



Dear Hopewell Families,

Happy 2023! Bonne année! We were excited to welcome everyone back to school on Monday.

We have many information items to share in this week’s message. We hope you find this helpful. Your help in spreading the word that our Kindergarten Information Night is taking place on February 2nd at 6:30pm in our school library is appreciated. We are looking forward to welcoming many new families into our school community next year!

With the arrival of winter weather we continue to remind students about winter safety. Today we shared some winter walking tips with students - staying clear of snowbanks and being aware of your surroundings at all times, especially at intersections were key points. Most of our students are walkers and we are situated in a busy area. Safety is a priority! The Ottawa Safety Council website is a great resource for safety reminders. Their [5 Winter Walking Safety Tips](#) page is particularly appropriate for this time of year.

A further safety reminder is extended to families who drive and drop students off at the school. Please remember that the area on both sides of the street at the front of the school are no stopping zones - not even for a quick drop off. Stopped cars limit sightlines. If you are dropping off your child, please park away from the school. Every effort to avoid driving on Hopewell Avenue at entry and dismissal times is deeply appreciated.



Tomorrow the Hinduism observance of Makar Sankranti begins. Our wonderful Office Assistant, Sathya, celebrates this day of significance and has shared some

information about this celebration that is included below. For those families who are observing Makar Sankranti, we wish you a delightful celebration with a sky full of kites and life full of success!!

Wishing everyone a wonderful weekend! Bonne fin de semaine!

Sincerely,

Martina Sherwood & Sandy Miller
Principal & Vice-Principal

Twitter: @HopewellAvePS

Instagram: @HopewellAvePS



UPCOMING DATES

January 17th, 7pm - School Council Meeting, virtual. Link:

<https://meet.google.com/zjj-kckm-nbi>

January 20th - PA Day, no school for students

February 2nd, 6:30pm - Kindergarten Information Night - School Library

February 17th - PA Day, no school for students

February 20th - Family Day, school is closed

March 13th to March 17th - March Break, school is closed

SCHOOL NEWS

Looking For Donations Of Skates And Helmets



Our school community is looking forward to skating this winter. We would gratefully receive any donations of skates and/or CSA approved helmets. Any donations can be dropped off at our school office.

Makar Sankranti

Makar Sankranti is a major festival for Hindus that is being held to commemorate the arrival of a fresh harvest and is considered an auspicious day to embark upon new endeavors when the Sun transitions into longer days.

The Pongal festival is a four-day celebration affair. Each day is marked by different festivities- The first day is called the Bhogi festival; the Second day is called Thai Pongal; the Third day is called Mattu Pongal; the Fourth day is called Kaanum Pongal.

Registration and Transfer Information for 2023-2024

The following timelines will apply for the 2023-2024 school year. This includes kick-off to the 2023-2024 registration period, the student transfer period for the elementary and secondary panels, and the French Immersion program registration period.

The information, including the online Student Transfer Application forms can also be found on the Board’s website: www.ocdsb.ca.

Kick-off to 2023-2024 Registration	Monday, January 16 to Monday, January 23, 2023
Elementary Student Transfer Application Period	Monday, January 30 to Friday, February 10, 2023
Secondary Student Transfer Application Period	Monday, January 30 to Friday, February 10, 2023
Middle French Immersion Registration Period	Monday, February 6 to Friday, February 10, 2023

Extra Curricular @ Hopewell



Here is an overview of what’s currently happening at Hopewell:

Primary Activities

Primary Art Club with Ms. Upton, Tuesdays at first recess
Kids Club for Primary students on Wednesdays at first recess
Reading Club with Ms Vorobej, Thursdays, at first recess

Junior Sports

Boys’ Bordenball - Tryouts Monday and Wednesday, 11:10am (Grade 6); Tuesday and Thursday, 11:10am (Grades 4/5)
Girls’ Bordenball - Thursdays, 11:10am
Girls' Soccer - Intramurals Fridays @ 1:40pm - Gym
Junior Dance - first nutrition break for grades 5-6 in the South Gym.

Intermediate Activities:

Dungeons & Dragons - Mondays and Thursdays
Study Hall - Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays
Open Art Studio - Tuesdays
Maker Space - Fridays
Prism Club - Thursdays
Grade Seven Band - Tuesdays, 8:20am
Grade Eight Band - Thursdays, 8:20am
Jazz Band - Mondays, 8:20am and Wednesdays, 11:10am

See our [Intermediate Page](#) for the updated calendar of events and news about Intermediate life at Hopewell.

High School Information For Grade Eight Families

Attention Families of Grade 8 Students
Grade 8 students are beginning to prepare for the transition to Grade 9! Visit the [OCDSB Welcome to High School](#) page for more details about information sessions available for area high schools.

