



Ottawa TEAM News

December 3, 2021

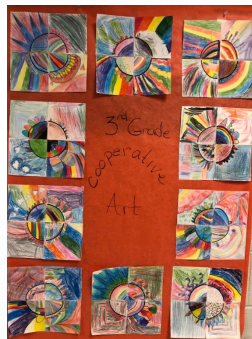
Back-To-School

Principal's Message

Dear Ottawa Caregiver Team,

Our Ottawa TEAM continues to cherish connecting with your children each and every day. Thank you for sharing them with us! Your children's safety and well-being continues to be our number one priority. We are here to support you and your children should you have questions or concerns about the recent, tragic events in our state. Our hearts are heavy and our safety efforts remain steadfast.

To give you a glimpse of the joy here at school, students are having 'lightbulb moments' in areas including demonstrating math reasoning in multiple ways, grappling with elapsed time, persuading through writing, and using figurative language. Students continue to learn how to integrate technology to extend learning, and their engagement and effort in music, art and gym class continue to amaze me. Consider asking your child about their shining effort or learning 'lightbulb moments'.



As part of our social-emotional learning, we are implementing a school-wide research based gratitude practice. Students are creating a gratitude chain and we hope to connect the upper elementary links to the lower elementary links. Each student writes something they are grateful for each day.

Please continue to keep your children home if they don't feel well. If your child is quarantined due to COVID 19, upon returning to school, please ask them to come through the main doors and to the office before heading to their classroom. We appreciate your efforts in keeping students and staff healthy!

In learning and growing together,

Amy McMullen

Daily Schedule:

- ◆ Playground is CLOSED before school.
- ◆ **No Adult Supervision prior to 7:50 a.m.**
- ◆ 7:55 a.m. staff will meet students at their designated door. Students arriving after 8:10 will need to enter through the main entrance.
- ◆ 8:10 a.m. classes begin.
- ◆ If your child is staying home sick, please be sure to call the office 231-348-2130 to report the absence. Please also be sure to list any symptoms that your child may be experiencing.
- ◆ Due to the current health situation we cannot allow volunteers/visitors in our buildings at this time.
- ◆ If the need should arise that you need to pick up your child early please ring the bell. Ms. Maginnis will walk your child out to you.
- ◆ Item drop off. We respectfully ask that these visits are limited to essential only (forgotten lunch). Please ring the bell, provide Ms. Maginnis with the child and teacher name. You will be asked to leave the items in the drop box outside.
- ◆ Breakfast and lunch are currently available free of charge for all students.

Mark Your Calendars

December 8th 3:30 PTO Mtg (contact Ms. Maginnis for Zoom link)

December 10th Friday Fun Day is Fancy Day (Thank you Mrs. Willson's class)

December 14th-17th Holiday Shop (See information below)

December 23rd—January 2 NO SCHOOL for Winter Break

January 21 K-12 1/2 day for students (staff records day)

February 18th—21st NO SCHOOL for Mid-Winter Break

Parent Communication

We will be working to utilize electronic means of communication, such as email, School Messenger, and the district website www.petoskeyschools.org to relay information in a timely and consistent manner. This will allow us to more quickly share important information with our parents and families. Please make sure that your email addresses and phone number are current and accurate. Please call the school office (231-348-2130) to update any contact information that you feel may be outdated.

Health Screening

Please make sure you do not send your child to school if they are not feeling well. It is especially important to keep your child home if they exhibit the following symptoms:

- Temperature of 100.4 or signs of fever (chills/sweating)
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache

Contacts:

Amy McMullen, Principal 231-348-2131

Ashley Maginnis, Secretary 231-348-2130

Rosie, bus questions 231-487-9632

Beth Kavanaugh, lunch 231-348-2183



Ottawa PTO will be sponsoring The Holiday Shop Tuesday, December 14th – Friday, December 17th. Students will have the opportunity to shop for and purchase presents for their loved ones. They will come down 4 at a time to allow for social distancing. Students will shop with their eyes only and a staff member will help students check their lists, shop, pay, and wrap the gifts so they are ready to go home. (If your child misses their scheduled time, they will have an opportunity to come down Monday, December 20th)

*** BE ALERT* Notifications and Smart911 Profile**

Sign up at www.cceoem.net for school closing alerts, weather alerts, traffic updates and more.

This is a FREE service that will send alerts to you via text, email or voice call.

End of day notes: If you need to make a change to your child's after school plan please call the office at 231-348-2130 before 2:30pm. We can not guarantee the delivery of messages after 2:30pm.

-Thank you

Plan ahead! Please make an afterschool plan with your child and be consistent to the best of your ability. Children do better when they know their end of day plan.

There are so many great opportunities through our district library. Here are two wonderful learning experiences available in December.



Leap Into Science

Saturday, December 18, 11:00am
Children's Program Room
This month's theme: Light and Shadow

Let's explore! The goal of these hands-on workshops is for children and families to have fun exploring science and books together, think scientifically, and build positive attitudes toward science learning in informal community settings. For ages preschool-elementary with a caregiver's help.

In partnership with the Franklin Institute and the Detroit Zoo



NASA@ My Library: Look Up! The Geminid Meteor Shower

Thursday, December 9, 5:00pm
Makerspace

This year, the Geminid Meteor Shower is from December 4-17, with peak viewing on Tuesday, December 14. Join us for a quick presentation about meteor showers and the best places to view in Emmet County



Lost and Found is growing. If you recognize something please call the office or have your student come and retrieve it. Thank you!

