



October, 2019

Ormiston Public School Newsletter

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ADMINISTRATORS' MESSAGE

October has arrived and it is hard to believe that September has passed already. It has been a very busy month of school as students adjusted to the routines and procedures of a new school year, classrooms and teachers. We welcomed new students, teachers and parents/ guardians to our community, and we encourage parents/ guardians to continue to become involved in school life including field trips, in classrooms or by attending our SCC meetings – and welcome to our newest members!

Our Curriculum night, where parents/ guardians were able to meet their child's teacher, held on September 19th, was a success. Thank you for taking the time to meet and connect with your child's teacher. The partnership you have started will continue to be beneficial for the academic success of your child as he/she will continue to feel supported and a positive attitude toward learning is fostered. We believe the education of a child is a shared responsibility.

Thank you to our families, students and staff for their work and support in a successful re-organization of classes in our Early Years program and Junior division. We would like to officially welcome Miss Chatten to Kindergarten, Ms. Sauvé to grade 4, Mrs. Hunt to grade 6, Miss Oostinga to grade 8 and Mrs. Bachman to our PREP coverage position.

In the first few weeks of school we have had our "Welcome Back Assembly", fundraised and supported the Terry Fox Run and furthered our learning about how to support and be an inclusive school and a leader in our community by Mr. John Draper. In addition to these events, students have been busy trying out for extra-curricular teams and joining in co-curricular activities including cross-country, flag football, soccer, basketball, leadership club, Ukulele club, PFLAG club and Eco club.

As we move forward into October and the course of the school year, our goal is for each and every student to reach their potential, feel successful, as well as develop resiliency to deal with challenges by using Self-Regulation and their WITS (Walk Away, Ignore, Talk it Out, or Seek Help).

Sincerely,

Mrs. McMurray and Mr. Reed

Friday, October 11

P.A. Day

No School for Students

S.C.C. Meeting

**Tuesday, October 1,
2019 @ 7:00 p.m.**

All Welcome !

Operation Build Character

October's Focus—Teamwork

At Ormiston, we want to help prepare our students to be caring, contributing, responsible individuals. We will focus on ten attributes that will help you succeed in all that you do.

September—Optimism

October—Teamwork

November—Empathy

December—Integrity

January—Responsibility

February—Kindness

March—Respect

April—Honesty

May—Perseverance

June—Courage

Please help support our Operation Build Character initiative by continuing to ask questions and initiate discussions about our monthly attribute focus at home. If you have any questions, please call the principal or vice-principal. We appreciate your support!

SCHOOL MESSENGER SAFE ARRIVAL GUIDELINES

The protocol for safe arrival is to call 1-844-350-2646 or log on to the internet. If you haven't already done so, please go to your Parent Portal account to create an account allowing you to report absences quickly and conveniently. Please note you need to report your child's absence before 8:30 a.m. for the current school day.

Some further benefits of using the SchoolMessenger Safe Arrival Parent Portal website is to update your contact phone numbers and email addresses, should they change, as well as reviewing your child's attendance and any messages sent through the system.

OCTOBER'S CHARACTER TRAIT IS TEAMWORK !



Always remember this quote...

"Character is who you are, when no one is looking."

Author Unknown

TERRY FOX RUN 2019

We are very proud to have surpassed our donation goal of \$3,000 for the Terry Fox Foundation this year. Thank you to our school community for your generosity ! The incentive for reaching this lofty goal was a pie in each face of Mrs. McMurray, Mr. Reed, Mr. Houston and Mrs. Hutchings, which took place on October 1 during morning recess. Students will enjoy Hat Day and Movie Day in the near future. The winners of our Terry Fox t-shirt draw were Jack O. in Rm 104 and Kaunain M. in Rm 208.

***Fun Fact *** Ormiston P.S. has now participated in the Terry Fox Run for 25 years, raising a total of \$113,983.74 on behalf of the Foundation ! Way to be like Terry, Ormiston Dragons !!



PARENTS / GUARDIANS / VISITORS TO OUR SCHOOL

The Ormiston staff strives to establish a school environment of mutual respect, cooperation and above all, safety and security. All visitors and parents to the school are required to begin their visit at the front office, entering through the front doors of the building. You contribute to the positive and safe environment when you:



Drop off and pick up your child in the school's designated area

Remain outside the school building at entry and dismissal times

Check in at the office every time you visit the school

Call to book an appointment if you wish to meet with your child's teacher or an administrator

Make your child's teacher your first contact when you have an educational concern

VOLUNTEER OF DISTINCTION 2019

The gift of volunteers is one that is dear to Ormiston's heart as they are at the core of our community and support for students throughout the school. The staff here at Ormiston Public School are pleased to announce our Volunteer of Distinction for 2018-2019 was Meghan Coady. She has been a school volunteer instrumental in the early years and School Community Council work here at Ormiston Public School. She demonstrates instrumental organization, patience and professionalism throughout the school year as she helps coordinate supporting materials and stellar organization for events. We are truly fortunate to have such a caring and committed individual in our school. Meghan's accomplishments will be celebrated at Durham District School Board's Volunteers of Distinction on October 24th at the Education Centre.



CROSS COUNTRY UPDATE !

Our cross country runners ran like the wind at the AREA meet at Lakeridge on Wednesday, October 2.

Congratulations to everyone for competing on a very difficult, muddy and wet course. Your grit and determination is admirable. We had many incredible results and students who ran their personal best. We are so proud of you all! Huge congratulations goes out to Maliyah who finished fifth in the grade three group. The grade six girls dominated their field with Stasia finishing sixth and Abby eighth along with their entire team consisting of Fatima, Egypt, Frankie, Shruthi and Sophie. They finished second as a team. Way to go girls! And our amazing, outstanding, super grade seven girls did it again! Their team finished first with Jayda in sixth, Izzy in third and Jenna in first, also followed close behind them by Tatum and Olivia. These dragons will run again on Thursday, October 10 at the Regional Finals. Good Luck !!



