

QUARTER 1 & 2

October 2023



OTTER OUTREACH!



OTTAWA RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

October Newsletter

From the Principal

October Greetings from Ottawa River School

As we move through the year, I'd like to take a moment to appreciate our fantastic students, teachers, staff, parents, and PTO. Our school is truly amazing because of the people who make it so, and I am grateful for each one of you.

As the weather changes, please ensure your children come to school dressed appropriately for the day's conditions. Ohio's weather can be unpredictable, with all four seasons sometimes occurring in the same day. Kids need to enjoy their recess breaks outside, so please assist them in being prepared. Furthermore, more parents tend to drive their children to and from school during this time, so please be cautious and utilize the designated pick-up and drop-off areas while keeping speeds low. Our teachers are working hard to ensure the safety of your children, so please treat them with respect and consideration.

Parent-Teacher conferences are taking place on October 25th and 26th. Please keep in mind your appointment's start and end time so that every parent has the chance to talk with their child's teacher.

Thank you again for all that you do. I love our school, and I appreciate everyone's hard work and dedication.

Warmest regards,
Mrs. Griffin

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Important dates

October 4th—National Walk and Bike To School Day

October 13th—2 Hour Delay (End of 1st Qtr)

October 24th—Skating Party at Ohio Skate 4:00—8:00

October 25th—Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00—7:30

October 26th—Parent/Teacher Conferences : 8:30—12:00, 1:00—4:30, 5:00—7:00

October 27th - NO SCHOOL

October 31st— Halloween activities at school

Counselor's Corner October 2023

This month I started getting into classrooms to talk to your kids about the 7 Mindsets!

The 7 Mindsets are based on a three year research effort that began with the simple question: What do the world's happiest and most successful people have in common? In search of the answer, we studied many of the happiest and most successful people who've ever lived. We reviewed the most extensive and important studies on personal achievement ever conducted. We personally interviewed 400 leading experts, some of the most successful men and women of the 20th and 21st centuries. Our research revealed that the answer wasn't related to gender, ethnicity, or where they lived in the world. It had nothing to do with being raised in a loving home or a broken one. It didn't matter if their families were rich, middle class, or impoverished. It wasn't even connected to how far they advanced in school or the skills they acquired along the way. In fact, it turns out that the game-changing commonalities of happiness and success are based on how the world's most successful people think.

The students are learning about growth mindset, setting goals and their strengths!

SCAN QR CODE TO GO DIRECTLY TO MY WEBSITE and To get more information!



SCAN QR CODE TO GO
DIRECTLY TO MY
WEBSITE and To get more
information!



**You can
do Hard
Things!
Parents
How Can
You Help**

DEVELOPING A **GROWTH MINDSET**



INSTEAD OF.....	TRY THINKING....
I'm not good at this	What am I missing?
I give up	I'll use a different strategy
It's good enough	Is this really my best work?
I can't make this any better	I can always improve
This is too hard	This may take some time
I made a mistake	Mistakes help me to learn
I just can't do this	I am going to train my brain
I'll never be that smart	I will learn how to do this
Plan A didn't work	There's always Plan B
My friend can do it	I will learn from them

NURSE'S CORNER

FALL has arrived! It's a good time of year to increase our activity levels. Bicycling and walking around the neighborhood or at a park is a good way to get started, weather permitting. Exercise is beneficial for improving overall physical and mental health

[Active People, Healthy NationSM](#) is a CDC initiative to help people be more physically active. It's important to follow the recommendations for each age group.

Preschool-Aged Children Ages 3 through 5 Years

Be physically active throughout the day for growth and development

Adult caregivers should encourage children to be active when they play.

Children and Adolescents Ages 6 through 17 Years

60 minutes or more of moderate-to-vigorous intensity physical activity each day.

Aerobic activity: Most of the daily 60 minutes should include activities like walking, running, or anything that makes their hearts beat faster. At least 3 days a week should include vigorous-intensity activities.

Muscle-strengthening: Includes activities like climbing or doing push-ups, at least 3 days per week.

Bone-strengthening: Includes activities such as jumping or running, at least 3 days per week.

For additional information go to: <https://www.cdc.gov/physicalactivity/basics/children/index.htm>

Ottawa River Elementary is participating in the **National Walk & Roll School Day**, which is on **October 4th** Flyers have been sent home with each student. Hope to see our students participating in this year's event!

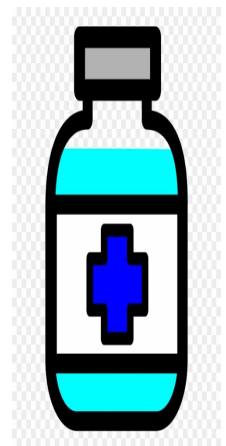


MEDICATION

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 nurse's office!!



ABSENCES



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. The new law in Ohio (HB410) requires us to track hours missed, that includes being late. Remember time adds up.

HAVE YOU MOVED?

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



DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?

