

QUARTER 2

November 2022



# OTTER OUTREACH!

**Happy Thanksgiving**  
from Otter



## From the Principal

Dear Ottawa River Families,  
Thank you for coming in for conferences. Many of you were given iReady reports and I wanted to give you some more information on what iReady is and how we use it at Ottawa River.

### What is i-Ready?

i-Ready is an online program that will help us determine your child's strengths and areas for growth, personalize their learning, and monitor their progress throughout the school year. i-Ready allows our teachers to meet your child where they are and provides them with data to inform instruction.

The i-Ready Diagnostic is an adaptive assessment that adjusts its questions to suit your child's needs. Each item a student receives is based on their answer to the previous question. For example, a series of correct answers will result in slightly harder questions, while a set of incorrect answers will yield slightly easier ones. The purpose of this is not to give your child a score or grade but to determine how to best support their learning.

i-Ready Instruction provides students with lessons based on their individual strengths and areas for growth. These lessons are interactive and offer strategic supports to keep your child engaged as they learn. To support your child's learning in Online Instruction, you can:

- Discuss your child's progress in their i-Ready lessons.
- Celebrate your child's learning and growth.
- Encourage them to try their best when on i-Ready.

Thank you for your continued support and for being a partner in your child's learning! Our teachers look forward to sharing i-Ready information with you throughout the year. If you have any questions about i-Ready, please do not hesitate to contact me or the school. You can also learn more about

i-Ready by visiting [i-ReadyCentral.com/FamilyCenter](http://i-ReadyCentral.com/FamilyCenter)

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Griffin

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Toledo, Ohio

Phone 419-671-6350

Attendance 419-671-6351

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### Important dates

**November 1st—Picture retakes**

**November 8th—Teacher In-service...NO SCHOOL for students**

**November 23rd—NO SCHOOL**

**November 24th—NO SCHOOL**

**November 25th— NO SCHOOL**

OTTAWA RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# November Newsletter

# Counselor's Corner

November 2022

*Mrs. Kronovich*

The lazy days of summer have come and gone, and the school year is full steam ahead. But with your children's school day followed by homework, sports, music lessons, dance classes, and them wanting to spend time with friends, some of them may be feeling overwhelmed and stressed out. While we want to enrich our children's lives through a wide variety of fun and enjoyable activities, helping them become well-rounded people, we also must help them find balance in their lives and minimize stress. Sometimes this means cutting back on the "extra stuff." It's challenging because there are many benefits to the extra stuff, like building self-esteem, discovering self-interests, teaching responsibility, helping to grow friendships, etc. The extra stuff can be good for them, so knowing when it's too much may not always be that simple.

Ask yourself the following questions to determine if our children are overscheduled:

- ☐ Are they getting quality homework done
- ☐ Are they getting the recommended amount of quality sleep each night
- ☐ Are they able to take part in family activities
- ☐ Are they able to hang out with their friends

If the answer is 'no' to one or more of these questions, then it may be time to cut back. While it is tempting to sign your student up for every activity they want to participate in the risks may outweigh the benefits.

Risks include:

- ☐ Feeling too much pressure
- ☐ Developing issues related to stress and anxiety
- ☐ Experiencing disrupted or not enough sleep
- ☐ Not getting enough free time
- ☐ Feeling isolated
- ☐ Getting poor grades

Young people are much less likely to feel overwhelmed with school and homework when they have taken steps to be prepared, organized, and focused. These steps will also help to free up time to then put toward the extra stuff, like spending much-needed time with their friends, participating in their favorite sports, playing an instrument, taking a dance class, etc.

Tip: Keeping a gratitude journal on a daily basis helps students

achieve higher grades; higher goals; more satisfaction with relationships, life, and school; less materialism; and more willingness to give back.

Also make sure your child is getting enough sleep each night.

Toddlers (1–2 years): 11–14 hours, including naps.

Preschool (3–5 years): 10–13 hours, including naps.

School-Age (6–13 years): 9–12 hours.

Teens (14–17 years): 8–10 hours.



# NURSE'S CORNER

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## Turkey Talk - Take Care of Leftovers

The bacteria *Clostridium perfringens* grows in cooked foods left at room temperature. It is the second most common bacterial cause of food poisoning. The major symptoms are vomiting and abdominal cramps within 6 to 24 hours after eating.

- ☐ *Clostridium perfringens* outbreaks occur most often in November and December.
- ☐ Many of these outbreaks have been linked to foods commonly served during the holidays, such as turkey and roast beef.