NEWS FROM OUR LIBRARY LEARNING COMMONS

Many students have been coming to the library to sign out books over the past two weeks. While the Kindergartens and Grade Ones have a regular book exchange time, times that students in grades two and up can come to check out a book are determined by the homeroom teacher.

Students are permitted to have two books at a time signed out from our library and are also requested to keep these books safe from spills and from being damaged. Ask your child what book they have signed out! It is always great to keep the lines of communication open about reading.



Book Fair Success!

Thank you very much to all the students, parents, caregivers, and staff members who purchased books and other items from the Book Fair during the third week of September. It is amazing to see students excited about reading and their new books. Thanks to your purchases, our school will now have \$1200 to purchase technology for our new Makerspace Dragon's Den in the library.

Thank you!



Get Caught Reading, STEAM Challenges!

The Junior Division began the 17th annual Get Caught Reading Program where the goal is to be caught reading! Our theme this year is STEAM, which stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. Students are looking forward to creating bookmarks creating a Fun Fair Game and also commercials. We will end our program with an assembly.

We can't wait to catch you reading!

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RUDE, MEAN, AND BULLYING BEHAVIOUR?

Signe Whitson is a licensed therapist, national educator on bullying and author of 3 books including *Friendship & Other Weapons: Group Activities to Help Young Girls Cope with Bullying*. It is important to distinguish between rude, mean and bullying so that teachers, school administrators, police, youth workers, parents and students know what to pay attention to and when to intervene.

RUDE – inadvertently saying or doing something that hurts someone else

MEAN – purposefully saying or doing something to hurt someone once (or maybe twice)

BULLYING – intentionally aggressive behavior, repeated over time, that involves an imbalance of power

Physical aggression – was once the gold standard for bullying – the ‘sticks and stones’ – that made adults in charge stand up and take notice. This kind of bullying includes hitting, punching kicking, spitting, tripping, hair pulling, slamming a child into a locker, and a range of other behaviours that involve physical aggression

Verbal aggression – is what our parents used to advise us to ‘just ignore’. We now know that despite old adage, words and threats can, indeed, hurt and even cause profound, lasting harm

Relational aggression is a form of bullying in which kids use their friendship – or the threat of taking their friendship away – to hurt someone. Social exclusion, shunning, hazing and rumor spreading are all forms of this pervasive type of bullying that can be especially crushing to kids.

Cyberbullying is a specific form of bullying that involves technology. According to the Cyberbullying Research Centre, it is the “willful and repeated harm inflicted through the use of computers, cell phones and other electronic devices.” Notably, the likelihood of repeated harm is especially high with cyberbullying because electronic messages can be accessed by multiple parties, resulting in repeated exposure and repeated harm.

Extracted directly from a Huffington Post Article:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/signe-whitson/bullying_b_2188819.html?utm_hpref+tw

We, the staff at Ormiston Public School do not accept or condone bullying, mean or rude behaviours and we are committed to addressing and helping students to identify these behaviours in themselves and others, coupled with strategies to effectively manage and respond to these different types of behaviours.



During the afternoon (1:00 pm) on October 31st, Ormiston's kindergarten and primary students will be participating in the Parade of Costumes! Classes will parade throughout the school and through the front foyer. We invite you to come to the front foyer at 1:00 PM to share in the fun!

Halloween safety: Tips for families

Courtesy of http://www.caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/halloween_safety



Halloween can be a fun and exciting time for kids. These safety tips for parents, children and homeowners will help keep everyone safe and happy this Halloween.

For parents:

Do not use masks. Masks make it hard for children to see what's around them, including cars. Try a hypoallergenic (less likely to cause an allergic reaction), non-toxic make-up kit instead.

Make or buy costumes in light-coloured material.

Place strips of reflective tape on the back and front of costumes, so that drivers can better see your child.

Costumes should fit properly to prevent trips and falls. Avoid items such as oversized shoes, high heels, long dresses and long capes.

Dress your child for the weather. Add layers if needed.

Put your child's name, address and phone number on his costume.

Children under 10 should be accompanied by an adult for trick or treating. By the age of 10, some children are ready to go trick-or-treating with a group of friends.

Keep in mind that gum and hard candy can pose a choking risk for young children.

Remove make-up before bedtime to prevent possible skin and eye irritation.

If your child is going out without an adult:

Make sure your child is in a group of at least 3 people.

Give them a flashlight. A cell phone is also a good idea if you have one.

Discuss in advance the route they should follow. Ask them to call you if they plan to go on a street that isn't on the route.

Set a curfew (and make sure they have a watch with them).

Tell your children not to eat anything until they get home.

For children and youth:

Carry a white bag or pillowcase for your candy, and add some reflective tape.

Dress for the weather. Cold weather or water absorbent materials in the rain can be very uncomfortable.

Bring a cell phone, in case you need to make an emergency phone call.

Always travel in groups. Be sure there are at least 3 of you at all times.

Let your parents know where you're going to be at all times.

Don't visit houses that are not well lit. Never go inside a stranger's house.

Use the sidewalk whenever possible. If there's no sidewalk, walk on the side of the road facing traffic.

Don't criss-cross back and forth across the street. Work your way up one side of the street, and then start on the other.

If you have any allergies, tell the person who is giving out the treats.

Don't eat any of your treats before you get home. Once home, ask your parents to look through your treats with you to make sure everything is okay.

For homeowners:

Turn on outdoor lights, and replace burnt-out bulbs.

Remove items from your yard or porch that might trip a child.

Sweep wet leaves from your steps and driveway.

Use alternative to candles in your pumpkins, such as a flashlight or a battery-operated candle.

Remember that some children have food allergies. Consider giving treats other than candy, such as stickers, erasers or a yo-yo.

Alternatives to traditional trick-or-treating

Local community centres sometimes offer Halloween night activities.

Local shopping centres often have trick-or-treat nights for young children in a more controlled environment.

Plan a Halloween night at home with themed games and movies. Invite friends.



It's Hearing and Vision Screening time!!!

