



661 4th Line
Caledonia, ON
N3W 2B2
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granderie.ca/oneida

Principal

Judy Townson

Office Coordinator

Kathy Peart

September 2017

NEWSLETTER

School Start Time: 8:45a.m.

Dismissal Time: 3:15 p.m.

(Please no calls for pickup after
2:30 p.m. as we can't guarantee
we can meet your request as it is
a very busy time of day.)

"BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE"

Principal's Message:

Happy New Year!

Welcome back to an exciting new school year at Oneida Central. I am so pleased to enter my second year as principal and I look forward to a successful year of learning.

Thank-you for your patience as the school board generated new school websites over the summer months. We continue to be in the process of re-building our site and you may receive automated calls from the school to keep you informed of upcoming events until we are fully up and running!

As I post this newsletter, we are well into the first few weeks of the new school year. Many exciting events are coming up soon so be sure to read to the end of this newsletter to the "Looking Ahead" section.

Please join me in welcoming our new staff members, Mr. Telfer (gr.8) and Mrs. White (Educational Assistant).

Staff Organization:

Grade 8 – Mr. C. Telfer
Grade 7 - Mr. M. Henderson
Grade 6 - Mrs. L. Mattice
Grade 5/6 – Mr. D. McNeice
Grade 4/5 – Mrs. A. Zandberg
Grade 3/4 - Mrs. C. Campbell
Grade 2/3 - Ms. V. McKelvey
Grade 1/2 - Mrs. S. Johnson
Grade 1/2 – Mrs. J. Brohman
French – Mrs. H. Houwer
K-A – Mrs. A. Snyder & Mrs. A. O'Hara
K-B – Mrs. D. Hartwick
Prep (phys.ed/arts) – Mrs. C. Proulx-Wootton (Mrs. Wootton)
Library/ Prep (Day 2, 4, alternate Day 5) - Mrs. M. McQuay
Learning Resource – Mrs. C. Parke (mornings)
Educational Assistants: Mrs. K. Smith and Mrs. J. White
Custodian: Mr. R. Gillispie
Secretary: Mrs. K. Peart
Principal: Mrs. J. Townson



Growing Excellence... Inspiring Success

School Advisory Council

There will be a meeting on Tuesday, September 26th at 6:30 pm in the library, to start the school year.



Nominations and elections for **School Advisory Council** for the 2017-2018 school year will occur at this meeting. Please ensure you fill in the School Council nomination form sent home this week, and return it to our school by Tues. Sept. 26th, if you are interested. According to our Oneida SAC by-laws, we have a maximum of 10 parent members so get your forms in to sit on Council! If you do not return a nomination form you will not be able to hold a position on the School Council or have the right to vote on critical issues. As a non-member, you are welcome to attend all meetings, contribute to discussion, bring new topics to the agenda, and give input to voting members. All meetings are posted in our monthly newsletter and are open to any parent attending, regardless if you are a member of the Council or not.

Milk Program will begin on **Monday, September 18th**. White or chocolate milk is available every day during the first Nutrition Break. **Milk cards can be purchased on the School Cash Online (KEV) cashless system only.** We will not be accepting cash. A milk card for 5 cartons costs \$3.50 or a milk card for 10 cartons costs \$7.00, or 30 milk card for \$21.00. Milk cards not completely used up at the end of last year will be honoured.

Volunteers Need A Police Check

GEDSB policy is that all Parent volunteers need a current police check on file in our office. **Volunteers who have direct contact with students** must provide, the original copy of a **Police Record Check** which includes a **Vulnerable Sector Search**. This includes volunteers who drive students to sporting events and those who assist with the supervision of students on class trips. **Police checks are now good for 2 years.** Extra forms are available in the office. Let us know if you need one. Caledonia Fair is our first field trip, so if you plan to help, and don't already have a police check on file at Oneida, please get the police check into our school office.

Mad Science, a provider of educational and entertaining science programs for children is coming again to Oneida Central Public School.

On **Sept. 11th** Mad Science came to the school to do a Spectacular Science show. The assembly was educational, entertaining and also the kick off to the Mad Science Club. The Club is a 4-week science enrichment program offered to the students.

