



Oxbow Public School

September Events

- Sept. 04 - Welcome Back! Day 1
- Sept. 12 - Home & School @ 6:30 pm (Library)
- Sept. 21 - School Council Nomination Forms due
- Sept. 27 - Meet the Staff Night
- Sept. 28 - PA Day

SEPTEMBER				
MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	

Upcoming Events

- Oct. 02 Photo Day Individual/ Group
- Oct. 02 School Council Formation

Oxbow Public School
 13624 Ilderton Road
 Ilderton, N0M2A0
 tel. 519-666-0310
 fax. 519-666-0365

24 Hour Attendance Line:
 (519) 666-0310 Press 1

Mrs. C. Edy, Principal
 Mr. Scott Kelly, Vice-Principal
 Mrs. H. Smith, Administrative Assistant

From the Principal's and Vice-Principal's Desk

Welcome back to everyone returning to Oxbow Public School! We are off to a great start thanks to the dedication and hard work of all of our staff members who have done a tremendous job preparing for this new school year. We extend a special welcome to those families who have moved into our community during the summer and to our new students entering kindergarten.

We anticipate this school year to be filled with many great learning opportunities. Here at Oxbow, we maintain high expectations for all students and expect them to give their best effort to everything they do. We strive to make our school a friendly, caring, supportive place where students feel challenged, safe and respected. It is our goal to be in classrooms every day and actively engage students in conversations about their learning. Setting goals and working to accomplish them is part of our School Improvement Plan; our school goal for 2018-2019 will continue to focus on communicating additive understanding by using a variety of math models and strategies. We are committed to the achievement of each student through instruction and assessment that emphasizes higher order thinking, problem solving, and communication and metacognition skills. We are committed to helping students achieve, every day.

Communication between the teacher and parent is vital. We would ask that if you have a problem or concern that you please share it with the teacher *first* and then follow up with the office if needed. Teachers have a direct line on what is happening in their classroom and on the yard with their students, and are often better equipped to answer questions more efficiently if they are approached first. When the entire school community works together in a positive manner and celebrates successes regularly, all students and families benefit. We strongly encourage each of you to become actively involved in your son's/daughter's school year.

We wish to emphasize that, at this point, the school organization and placement of students is *tentative*. As the number of students registered becomes clear and is reviewed by system staffing, it may be necessary to reorganize the school. Your child may or may not be with the teacher they were assigned at the opening. We appreciate your patience as we work through this process. If we reorganize, all parents and students affected will be notified.

If you have any issues or concerns that you would like to discuss with us, please contact the school at 519-666-0310. We have an 'open-door' policy and look forward to working with all of our families.

Home and School is also already busy planning events for the upcoming school year. Be sure to mark your calendars for our annual Meet the Staff Night scheduled for Thursday, September 27th. Staff will be available in their classrooms from 5:00—6:30 p.m.; dinner will be ready in the gym from 5:00—7:00 p.m. It's a fun evening to connect with faces old and new.

We are sad to say good-bye to Jackie Fields, our amazing Clerical Assistant. Jackie recently accepted a half time Clerical Assistant position at a school close to her home. We will miss Jackie's amazing sense-of humour, her kindness, and above all her dedication and commitment to the entire Oxbow School Community. All the best to Jackie.

Sincerely,
 Carol Edy and Scott Kelly

Supporting Students with Prevalent Medical / Health Conditions in Schools

To ensure children with **potentially life-threatening medical conditions** remain safe while attending school, TVDSB requests Parents/Guardians update the necessary medical information on the Parent Portal so that an Individual Plan of Care (IPOC) for the student can be reviewed by the school's administration. Medical conditions considered potentially life-threatening may include:

- Asthma
- Anaphylaxis
- Epilepsy
- Type 1 Diabetes
- Any other potentially life-threatening condition that could result in a medical incident* (discuss with your school administrator)

Parents/Guardians can provide important information about their child's life-threatening or prevalent medical condition by logging into the TVDSB Parent Portal and clicking on the following tab: **Student Medical Information**. Once an Individual Plan of Care is submitted, the school administrator will then review the information. Parents/Guardians may be contacted for further information, if required.

Parents/Guardians who cannot access the Parent Portal on the Internet should contact the school office.

Please note that Parents/Guardians are expected to be active participants in supporting the management of the student's prevalent medical condition(s) while the student is in school. **It is the responsibility of Parents/Guardians to inform the school of such conditions to ensure the student's safety at school.**



LIFE-THREATENING ALLERGIES -

We have students at our school who have severe allergies to: Peanuts and Nut Products.

Exposure to these food products could cause an anaphylactic reaction. Such a reaction can become life threatening in the space of a few minutes. Our staff is trained at the beginning of each year to recognize the symptoms and to implement an emergency treatment plan; however, prevention is the key to dealing with this issue. We need your help!

Please do not send 'Peabutter' or 'Sunbutter' or other peanut butter substitutes to school. Although it does not contain any of the anaphylaxis allergens attributed to peanut butter, it is very difficult for our staff and lunchroom supervisors to differentiate between the two products in order to monitor our students' safety. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Reminders Regarding Parent Correspondence



SCHOOLMESSENGER®



Thames Valley DSB – NEW SchoolMessenger Safe Arrival Student Attendance Reporting System - Elementary Schools

Commencing September 2018, parents/guardians are to report student absences using SchoolMessenger Safe Arrival. In July, parents/guardians will have access to set up an account in SchoolMessenger by:

1. **Accessing SchoolMessenger online**
Navigate to www.tvdsb.ca/schoolmessenger (please add to your bookmarks/favourites). Click Sign Up and follow the instructions to set up your account. Within minutes, you will receive an email with a link to complete the Sign Up process.
2. **Accessing SchoolMessenger using the Smartphone App (recommended for time efficiency purposes)**
After setting up an account through www.tvdsb.ca/schoolmessenger, download the SchoolMessenger app through the App Store or Google Play Store and log in using the credentials used after validating your account online.
3. **Accessing SchoolMessenger by Phone**
Parents/guardians who do not have access to a computer can access the system by calling 1-844-305-3756 (toll free) to report absences.