School Screening Association will be visiting our school this year on November 12, 2019 to conduct their clinic.

Your child's hearing and Vision should be screened every year

Growing children are very susceptible to middle ear problems and one of the best ways to prevent hearing loss is early detection of middle ear function issues.

- Two ways to have your child's hearing tested:

You can talk to your child's doctor and ask for a referral to a Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist (Otolaryngologist) – this service is covered by OHIP.

2. You can make an appointment with an Audiologist – referral by your family physician is not required. However, if the Audiologist is not in a hospital clinic, the visit may not be covered by OHIP and a fee upwards of \$50 maybe charged.

Your child's hearing is not being monitored unless they are being seen by an Audiologist or and E.N.T.

- Free vision screening is included wit the Hearing Clinic. Eye examinations are covered by OHIP.

A fee of \$15.00 is collected to help offset the cost of bringing this clinic to our school.

A permission form will be sent home with your child approximately 2 weeks before the clinic date. Please fill out the form, include \$15.00 fee and return to the school prior to the clinic date.

Good Grades start with Good Hearing and Vision

The School Community Council had its first meeting on September 17th. The new council was formed and we would like to introduce the executive: Chair – Melissa Bertrand, Vice-Chair – Cathy Bond, Treasurer – Holly Pike-McAuley, Secretary – Faye Stilos.

It isn't too late to become involved with the SCC. Everyone is welcome at meetings and if you would like to help with the SCC in any way please email us at: Ormistonscc@gmail.com.

Healthy Hunger has returned! Healthy Hunger is an opportunity for you to purchase lunches for students and a portion of every purchase goes back to the SCC. Information has gone home with students on how to order and the meals that are available. Order online at <https://healthyhunger.ca/>.

Movie Nights will be back at Ormiston again this year! Come with the entire family and enjoy the free movie. Stay tuned for upcoming dates!

Mark your calendar: the **next SCC meeting** is **Tuesday, November 5 at 7pm** in the school library. We will be hosting **breakfast with Santa** at Ormiston on **Saturday, November 30**.

Don't forget about our ongoing Mabel's Label's fundraiser where the school receives a portion from every label bought!!! Last year we earned \$63.19. Check it out at https://mabelslabels.ca/en_CA/fundraising/support/

Thank you everyone for your support throughout the year. Again, if you would like to be involved in any way or have any questions please contact us via email: ormistonscc@gmail.com.

Your Ormiston P.S. SCC



MEDICATION

If your child will need medication at school from September 2019 to June, 2020, please pick up a “Request for Administration of Medication” form from the office to complete and have your doctor sign. Medications cannot be administered at school without them. Please note : These forms expire at the end of each school year.

SAFE ARRIVAL FOR 2019-20

At the Durham District School Board, one of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely to school each day. **The Durham District School Board will continue to use the latest release of the Safe Arrival software for next school year.** The absence reporting system, SchoolMessenger, started on the first day of the 2019-2020 school year. Information was emailed to parents this past summer with instructions on how to create a new account and download the mobile app (available for Android and iOS). **Parents need to create accounts to report absences online.** *Please note: Parents can continue to report absences through the automated telephone system by dialing 1-844-350-2646 without creating an account.*

SCHOOL DRESS CODE

It's fall, but some days are still warm and students are reminded to dress appropriately for school. Short shorts, bare midriffs, spaghetti strap tops and any attire with undergarments showing are unacceptable. As always, students are expected to remove outdoor footwear when entering the school, and to have another pair of shoes for use inside the school. Safe footwear is encouraged. Please speak with your child regarding the school dress code. Your support in this area is greatly appreciated.

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Technology is a wonderful tool when it is used well, but we also know that, when used incorrectly, the privacy and safety of others can be endangered. This year, we will continue to develop digital citizenship skills in all our students so that they are prepared to use technology safely and respectfully both in and out of the school environment. As ownership of personal electronic devices grows more common, opportunities may exist to use these devices to engage and educate students. At times, students may be invited to use their own personal electronic devices (e.g. laptop, computers, tablets, cameras, handheld devices, etc.) for instructional purposes, **as directed by their teacher**. Students are expected to remain on-task while using their personal devices. Personal electronic devices are never to be used in the washrooms or change rooms. In addition, personal electronic devices are not to be used on the yard, in classrooms/gym, or in the hallways unless under direct teacher supervision. There may be opportunities for students to access their electronics for school work under teacher supervision. This is an appropriate use of technology. Please be aware that the school is not able to assume responsibility for lost, stolen or damaged cell phones and electronics.

When cell phones and other electronic communication devices are not being used for educational purposes, **they are to be stored in student lockers or another secure location during the entire school day; this includes recesses and lunch hour. If a student needs to call or text a parent, the student must first ask permission of a teacher or administrator. If you need to contact your child during the day, please call the office and not your child's cell phone.** We thank you for your partnership in teaching our students digital etiquette and respecting the learning environment.

Durham Region Health Department Senior Kindergarten (SK) Vision Screening Program

Why?

1 in 4 school-age children may have a vision problem that if left untreated can affect their learning and development. Young children may not know that they have trouble seeing and may not show any signs or symptoms. Vision screening provides a quick means of detecting common childhood vision problems so that further follow up can occur.

Who?

Vision screening will be conducted for all senior kindergarten students.

What?

Vision screening is a series of short, non-invasive tests that can show the presence of a potential vision problem. A letter will be sent home with your child the day of the screening, indicating the results of the screening exam. Regardless of the results of the screening it is strongly recommended your child receives an OHIP covered comprehensive eye exam with an optometrist before 6 years of age.



By Whom?

Durham Region Health Department Public Health Nurses will be conducting vision screening at your child's school. Vision screenings are performed in accordance with the Ontario Public Health Standards under the Health Protection and Promotion Act.

Where?

Vision screening is being held at your child's school on October 21 and 22, 2019

IMPORTANT: If you wish to have your child excluded from the vision screening this year, please contact the Health Department at 905-668-7711 ext. 2216 or 1-800-841-2729. Please leave your name, your child's name, child's date of birth, child's school, and telephone number on the voicemail.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's vision, you do not have to wait for the school screening visit. Please contact a local optometrist to schedule an OHIP covered comprehensive eye exam.