Students who join the science club will go on a voyage of discovery designed to support the Ontario Science and Technology curriculum. The Club will take place on Tuesdays from 1:05 PM - 1:55 PM beginning September 26th.

The forms will go home after the assembly for you to register your child. There is a cost for this 4 week program.



School Communication - In most cases, you will get relatively few items on paper as the rest will be posted on our Oneida School website, including our school newsletter which generally is posted during the first week of each month. This makes it easily accessible for all families – you are ensured to receive it this way. It also saves us on paper costs.

This year's "Beginning of the Year" package included:

- *Use of Computers
- *Annual Declaration of Student Accident Insurance
(Insurance Brochure if desired)
- * Student Information Form

Please return those forms with an asterisk as soon as possible in order to update our file

Waste Reduced Lunches – Oneida students have worked very hard to reduce the garbage in their lunches by using re-useable containers from home as well as using the recycling bins and compost buckets provided by our ECO team. **Let's continue to make a difference!**

Safety Alert! - Our school continues to be a Nut Aware School.

We do have students in our school who have allergies to latex, peanuts, nuts, cow's milk, the stings of bees, wasps and hornets and pet dander. When students come in contact with these allergens, they may go into anaphylactic shock, a severe allergic reaction that can result in death within minutes.

The dairy allergy is only a threat when the child ingests dairy products. This can be managed by making sure that students do not share food.

The pet dander allergy means that only guide dogs, or a working assistive support animal for a guest in our school will be allowed access to our school. Family pets will be restricted to outside of the school. Please leave your family pet at home when you come to pick up the children from school.

Bee allergies are as a result of a sting. These insects are particularly active in both the fall and the spring months and can be a real danger to some students. One of our best ways to eradicate their presence on our playground is to keep all food inside.

Peanut/nut allergies are a cross-contamination issue. If allergic children come into contact with the smallest trace of this allergen (e.g., the oil from another's child's fingers after eating a peanut/nut product), this may result in anaphylactic shock. A protocol is in place for each of these children and they do have Epi-Pens with them at all times. However, we do want to avoid using these procedures and ask that our students and parents continue to assist us by making sure that peanut/nut products are not brought to school and that children do not share their food with others. This also includes products like "Wow Butter" that look similar to peanut butter and are too difficult to differentiate.

There is a peanut-free soy nut butter product on the market called "Wow Butter" that says it's a peanut butter substitute and safe for schools. The Grand Erie District School Board requests that parents and staff refrain from bringing this product into our peanut free schools.

This product looks, smells, and tastes like peanut butter. The concern is that some children may think it is okay to bring peanut butter sandwiches in their lunches when they see their classmates eating soy products. Grand Erie simply cannot run the risk of any student or staff being exposed to peanuts as this may cause an allergic reaction. The safety and health of our students and staff must come first.



Meet the Teacher Night – was held on Tuesday, September 12th from 6-7:30 pm. School Council provided delicious refreshments for all!

Student Agendas have been distributed. This year the cost of our agendas is \$5.00. . **You can pay for this on the School Cash Online (KEV) system (cashless).** They will be available from classroom teachers every morning until early/mid October for students JK-Grade 6.



Please take time to read the front pages of the agenda, as these contain important information about our school. The bus rules, Code of Conduct, dress code, school start and end times, inclement weather information, and other critical information is located in the front section of the agenda.

Safe Arrivals and Departures

Procedures for the sign in and identification of visitors in the building remain in place. **Parents, have the responsibility to report absences, illnesses and pick-ups to our office and the classroom teacher.**

If you are picking up your child at dismissal, please wait outside the front door. One of our intermediate bus helpers or a staff member will greet you and bring your child to you. If you need to contact the school about a change in your child's pickup for the day, all calls must be received by **2:30 p.m.** After that time, it is very busy getting students ready for dismissal and we may not get to your request in time.

Transportation Services...

