

QUARTER 2

November 2023



OTTER OUTREACH!

From the Principal

Dear Ottawa River Families,

It was great having you all attend our conferences. We hope you found the i-Ready reports handed out informative. However, I wanted to provide you with more information on what i-Ready is and how we use it at Ottawa River.

What is i-Ready?

i-Ready is an online program that seeks to determine your child's strengths and areas for growth, personalize their learning, and monitor their progress throughout the school year. It enables our teachers to customize instruction based on each student's learning pace and provides them with data to inform their teaching methods.

The i-Ready Diagnostic is an adaptive assessment that adjusts its questions according to your child's needs. The questions posed are based on the student's answer to the preceding question. For instance, a series of correct answers will result in slightly harder questions, while a set of incorrect answers will yield easier ones. The goal is not to grade your child but to determine how best to support their learning.

i-Ready Instruction provides students with interactive lessons that cater to their individual strengths and areas for growth. The lessons are designed to keep your child engaged and offer strategic support as they learn.

To support your child's learning in Online Instruction, we encourage you to:
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 more 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.

Educationally Yours,

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November Newsletter

OTTAWA RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Important dates

November 7th—Teacher In-service...NO SCHOOL for students

November 14th—Skating Party 4:00—8:00 pm

November 20th—24th Thanksgiving Break....NO SCHOOL

Counselor's Corner

November 2023



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



Giving thanks can make you Happier!

An aspect of the Thanksgiving season can actually lift the spirits, and it's built right into the holiday - being grateful. The word gratitude is derived from the Latin word gratia, which means grace, graciousness, or gratefulness. In some ways, gratitude encompasses all of these meanings. With gratitude, people acknowledge the goodness in their lives. People feel and express gratitude in multiple ways. They can apply it to the past (retrieving positive memories and being thankful for elements of childhood or past blessings), the present (not taking good fortune for granted as it comes), and the future (maintaining a hopeful and optimistic attitude).

Gratitude is a way for people to appreciate what they have instead of always reaching for something new in the hopes it will make them happier or thinking they can't feel satisfied until every physical and material need is met. Gratitude helps people refocus on what they have instead of what they lack. And, although it may feel contrived at first, this mental state grows stronger with use and practice.

Here are some ways to cultivate gratitude on a regular basis.

Write a thank-you note

Thank someone mentally

Keep a gratitude journal

Count out what your grateful for

Talk about all the positive things that have happened throughout your day

Practice Mindfulness

*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.***

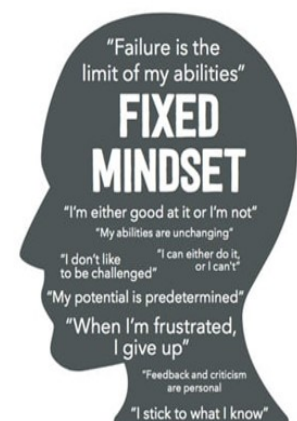
Also make sure your child is getting enough sleep each night.

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.



© Big Change

NURSE'S CORNER

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.



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 snugger 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

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 nurse's 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.



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



Here is a look at all of the entries into our Annual Pumpkin Decorating Contest. What a tremendous amount of creativity was put on display with this year's submissions.

Great job everyone!





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.

Thank you for all you do to make Ottawa River a fantastic place to be!

Thanksgiving Break

Our students and staff will be on Thanksgiving Break from Monday November 20th through Sunday November 26th. School will resume on Monday November 27th.



Election Day

Our staff will be having an In-Service day on Tuesday November 7th. There will also be voting going on in the building that day. Because of this, there will be NO SCHOOL for students on this day.



Ottawa River Sprit Wear

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

Need new Spirit wear for Fall and Winter?

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

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

FREE SHIPPING on orders over \$75



Snack Cart

Snack Cart is available on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.



<i>Snack cart</i>	
<i>Price list</i>	
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¢



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NOVEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH!!!

Colton Bohmer
Kennedi Martin
Alaina Coleman
Ahmarrion Justice
Sloan McAninch
Manuel Ortiz
Quintrell Caldwell
Grayson Fitzgerald
Marissa Mikalayczyk
Dominic Grandowicz
Mila Brown
Jaycee Albain
Izayah James
Cesar Vazquez
Sophia Smotherman
Elizabeth Collins-Hodge

Harper Howe
Lola Gill
Camden Whitely
Bryden Mosser
Cayden Gilmer
Alayna Spitnale
Dominic Newby
Wesley Wright
Mikayla Hirschfield-Quigley
Hudson Misch
Jazmyn Parker
Meleah Dushane
Omar Simmons
Brayden Montano
Caylee Pfaff
Nick Klatt



Students
OF THE
MONTH



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS!!!

Saniyzia Holcomb 11/2
Cayden Gilmer 11/3
Sophia Smotherman 11/3
Ariel Parsons 11/4
Camden Whitely 11/4
Erica Hawrylak 11/5
Ayla Obregon 11/7
Samantha Wietecki 11/7
Ridley Mierzwiak 11/9
Anray Bush 11/10
David Pickett 11/11
Elijah Jaffe 11/12
Avonna Ochoa 11/12
Lilyan Pfaff 11/12
Bentley Johnson 11/13
Kylan Mierzwiak 11/14
Kaleb Price 11/14
Miranda Provo 11/14
Kendal Lisowski 11/16
Brantley Slinker 11/16
Riley Snyder 11/17
Carter Dickman 11/18
Kenneth Glashauser 11/19
Demar Samuels 11/19
Kloey Schaffer 11/19
Chance Mangas 11/22
Serenity Sherrard 11/22
Sophia Cook 11/23

Cyrus Wietecki 11/23
Dominic Selvera 11/24
Mariia Grandowicz 11/26
Izabel Vega 11/27
Kaden Prentice 11/29
Xavier Burden 11/30



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. In order to keep the line moving, 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

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.

Pre-K will be released in the back parking lot.

K-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 curb 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, grand-parents) 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

November 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Election Day NO SCHOOL	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Skating Party 4:00—8:00	15	16	17	18
19	20 NO SCHOOL	21 NO SCHOOL	22 NO SCHOOL	23 NO SCHOOL	24 NO SCHOOL	25
26	27	28	29	30		

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.