



STITTSVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL

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School Website: <http://stittsvilleps.ocdsb.ca>
Board Website: <http://www.ocdsb.on.ca>

May 2019

Message from the Principal

If you have questions about anything you read in the newsletter or about things that are happening at school that you are wondering about – please give me a call at 613-836-2818 or send an e-mail to catherine.donnelly@ocdsb.ca - I would be happy to connect!

With the spring slowly unfolding, so are many events at school that take place in May and June. We enjoyed a wonderful education week from May 6th to 10th with many presentations and events - starting with magicians Brent and Sarah sharing their anti-bullying messages, as well as presentations and hands on activities by the Ottawa Paramedic Services, Ottawa Public Health, Scientists in Schools, and annual events such as Track and Field running, a Me to We art sale and of course the School Council Cake Walk! Thank you to our school staff, council, parents and community for organizing and participating in a week about celebrating education!

In June we are looking forward to better weather, several field trips, picnics, the grade 6 leaving ceremony, Volunteer Breakfast, the Fun Fair and of course, report cards! We hope you can join other SPS families at the School Council Fun Fair on Friday, June 14th from 5 pm to 8 pm. – it’s a great way to meet and connect with other SPS families. We hope you can join us for the Volunteer breakfast on Thursday, June 6th from 7:45 am to 8:30 am (just let your child’s homeroom teacher know you will be attending) so we can say thank you for your support throughout the year. Hope to see you there!



Congratulations and Goodbyes to...

After many years with the OCDSB and Stittsville Public School, three of our staff are retiring this year. Our office administrator, Gisele Waters is retiring at the end of May. We say thank you and wish her all the best for her next chapter! Mrs. Welch and Mme Rochette are also retiring and setting out on new adventures. We thank them for all they have contributed to SPS over the years and we wish them all the best for the future.



Safe and Caring Committee

Sincere thanks go to the safe and caring team of staff and parents that met several times this year to plan in support of student well-being and safety at SPS. At our last meeting for this school year we celebrated the fact that everything that was included in this year's plan was implemented or is in progress! Most recently, Stittsville Public School students watched and listened as Toronto magicians Brent and Sarah performed a funny magic show with a powerful message about bullying prevention and self-confidence.



Register for Kindergarten!

While you can register for Kindergarten anytime it is extremely helpful if registration takes place before the summer so that the OCDSB can ensure there are the appropriate number of classes, teachers and early childhood educators in place for September. If you know of any parents whose child will be turning 4 years old by Dec 31, 2019 please let them know they can register on-line or by dropping in to our school during office hours: 7:45 am to 3:45 pm. Encourage any new neighbors or neighbors with kindergarten age children to come in to register at their earliest convenience. They can give us a call, and we will be pleased to guide them through the registration process.



Let us Know for Next Year –moving out of our area? Moving programs?

Staffing and program viability are based on the number of students attending the school. If you know that you are moving out of the Stittsville Public School attendance area, kindly notify the school as soon as possible. We would also like to know if you are considering program changes for your child from Early French Immersion to the English program or from the English program to the Middle French Immersion program as this affects our staffing as well.

Staffing for next year is based upon numbers of students registered for the next school year, so this information is very important to ensure we have enough classes and staff for September.



Sunscreen weather...

As the very warm and sunny weather has arrived, please ensure your child is wearing sunscreen and a hat for their protection. Sun Screen needs to be applied at home. Due to scent allergies please use unscented sunscreen.



School Dress Code

With the warmer weather coming soon we are reviewing the school dress code with students as below:

The student dress policy is based on the expectation that schools shall be safe and respectful learning environments. Further to this expectation and in support of appropriate conduct within schools, the following principles shall govern standards of student dress in the schools of the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board: respect for learning, respect for the rights and dignity of others, decency, safety of persons and property, cleanliness, and promotion of a drug and alcohol-free environment.

Students are expected to wear appropriate school attire. Students should dress in a neat, clean manner appropriate to a daytime school/business setting. Attire should reflect personal pride and respect for others. Clothing must not distract from the positive learning environment enjoyed by students and staff. Indoor shoes must be worn at all times for safety reasons.

