

Oakland-Scotland Public School February 2021

15 Church Street West Scotland, ON NOE 1R0 (519) 446-2365 <u>www.granderie.ca/schools/</u> <u>oaklandscotland</u> @OaklandScotland

Principal

Melanie Logan

Secretary

Wendy Noble

Bell Times

Supervision on School Yard begins at 8:30 a.m.

Learning Block 1

8:50 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. Nutrition Break

Nutrition break

10:50 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Learning Block 2

11:30 a.m. – 1:10 p.m. Nutrition Break

1:10 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.

Learning Block 3

1:50 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.

Message from the Principal

We are one month into 2021 and well into the winter season! I would like to take the opportunity to thank the staff, students and families of Oakland-Scotland School for being so warm and welcoming! Under normal circumstances, I would connect with all of you during drop-off and pick-up, in the classrooms while you are learning, and out on the yards while you are having fun with your friends. I have enjoyed the opportunity to meet some of you during technology pick-up, over the phone, and through Parent Council. Although it can be challenging to get to know a school community while learning remotely, it has provided the opportunity to learn new ways of staying connected. I have joined class Teams meetings and I am so impressed with the perseverance and commitment to learning that I have observed. I can see that the students and families of OSS care very much about their school, their teachers, and their learning. I can also echo the appreciation shared by staff for the parents and guardians who are helping from home. We know it is not easy and we are grateful for your support and understanding. I would also like to thank those of you who have reached out to say hello or have shared questions and/or concerns, as well as those who have shared positive experiences. I can't tell you how much I appreciate the positivity and your efforts to keep smiling through all of this. Please know that we are all learning this together and we are here to support you while we navigate remote learning and beyond. It is our hope that we can return to in-person learning once it is considered safe to do so. Until then, please be well, keep up the great work and don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Ms. M. Logan

ONE TIME FINANCIAL RELIELF FUNDING FOR FAMILIES

The Ministry launched the Support for Learners program– to support families with children aged 0 to 12 with \$200 per child and \$250 per child up to age 21 with special education needs. The extended deadline is February 8, 2021. They are also expanding this program to include financial supports for high school students, recognizing added costs from technology to internet for these parents while their kids stay home for a longer period. Starting on January 11, 2021, families with students aged 13 to grade 12 can apply for a onetime payment for their children up until February 8, 2021.

The expanded program will now cover:

• \$200 for each child up to grade 12, including students in secondary school who are over 18;

• \$250 if the child or youth is 21 years or under with special needs.

Extended Deadline: February 8th: Apply NOW: <u>https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-</u> <u>supportlearners</u>

Kindergarten Registration

for 2021-22:

January was Kindergarten Registration Month. If you have a child who is born in 2017, then they are eligible to attend JK in September 2021. Due to COVID restrictions, Kindergarten registration will be done entirely online or via email. Online registration is now available to parents. You can access our online registration through the board website and/or our school website:

www.granderie.ca/schools/oaklandscotland

If you have a child who is eligible to begin school in September 2021, please email, Mrs. Noble at wendy.noble@granderie.ca so that we can begin organizing a list of students who will be starting Kindergarten in September.





Tech Support for Remote Learning

HelpDesk staff support is available for Grand Erie parents/guardians as an additional resource to support technology-related needs. Please use the information below to seek additional support for all technology related issues:

Help Desk Technical Support: Email address: <u>parent.techsupport@granderie.ca</u> Phone number: (519)-756-6301 extension: 287080 or toll-free 1-888-548-8878 extension: 287080

School Spirit Days!

While learning remotely, OSS staff and students have participated in several school spirit days! It has been fun to see everyone sharing their creativity! We will be hosting another school spirit day on Friday, February 5th...wear your favourite sports team!

Message from OSS Parent Council...

To our outstanding staff at Oakland Scotland School,

From the time you began your careers until now, we can only imagine how different your world's look. Although you've always had to adapt to shifts and changes within the curriculum or new and ever-changing technologies, this is much different- we see that and we feel for you all. We understand the enormous toll that this pandemic has had on our teachers and staff. We know that navigating this world of online learning has never consumed more of your personal lives and this has surely impacted your time at home with your families. We see your ongoing efforts in making this difficult transition as simple and easy for students and parents, alike. Switching from in class learning to learning at home presents so many challenges for everyone and we would like to express our sincerest gratitude and appreciation for all of your tireless work. Please know that we are here to support you in every way possible and we are cheering you on from beyond the screen. We know how lucky we are to have such caring, compassionate and dedicated staff at Oakland Scotland School. Thank you for everything you're doing to work through this strange time. You're doing an incredible job! We can't wait to see you back in your classrooms, the school yard and within the halls of OSS, but until then, know that we are here for you and we are so grateful to have you on our side. From our homes to yours, we thank you!

Sincerely, the students and parents of Oakland Scotland School.

Upcoming Dates:

February 3rd at 6:30 p.m. – OSS Parent Council Meeting

February 4th – Transition date for students changing learning models.

February 11th– First Term Report Cards and IEPs go home.

February 15th – Family Day – No school for students.

February 16th – First Day of FINAL transition to new learning model for students.





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