Refrigerate leftovers at 40°F or colder as soon as possible and within 2 hours of preparation to prevent food poisoning. Slice or divide big cuts of meat, such as a roast turkey, into small quantities for refrigeration so they can cool quickly. Reheat all leftovers to at least 165°F before serving.

For additional information go to:

<https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/communication/holiday-turkey.html>



## Winter Layering Is the Way to Go

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends putting babies and children in one more layer of clothing than an adult would wear in the same conditions. Layering also allows kids to remove a jacket or sweater after walking to school, riding the bus, or coming in from the car into the classroom; instead of having to choose between being overheated or freezing.

Dress children in thin layers with a wicking layer beneath to help children keep dry. Start with the snuggler layers on the bottom, like long-sleeved bodysuits or long underwear. Then add pants and a warmer top, like a sweater or thermal-knit shirt. A thin fleece jacket over the top is a good option or a winter coat. Top it off with warm boots, glove or mittens, and a hat.

Keep in mind, layering your child with too much outerwear can actually make them colder. That is because excess layers can cause your child to sweat, which makes their clothes wet, allowing the cold and wind to bring their temperature down.



## MEDICATION

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Students who must take medication during the school day must have the appropriate authorization form completed by the doctor. All medications will be dispensed from the office. According to Toledo Public School Board of Education Policy, an adult must bring the child's medicine to the office and the medication must be in the original bottle. We cannot accept medications that are brought in by the child. Please bring in a month's supply of medication at a time. All medications, **PRESCRIPTION AND OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATIONS** (such as aspirin, antacids, cough syrup, cough drops etc.), require a doctor's form and can only be dispensed through the office!!



# ABSENCES

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Parents of students who are absent from school can notify the school of the student's absence by leaving a message on the Attendance phone at **419-671-6351**. This recorder is on 24 hours a day, so parents may call at any time. Please be sure to call by 9:30 A.M. on the day of the absence. If a parent does not call and notify the school of their child's absence a written note explaining the absence or tardy must be signed by the parent or guardian and sent to school when the child returns to school. Excused absences are for illness, death in the immediate family, and doctor/dental appointments. If doctor/dental appointments are made during school hours, the child should present a written request for excusal, stating the time of the appointment to the teacher. Students may be released one-half hour before the appointment. Excusals for doctor/dental appointments require written excuse from the doctor/dentist. Students who arrive late or are picked-up early, without a written doctor's excuse, are considered absent for a portion of the day. As a reminder, the state allows a total of 10 unexcused absences a year. Please be sure that you use these days sparingly.



# HAVE YOU MOVED?

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If you have moved or changed your telephone number, we are asking that you update your records with the school office and provide proof of residency. This will ensure that we will be able to contact you in case of an emergency.



# DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?

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If you ever have questions or concerns about what is going on in your child's classroom please remember to contact their teacher directly. They will BEST know what is going on as they spend the majority of time with your child. If need be, the teacher will direct your questions/concerns to the principal or other necessary personnel. Please do not use Ottawa River's Facebook page as a place to find answers to your personal questions/concerns. For the most accurate and up to date info – call or email your child's teacher directly.



# VISITORS TO OUR BUILDING

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Parents and other interested persons are always welcome at Ottawa River. Any visitors to the building will be required to comply with the District guidelines as pertaining to masks. Masks must be worn in the building at all times and must fit over the nose and under the chin. To maintain a disruptive free environment all visitors, parents, and guests are required to have an appointment with classroom teachers (even for phone and virtual meetings). On the day of the appointment, for safety purposes, you will be required to report to the office before proceeding to classrooms or other parts of the building. Visitors will be issued a "VISITOR PASS" with their name, destination, and date that they are required to wear. Visits to other parts of the building will require administrative approval and are generally discouraged. Volunteers will be issued a "VOLUNTEER BADGE" which they are required to wear while working in the school as a volunteer. All students, parents, and visitors to the building must enter through the Main entrance and buzz to be let into the building. **Due to increasing security concerns, parents will not be permitted to walk their children to class. If a parent needs to dismiss their child early an ID must be presented.**

## Kroger Community Rewards Sign-Up

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By making the Ottawa River PTO your Community rewards recipient, a percentage of every shopping trip you make to Kroger will come back to the school!

