



## **NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER**

### **ADMIN MESSAGE**

**We would like to inform all parents that our newsletter will go out every other Month any information will be posted on the website as needed.**

### **KINDERGARTEN**

As we enter the beautiful fall months, we continue practicing important classroom routines, learning about each other and exploring literacy, numeracy and the world around us.

We have been investigating leaves and have done some artwork with them focusing on the patterns and designs within each one. We have also learned about pumpkins and their growth cycle through stories, handling real pumpkins and drawing and labeling them in our Journals.

We continue to explore patterning and sorting through our math centers which allow for many opportunities to see and create patterns in a variety of ways. Next we will begin exploring letters and their associated sounds continuing to build our foundation for literacy. Sounds stories continue to be introduced in our daily exploration of messages, group poetry reading and environmental text.

### **GRADE ONE**

The Grade One Celebration of Learning will take place on November 8 from 6:30-7:30. This year's focus is on "The Right to an Identity" which connects with National Child Day on November 20<sup>th</sup>. The children continue to explore their unique self and emotions, how to create positive relationships and express their voices.

Language Arts:

The children continue to develop their understanding of literacy through daily reading and writing activities. We enjoyed hearing stories from our Elder and learned about storytelling through picture symbols.



**Math:**

We are finishing our exploration into repeating patterns and moving into our measurement unit using non-standard units.

**Science:**

We continue to investigate the seasons and colour throughout the year. Our recent visits from Ophelia the Owl have sparked a curiosity about these incredible birds and we are excited to begin our research.

**Social Studies:**

Families are important to all of us. In Grade One, we share stories, traditions and memories from our families. We will begin to see similarities and differences as we understand our backgrounds.

**GRADE TWO**

Students in Grade Two are continuing to persevere with challenges using a growth mindset and gain independence.

Our scientific investigation of liquids has involved several hands on learning opportunities through experiments. Students are becoming familiar with parts of the scientific method such as making a prediction, recording observations and writing a conclusion. Many discoveries have been made, for example, why it hurts to do a belly flop in water, why umbrellas are made out of nylon rather than cotton and that our ocean is one, humungous solution!

In Social Studies we have been exploring Calgary's past. Students are learning about how the Blackfoot people lived off the land.

Students were surprised to learn that the Indigenous people were able to use almost every part of the buffalo, even their dung! We also went on a field trip to Heritage Park that deepened our understanding of what it was like to live on this land long ago.

**GRADE THREE**

In our third month of school together, we are settling into routines as we continue to master our growth mindset, navigate old and new friendships, ask deeper questions, and learn strategies around developing good work habits within our school day.

In Language Arts, we are becoming Writers! We are exploring both fiction writing by way of short stories as well as learning to take jot notes in order to glean important facts in our non-fiction reading and writing. We are also continuing with our journaling, word work and structured reading times throughout the week.

As Geologists in Science, we are continuing our exploration of rocks and minerals, investigating and classifying different types, as well as performing a variety of experiments to determine their different attributes. We were excited to explore the different layers of soil through experiments as well as learn how our layers of the earth connect to both our soil and our rocks and minerals investigations!

In Social Studies, we are beginning our exploration of the world by learning our way around an Atlas. You can ask me how many Continents and Oceans there are! We are also beginning the study of wants vs needs in our big learning around global citizenship and quality of life.

As Mathematicians, we will continue to develop strategies when tackling word problems, as well as learn and apply the concept of place value as we prepare for two and three digit addition this month.