To speak with a public health nurse for more information please call the Durham Health Connection Line at 905-666-6241 or 1-800-841-2729.



If this information is required in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729



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Sign up for important updates from Ormiston PS.

Get information for Ormiston PS Dragons! right on your phone—not on handouts.

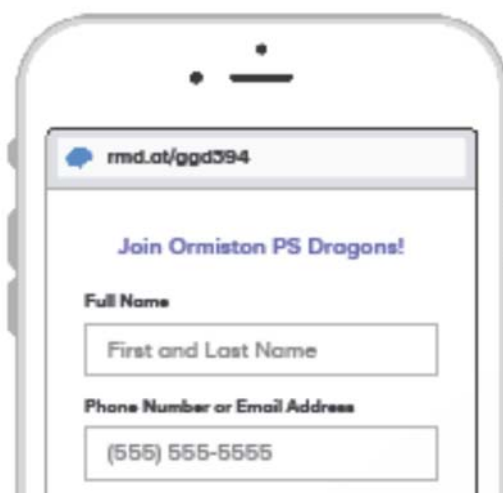
Pick a way to receive messages for Ormiston PS Dragons!:

- A** If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/ggd394

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.



- B** If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @ggd394 to the number (289) 271-3502.

* Standard text message rates apply.



Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/ggd394 on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.

School Cash Online allows a safe, convenient and fast opportunity for parents / guardians to pay the school for any trips, special lunches, etc. for which your child(ren) may wish to participate. No more counting change and finding envelopes to send with your child ! Please see the information below and, if you haven't already done so, register on their site <https://ddsb.schoolcashonline.com/> to get started. (You will require your child's OEN. *Please contact our secretary to inquire about your child's OEN if you can't find it on the top of the front page of their last report card.*)

At Ormiston Public School, we are completely cashless. If you have any questions, you may contact the Parent Help Desk (parenthelpdesk@schoolcashonline.com) or call 1-866-961-1803.

Why not get started today ? You may already go in and pay for the Agendas on line !



SchoolCashSuite
KEV GROUP

Safe. Fast. Convenient.

Welcome to School Cash Online

What is School Cash Online?

School Cash Online is an online parent portal that offers a safe, fast and convenient way to pay for school activity fees. The portal is customized to meet your school's needs and allows parents to add students, make payments, check current balance/account history and print or view receipts.



What Payment Methods are Available?

myWallet

An online wallet that can be loaded to hold funds and pay for your child's fees on School Cash Online. myWallet also allows you to allocate funds to pay for school fees at a later date, as you would with a gift card. It can take up to 7 days from the date the funds are loaded for funds to become available.

eCheque

An electronic version of a paper cheque used to make payments online. Anyone with a chequing/savings account can pay by eCheque through School Cash Online. To pay with an eCheque, simply enter your account number on the payment screen and click submit.

How do I use myWallet?

myWallet offers you a secure alternative to traditional payment methods without the need for you to enter the payment information multiple times.

1. Go to your district's School Cash Online portal URL. (<https://ddsb.schoolcashonline.com/>)
2. Click the "Sign Into Your Account" button and enter your email and password to access your account.
3. Select the myWallet tab, click "Add Funds to myWallet" and use eCheque to load funds into your myWallet account (it may take up to 7 days for funds to become available to pay fees).
4. Once your funds have been made available, add all your items to the shopping cart, select the checkout option and select the myWallet payment method to make purchases.

Is it safe to use?

Our top priority is to keep your personal information safe. School Cash Online is PCI compliant, CSAE 3416 certified, HTTP Secure and adheres to the highest industry standards of security.

School Cash Online does not share your personal information with any third party. School Cash Online will never contact you to divulge confidential information via phone, email or mail.





For more information contact Parent Helpdesk at
parenthelpdesk@schoolcashonline.com or 1.866.961.1803

SchoolCashOnline

For safety and efficiency reasons, Durham District School Board would like to reduce the amount of Cash & Checks coming into our school. Please join the thousands of parents who have already registered and are enjoying the convenience of paying ONLINE! It takes less than 5 minutes to register. Please follow these step-by-step instructions, so you will begin to receive email notifications regarding upcoming events involving your child(ren).

NOTE: If you require assistance, select the *SUPPORT* option in the top right hand corner of the screen.

Step 1: Register

- a) If you have not registered, please go to the School Cash Online home page <https://ddsb.schoolcashonline.com/> and select the "Get Started Today" option.
- b) Complete each of the three Registration Steps
 *For Security Reasons your password, requires 8 characters, one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter and a number.



Step 2: Confirmation Email

A registration confirmation email will be forwarded to you. Click on the link provided inside the email to confirm your email and School Cash Online account.

The confirmation link will open the School Cash Online site prompting you to sign into your account. Use your email address and password just created with your account.



Step 3: Find Student

Note: OEN Student Number is Required
 This step will connect your children to your account.

- a) Enter the School Board Name
- b) Select the School Name
- c) Enter Your Child's OEN Number and Last Name
- d) Select *Continue*
- e) On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the *Agree* box and select *Continue*
- f) Your child has been added to your account

Add Student

1. Type in the School Board name and select one from the list
 Durham District School Board
 (To Change school name, click here)

2. Select a school

3. Enter student information
 Student Number:
 Last Name:

Step 4: View Items or Add Another Student

If you have more children, select "Add Another Student" option and repeat the steps above. 5 children can be added to one parent account.

If you do not wish to add additional children, select

"View Items for Students" option. A listing of available items for purchase will be displayed.

Student Sign In / Sign Out

Whenever a student arrives late for school, he or she must come to the office and sign in. All students who are leaving early for any reason are required to come to the office to have a parent sign them out. This process will ensure that students are leaving with the appropriate person at the appropriate time.

