



Oakville School

February 2023

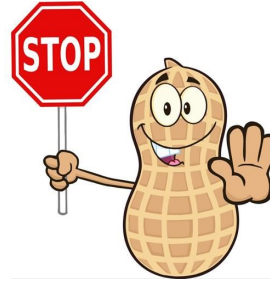
We are back into full swing from the holiday season with quality learning occurring in all of our classrooms.

How can families encourage literacy and reading outside of school time?

- Read to your children every day.
- Have a set time to read that you follow every day so it becomes part of your child's routine.
- Once you start reading, stop now and then and ask your child questions about what was just read, ask their opinions and why they feel that way, ask them what they think may happen next etc. Engaging in questions and talking about what is being read is a great way to encourage deeper levels of thinking and understanding.

⇒ **Calling all future Panthers!!!**
Kindergarten registration is February 6-10, 2023. Please see the information on the next page.

OVS will be acknowledging *Pink Shirt Day* with activities and lessons in *April* for International Day of Pink at the same time as other Portage la Prairie School Division schools. We acknowledge that it is also Pink Shirt Day in February and people would like to wear pink. It is a good reminder to have discussions in the classrooms and with your children at home throughout the year creating awareness to promote kindness and stop bullying.



OVS is a nut safe school— please do not send nuts or food items that may have nut products to school

Online safety and Responsibility

Social media (Instagram, Tik Tok, Snapchat, etc.) is a mainstay in our society now and for many children this is no exception. Unfortunately, some people can be alarmingly cruel and hurtful towards others while using social media. Please speak regularly with your children who have been given phones or have access to social media platforms about what is right and not right when using social media. Parents are encouraged to be on top of what platforms their children are using and how they are using them.

We can all play a part in ensuring that we have a community that is kind, tolerant and respectful. How we behave and act on social media is important. Let's continue to work together to set good examples and teach our children the appropriate way to behave when using social media.

Important Dates

All of February—Black History Month (see attachment)

All of February—I Love to Read Month (see attachment)

February 6-10—Kindergarten registration online

February 8—Parent Advisory Council meeting @ 6:30

February 17- Divisional PD-no classes

February 20—Louis Riel Day—no classes

February 21 & 24—Story Sticks

March 6—Admin. day —no classes

March 24-30—Quebec trip

March 27—March 31—Spring Break—no classes

April 3—Classes resume

April 7—Good Friday—no classes

April 20—5:00-8:00

Student Led Conferences

April 21—10:00-12:30 Student Led conferences—no classes

April 24—K-12 PD Day-no classes



Kindergarten Registration

Oakville School is taking online registrations for Kindergarten in September 2023 between February 6-10th. We are accepting registrations for children born in 2018, and living in our catchment area. You may register your child online by going to the OVS or school division website. Please share this information with friends and families within our community. Please call us if you have any questions at 204.267.2733. Early registrations greatly help us prepare for the fall.

Why Do We Celebrate Black History Month in Canada?

February is Black History Month in Canada. Black History Month is a time set aside each year to celebrate all of the wonderful things Black people have done for Canadian society and still continue to do.

History

A long time ago, many Black people were brought to North America, mostly from the coast of West Africa to work very difficult jobs. They did not choose to come to Canada. They were taken from their families and their homes and forced to work in jobs like farming, working on building roads, cutting down trees, building homes and taking care of the homes and children of white people. Black people were very unhappy with this situation because they were not paid and they were not treated well. They fought very hard for many years to gain their freedom and to be treated fairly.

Many Black men and women fought for those freedoms, which we can also call equality. **Equality** means everyone is treated the same no matter their age, skin colour or abilities. Josiah Henson, Mary Ann Shadd and Viola Desmond were Canadians and early **activists** who fought for Black people to be treated the same as white people in Canada. An activist is someone who fights hard to try and change the way things are when they are not fair to some people.



Modern Accomplishments

In 1926, Americans started celebrating an early form of Black History Month. Soon, places in the Caribbean, Africa, Latin America and Canada started to do the same.

