting for a successful 2018-2019 school year.

Sports Day

Please mark your calendars for our Sports Day on Monday, June 24th. It promises to be a great day. Please look for more information coming home from your classroom teachers about ways to volunteer that day!

KidZinc Before and After School Care

KidZinc will continue to run a **before and after school childcare program** in Olympic Heights School next year just for Olympic Heights students. **In addition, KidZinc has a Kindergarten Childcare Program** to be run out of the Strathcona Community Center. This is great news knowing that childcare can be a challenge for families.

Important Dates:

June 13: Parent Council Meeting- 6:30pm

June 21: Grade 3 Sundaes Celebration with families- 11:00am-12:05pm

June 24: Sports Day

June 26: School Farewell Assembly- 9:30am

June 26: Last Day of School & Reports Cards Home- Early Dismissal- 12:15pm

We are asking all families to check our lost and found bins before the last day of school. Remaining items will all be donated.

KINDERGARTEN

The Kindergarten children have welcomed Spring with huge smiles and an eagerness to explore the outdoors. We enjoyed exploring the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary for our end of the year field trip. It was exciting to see ladybugs, butterflies, birds, squirrels, ducks, geese and other wildlife. The bus ride, was of course a big hit for our children!

We continue building our literacy skills by delving into story. This month's 'stories of nature' is taking up our focus as we explore and observe the lives of worms, creepy crawlers, butterflies, and some plant life. Life cycles, scientific diagrams, habitats, diet and their connection with the environment have a big part of our learning this spring. It is always amazing to witness our caterpillars turn into butterflies!

We will continue to be healthy leaders and participants in many active endeavors as we prepare for swimming together at Killarney Pool. This is a great opportunity for learning in a different environment for both our beginner and novice swimmers.

We are thankful for all of our supportive parents and appreciate all your help both in and out of the classroom throughout the year!

GRADE ONE

The Grade 1 students are nearing the end of a wonderful year full of exploration, discovery and growth! May was filled with great field trips including a visit to the Glenbow Museum and Nose Hill Park. Students had this opportunity to learn from an Indigenous Elder, and to discover stories about the land, local plants and animals, and the people who have and do live here.

In the classroom, students have built on their field trip experiences by learning about the needs of plants while growing and taking care of various plant life in our classrooms. Thank you to all who helped us create mystery seed gardens by kindly donating seeds! Students have also been working hard to build numeracy skills as we have been learning all about addition and subtraction, and counting up to 100. In Language Arts, everyone has continued to build literacy skills through daily practice, including working on expository writing,

analyzing poems, and writing weekly "Student of the Week" letters.

June will be a great month, as we have our Spring nature study program, swimming, and Sports Day!

GRADE TWO

It has been a very busy year in Grade 2 this year. We have thoroughly enjoyed being your children's teachers. We have enjoyed learning about The 7 Habits, GRIT and Growth Mindset, which will help us all lead healthier and happy lives as we grow up.

During our final month of Grade 2 we will be focusing on:
LA – Story writing

Math – Data management as well as shapes and space

Science – Small Flying Creatures with our Zoo field trip on June 10th

Social – We are finishing up our study on the Meteghan and comparing it to the other regions that we have learned about this year

We are also very excited to be going swimming from June 3rd to 7th.

GRADE THREE

The last month of Grade 3 will be an eventful one! Butterflies will be fluttering into our rooms as we study Animal Life Cycles in science. We will be learning about animal adaptations, how animals are classified, and how to care and look after animals. In social studies, we are continuing research around the four countries: India, Peru, Ukraine and Tunisia. The main idea continues to be around quality of life and how communities are globally connected. In math, students have been engaged in measurement activities, estimating quantities, and graphing. We will soon turn our attention to geometry and 3D shapes. Strengthening reading skills through a variety of texts in all curricular areas continues to be a focus in our reading program. Reading for enjoyment and pleasure is encouraged and the school library is a resource students use for this. In writing, we are crafting stories and poems as well as focusing on the editing process.

Music Notes from Ms. Tran

In music this year we focused on the following:

Rhythm skills: reading, playing all basic rhythmic values, fast, slow, echoing rhythm patterns, time signatures, keeping rhythm and beat with body percussion, and various rhythm instruments, creating rhythm patterns, rhythm dictation.

Melodic skills: singing curriculum-related songs, rounds, partner songs action songs, singing games, high and low, loud and soft, major and minor keys, playing melodies as well as accompanying songs on Orff instruments (xylophones), beginning handbells, beginning recorders (foundational skills and techniques, playing pieces with three or more notes)

Additional skills: creating own verses, create melodic and rhythmic accompaniments for poems, expression through acting, respond through writing how a piece of music makes you feel and what musical elements you can hear, learn about different instruments of the orchestra.

