






OICS NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY, 2019



UPCOMING EVENTS



-  DARE Graduation for Grade 6, February 4th, 10am
-  OHS Visit for Grade 8A, 8B, Feb. 5th
-  Grade 8 Grad Pics, February 6th
-  Toronto Trip Deposit Due, Feb. 8th
-  OHS Visit for Grade 8C 8I, Feb. 11th
-  Grade 8 DARE Program begins February 11th
-  Term 1 Report Cards, Feb. 13th
-  Valentine's Day Bake Sale February 14th, 2019
-  Grade 5 and 6 Cross Country Ski Program begins, Feb. 15th
-  Grade 7 Downhill Ski Program Feb 8th, 15th, 22nd, 2019
-  O'Gorman High School Parent Night February 26th, 6:30pm
-  **Pink Shirt Day** Feb 27th

Camp Mini-Yo-We

In previous years, the school board was very generous in providing the bulk of the funding needed to send all of the Grade 6 students to camp in June. This funding is no longer available. Instead, we will offer our Grade 5 and 6 students an outdoor winter experience at the Porcupine Ski Runners this February and March.

REPORT CARDS

The first term report card will be going home on **Wednesday, February 13th**. There is no school-wide parent teacher conference night however, should you want to discuss your child's progress please indicate so on the signing page of the report card or contact the school to make arrangements to speak to your child's teacher.

Parents of grade 8 students, with the upcoming grade 9 high school course selections, it is very important that you pay careful attention to the report card comments as they may assist you and your child in selecting the proper grade 9 pathway and/or provide suggestions for areas of growth to ensure your child's future success.

GRADE 8 ORIENTATION TO O'GORMAN HIGH SCHOOL

O'Gorman High School will begin orientation activities with our Grade 8 students on **February 5th and 11th**. Mrs. Kelly Ann Marks will come to OICS to discuss programming and expectations with all our grade 8 students. It is very important that your child listen very carefully to what Mrs. Marks and the transition team from the high school have to say so s/he understands what courses or programs best meet his/her needs as they enter grade 9. The grade 8 students will then be able to begin their **online course selections** for grade 9 using Career Cruising. The **deadline** to complete the course selections is **Friday, March 8th, 2019**.

There will also be an **Open House** at O'Gorman High School for parents to visit the school, learn about course selections and gain valuable information about the school. This information night will take place on **Tuesday, February 26th at 6:30 pm**.

Just so you are aware, O'Gorman High School has a process where parents may book an appointment with the guidance department to discuss course selections and pathways. This appointment time is meant for those parents who may have additional questions/concerns about what pathway their child should select (i.e. Academic, Applied, Essential). These appointments may be booked between 9am - 3:30pm the week of March 4 to March 7th, 2019.

Grade 5 and 6 Porcupine Ski Runners Program

Beginning on February 15th, the Grade 5 students will be snowshoeing using the trail system at the Porcupine Ski Runners while the Grade 6 students will enjoy Cross Country Skiing. This program will operate on February 15th, 22nd, March 1st and March 7th. Correspondence will be sent home with more specific details about these outdoor opportunities.

GRADE 7 SKI PROGRAM AT KAMISKOTIA SNOW RESORT

The grade 7 ski program will begin on **February 8th**. Please make sure your child arrives on time that day as **we leave right at 9:00 a.m.** Students should remember to dress appropriately for the weather as they will be outside all day. Students are free to bring their lunch or they may buy their lunch at the ski hill should you wish.

PINK SHIRT DAY

Celebrated annually around the globe, Pink Shirt Day began in Canada in 2007 when two students, David Shepherd and Travis Price, took a stand against bullying after a new grade 9 student was harassed and threatened for wearing pink. David and Travis bought dozens of pink shirts and distributed them to their male classmates to wear the next day. The word got out online and hundreds of students showed up in pink, some from head-to-toe, to stand together against bullying. Today, we wear pink to remind students to **THINK**: Is what you are doing **T**True, **H**elpful, **I**nspiring, **N**ecessary and **K**ind?

Everyday Counts!

Attendance Matters!

ATTENDANCE

Regular and punctual attendance is directly related to success in school. All of our classrooms have Mathematics and/or Language classes scheduled first thing in the morning – so it is important to ensure your children arrive to school on time. Missed days of school creates gaps in student learning. Absent students should be reported by 9:00am.

VIRTUE OF THE MONTH: RESPECT & RESPONSIBILITY

The Importance of Respect & Responsibility:

Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights and duties are responsibilities—to respect one another, our families and the larger society.



DEVELOPING CHARACTER THROUGH RESPECT & RESPONSIBILITY

The goal of this virtue:

- Mutual respect is the way we live in harmony with one another.
- Respect helps us to see others as God sees them and to accept them as they are and to treat with dignity
- When we respect others, we see goodness in them
- Responsibility is the ability to make choices acting in a just and fair way
- When we take responsibility for our actions, we are acting bravely, choosing to follow God's will.

We will be hosting a Bake Sale on Valentine's Day in Support of the Heart and Stroke Foundation! The staff will be providing the goodies.

Students are invited to wear Red and White on Feb. 14!



Despite the cold, blustery weather we've been having, the students have found time to enjoy the abundance of snow that we have in the yard! These students in Grade 5I certainly made the most of their lunch recess!