Why Do We Celebrate Black History Month in Canada?

It began in a few cities here and there, then entire provinces like Nova Scotia and Manitoba picked up the event. Eventually, in 2016, the government of Canada said that all of February would be a month where we celebrate the wonderful things Black people have done and continue to do in Canada.

Activities

Black History Month is a time to celebrate and remember the ways that Black Canadians have helped to build Canada. All across Canada people might be participating in performances, concerts, activities for kids at school and in universities. Local libraries may have special displays. There will be celebrations in Ottawa at Parliament Hill and a lot of celebrations on radio, television and in newspapers and magazines. Always remember, Black history requires more than just a month. We should always strive to acknowledge Black contributions to our country and remember to treat everyone fairly. How will you celebrate Black History Month and what can you do through the year to make sure you treat everyone fairly?

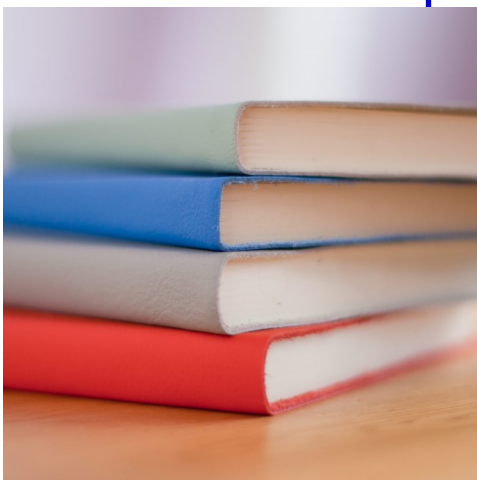




2023 Quebec Trip

The 2023 OVS Quebec Trip is almost upon us! We will be leaving on Friday, March 24th and be back in Manitoba by Thursday, March 30th. We are looking forward to our students gaining some life-long memories of learning and experiencing a different part of Canada.

FROM THE LIBRARY I LOVE TO READ MONTH



Kindergarten will do an I Love to Read Calendar
Book Exchange- Grades 1-3- February 14

Grade 3-5- February 15

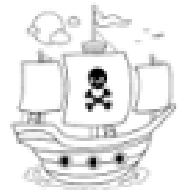
Grade 2 will be going to read at the Senior Cen-
tre- February 22nd .

February at Oakville School is a very exciting month because it is:

I Love to Read Month

WORLD READ ALOUD DAY- On Wednesday, February 1st we will be having a Pajama Day and celebrating World Read Aloud Day. Each class will have Guest Readers from Grade 7 and 8.

KICKOFF - Our I Love to Read Month Theme is **PIRATES!** On Thursday, February 2nd we will kick off the month with a K-6 Pirate craft and read-aloud in the gym!



WEAR YOUR WORDS DAY- On Friday, February 10th students should wear anything they have with words on it! How many words can you wear?

GUEST/CELEBRITY READERS - Throughout the month, special guests will arrive at our school to read stories to some of our classes. Be on the lookout for local celebrities who love to read.

MYSTERY READER - You will hear Oakville School Staff reading great stories and poems over the intercom. You will have a chance to guess who that reader is and enter your guess into a draw. You could win a prize!

“DROP EVERYTHING AND READ” - At any time during the month of February you could hear these awesome words over the intercom. You must stop what you’re doing, grab your book and READ!

PIRATE DRESS UP DAY - On Tuesday, February 28th we will have a Pirate Dress Up Day! What can you wear to look like a pirate? Pirate hats, eye patches, bandanas, vests, jewelry and more! (No weapons allowed)

TREASURE HUNT- Feb. 28 Word Treasure hunt

Prairie Sounds Festival is back!