GRADE FOUR

On Tuesday, June 4th, we will be having the Grade Four Celebration of Learning, which will be centered around our Entrepreneurial Adventure in support of the Calgary Homeless Foundation. We are looking forward to sharing the process, the product and the profit that we will be donating to this very important and worthy cause.

The Grade 4 classes have spent several months learning about the history of Alberta. On June 13th, to celebrate and to mark the end to our maverick inquiry, we are heading to Heritage Park to experience first-hand what life was like for early Albertans. Students will find many references to their mavericks and enjoy exploring the buildings that are a part of Alberta's history.

GRADE FIVE

With only one month to go, it is a great time to reflect on the year and the explorations that our classes have done. We have truly enjoyed teaching your children and it was a great year of learning! The students of grade 5 thoroughly enjoyed exploring Canada's natural regions through artist studies, building their dream home's using electrical circuits, discovering the chemical science

behind cooking and baking during our Kitchen Chemistry unit, creating strong and well-developed characters for creative writing stories, as well as learning about Canada's critical events through artifacts and personal narrative pieces.

In the coming month, it is important to take the time to reflect on how far we've come as a grade group and savor every moment. We will be completing our geometry unit by looking at tessellations through artist studies, as well as exploring Indigenous culture's through the use of oral stories and learning from the land that is around our school. We will be having a year-end celebration with the students on June 20th. stay tuned for more information.

As a grade 5 team, we would like to say a huge thank you to all parents and guardians who have volunteered their time to help out in the classroom and around the school. Have a great summer!

Grade 5 Team – McKenzie Parsons, Ashley Summers, Melissa McNeil, Kelly Riegert

GRADE SIX

The end of elementary school for grade six students is quickly approaching! Students have just returned from their annual camping experience at Camp Chief Hector, and are feeling refreshed, and eager to finish their grade six year and take part in the exciting upcoming events. For the month of June, students will be busy wrapping up final curricular topics in preparation for Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) beginning June 11. Intentional PAT practice will begin closer to the first PAT date (dates listed below) and students are encouraged to begin reviewing previous material and practice their basic math facts and operations for Math Part A computational exam. Thank you to our parents who have volunteered to bring in delicious PAT snacks for the classes.

Grade Six Farewell is being held on Thursday, June 20 at ten o'clock in the morning. This is always an exciting celebration marking the transition from Elementary School to Junior High. A big thank you the Parent Farewell Committee who are hard at work planning what will be a beautiful celebration.

It has been a year of tremendous growth for our students and spending our days with them has been a joy!

Important Dates**Provincial Achievement Testing Dates (PATs):****May 8 – ELA Part A (Writing)****June 11 – Social Studies****June 12 – Math Part B****June 13 – ELA Part B (reading comprehension)****June 14 – Math Part A (15-question Computation)****June 17 – Science****June 20 – Grade Six Farewell (Ceremony at 10:00am,
Dance at 1:15pm)****June 24 – Sport's Day****June 26 – Last Day of School (9:10am - 12:05pm)**MUSIC

In June, we are finishing our recorder unit in grades 3 to 6, where students are developing their technical skills and learning a variety of pieces on the instrument. Students in Kindergarten will be continuing to learn songs about Spring and Summer, as well as developing their rhythm reading skills. Students in grades 1 and 2 will be finishing a project where they are creating their own verses of a song, which we will put together to create a class song!

This year in our music classes, students were able to learn through singing a variety of songs, playing djembe drums, hand bells, xylophones and recorders. We had composition projects where students had the opportunity to apply their musical knowledge and skills in a creative way. We studied pieces of classical music to learn about the instruments and composers, and reflected on our feelings while listening to them. Students who joined choir and xylophone club prepared a fantastic selection of music and performed them during our school concerts. It has definitely been an exciting year of music at Olympic Heights School!

Additional skills: GarageBand skills (recording instruments, sound effects, loops, software instruments), create music that portrays a theme, respond through writing how a piece of music makes you feel and what musical elements you can hear, identify different instruments of the orchestra, learn about the historical context of music from different time period and longer forms of music (such as orchestral suites)

FRENCH

Grade 4 students have been working on language concepts related to their personality traits and activities they like to do in their spare time. We are currently exploring a new unit on family members. Our last project is a Google slide visual individual presentation that is going to emphasize students' communication skills acquired through the year.

Grade 5 students have finished their presentations on their favorite animals and they have shown pride in presenting them to the class. They are starting to work on their final iMovie project which is going to sum up the questions and answers we have been practicing so far.

Grade 6 students are working in groups to complete a project on the *Environment* unit we have been exploring in the last few weeks. They are going to **present themselves using most of the language expressions** they have acquired as well as their contribution to protect the environment.

PE NEWS

Unbelievably, we are entering our final month in the gym. We look forward to being outside as much as possible as we all participate in **striking and fielding** fun including kickball, softball, and cricket. With that in mind, please ensure that your children are ready for the great outdoors. They should bring hats, sunglasses and sunscreen for protection from the sun, as well as suitable outdoor running shoes. Also, bug spray certainly comes in handy! When Mother Nature isn't cooperating, we will

all participate in a variety of low organization games indoors.

