



Centennial Public School -January News



Message from the principal

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s) and the Centennial Community,

I wanted to take this time to introduce myself as the new principal of Centennial Public School. In my career I have had a wide range of experiences; having worked in K-12 sites, specializing in the areas of Special Education, English as a Second Language Teaching and Mathematics. Within my first week at Centennial I can already feel the passion of the staff, the enthusiasm of the community, the joy of the students...this is a special place. Please feel free to drop by and say hello. I will be sending monthly newsletters via email, which will highlight important dates, as well as school and board news. If ever you have any questions/concerns please do not hesitate to connect with me. Looking forward to getting to know you and your children better. Wishing you all a happy and healthy 2020.

Jenny Dewan

Principal, Centennial P.S.

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Upcoming January Dates

January Dates

- 1-3 School Closed, Holidays
- 6 First Day Back to School
- 14 School Council Meeting (First meeting of 2020!)@6:30pm in the staff room
- 15 School Closed to students if OSSTF agreement not made
- 20-27 Kindergarten Registration Week
- 24 Elementary PA Day
- 30 Kindergarten Information Evening, in the library @6:30pm in the library

SCHOOL NEWS:

P.A.L.S. Program comes to Centennial

P.A.L.S., Playground Activity Leaders in Schools, is a peer-led playground leadership program that encourages all children to participate in activities regardless of their gender, size, or ability. Our Child and Youth Workers from Algonquin will be introducing P.A.L.S to interested primary students on Wednesdays at first recess. The program will be supported by some of our wonderful grade 5 and 6 students. We encourage all interested students to come on out.

Request for donations

With the cold weather upon us, we are noticing many students coming to the front office searching for gloves/mittens, hats and socks. If you have any extras that you would be willing to donate please send them to school with your child. It would be helpful if you would also alert your child's teacher that the items are for donation. Thank you for any help you may be able to provide.

Labour Relations update

Please note that the following message that was sent out to families through the board regarding the upcoming work action:

Labour action is escalating and this will have an impact at both the elementary and secondary schools. OSSTF has announced a one-day strike on Wednesday, January 15th. As a result, all elementary and secondary OCDSB schools will be closed to students on that day. Elementary teachers will also increase strike sanctions and have advised that rotating strikes may be possible starting Monday, January 20. A letter with more details has been sent from the OCDSB to all parents. Learn [more](#).

The note below is from the Centretown Parents' Daycare:

In the event of a strike by OSSTF, Centretown Parents' Daycare will be operating our preschool, kindergarten and school age programs within their normal hours.

PLEASE NOTE: As per usual, the preschool program will be open from 7:30 to 5:30. The kindergarten and school age programs will be open from 7:30-9:00 a.m. and from 3-5:30 p.m. **THERE WILL NOT BE CARE PROVIDED BETWEEN 9:00 A.M. AND 3 P.M.**

Should you choose to use the morning program, your child must be picked up by 9:00 a.m. Should you choose to use the afternoon program you must bring your child between 3 and 3:15 p.m. We will close all programs at 5:30 p.m.

Please note that, as part of the labour action, the Elementary Teacher's Federation of Ontario (ETFO) has advised that elementary teachers will not supervise field trips. Unfortunately, without teacher supervision, it will be necessary to cancel all upcoming field trips including skating at McNabb Community Centre and any other scheduled off site field trips. At this time the Physical Support Program Class swim and alternative curriculum schedules will not be impacted. Additional information regarding possible rescheduling will be available at a later date. Should the status of this labour action change you will be notified. Thank you for your continued support.

Kindergarten registration

Official Kindergarten registration week takes place the week of January 20-27th. A parent information session will take place Thursday January 30th at 6:30pm in the school library. If you have any questions/concerns about how to register or the registration period please do not hesitate to contact the main office. If your child will require transportation please see the attachments provided by OSTA below.

OTHER NEWS:

Ottawa Public Library - Free homework help

The Main Branch of the Ottawa Public Library has an excellent free Homework Help program run by Frontier College to assist children from grades 1 to 10 with their homework. The Homework Help Program takes place Tuesday evenings from 5pm-6:30pm, all are welcome, no registration required. Help is available in both English and French. Please see attached brochure if you are interested.

OCDSB looking for a trustee for Zone 10:

The OCDSB invites eligible candidates to apply for the position of Public School Trustee, to represent Zone 10 (Somerset/Kitchissippi) in the City of Ottawa.

In order to be eligible, candidates must be:

- at least 18 years of age
- a Canadian citizen
- a resident in the city of Ottawa
- a designated public school (English) elector
- not disqualified by any legislation from holding the office of trustee

Visit our website for further details and apply here. Signed applications must be received no later than 12 noon on January 31st, 2020.

OCDSB School Calendar 2020/21

The OCDSB is busy preparing for our 2020-2021 school year and we need your help. Parents and students are invited to complete a short survey about the next school year Calendar. Topics include:

- When should the Winter Break take place?
- Should we add two Board holidays?

Please note, as Labour Day falls later than usual on September 7th, 2020, the start of the 2020-2021 school year will begin the week before, on Monday, August 31st, 2020.

The survey will remain open until January 26th, 2020.