April 17 - 20, 2023

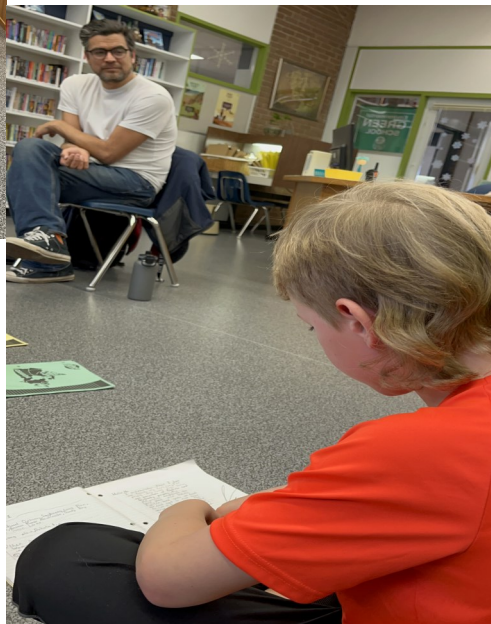


If you wish to register your teen in Piano, Voice, Musical Theater or Speech (public speaking, poetry or prose readings) classes, registrations will be available

on www.prairiesounds.ca starting Monday, January 16.

The festival is a great chance for students to perform for an audience, receive constructive feedback on their performance, and win award money to help with their chosen art form.

OVS was thrilled to welcome author David A. Robertson.



**On January 17 & 19, OVS Welcomed Award
Winning Author, David A. Robertson.**



Our time with David A. Robertson was a wonderful day and a half that had all of our students in K-8 thinking about reading and writing at their various levels. Grades K-3 had an opportunity to listen to David read his stories and talk about the writing and publishing process. Our students had insightful questions that led to great conversations.

Our grade 4-8's listened to David talk about the writing and editing processes. We also learned about his perspective of Truth and Reconciliation including what we can do to have that conversation in our own lives as Oakville citizens.

David discussed different ways of reconciliation such as getting to know people without judgement, being kind and, of course, the Golden Rule : treat others like you want to be treated.

Our grade 4-8's worked on a Land Acknowledgment assignment that had them researching past Indigenous groups that lived here, what gifts the earth gives them such as skating on the river or camping with their family. Students were asked to think about what they can do as a steward of the earth.

David taught us that personalizing a Land Acknowledgment is a step in the right direction and when David returned we shared our Land Acknowledgements.

Students in grade 6 had a great time getting to talk to David about his novel The Barren Grounds, the story around the Misew Saga & his writing process for these books! The students even found out part 4-6 will be written & published! It doesn't stop at part 1-3.

Our time with David connected with many ELA & Social Studies outcomes for all grades. It also allowed our students a chance to meet an award winning Manitoba author that is changing the face of publishing for Indigenous people and their storytelling.

It was a great experience for all students & we look forward to continuing the discussing around the writing process and Truth & Reconciliation.



5TH ANNUAL



Chili Cookoff



SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2023

OAKVILLE COMMUNITY HALL

4:00-6:30 PM

NO ENTRY FEE FOR

CONTESTANTS



*Winner takes the title,
banner & bragging rights*





PLEASE EMAIL TO:
OAKVILLEEVENTCREW@GMAIL.COM
TO ENTER



Winter Family Fun Day

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2023

4:00-6:30  Chili Cookoff 

6:30-7:30  Family Fun Skate 

7:30-9:30  Family Dance 

9:30-1:00  Social 

TICKETS:

CHILI COOKOFF: \$5.00 KIDS (12 & UNDER)

\$10.00- ADULTS

ALL EVENTS: \$10.00 KIDS

\$20.00 ADULTS

50/50 & SILENT AUCTION

PROCEEDS FROM THESE EVENTS WILL BE TO COVER THE COST OF KEEPING THE RINK OPEN AN EXTRA MONTH FOR JETS TOWN TAKEOVER & EXPENSES INCURRED FOR HOSTING JTT. ANY ADDITIONAL FUNDS WILL BE ALLOCATED TO OAKVILLE RINK IMPROVEMENTS .