Meeting Locations

Thank you in advance for setting up a meeting place outside the school. Having a meeting place outside teaches children to be independent as they use the appropriate door to enter and exit the school. It also allows for clear and safe hallways. Should there be a situation where you are going to be late picking up your child, please instruct him or her to report to the office where he/she can await your arrival.

Lunch Facilities

Research has clearly shown that it is healthier for students to go home for lunch, if at all possible. As this is not always possible, some classrooms will be provided as lunch eating areas for students who must stay for lunch. Students who stay at school for lunch are expected to behave in a courteous, respectful manner towards staff, lunch-room supervisors, student lunch monitors and one another. Eating lunch at school is a privilege. Students who stay at school for lunch are not permitted to leave school property unless they have written permission from parents/guardians. At Ormiston, Boomerang lunches are in effect. All garbage and compostable materials go home.

Allergy Awareness: Please Help Keep Our Students Safe

We have several students and staff members at Ormiston with life threatening food allergies to peanuts, nuts or their by-products. The resultant anaphylactic reaction can be so severe it can cause death. As a school, we will make every effort to NOT have peanuts, nuts or foods with nut by-products in our school at all. WOW butter is also not permitted as it can easily be mistaken as a nut product. Did you know that there are students and staff at Ormiston who are as severely allergic to foods such as egg, milk, sesame seeds, lentils, peas, and strawberries? One way that we can help protect all children and adults with food allergies at Ormiston is to teach safe eating practices.



Encourage students to:

- ☐ Not share snacks or lunches at school
- ☐ Wash their hands with soap and warm water before and after eating
- ☐ Use only appointed utensils to open food packages (i.e. don't use classroom scissors that are also used for crafts/school work)
- ☐ Bring only non-food items to celebrate special occasions at school

We thank you for your cooperation in making sure that your child does not bring snacks or lunch items that could put another child's life at risk. Thank you for your continued efforts to help us safeguard the students and staff at Ormiston.

Administration of Medication by Injection (epi-pen)

If your child carries an epi-pen for use in case of an anaphylaxis emergency, or if the school office keeps one on hand for your child, please fill out a "*Request for Administration of Medication by Injection*" Durham District School Board policy form that was sent home with your child. This form is also available in the office, and it needs to be signed by a doctor. A new form must to be completed at the beginning of each school year.



Administering Medications at School

If it is necessary to administer oral medication to your child during the school day, please ensure that your physician completes a "*Request for Administration of Oral Medication*" form. This form requires a doctor's signature. If the school is aware of your child's medical needs, forms will be sent home. Forms may also be requested by parents/guardians in the school office. These forms expire at the end of every school year.



No Animals on School Property, Thank You!

During the school day, dogs are not allowed on school property, even when leashed. Many students are fearful of dogs and could suffer a health risk if exposed to your pet. If you walk your dog through our yard outside of the school day, we are most appreciative of you cleaning up after your pet. Thank you for your help in maintaining a safe environment for all our students by refraining from bringing your dog onto the school property. Service dogs are, of course, welcome to be on the property. in the presence of their owners.



STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Providing safe learning environments is a strong and constant focus at the Durham District School Board. Families should however recognize that there is always a potential risk of injury with field trips, sports and other student activities both on and off school grounds. Accidents can happen, despite precautions to prevent them. Accidental injuries may involve medical, dental or other expenses not covered by provincial health care or employer group plans.

Please be aware that the Durham District School Board does not provide accident insurance coverage for student injuries. For your convenience, we do make available a Student Accident Insurance program through Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada. This program offers a variety of plans and benefits at affordable prices.

All rates are one-time annual premiums. The insurance agreement is between **you** and **Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada**. For complete details please refer to the *insuremykids Protection Plan* information/application form or visit their website at: www.insuremykids.com.

Any questions should be directed to Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada toll free at 1-800-463-5437.

FIRE DRILL AND LOCKDOWN PROCEDURES

Each year schools are required to have six fire drills, generally, three in the fall and three in the spring. These drills ensure all staff and students know the routines to support a quick and effective evacuation in the event of a real emergency. As well, schools are required to practice a minimum of one lockdown and one hold and secure drill each year.



A lockdown is used in the unlikely event that there is an emergency situation within the school posing a potential risk. A hold and secure is used if there is an emergency event in the community such as police activity, and it is deemed necessary to keep students within the building. The purpose of these drills is explained to students in an age-appropriate manner, and drills are handled in the same calm and routine manner as fire drills. At Ormiston, we believe that taking a proactive approach to safety will ensure a welcoming, happy and safe learning environment for everyone!

IMMUNIZATION CLINICS

The Durham Region Health Department school clinics for our Intermediate students are as follows :

| | | |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Fall Clinic | November 13, 2019 | Hepatitis B, Menactra and HPV |
| Spring Clinic | May 8, 2020 | Hepatitis B, Menactra and HPV |

Please check out their website for more information : <http://www.durham.ca/immunizationclinics>

Forms will be delivered to our Gr. 7 students on Thursday, October 17, to be taken home to be reviewed and signed by a parent / guardian and returned to the school by October 30, 2019.

LUNCH HOUR PROCEDURES

Students require written permission to leave school property during lunch time. Students who have permission to leave school property to eat lunch at home or off school premises are to sign out in the office and return to school either at 11:40 (the beginning of recess) or at the end of the lunch recess, 12:20 for entry.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE FROM SCHOOL

We would like to thank our parents/ guardians and guests to our school for continuing to be respectful of the routines and procedures in the school, our Kiss 'n Ride, as well as our bus loop. Our school is continuing to welcome new students to the school community and with this we have become a school that receives students travelling on a bus. As a result, our 'Bus Loading Zones' on Forest Heights Street, south of the school will be reserved for busses to drop off and pick up students to and from school. We thank you all in advance to ensure no parking during the school day to ensure our busses can safely access this zone for our students to safely arrive and depart.