### Important Upcoming Dates:

Picture Retake: Nov 8th

Remembrance Day Assembly: November 9th @ 10:30

Fun Recess: Nov 15th

Indigo Book Fundraiser Evening: Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> (Details to follow)

PD Day – No School – Nov 23rd

Fun Lunch: Nov 29<sup>th</sup>

Choir Practices: Nov 6, 13, 20 & 27<sup>th</sup> – Recess Lunch

Of note: We will also be planning a time for our School-based Calgary Police Officer, Cst, Melissa, to be visiting our Grade 3 Classrooms! The Calgary Police Dep't runs a school-based program, called Start Smart Stay Safe (S4) and we are excited to have her share this learning with us. We've included a blurb on S4 as well as a link to the website, if you are interested. <http://startsmartstaysafe.ca/s4-in-schools/>

S4 in schools provides opportunities for children to build an awareness of their personal strengths, learn the importance of belonging, make positive choices, and develop leadership skills in order to contribute to a safe and caring school community. S4 activities are aligned to Alberta Education Curriculum.

Thank you again to all of our parents, for your ongoing support and communication throughout this year.

## GRADE FOUR

All of the Grade Four classrooms are continuing to read and enjoy the novel Wonder. The story, characters and themes inspire rich discussions and provoke questions that challenge the students to infer meaning and communicate their ideas and opinions orally or through their writing. Because the events in the story are seen through the eyes of different characters, we are learning about perspective and how our life experiences and values can shape the way we see things and perceive others. Also, Wonder's powerful messages about kindness and inclusion mesh beautifully with our Circle of Courage and will contribute positively to our sense of community in Grade Four as we move forward. This is so important as students maximize their learning in science and social studies through cooperative and collaborative inquiry experiences.

## GRADE FIVE

In math, grades fives have been engaged in problem solving tasks and authentic math projects. We are evaluating different problem solving strategies and learning how to highlight key information that will help us solve the problem. Students are practicing different ways to represent and describe whole numbers and students are using their mental math strategies to evaluate the validity of their answers.

In language arts, students have begun small group literacy work. During this time, students will be exploring word work, guided reading, using literary devices and making connections to various texts. Students are beginning to explore expository writing as they work through our study of the physical regions of Canada.

In science, we are continuing our study of weather. We were fortunate to have Kevin Stanfield, CTV meteorologist visit our school and present to the grade fives. Through our study of weather, students are learning how to gather and evaluate data, as well as describe and interpret weather phenomena. We finished the month with the 'Scientist in the Classroom.' Students had hands-on tasks as they continued their exploration of weather concepts.

We continue our examination of the physical geography of Canada. Students have worked in small groups to gather information from different sources. Students will apply their information by representing each region through a piece of art. Students will spend time looking at various artists and evaluating each style, they will then emulate six different artists as they create their visual representation.

## **GRADE SIX**

In Language Arts, students continue to study their Notable and are completing jot notes and writing paragraphs about them. Our new suspenseful read aloud, "Among the Hidden", connects to Social Studies topics around government.

In Science, students are wrapping up their inquiry into Trees and Forests and will be moving into Sky Science, which marks the beginning of our study into the Moon phases. The Night Sky Journal project will begin with the New Moon on November 7<sup>th</sup>. This inquiry into the night sky includes nightly entries sketching the moon and recording their wonderings and discoveries. There is an upcoming exciting in-school field trip with the Astrodome. Our astronomer for hire will provoke curiosities and show students many wonders of the night sky in the portable planetarium.

Throughout Math, we continue to develop our number sense skills through math rotations and projects, as well as our computation/mental strategies through weekly computation tests to build automaticity and prepare for PATS. Number sense concepts will extend into topics of prime/composite numbers, and multiples and factors.

In Social, students are examining Canada's levels of government, representation at the local level, and government services. Students will begin to make the connections that they have a voice in government and begin to feel empowered to use it.

### **WE Club – WE Scare Hunger**

The Grade 6 WE club is helping the Calgary Food Bank through the *We Scare Hunger* initiative. *We Scare Hunger* is a charitable initiative created by WE and Free the Children Charities to help ensure that every family receives this basic need. This years *We Scare Hunger* initiative will run into December with the hope that our OHS community can support this worthy cause during the months that the Calgary Food Bank experiences the most demand. You can access the items most requested at the Calgary Food Bank at: <https://www.calgaryfoodbank.com/wishlist/>

We hope you can help by bringing in non-perishable food items such as: canned foods, cereal, peanut butter, dry foods, crackers , canned soups , dehydrated foods , pasta , spaghetti sauce, rice, etc.