Swimming begins for our Kindergarten, Grade One and Grade Two students. Payments can be made online using your My CBE Account found at www.cbe.ab.ca. Please contact your child's teacher if you require more information. Our students thoroughly enjoy this program and it is a great way to explore alternative environments in our Physical Education curriculum. Thank you very much to all of our parents who have volunteered to assist with this program.

Last but not least, we will end the month of June with our **CAMP OHS Sports Day!** Look for more information in this newsletter as well as more information coming home. I would like to take this opportunity to express a sincere thank you to all of the **Parent Volunteers** who make this day so successful! These events are not possible without you so thank you and I look forward to a special Sports Day at the end of the month with all of you!

Mrs. Schoenberger



CAMP OHS SPORTS DAY

Our Outdoor School and Camp Inspired Sports Day takes place on Monday, June 24th beginning with a morning assembly at 10:00am. During this assembly we will celebrate the recognition Olympic Heights School will receive for a Quality Physical Education Award. Letters by our Prime Minister of Canada and the President of PHE Canada will be shared.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

KISS & DROP

The Kiss & Drop service is for everyone to use. It operates best when everyone knows the expectations. Please review.

- **Remain in your vehicle at all times.**
- Move your vehicle with the flow of traffic and we'll open your door when it is safe.
- Ensure that your child can exit and enter your vehicle from the passenger side only. If unable, we ask that you not use Kiss & Drop.

- Arrive on time when dropping off a kindergarten child. Our volunteers will walk kindergarten students to the courtyard until the bell at 9:10 am. **If you arrive later, park elsewhere and walk your child via the office doors.**
- The Kiss & Drop zone is reserved for kindergarten pick-up until 5 minutes before the bell or until it is full, whichever comes first. If you are not picking up kindergarten, please stay back from the zone until the reserved time expires.
- Arrive on time when picking up a **kindergarten child with a pass.** If you arrive late, please park elsewhere and walk to meet your child.
- All passengers in your vehicle must be safely and legally secured. If you do not have enough room for the children you are picking up, re-think your plan before entering the Kiss & Drop zone.
- **No U-turns allowed at either of our intersections.** Our patrols keep track of vehicles who are making unsafe decisions.
- **Do not turn left** after dropping off or picking up your child(ren). Continue down the hill turning right at the community centre, taking you back around.
- If the Kiss & Drop zone is full, no double parking. At drop off, remain in the line and be patient. At pick-up, turn right at the community centre and loop around to return you to the back of the line.

The people running the Kiss & Drop service are volunteers. Please model appropriate behaviour in front of your children and the community when speaking to our volunteers. Abuse of our volunteers will not be tolerated. School safety is top priority for our volunteers.

Big Box of Cards - Summer Blow Out SALE!!!



ON SALE FOR \$20/box Regular \$33/box

Online Orders Only: ohs.fundraiserorders.com

Order Deadline: June 14, 2019 (LIMITED SUPPLY)

Delivery: June 19, 2019 (sent home with students)

Choose from the Birthday Box or the All Occasion Box. Each box contains 33 high quality cards with envelopes. Visit bigboxfundraising.com/product to see examples of the cards.

Email fundraising@ohsparent.com if you have any questions.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Lend your skills and get involved with Olympic Heights School Council. The next meeting is **Thursday, June 13th at 6:30-8:00 pm**. Minutes from previous meetings can be found on Olympic Heights School [website](#) under "Get Involved".

CASINO

Thank you to all that have signed up for a shift at our Casino fundraiser on November 7 & 8, 2019! You can add yourself to our back-up volunteer list in case of any last minute changes, at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050F4AA9AC29A4FE3-casino>

or send an email to Dianne Stuart and Monique Morin at fundraising@ohsparent.com.

SWAT team will lead us in our warm up before we head outside. We will continue to move through the stations in the afternoon and we will wrap up our outdoor activities with "Tug a War" including Parents vs Parents and Teachers vs. Teachers. We will end the day with a very special guest speaker, Reagan Meier, who will share her athletic story and inspire us to be our best and reach new heights.

To make this event a success we are in need of **MANY parent volunteers**. Mark your calendars ahead of time and please watch for volunteer information form that came home on **Monday, May 27**. **Please let you child's teacher know if you are able to volunteer and do not have a volunteer information form.**

This is a rain or shine event so it is important that students are prepared for the weather. Sunscreen, sunglasses, a hat, and proper outdoors shoes should be worn for warm weather. As well, a jacket, bug spray, and proper outdoor shoes are needed for cooler weather. Water bottles are always a good idea on an active day like this. Please label all belongings (yes, your water bottle too).

Additional Highlights:

*The "Me to We" Club-Our "Me to We" Club will be providing refreshment and education at our water station this year.