**Signing up is simple:**

- 1) Sign-in or create an account
- 2) Click on My Account
- 3) Scroll Down to Community Rewards
- 4) Click Edit
- 5) Find our organization (Ottawa River Elementary PTO, Organization Number 80037)







# LUNCHES

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To ensure that all students are getting the best education they can we will no longer be calling classrooms to inform students of dropped off lunches. If you forgot your child's lunch we will be happy to provide them with a free school lunch. Thank you for helping us to keep our school focus on education.

As a reminder we no longer have an open lunchroom policy. To keep all students safe and lunchtimes running smoothly we ask that if you are volunteering in the building you do not stop to have lunch with your child. Their classmates do not understand and feelings can get

## Picture Retakes

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Picture retake Day is currently set for Friday November 1st.



## Thanksgiving Break

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Our students and staff will be on Thanksgiving Break from Wednesday November 23rd through Sunday November 27th. School will resume on Monday November 28th.



## Teacher In-Service

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Our staff will be having an In-Service day on Tuesday November 8th. There will also be voting going on in the building that day. Because of this, there will be NO SCHOOL for students this day.

# Ottawa River Sprit Wear

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We have a brand new and exciting offer for you this month! See below for your image, message and link:

Need new Spiritwear for Fall and Winter?

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/1stplacespiritwear/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/1st-Place-Spiritwear-104793921257678>

FREE SHIPPING on orders over \$100



## Snack Cart

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Our cafeteria will have Snack cart available on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Each student is limited to two items per day. The items available and prices are:

Chips .95

Chocolate Chip Cookies .40

Fruit Rollups .70

Slushies .60

Nachos & Cheese \$2.20

Pretzel & Cheese \$2.00

Pretzel only \$1.50

Extra Cheese .50





## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NOVEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH!!!

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Abriel Ruiz  
Adonis Laddie  
Wynter Brooks  
Alaina Coleman  
Olivia Taylor  
Amelia Konesni  
Anray Bush  
Penelope Giacalone  
Tobias Balderez  
Lucio Martinez  
Dominick Gullette  
Sophia Smotherman  
Carter Creswell  
Vada Mathews  
Charles Swoboda  
Payton Wooley

Samantha Wieteki  
Connor Soto.  
Mason Dushane  
Adelina Bush  
Forrest Reutz  
Zoey Lawson  
Hudson Misch  
Aaliyah Palitta  
Piercen Offet  
Layla Hardin  
Catherine Duquette  
Kolby Lee  
Garrett Smith  
Emmalyn Roman  
Alayna Glashauser  
Ava Moore

Kamdon Branstutter  
Cahmya Simmons  
Michael Drake



**Students**  
**OF THE**  
**MONTH**





# NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS!!!

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Cayden Gilmer 11/3  
Sophia Smotherman 11/3  
Ariel Parsons 11/4  
Cahmya Simmons 11/4  
Erica Hawrylak 11/5  
Samantha Wieteki 11/7  
Anrey Bush 11/10  
Branden Austin Jr. 11/12  
Avonna Ochoa 11/12  
Lilyan Pfaff 11/12  
Gabriella Gimenez 11/13  
Kylan Mierzwiak 11/14  
Kaleb Price 11/14  
Miranda Provo 11/14  
Kendal Lisowski 11/16  
Carter Dickman 11/18  
Kloey Shaffer 11/19  
Sophia Cook 11/23  
Cyrus Wieteki 11/23  
Dominic Selvera 11/24  
Maria Grandowicz 11/26  
KayLee Relyea 11/26  
Izabel Vega 11/27  
Keira Thomas 11/28



## **. Arrival Routine**

**A note to parents/guardians who will be DRIVING/WALKING their student(s): • Doors open at 8:45 AM. If you arrive early, please remain in your car. We are using multiple entrances this year for student entry, so please use the assigned entries for car riders as indicated below. For our students' and staff members' health and safety, parents may not get out of their vehicles when dropping off or picking up students. • Students will not be permitted to wait in the front lobby before school or enter the building prior to 8:45., unless they are eating breakfast. Students eating breakfast at school will enter through the front doors at 8:40**

### **Arrival Routine for All Students**

#### **Walkers and Car Riders**

#### **Times and Locations:**

In order to minimize traffic congestion, drop-off times and locations will be as follows:

- Kindergarten, First & Second graders will enter main doors by front office
- Pre Kindergarten, Third & Fourth graders will enter the side doors off of 290th. (bus doors)
- Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, & Eighth graders will enter the Jr. High doors near the playground
- When car riders/walkers enter the building, they will proceed on their designated route directly to their classroom. Doing this will help minimize hallway traffic and lead them directly to their home-room.
- All individuals who will be dropping off students (ex: babysitters, siblings, grandparents) must be made aware of these procedures prior to drop-off.
- **Patience and Kindness:** Please remember that we are an elementary school serving young children. Your patience during school arrival is important as we anticipate an increase in car traffic this year.