Important Reminders Regarding Students Using Crosswalks

Students –

1Important Reminders Regarding Students Using Crosswalks

Students:

- Please cross with the School Crossing Guard.
- Wait for the Guard's second whistle then look all ways before entering the street.
- Walk, don't run, across the street.
- Walk bikes, carry skateboards and don't bounce your ball in the crosswalk.
- Remove headphones while crossing the road.
- Encourage your parents to cross with the Guard.



Motorists:

- Please slow down in the Crossing zone.
- Drop off children in a safe area that will not impede the flow of traffic.

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| <u>Forest Heights Street & Greenbush Place</u> To cross Forest Heights Street on the south side of Greenbush Place. To cross Greenbush Place on east side of Forest Heights Street. | <i>Ormiston Public School</i> 905-430-8755 | 8:10 11:20 12:10 3:10 | - - - - | 8:30 11:30 12:20 3:25 |
| <u>Willowbrook Drive & Forest Heights Street</u> To cross Willowbrook Drive on west side of Forest Heights Street. To cross Forest Heights Street on north side of Willowbrook Drive. | <i>Ormiston Public School</i> 905-430-8755 | 8:10 11:20 12:05 3:10 | - - - - | 8:30 11:30 12:20 3:30 |
| <u>Willowbrook Drive & Brookwood Boulevard</u> To cross Willowbrook Drive on east side of Brookwood Boulevard. To cross Brookwood Boulevard on south side of Willowbrook Drive. | <i>Ormiston Public School</i> 905-430-8755 | 8:20 11:20 12:10 3:10 8:20 11:20 12:10 3:10 | - - - - - - - - | 8:30 11:30 12:20 3:25 8:45 11:40 12:30 3:35 |

KISS ' RIDE : Please continue to help us keep the arrival of all our students to school in the morning and leaving the school at dismissal in the afternoon as safe as we can by using the Kiss 'N Ride near the south end of our parking lot. Thank you for working together with us to ensure your children arrive and leave school safely each day.



Attendance and Punctuality

Good attendance is essential for academic success. Students are expected to attend school on a consistent basis, and arrive at school on time. Taking vacations during instructional days of the year is discouraged. Parents/guardians are required to complete a Temporary Excusal of Attendance form when students will be absent for 6 days or more for any reason other than illness.

Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring that their children are regular and punctual in their attendance. Students who are repeatedly late or absent will be counseled and may be required to make up missed time. A letter will be sent to parents/guardians, explaining the circumstances and, in extreme cases, the attendance counselor of the Durham District School Board will be notified.

Voluntary, Confidential Aboriginal Student Self-Identification

The Ontario Ministry of Education has identified Aboriginal Education as one of its key priorities. The 2007 Ontario, First Nation, Métis, and Inuit (FNMI) Education Policy Framework outlines strategies to improve achievement among First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students and to help close the achievement gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students in the areas of literacy and numeracy, retention of students in school, graduation rates, and advancement to post secondary studies.



By participating in the Self-Identification program, you are assisting the board with the determination of programming and support to increase Aboriginal student success and achievement, and to help our board monitor the success of students and the programs and supports implemented. Information about individual students will not be released and is kept confidential in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection Privacy Act. The Durham District School Board (DDSB) will only share its Aboriginal Self-Identification data with the Ministry of Education and the Education Quality Accountability Office (EQAO). These provincial bodies will report their findings in an aggregate or collective format to the public. Go to <http://spiritcalling.ddsb.schools.ca> for more information.

Religious Accommodations

The Durham District School Board and Ormiston P.S. follow the Guidelines and Procedures for the Accommodation of Religious Requirements Practices and Observances. This document has been produced in compliance with requirements of Ontario's Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy within the contexts of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Ontario Human Rights Code. This document assists us in creating and maintaining equitable and inclusive environments within our schools and facilities, and guides the process of providing religious accommodations as the need arises. The document is available for viewing at <http://ddsb.durham.edu.on.ca/DDSBmain.htm> (highlight programs on the left panel, then Equity and Inclusive Education, then Guidelines) or you may ask to review a copy at your child's school. If you anticipate that you or your family might require religious accommodation at any point during the school year we ask that you inform the administration at your child's school as early as possible, preferably at the start of the school year. Areas that you might consider include, but are not limited to, the following:

- ☐ Observation of major religious holy days and celebrations
- ☐ Accommodation in, or exemption from, specific areas of the curriculum or other activities
- ☐ Religious attire
- ☐ Modesty requirements in physical education
- ☐ School opening and closing exercises
- ☐ Prayer
- ☐ Dietary requirements

You are also welcome to speak to your school administration about unanticipated religious accommodation needs as they arise.

Volunteers Wanted

Ormiston values and appreciates individuals who are willing to share their time and talents on a regular basis within the school. If you are interested in being a volunteer, we would be delighted to hear from you! All volunteers must obtain a current criminal reference which will be supported with a letter from the Principal to be taken to the Durham Regional Police Services. If you wish to volunteer, please contact your child's teacher or office personnel for guidance in becoming involved in the life of this wonderful school. Grandparents are also welcome!



Some Dates of Significance for October 2019

** Please bear in mind that this is not meant to be an exhaustive list and there may be diverse celebrations and religious dates that are not addressed.

Faith Days in October:

October 9th-Yom Kippur
October 13-20 Sukkot
October 19-Dussehra
October 21 Simchat Torah
October 27 Diwali
October 29 Birth of the Bab

October is Hispanic Heritage Month, Islamic History/Heritage Month, and Women's History Month

Hispanic Heritage Month Ontario is home to more than 400,000 first-, second- and third-generation Canadians of Hispanic origin. As early as 1914, Canadians who originated from the 23 Hispanic countries began immigrating to the province and today the Hispanic community is one of the fastest growing in Ontario. Hispanic-Canadians represent a dynamic community that has made significant contributions to the growth and prosperity of the Province of Ontario. October is a significant month for the Hispanic community. Each year, during the month of October, peoples of Hispanic origin around the world come together and pay tribute to their shared culture. Celebrations are held around the world, such as Hispanic Day (Dia de la Hispanidad), the Day of the Cultures (Dia de las Culturas), Day of the Race (Dia de la Raza), Day of Respect for Cultural Diversity (Dia del Respeto a la Diversidad Cultural), Day of Indigenous Resistance (Dia de la Resistencia Indigena), and the commemoration of Hispanic Heritage Month in North America. In 2014, the City of Toronto joined in this commemoration and officially named October as Hispanic Heritage Month.

