



# Ochre Park Post

April 2023



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We are beginning to see signs of nicer weather, but we are also realistically aware that we may still see a few parts of winter. With spring break upon us and Easter coming shortly after the break, we can certainly be optimistic that the nicer weather will arrive at some point soon. Students always get excited to play outside as this nicer weather sets in. As we see this excitement, our conversations with students tend to be around reminders that we have rules outside that need to be followed. The importance of safety is important in our messaging, as is the importance of respecting others' feelings and being kind to others. We will be having these conversations with students after spring break and over the coming weeks of school.

Our days leading up to spring break have certainly been busy and active. Our students were able to get to experience snowshoeing a few weeks ago. We initially had to postpone them due to cold weather, but were able to get some decent days shortly thereafter. I believe most students enjoyed the experience, as some got to try it for the first time. Unfortunately, due to the weather, we ended up having to cancel our Winter Play Day. Our teachers felt they needed their students in class over the last few weeks, so we will try for this event again next year. Teachers were busy preparing their report card comments and updating all their marks and paperwork that goes along with them. We held our parent/teacher interviews over the past few days, along with our Book Fair. We would like to thank our students and parents for their tremendous support, as funds raised from it go directly back into our school library. Our planning for next year is ongoing and will be over the coming months. We thank those parents who have already registered for the 2023-2024 school year and encourage those who have not yet done so to please take a few moments and complete the online registration. If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact our school office. We concluded the month of March with our Term 2 Awards on the afternoon of March 23.

Our months seem to be passing quickly and our days upon our return from spring break will also be busy. We are busy planning right now for our annual Paska-making, which will involve our students and seniors in our community working together. On April 5/6, each student will get to shape a piece of dough and prepare their very own piece of Paska bread to take home. This is part of our Generations United program, which allows our students to benefit from working with our seniors. Our seniors also get to enjoy the experience of getting to pass their knowledge and experience along to students. We are so happy to be able to offer this program for our students and value the help of our seniors. We will also be having Farm Safety presentations on April 13. These will be done virtually in conjunction with the Farm Safety Centre. Later in the month, our Ochre Park Parent Society will be hosting a Spring Family Dance. Stay tuned for more details on this event. We will also be preparing for Spring Photos, which will be taking place on Monday, May 1.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a wonderful spring break. Our winter has been long and, at times, harsh and the nicer weather has certainly been welcome. As our snow disappears, more people tend to get outside and are able to take in that amazing fresh air. My hope is that everyone is able to enjoy some time outside over the break, doing the things that they enjoy doing. We look forward to seeing everyone again on April 3.

At any time, should anyone have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our school office.

Calvin Anhorn

Principal, Ochre Park School

# Ochre Park Happenings

With the nicer weather fast approaching, the playground will soon have puddles. Please ensure your child is dressed for the weather, splash pants, rubber boots, et cetera. An extra change of clothes and socks are recommended to keep your child dry and comfortable should a muddy mishap occur.



## COURTESY TO OUR OP NEIGHBORS

We understand that parking is a challenge around our school at both drop-off and pick-up times. We have reached out to our Facilities Dept. at SPS Central Services and hope we are able to arrive at a solution going forward. In the meantime, we ask that you use kindness, patience and courtesy while parking around our school at these times by not blocking driveways and interfering with normal operations for our OP neighbors.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

Calvin Anhorn, Principal

Our school playgrounds are increasing in age and will need to be replaced in the future. These come with a large bill and therefore planning and collecting funds/grants for this needs to start as soon as we can. We would like to start a Playground Committee to do this work. If any parent's would like to be a part of this please contact Ochre Park Parent Council/Society . We would love some of the parent's with kids in the younger grades to be a part of this as it will take a few years to complete. It would not a large demand of your time, we just need to start finding some grants to apply for and getting companies to sponsor it. As we all know, a new year means new funds to spread out in the community from companies.

## Counsellor's Corner

Hello,

Hope everyone had a chance to enjoy Spring Break!



April 14 is day of the Military Child. We are encouraging all students and staff to wear purple on this day.

Modelling kindness to students is a daily focus within our classrooms. Great learners are kind to themselves. They understand that learning is sometimes hard, and not always possible to get right, but keep a "good" voice going in their heads to encourage themselves on.

A kind disposition also draws other people to us and bolsters our learning through the help and support of others, as well as allowing us to work productively in teams and groups. A kind disposition also feeds listening and empathy, which in turn foster deeper, more complex learning.