The Calgary Food Bank also finds that their community also is in need of: hygiene items such as shampoo, conditioner, and deodorant, baby items such as baby food, diapers, and infant formula, and pet food.

You may bring in items starting now until December 18<sup>th</sup>. Thank you so much for your generous donations. Together, we scare hunger!

Olympic Heights School Me to WE Club

## MUSIC

In October, all classes completed their rhythm units and began exploring melody through singing a variety of songs related to Autumn, Thanksgiving and Halloween. The Grade 3 and 4 students did a fantastic job performing songs for their learning assemblies! We look forward to the Grade 5's performing songs in their learning assembly in November. In music classes this November, we will continue to explore different elements of melody such as through performing instrumental music, adding in instrumental accompaniment to vocal songs, and developing our skills in reading and writing music.

## Choir News

All choir students will be performing in the Remembrance Day assembly on **Friday November 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 am**. Families are invited to attend this important assembly. We are also preparing for our Winter concerts in December, which will be in the afternoon of **Wednesday December 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm** and in the evening of **Thursday December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm**. Please mark these dates on your calendar. Thank you!

Ms. Tran

## FRENCH

Grade 4 students continue to reinforce their speaking skills by practicing greetings, age, numbers and colors through dialogues, games and other interactive activities. This month we will be focusing on vocabulary and expressions related to days of the week, months and body parts.

Grade 5 students are currently practicing expressions related to healthy snacks they bring to school while they are presenting orally to the class their projects.

Grade 6 students are focusing on sports and activities they do in their spare time. Their speaking skills continue to improve by using new expressions in this unit as well as the personal pronouns in appropriate full sentences.

## PE NEWS



November is shaping up to be an active, cooperative and exciting month in the gym, as all grades develop and practice their skills in both Ringette and Floor Hockey.

Ringette is similar to hockey, in that it promotes teamwork and cooperation through a variety of skills, but is played with a straight stick and a hollow ring. We look forward to developing and practicing our locomotor (running and walking), our non-locomotor (turning and bending) and our manipulative skills (receiving and sending) as we engage in fair play and fun.

Division 2 students will also have the opportunity to participate in European Handball Intramurals, beginning in November and continuing for the month. Grade 6's are scheduled for Tuesdays, grade 5's on

Wednesdays and grade 4's on Thursdays, all during lunch hour in the gym. Permission forms will be sent home.

**Terry Fox Run Results:** Congratulations to all of our OHS students who tried their best, set a pace, met their goal and ran our Terry Fox Run on September 30<sup>th</sup>! As a result of all your hard work, we raised \$3,074.67 for the Cancer Society! Wow! Thanks to your incredible generosity, Mr. Parsons "Braved the Shave" on Tuesday October 16<sup>th</sup>! Thank you Mr. Parsons for your participation and contribution to this successful fundraiser for the Terry Fox Foundation.

**We Are Active!** As this initiative has been so successful in the past, I am once again asking both Division 1 and Division 2 students to send in their "active living" photos, throughout the remainder of the school year. To promote and celebrate physical activity outside of the school gym, students are encouraged to bring in photos of themselves being active, after school or on the weekend! I will post them all on our bulletin board, in the gym. I would ask that each student only bring in one photo.

**A gentle reminder:** As the weather turns cooler, we will be indoors for PE and kindly request that you ensure your child has proper running shoes for maximum safety in our gym.