Inappropriate dress includes:

1. Sexually explicit or revealing dress;
 2. Dress with wording or graphics that is racist, sexist, profane or demeaning to another person;
 3. Dress with wording or graphics that advocates violence;
 4. Dress with wording or graphics that advocates the consumption of alcohol or illicit drugs;
- and

5. Dress that is recognized by the OCDSB Safe Schools Committee to be associated with gang membership.

Additionally, students are encouraged to wear clothing that is respectful of the learning environment and others, for example:

6. Midriff-baring tops, halters, open back shirts, tube tops, and tops or pants/shorts/skirts that show undergarments are not appropriate.
7. Hats are to be removed upon entry to school and stored in school bags or on the hallway clothing hooks. All students are encouraged to wear hats to protect themselves from the sun when outdoors.
8. All students are expected to have clothing and footwear appropriate for Physical Education classes (including outdoor Phys Ed classes).

Students are asked to wear outdoor attire that is appropriate for the weather conditions as students are outside for 30 to 40 minutes at a time daily for recess/gym. For example, on days where rain is predicted, children are expected to come to school appropriately dressed for light rain (rain coat and hood, appropriate footwear).

Hats may be worn for outdoor gym classes or recesses only, but must otherwise be removed upon entering the school, and stored in school bags or on the clothing hooks.

Like hats, bandanas worn as a head covering, should also be removed. Head coverings, worn for religious or medical purposes, are permitted.

April "Gotcha" Awards

Students caught displaying exceptional positive character are given a "Gotcha" and recognized for promoting a positive school climate.

Jemma A. (SK)
Dylan C. (3)
Ian B. (4)
Cecilia K. (6)

Charlotte B.(SK)
Pacy G. (4)
Olivia J. (4)

Logan D. (1)
Sophia P. (4)
Jacob L. (5)

Congratulations to our April GOTCHA winners...



Kindergarten:

We had Scientists in the School come in and teach us about "What is a scientist"...thank you to parent council for paying for this program. We had a visit by a paramedic and paramedic students from Algonquin College to teach us about safety and we even got to ride in an ambulance. Our chicks have hatched and a big thank-you to parent council for purchasing the incubators for us! They've allowed us to have safe, efficient hatching. We plan to have a barn dance and celebrate the arrival of the chicks on Friday May 17. We are going on a field trip to Baxter's Conservation Area to explore the forest and pond environments! We are also welcoming Bee Keeper Allison to our school to share about the importance of bees in our environment. We are also looking forward to our Kindergarten sing-a-long and family picnic coming up in June.

Grade one and two classes have four days of dance with luv2groove this week.

Track and Field Update for GRADES 3-6: New Date was Thursday, May 16.

As many classes as could be accommodated (due to a limited number of National Gallery volunteers) had a "looking at pictures" fine art presentation in their classrooms last week (gr 1,2 and some 3's). We're hopeful next year we will be able to secure presentations for the whole school again.

Grade 5 classes hosted their Scientists in schools workshop on May 8th. They will have a Virtual Ventures workshop (coding workshop) on June 3rd.

Grade 6:

- The Grade six student went to GMS for their musical (The Lion King)
- Last week the Sudbury Rocks Organisation came in for a fantastic Presentation to the Grade 6 EFI classrooms. A family member of one of our students began this initiative.
- Dion "Stranger" from Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre- will be coming in on Friday for presentations about Truth and Reconciliation and Residential Schools to the Grade 6s and Myths and Legends to the Grade 3s.
- Grade 6 Pay it Forward Fair- Tuesday, June 18th,
- We will be having coding workshops about Lego Robotics: Each student receives their own computer and the presenters bring in kits for all of the kids to experiment with They can learn how to code for the robots. The workshop is 3.5 hours and it's free!!!
- Field Trip to the Y-Camp in June.



Mabel's Labels

mabel's labels

A great solution to reducing “lost forever” items is to label, label, label! Stittsville PS is registered with Mabel's Labels as a fundraiser. You can order a wide variety of label items which makes it so much easier to locate lost items and for items to make it back to their original owners. You can order through the link below:

<https://mabelslabels.com/support-a-fundraiser/>

School Cash Online



A quick and secure way to pay for student items online

School Cash Online helps parents and community members pay school-related fees safely, quickly and easily. By using School Cash Online, you help increase efficiency and security at schools by making payments directly into your school's bank account. This allows teachers and office staff to focus on helping students, and not counting cash. Plus, you get to stay informed of your child's activities and needs!

You are now able to register – a simple task that takes less than five minutes – by visiting <https://ocdsb.schoolcashionline.com>. Visit www.ocdsb.ca if you'd like more information and to view Frequently Asked Questions. Should you encounter any difficulties, you can use the Parent Help Desk at 1-866-961-1803 or email: parenthelp@schoolcashionline.com