Source: <https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/parliament-41/session-1/bill-28>

Islamic History/Heritage Month Muslims have been contributing to all aspect of Ontario's prosperity and diverse heritage for generations. Islamic history and culture encompasses a broad range of individual and collective experiences, as well as important contributions to literature, math, science, art and history.

In 2007 the Government of Canada declared the month of October in each year as Canadian Islamic History Month. The Province of Ontario recognizes and wishes to affirm the important contributions that Muslims make in Ontario as part of the vibrant social, economic, political and cultural fabric of our province. Proclaiming a month to be Islamic Heritage Month in Ontario will provide all Ontarians, both today and in future generations, with an opportunity to reflect, celebrate and learn about the rich and longstanding Islamic history in the Province and the diverse roles and contributions of Muslim people in communities across Ontario. This new understanding will in turn help combat anti-Islamic sentiment.

Source: <https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/parliament-41/session-2/bill-23>

Women's History Month October is Women's History Month in Canada, a time to celebrate the achievements and contributions of women and girls across the country and throughout our history.

This 2019 theme is still **#MakeAnImpact**, in honour of the women and girls who've made a lasting impact as pioneers in their field. Whether as business leaders, politicians, researchers, artists or activists, these women of impact have helped shape Canada into a thriving, diverse and prosperous country through their achievements and desire to make a difference.

As part of the celebrations, we launched [Women of Impact in Canada](#), an online gallery that celebrates the achievements of more than 100 women and girls through photos and biographies that capture some of their many successes. The gallery is an educational resource, an introduction to the lives of these remarkable women, and a starting point for further discovery. Learn more about their contributions by exploring the gallery's interactive map and timelines, as well as the Learning Toolkit.

As always, educators are encouraged to seek to reflect and/or promote inquiry of a range of identities under the umbrella of people who identify as women.

<https://cfc-swc.gc.ca/commemoration/whm-mhf/theme-en.html>

Additional Resource: <http://www.etfo.ca/buildingajustsociety/womensissues/pages/whm.aspx>

Some Dates of Significance for October 2019 ... cont'd

October 2nd National Custodial Worker's Day On October 2nd National Custodial Worker's Recognition Day is a day set aside to show appreciation to the people who keep our schools and workplaces across the nation running smoothly. Custodial workers operate behind the scenes and are often under-appreciated for the hard work they do day after day keeping schools, hospitals, office buildings, museums, churches and other buildings clean and well maintained. While delivering outstanding services and running a well-maintained operation building, they contribute to important first impressions and the success of any business.

HOW TO OBSERVE If you know a custodial worker, THANK THEM.

Use #CustodialWorkersRecognitionDay to post on social media.

And we can all do our part to help them do their jobs too. We can be clean ourselves by keeping work stations clean, picking up after ourselves in the lunch/break room and even do some light dusting around our desk, office or cubicle. There is no reason to leave a mess for anyone else when we can simply do our part to help.

Source: <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-custodial-workers-recognition-day-october-2/>

October 5th World Teacher's Day (UNESCO) World Teachers' Day commemorates the anniversary of the adoption of the 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers. This Recommendation sets benchmarks regarding the rights and responsibilities of teachers and standards for their initial preparation and further education, recruitment, employment, and teaching and learning conditions. The Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel was adopted in 1997 to complement the 1966 Recommendation by covering teaching and research personnel in higher education. With the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goal 4 on education, and the dedicated target (SDG 4.c) recognizing teachers as key to the achievement of the Education 2030 agenda, WTD has become the occasion to mark progress and reflect on ways to counter the remaining challenges for the promotion of the teaching profession. World Teachers' Day is co-convened in partnership with UNICEF, UNDP, the International Labour Organization, and Education International.

In 2019, World Teachers' Day will celebrate teachers with the theme, "Young Teachers: The future of the Profession." The day provides the occasion to celebrate the teaching profession worldwide, to take stock of achievements, and to address some of the issues central for attracting and keeping the brightest minds and young talents in the profession.

Source: <https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/worldteachersday>

October 11th International Day of the Girl On International Day of the Girl Child (11 October), themed "With Her: A Skilled Girl Force", join UN Women as we stand with girls everywhere as they inspire, innovate and take charge of their own future.

"This is a critical time for the girls of our world"

On the International Day of the Girl Child, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, UN Under Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women, writes a letter to all the girls of the world to celebrate their strength and the potential. [Read more»](#)

The 1.1 billion girls of today's world are challenging the status quo. They're redefining girlhood, and they're doing so against the odds.

Across the world, girls face adversities that hinder their education, training and entry into the workforce. They have less access to information, communication technology and resources, such as the internet [where the global gender gap is growing](#).

A [quarter](#) of young people, most of them girls, are neither employed nor getting an education or training.

This year alone, [12 million girls under 18 will be married](#), and [21 million girls aged 15 to 19 years will become pregnant in developing regions](#).

And yet, they persist, they succeed. They are innovating technology to solve global challenges, they are standing up for the environment, they are raising their voices against violence and they are preparing to run for office.

Source: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/girl-child>

October 14th Thanksgiving Day Traditions of giving thanks long predate the arrival of European settlers in North America. First Nations across Turtle Island have traditions of thanksgiving for surviving winter and for receiving crops and game as a reward for their hard work. These traditions may include feasting, prayer, dance, potlatch, and other ceremonies, depending on the peoples giving thanks. When it comes to European thanksgivings in Canada, we have a few tales to tell.

Source: <https://www.canadahistory.ca/explore/arts-culture-society/the-history-of-thanksgiving-in-canada>

An inquiry approach may be best to unpack and uncover the multiple perspectives around this day.