Mrs. Schoenberger

## SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATES

### **FUN LUNCH**

Two more Fun Lunch events are scheduled for this month! On November 15, Fun Lunch is bringing Kernels Popcorn to Olympic Heights, and on November 29, we are having a Subway Sandwich event. **Deadline to order and pay is November 5 for the Kernels events, and November 19 for Subway;** there will be

no product available on event days. Please visit [www.ohs.hotlunches.net](http://www.ohs.hotlunches.net) to order for this, and other upcoming lunches and treats. We are always looking for more great people to help on our Fun Lunch team, please contact us if you would like to volunteer!

Thank you for your continued support of Fun Lunch!

### **KISS & DROP**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP! Kiss and Drop is still looking for volunteers!** It's only a few minutes a shift, please help out! Contact Diane if you are interested in volunteering, [Dianeperry74@gmail.com](mailto:Dianeperry74@gmail.com)

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

- **Remain in your vehicle at all times** to keep the service running smoothly.
- Move your vehicle with the flow of traffic and allow us to open your door when it is safe to do so.
- Ensure that your child can exit and enter your vehicle from the passenger side only. If you are unable to use the passenger side, we ask that you not use the Kiss & Drop service.
- 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 after this time, park elsewhere and walk your child in through 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 has expired.

- Arrive on time when picking up a **kindergarten child with a pass**. If you arrive late, we ask that you kindly park elsewhere and walk to retrieve your child.
- Ensure that all passengers in your vehicle are safely and legally secured. If you do not have enough room for the children you are picking up, please re-think your plan prior to entering the Kiss & Drop zone.
- **Do not make U-turn 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, do not double park. At drop off, please remain in the line and be patient. At pick-up, please turn right at the community centre and loop around, returning you to the back of the line.
- At pick-up, please respect the sign at the end of the bus zone. The sign denotes the end of the line. Cars that stop between this sign and the intersection block the flow of traffic around the corner.

Please remember that the people running the Kiss & Drop program are volunteers from our learning community and their time and energy are gifts. 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. The top priority of our volunteers is the safety of our school.

Thank-you from your Kiss & Drop team

**2018 FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS**



1. **Coupon Books - On Sale Now!**
  - \$25/book (includes a FREE mobile app)
  - Calgary ~ Edmonton ~ Red Deer ~ Southern Alberta
  - Only a few books left!
2. **Big Box of Cards - On Sale Now!**
  - \$33/box which include 33 cards (that's \$1/card!!!)
  - Birthday Box OR All Occasions Box
  - Orders are delivered on a weekly basis
3. **Family Movie Night – We raised \$1700!**
  - Thank you to all the families who came out to support this Spooktacular event!
  - And a special thank you to Dave, Tiffany and all the volunteers that helped make this event a success!
  - Our next Movie Night is Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>
4. **Calgary Hitmen Teddy Bear Toss - Tickets On Sale NOW!**
  - \$25/adult and \$22/child (limited tickets available - this event will sell out!)
  - Calgary Hitment vs Kamloops Blazers on Sunday, December 9th (2pm) at the Scotiabank Saddledome

- Please note this is a family event (supervision and transportation are not provided)

## ONGOING

- **Cobbs Bread Aspen Landing** Shopping Centre will donate a portion of sales to OHS using the **code 2134**.
- **Loveable Labels** will donate a portion of sales to OHS, order at [www.OHPA.lovablelabels.ca](http://www.OHPA.lovablelabels.ca)

All items can be ordered online at [ohs.fundraiserorders.com](http://ohs.fundraiserorders.com) (same UserID/Password as Fun Lunch). Payment can be made online via PayPal or send in cash or cheque to the school in a clearly marked envelope with your child's name, teacher and classroom number. Please make all cheques payable to "OHS Parent Association". Funds raised help support school learning initiatives that cannot be supported from our Casino funds.

Thank you for your continued support!

Fundraising Committee

[fundraising@ohsparent.com](mailto:fundraising@ohsparent.com)

## SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

The next school council meeting is **Thursday, November 15 at 6:30-8:00 pm**. Come learn about the great initiatives happening in your learning community.