#### **Bus Riders:**

- **Seating:** Each bus will have a mandatory seating chart with assigned seats. Students will be seated with siblings whenever possible.
- **Drop-Off Location:** Buses will drop off students in designated locations. The bus lane is on 290th street. Bus riders will use the side doors no matter what age group.

## **Dismissal Routine**

Students will be dismissed wearing their mask and must keep it on until they are either in their car or have exited the bus at their final destination. Students should move to their bus or car as quickly and safely as possible, following staff directives and maintaining maximum social distance from their peers and staff.

### **Walkers and Car Riders**

- **Walker Dismissal:** Students that will be walking home will be dismissed beginning at 3:10. **Walking means they are walking to their home. Parents should not be parked in the staff parking lot waiting to pick up their “walking” student.**

- **Pick-Up Location:** If you are here to walk with you child please meet your child at their designated location. There will be **no pickup** at the Primary entrance.

Pk-4 will be released at the side entrance - please pay attention to the posted signs

5 -8 walkers will be released from the Jr. High doors - please pay attention to the posted signs

### **Car Dismissal**

**Pre-K students will be dismissed to their parents in the parking lot located behind the building.**

Car dismissal will begin at 3:15. If you are planning to pick your child up, please stay in your car and follow the curve to the marked pick up zone area. Do not park or get out of your car. Please be ready to move with the line to prevent backups. The driveway in front of the school is designated for buses only.

- **Family Names:** Parents/guardians will be given two papers with your family name on them. When you pick up you must have your family name card displayed when entering the parking lot so student(s) are ready when the car line moves. Parents/guardians wishing to meet a student to walk them to the car, must park in a parking space and walk to the waiting area on the sidewalk. Family names/numbers must be displayed while waiting.

Any family needing more than two name/number tags are asked to make their own additional tags by writing their name and number clearly on a large piece of paper.

- **Traffic-** Traffic backs up quickly as cars arrive but begins moving smoothly once we start loading students. Please always be on the lookout for individuals walking in the parking lot, including students, family members, and staff. Remember that “you are right when you turn right”... enter the parking lot by turning right and exit the parking lot by turning right. This will ensure smooth traffic flow and safety.
- **Communication:** All individuals who will be picking up students (ex: babysitters, siblings, grandparents) should be made aware of these procedures prior to picking up students. • **Patience and Kindness:** Please be patient as traffic volume may increase this year. Our goal is to get all students home safely and in a timely manner.

### **Bus Transportation Guidelines:**

- Students who requested transportation will be placed at a bus stop. Visit the [District Map on our website](#) to find bus stop times and locations.
- School buses are confined spaces that require a particular focus on social distancing.
- Students will have an assigned seat and bus drivers will keep a seating chart

# November 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

|           |           |  |                        |                        |                        |           |
|-----------|-----------|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------|
|           |           | <i>1</i><br>Picture<br>Retakes                 | <i>2</i>               | <i>3</i>               | <i>4</i>               | <i>5</i>  |
| <i>6</i>  | <i>7</i>  | <i>8</i><br>Teacher<br>In-Service<br>No School | <i>9</i>               | <i>10</i>              | <i>11</i>              | <i>12</i> |
| <i>13</i> | <i>14</i> | <i>15</i>                                      | <i>16</i>              | <i>17</i>              | <i>18</i>              | <i>19</i> |
| <i>20</i> | <i>21</i> | <i>22</i>                                      | <i>23</i><br>No School | <i>24</i><br>No School | <i>25</i><br>No School | <i>26</i> |
| <i>27</i> | <i>28</i> | <i>29</i>                                      | <i>30</i>              |                        |                        |           |

***District Mission:*** Toledo Public Schools' mission is to produce competitive college and career ready graduates through a rigorous curriculum across all grade levels by implementing Ohio's New Learning Standards with fidelity.

***District Vision:*** Toledo Public Schools strives to be an 'A-rated' school district whose graduates are college and career ready.



**Ottawa River is a Title 1 funded school. Title 1 funds help us to serve our students better. We are able to support the curriculum through professional development for our staff. Our staff is dedicated to the success of each child and each of us work diligently to help each and every student.**