Some Dates of Significance for October 2019 ... cont'd

October 17th International Day for the Eradication of Poverty Theme: “Acting together to empower children, their families and communities to end poverty”. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) on 20 November 1989. This landmark human rights treaty sets out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of every child, regardless of their race, religion or abilities. In particular, the Convention recognizes the right of every child to a standard of living adequate for the child’s physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development. Poverty hurts children’s development and, in turn, leads to lower income and health in adulthood. When child poverty is recognized as a denial of children’s human rights then people in positions of responsibility and power are legally bound to promote, protect and fulfil children’s rights. Above all, it is imperative to recognize and address the specific discriminations experienced by the girl child.

Source: <https://www.un.org/development/desa/socialperspectiveondevelopment/international-day-for-the-eradication-of-poverty-homepage/2019-2.html>

October 24th United Nations Day UN Day marks the anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter. With the ratification of this founding document by the majority of its signatories, including the five permanent members of the Security Council, the United Nations officially came into being.

October 31st Halloween Halloween is observed annually on the night of 31 October. It is believed to have originated primarily as a Celtic celebration marking the division of the light and dark halves of the year, when the boundary between the living and the dead was believed to be at its thinnest. Halloween customs, such as wearing disguises to ward off ghosts and offering food to appease malevolent spirits, were brought to Canada in the mid-to-late 1800s by Irish and Scottish immigrants. North America’s first recorded instance of dressing in disguise on Halloween was in Vancouver, British Columbia, in 1898, while the first recorded use of the term trick or treat was in Lethbridge, Alberta, in 1927. Halloween became increasingly popular with adults beginning in the 1990s and by 2014 was estimated to be a \$1-billion industry in Canada, making it the second most commercially successful holiday behind Christmas.

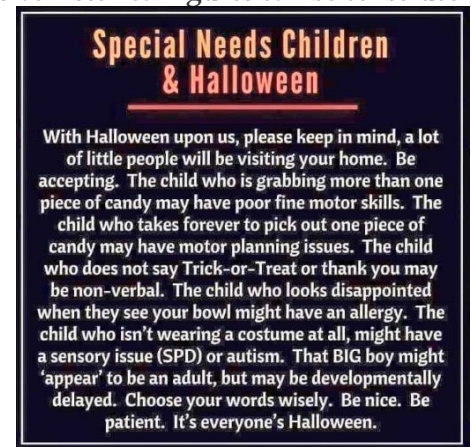
Source: <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/halloween>

Considerations:

1. **Are you using makeup to alter your natural skin tone?** *Such uses of makeup cannot be separated from their [historical context](#).*
2. **Does the name of your costume include an ethnicity in the title?** *These are caricatures of a group of people, not costumes.*
3. **Are you wearing garments or accessories traditional to a culture?** *Wearing a culture is not a fashion statement. There is a fine line between appreciation and appropriation.*
4. **Are you dressed as an offensive historical figure?** *Dressing as offensive historical figures can be construed as glorification, even if your costume is meant to be satirical. Just don’t.*
5. **Is your costume “funny” because it mocks the real life experiences of others?** *Belittling the struggles of marginalized groups is never okay.*

Is your costume offensive? Answer “yes” to any of the aforementioned questions and it likely is. If your costume raises any of these red flags, you should probably (DEFINITELY) reconsider wearing it.

Source: <https://studentlife.ryerson.ca/cultural-appropriation-halloween-their-culture-is-not-your-costume/>



“Consciousness and healing melt the seals keeping the blueprint of oppression locked inside individuals and organizations.”-Anne Bishop

Ormiston Public School

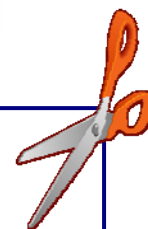
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Twitter : @Ormiston PS

We're on the Web ! Please visit us
@

<http://ddsb.ca/school/ormiston>



A LOOK AHEAD ...

OCTOBER

- 1 S.C.C. Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. All Welcome !
- 10 Regional Cross Country Finals @ Lakeridge; S.C.C. Healthy Hunger Lunch
- 11 P.A. Day—No School for Students
- 14 Thanksgiving Holiday
- 16 Chocolate Bar Fundraising Kick Off Assembly (p.m.)
- 17 Gr. 7 Immunization Presentation (a.m.)
- 18 S.C.C. Pizza Lunch
- 21 Federal Election—gym closed all day; Durham Region Health Dept. **FREE** SK Vision Screening program; Gifted Testing begins (p.m.)
- 22 Durham Region Health Dept. **FREE** SK Vision Screening program cont'd; STEM for Girls (Gr. 7 & 8); Gifted Testing (p.m.)
- 23 Gifted Testing (p.m.)
- 24 Volunteer of Distinction Ceremony at Sinclair S.S. 7:00
- 25 S.C.C. Healthy Hunger Lunch
- 30 Immunization Forms Due to Office
- 31 Hallowe'en Parade of Costumes (1:00 p.m.)

NOVEMBER

- 1 Picture Retake Day

- 8 Last Day of Chocolate Bar Fundraiser
- 5 S.C.C. Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.—All Welcome
- 11 Remembrance Day Assembly @ 10:30 a.m.
- 12 Hearing & Vision Screening
- 13 Fall Immunization Clinic; Progress Reports go home
- 14 MADD Smart Wheels—Gr. 4—6; Parent / Teacher Interviews begin
- 15 P.A. Day—No School for Students; Parent / Teacher interviews continue (a.m.)
- 21 Math James Presentation (K—3); Google Classroom, Read & Write Parent Session (5:00 p.m.)
- 22 S.C.C. Pizza Lunch
- 28 EQAO Parent / Guardian Information Session @ 5:00 p.m.
- 29 S.C.C. Healthy Hunger Lunch

DECEMBER

- 10 Winter Concert (K—3)
- 11 Winter Concert (4—8)
- 13 S.C.C. Pizza Lunch
- 20 Regular Dismissal before Winter Break Begins