Ms. Neerhof is also updating a [Hopewell-specific reference sheet](#) - check back here regularly as course selection dates and other info will be added as they are received. If you have any questions, email jenna.neerhof@ocdsb.ca

A Message From Hopewell Avenue Public School Council

Happy 2023 Everyone!
Today is the last day to order Panago pizza (Fridays) and Subway sandwiches (Mondays) for the [hot-lunches program](#) organized by School Council! Go to your

[School Cash Online](#) account to order. The second term of lunches start on 30 January'23 and run until the end of this school year Friday 15 June (find the full calendar and further details on the [lunch page](#)).



Please join us for the next School Council meeting (on [google-meet](#)), Tuesday 17 January, 7:00-8:45pm. The draft agenda can be found below.

Please let us know ahead of Tuesday if you have questions for Martina Sherwood:

1. Welcome, Approval of the Agenda, Approval of October minutes (5min)
2. Introductions (5min)
3. Principal's Report – Martina Sherwood (15-20min)
4. VP Report – Sandy Miller (5mins)
5. Teacher rep – Meg Fracke (5min)
6. Financial situation - Nicola Calder (5min)
7. Committees and events (30min)
 - a) Pizza day/ Lunch program: orders - Sarah Matthews (5min)
 - b) Nakkertok ski trip: proposed date and plans - Rebecca Sandiford (5min)
 - c) Yard plans: dates Spring clean (date/plans) - Katie Breen (5min)
 - d) Kids Clothes Swap (date/plans) - Claire Kerry (5min)
 - e) Traffic update - Erik and ArielAnn
8. Representatives (20 min)
 - a) Grade reps - Carlo/ Sarah/ Alex/ Daphne (10min)
 - b) OCASC - Daphne (5min)
 - c) Wellness - Rebekka (5min)
9. Varia (5min)
 - OCDSB strategic plan
10. Answer any *pre-submitted* questions (5min)
11. Closing and set next meeting 7 March 2023 (5min)

As always, please find more information on our [School Council website](#), [Facebook page](#) and contact us by email: sc-hopewellaveps@ocdsb.ca

Thanks and happy weekend!

Petra Heitkamp, Chair, Hopewell Ave PS School Council

Community News

[The Ottawa Safety Council is hiring Crossing Guards!](#)

Know someone that likes to give back to their community, work with kids and be active? Perhaps a grandparent, neighbour or friend? The OSC is looking for more community members to join our Crossing Guard team!

Crossing Guards play an important role in their community keeping kids safe on their way to and from schools.

Crossing Guards typically work 5-10 hour/week. It is a great way to earn some extra income, no weekends or evenings. The OSC offers a competitive wage, bonuses and Crossing Guards get various perks such as discounts on City of Ottawa recreation facilities & CAA memberships and retail/dining and travel, monthly coffee socials and special recognition events.

Being a crossing guard is a great way to stay active, earn some extra income and help your community!

To learn more and apply to be a Crossing Guard, visit: www.crossing-guard.ca



District News

January 23: OCDSB Speaker Series, Supporting your Child's Mental Health and Well-Being

A reminder that parents and guardians are welcome to join us on Monday, January 23rd from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for *Supporting your Child's Mental Health and Well-Being*, a virtual OCDSB Speaker Series event. Save [this link](#) to join the session.

Save the Date: February 13, Introduction to Gender Identity and Expression

Are you a parent or caregiver to a trans, gender diverse, or questioning child or youth? Do you have questions about gender diversity? Are you interested in learning more about creating inclusive environments for children and youth in your life? Join us on **Monday, February 13th from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.** for a webinar on Gender Identity and Gender Expression. We will explore questions about gender identity and expression and how parents and guardians can support young people to be themselves, regardless of age or gender. Registration details will be shared in the coming weeks.

January 27: International Holocaust Remembrance Day

International Holocaust Remembrance Day honours and remembers the over six million Jews murdered and countless other victims of the Holocaust. At the OCDSB, it is our obligation to educate, prevent, challenge and address antisemitism in all its forms. Educating students about the Holocaust, equipping staff members with helpful resources and lessons, and sharing additional information with families is an important part of this responsibility. Resources are being shared with staff members to help guide learning, and more will be posted to our website, including:

- [Videos](#) and additional resources from the [Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship \(CHES\)](#)

- [“Behind the Lies of Holocaust Denial”](#), a TEDTalk by Deborah Lipstadt

Learning from our past is critical to shaping a more inclusive future, free of antisemitism and hate.

#HAPShots

A little glimpse of what we’ve been up to this week!