Bus transportation is a privilege not a right. Behaviour that causes disruptive or unsafe conditions may result in withdrawal of this privilege. Buses are considered an extension of school property, and all students are expected to observe Board policies and the School *Code of Conduct* while boarding, riding and leaving the bus. As dictated by the Grand Erie District School Board, it is expected that **students will ride only on their designated bus.** Students may only get on and get off at their designated stop, unless permission from Transportation/School has been given. This means that students cannot switch buses unless parents arrange this through the Transportation Department at the Board office by calling Rosemary Stearns at (1-877-226-6353). Students in JK and SK must be getting off the bus with an older sibling or have a designated care giver or parent present to greet them.



Student Accident Insurance and Life Insurance Plans are distributed to every student during his/her first days at school. The Board takes every precaution to provide a safe learning environment for students, but accidents can and do occur.

While some families have private or workplace accident insurance which responds to costs arising from injuries, many families do not. Under mandate of the Ontario Education Act, the Grand Erie District School Board regularly reviews student accident insurance policies provided by various companies and every September makes available a package with comprehensive, low-cost options for student insurance.

It is important for parents to understand that the Board does not provide insurance for students against any accidental death, disability, dismemberment or medical expenses that might occur as a result of accidents during school activities which include **sporting events and field trips.** **For students who especially are planning to go on the grade 8 graduation trip, ski trip and athletic teams, you will need to have insurance in order to participate in these events, and this is an economical way to have coverage for your child.**

For more information on options and prices visit www.insuremykids.com.

Student Nutrition Program will continue at Oneida this year. Anyone interested in helping with this program should call the school office and we will pass your name on to the committee or contact Katie Rummerfield at 905-865-6508. Nutritious snacks will be offered two days per week, free of charge to all students again this year, thanks to the fundraising of the Nutrition Committee, School Council, Oneida Fundraising Committee, Community Donations and the Child Nutrition Network.

We are collecting Campbell soup product labels as they can be traded in for various products used in our school and classroom. Send them in with your child please.

Lunchable package sleeves are also collected by our school as we can trade points accumulated for gift certificates we use to buy items for our school.



School Dress: With the warm weather continuing, it is appreciated that students wear clothing that covers all undergarments and their abdomen. Shorts should be of appropriate length (if arms are resting at the side of the body, shorts should be of the length of where the finger tips end) and tank tops for students in gr.4-8 should have straps that are two fingers in width. Jeans with the fashionable holes should also not appear up the thigh any higher than the appropriate length of shorts. Pajama bottoms should not be worn unless we are having a special event day. Hats and shirts should not have any alcoholic logos or inappropriate words or statements that are literal or implied. The staff here at Oneida would like to thank all parents for maintaining the appropriate dress of their children while attending school.

School Cash Online – This program provides a convenient fee payment option that will save time, reduce paper, maintain a focus on instruction in the classroom and limit cash and cheques in our schools. This improved efficiency also aligns with the Grand Erie District School Board's strengthened accounting practices. Pizza Days, Pita Lunch Days, Milk Program, School Agendas and School Trips are paid through our School Cash Online (KEV) system. Some of our fundraising initiatives are more involved, therefore, we will continue to collect monies through cash or cheque. If you have not signed up for this program, please check out the information on our school's website and if you have any questions or problems when registering for this program, please contact the school. If you do not have access to a computer, please contact the school and we will be more than happy to have you come into the school and Mrs. Peart will assist you with registering for the program.

Looking Ahead at Oneida Dates

Sept.12	Meet the Teacher 6-7:30
Sept.15	Professional Activity Day- no school
Sept.22	Canada 150 School photo (wear red or white)
Sept.28	Terry Fox Run/ There is a Spirit assembly – Cheerleading, 2:30pm in gym
Sept.29	Caledonia Fair
Oct. 3	Professional Activity Day- no school
Oct.9	Thanksgiving Day – No school
Oct.11	Picture Day – all grades

Sign up for important updates from Mrs. Townson.

Get information for Oneida Central right on your phone—not on handouts.

Pick a way to receive messages for Oneida Central:

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/oneidanews

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @oneidanews to the number (519) 488-9376.

Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/oneidanews on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.

Parents:

Are you interested in receiving information directly to your phone from the school? Want a reminder that it's Picture Day, or that the phones are down or that busses are running late? Follow these instructions to receive my text blasts to keep you in the loop!

No phone? No problem. Use the link provided to subscribe via email.

You can unsubscribe at any time.