As always, if you have any questions, please call me at the school, 780-942-2901.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Geleta





**Daily Arrival & Dismissal-** please remember that if you are dropping off your children or they are getting to school on their own, students should not be arriving before 8:35. Our school buses start letting children off the buses at 8:35 and that is when we have supervision in place. There is no supervision before this time. We are also asking children to refrain from playing on the playground equipment when they arrive in the morning as there is no supervision. After dismissal at 3:05, only children with parental supervision should be playing on the playground. Thanks for your help in keeping our children safe.



**Parking Lot Designated as Staff Parking Only**

Please refrain from parking in the parking lot and instead utilize the drop off loop at the end of the parking lot to let your children out safely or park on the street. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Permission Forms:**

All permission forms for student activities and excursions are now available to be signed electronically via the parent Powerschool portal. Please note that this has to be done on a web browser and not the app. If you need help accessing the parent portal, please call or come into the office.



Reminder: We are a nut free school.

**Medications and/or Medical Treatment**

To keep our students and staff safe, strict Policies and Procedures are in place regarding medication and medical treatment at school for students. Sturgeon Public Schools recognizes that the administration of medication and/or medical treatment to students is the responsibility of parents, guardians and medical practitioners.

If a student must receive medication or medical treatment prescribed by a medical practitioner during the school day or during extra-curricular activities and the student is incapable of self-administration, the parent must request in writing to the Principal that the school store medication and medical treatment equipment to enable: student self-administration where appropriate (e.g. asthma inhalers); administration of medication and medical treatment. Written instructions must be signed by the parent/guardian and the physician. Non-prescribed medication shall not be distributed to any student enrolled in a Division school.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school. The Sturgeon Public School Division Policies and Procedures regarding Medication and Medical Treatment to Students can be found on our division website at <https://www.sturgeon.ab.ca/board/procedures/4724>.

**As per Administrative Procedures II– School Board Governance and Operations, Section 255 Inclement Weather Decisions for Schools**

“ The lowest temperature at which students will be required to go outside shall be -25 Degrees Celsius including wind chill and as determined by the Weather Network. ” Going forward, please ensure your child is appropriately dressed for the weather. Also, if you have extra hats and mittens, the school will greatly accept them to loan to those students in need. For further information, please see the following link: <https://www.sturgeon.ab.ca/board/procedures/4609>

**Volunteers Welcome!** If you wish to volunteer in our school, here are a couple things to know: 1. Please contact your child’s teacher to arrange a day and time to come in. 2. A criminal records check is required every three years. These are completed Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the RCMP station. Contact the school office for a letter to waive the records check fee.



# HOT LUNCH MENU



March 3 (K2)- Pork and Veggie Stir-fry with homemade teriyaki sauce, served over rice.

\$4.00/serving



March 10 (K1)- Ham, bologna and cheese sandwich with mayo and mustard. \$3.50/serving



March 17 (K1)- Two Leprechaun (green) pancakes and 2 pork breakfast sausages, syrup optional.

\$0.00 (Thank you to Redwater Lion's Club for sponsoring this free lunch)



April 14 (K1)- Famous Burger Baron Pizza (choice of pepperoni and/or cheese) \$2.50/slice



April 21- (K2)- Baba's Special Recipe Cream of Potato and Mushroom soup with a bun \$0.00 (Thank you to Redwater Lion's Club for sponsoring this free lunch)



April 28- (K1)- Homemade Spaghetti with Meatsauce \$4.00/serving



PLEASE REMEMBER TO COMPLETE THE ORDER FORM ONLINE



# April 2023



Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Cereal, Fruit	Smoothie, Granola Bar	Veggies, Dip  Paska Making	Cheesestring, Crackers, Fruit  Paska Making Green Shirt Day for Humboldt	<b>Good Friday No School</b>	
9	10	11	12	13	K1	14 15
	<b>Easter Monday No School</b>	Cereal, Fruit	Muffins, Fruit	Yogurt, Fruit, Granola Bar	Cheese String, Fruit  Day of the Military Child- Wear Purple	
16	17	18	19	20	K2	21 22
	Cereal, Fruit	Veggies, Dip	Cheese, Crackers, Fruit	Smoothie, Granola Bar	Yogurt Tube, Fruit  Anything but a backpack day!	
23	24	25	26	27	K1	28 29
	<b>PD Day No School</b>	Cereal, Fruit	Yogurt, Fruit, Grano- la Bar	Muffins, Fruit	Fruit Salad, Granola Bar  Wear your team color! <b>School Dance!</b>	