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

Parents and other interested persons are always welcome at Ottawa River. To maintain a disruptive free environment all visitors, parents, and guests are required to have an appointment with classroom teachers. 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

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)



Cool Things Are Happening

Our Outstanding Otter Award recognizes students who show leadership and are respectful to classmates and staff. They are a positive role model to others and go above and beyond. They encourage others to do their best and always give their best in everything they do!





LUNCHES

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 hurt.

Red Ribbon Week

October is Anti-Bullying Month

Red Ribbon week will be the week of October 24th—31st.

Monday October 23rd— Wear Red for Red Ribbon week

Tuesday October 24th— “Team Up” against Bullying. Wear your favorite Sports Team Gear

Wednesday October 25th— School Spirit Day

Monday October 30th—Wear a Superhero Shirt

Tuesday October 31st— Halloween T-shirt

Halloween Events

We will be celebrating Halloween on Thursday October 31st. There will be a student parade and Trunk or Treat for grades Pre-K through 4th. Times for the activities are still be discussed, so please keep an eye open for more information regarding that. There are other activities being planned for the day as well.

We will also have our annual Pumpkin Decorating Contest. The categories are Kdg-2nd, 3rd-5th, 6th-8th and Family. Pumpkins can be brought in starting Monday October 23rd. Entries will be voted on and winners announced on Wednesday the 25th. All pumpkins should be taken back home by the end of the day on Thursday October 26th.



Ottawa River Sprit Wear

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

Get your new Spiritwear for Back to School

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

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

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLOWOUT SALE!

All **Ottawa River Elementary School** spirit wear is 30% off! New designs have just been released and we feature ultra-soft Bella Canvas tees. [Shop Now!](#)

FREE SHIPPING on orders over \$75

Snack Cart

The Snack cart will be returning In October. It will be open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Below are the items that will be available and their prices.



Snack cart	
Price list	
Cookies	.50¢
Gold Fish	.50¢
Fruit roll ups	.75¢
Slushie cups	.75¢
Fruit Bites	.80¢
Pretzel snacks	.80¢
Chips	.95¢
Rice Krispie Treats	\$1.00
Nachos + Cheese	\$2.00
Soft Pretzels	\$1.50-
with cheese	\$2.00
extra cheese	.50¢

Parent—Teacher Conferences

Parent –Teacher Conferences are a great opportunity to talk with your child’s teacher and find out how the year has been going thus far. Please make sure to schedule a conference and make sure to try and be on time as the teacher’s schedule will be full.

The schedule for Parent/Teacher Conferences is as follows:

Wednesday, October 25: 4:00 - 7:30

Thursday, October 26: Conferences 8:30 - 12:00, 1:00 - 4:30, 5:00 - 7:00

Friday, October 27: NO SCHOOL



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR OCTOBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH!!!

Violet Leestma
Cecilia Omara
Gema Moreno
Bentley Johnson
Lucas Hanely
Donovan Sledge
Kenneth Glashauser
Riley McElwain
Amelia Konesni
Tobias Balderez
Sophia Slaughter
Rowan Howe
Brayden Hamilton
Anthony Demuth
Mia Mora

Sophia Boberg
Damian Rowland
Kenslee Falknor
Jeronimo Dupree
Max Varnes
JoJo Hammond
Zoey Lawson
Cade Stang
Talina Vazquez
Jase Fifer
Piercen Offet
Tegan Ray
Savannah Pegish
Riley Yeager
Emmalyn Roman
Michael Thompson

Terrance Thompson
Ava Moore
Michael Drake



Students OF THE MONTH



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS!!!

Josiah Brooks 10/1
Cecelia Omara 10/2
Jaelyn Monk 10/3
Randy Smith 10/3
Lillian Widman-Carter 10/3
Brayden Montano 10/4
Chase Swyers 10/4
Rylee Swyers 10/4
Khloe Schnatterly 10/7
Samuel Dowdrick 10/11
Neon McCastle 10/11
Forrest Ruetz 10/11
Maleah Grandowicz 10/12
Braden Hammons 10/12
Elijah Zaborski 10/13
Payton Hagan 10/14
Weston Conley 10/16
Eva Dowdrick 10/16
Caleb Hooton 10/16
Riley Yeager 10/16
Riley McElwain 10/17
Leon Turner 10/17
Mia Lemons 10/18
Ja'Kary McCalland 10/19
Zoey Salyer 10/19
Eliana Dusseau 10/21
Danny Rodgers 10/22
Aaron Slater 10/22

Zoey Lawson 10/24
Emma Doster 10/25
Hellena Romanowski 10/25
Sylvia Hickam 10/28
Jayce Salyer 10/28
Logan Rainey 10/29



. 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.
- Students will have an assigned seat and bus drivers will keep a seating chart

October 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2	3	4 National Walk and Bike To School Day	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 2 Hour Delay	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Skating Party 4:00—8:00	25 Parent/ Teacher Conferences 4:00 - 7:30	26 Parent/ Teacher Conferences 8:30 –12:00, 1:00—4:30, 5:00—7:00	27 No School	28
29	30	31 Halloween Parade Trunk or Treat Pre-K through 4th				

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.