Process for Reporting an Absence

Absences are to be reported prior to the start of the school day by selecting one of the following absence types:

- Full Day
- Late
- Early Departure
- Leave & Return
- Multiple Day

After selecting an absence type, you will then be given a list of options to choose for a reason. These options will vary by the type of absence selected.

If reporting the absence by phone, it is necessary to remain on the line until you receive a confirmation number. This number confirms that the absence has been reported to the school.

A confirmation email will be sent to parents/guardians containing the details of the reported absence.

Parents/Guardians of elementary students are still required to personally sign their students in/out of the school office for a Late Arrival or Early Departure.

Student safety is a priority and if a student is absent and a parent/guardian does not report it through SchoolMessenger, automated communications will be sent to the parent/guardian in the following sequence (text/email then phone call) until a response is received from the parent/guardian. During this communication, the parent/guardian can interact with the system to provide a reason for the absence. It is necessary to remain on the line until a confirmation number is given. To ensure student safety, the automated system will continue to attempt to contact the parent/guardian until a reason for the absence is reported. The school secretary will make personal calls to those families who have not been contacted by the automated system.

Attendance and Sign Out Procedures

- Student are permitted to arrive at school at 8:50 a.m. The yard is fully supervised at that time.
- Signing in is only necessary after the start of announcements in the morning at 9:05 a.m.
- Signing out is only necessary before 3:30 p.m. dismissal time

2018-2019 Timetable

9:00 - 10:40 a.m.	Instructional Block
10:40 - 11:00 a.m.	Nutrition Break #1
11:00 - 11:30 a.m.	Activity Break #1
11:30 - 1:10 a.m.	Instructional Block
1:10 - 1:30 p.m.	Nutrition Break #2
1:30- 1:50 p.m.	Activity Break #2
1:50 - 3:30 p.m.	Instructional Block
3:30 - 3:40 p.m.	Bus Departure



Communication Practices during Bus Cancellations for Elementary School Communities which have Students Bussed to School

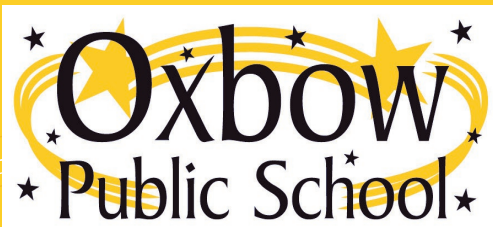
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS (Updated September 2018)

To ensure the safe arrival of students, parents/guardians are requested to follow the procedures below.

If buses are cancelled at the beginning of the day as determined by bus operators due to inclement weather, information will be posted online at www.mybicyellowbus.ca by 6:30 a.m. and the following communications are expected:

Students who walk to school (and do not receive TVDSB transportation)...	Students who are bussed to school ...
<p>1. It is requested that parents/guardians report any student absence (e.g., illness, inclement weather, etc.) via the new reporting system prior to the start of school (1-844-305-3756; www.tvdsb.ca/schoolmessenger; or SchoolMessenger smartphone app).</p>	<p>1. It is requested that parents/guardians report any student absence (e.g., illness, transportation cancellation, etc.) via the new reporting system prior to the start of school (1-844-305-3756; www.tvdsb.ca/schoolmessenger; or SchoolMessenger smartphone app).</p> <p>As schools are open when buses are cancelled, parents/guardians may choose to transport their student to school noting the following:</p> <p>(a) If buses are cancelled in the morning due to fog, they will run at the end of the day as per their regular schedule.</p> <p>(b) If buses are cancelled in the morning due to any other kind of inclement weather, they will remain cancelled for the entire day and parents/guardians are responsible for transportation at the end of the school day.</p> <p>Source: http://www.mybicyellowbus.ca/uploads/inclementweather.pdf</p>
<p>2. Safe arrival calls will be made to parents/guardians of absent students from whom the school has not received communication.</p>	<p>2. Safe arrival calls will be made to parents/guardians of absent students from whom the school has not received communication.</p>

Thank you for your continued communications to assist us in ensuring the safety of your children.



OXBOW STAFF: 2018-2019

Kindergarten Team

Kelly LeCapelain and Cori Hoggart
Danielle Hardy/Jacqueline Evans and Nicole Revnak
Brianna Stevenson and Christina Zeversenuek
Katie MacLeod and Stephanie Haasen

Primary Team (Grades 1 - 3)

Coralee Ropchan	Grade 1
Shannon Watson	Grade 1
Carla Hastie	Grade 1
Julie Glanville	Grade 2
Claudia Pellarin	Grade 2
Pam Mears	Grade 2/3
Kim King	Grade 3
Martha Cowan	Grade 3

Junior Team (Grades 4 - 6)

Charity Hodgins	Grade 3/4
Rhonda Springer	Grade 4
Kelly Vervoort and Genevieve Bolton (LTO)	Grade 4
Vera Rowley	Grade 5
Christine Higgs	Grade 5
Haley Thomas	Grade 6
Frank Ferraiuolo	Grade 5/6
Amy Kilty-Schwandt	Grade 5/6

Intermediate Team (Grades 7 - 8)

Derek Brandow (LTO)	Grade 7
Erica Huff and Andrea Tamasi	Grade 7
Dave Welbourn	Grade 8
Chris Brown	Grade 8

Educational Assistants (4.0)

Linda Blain
Janet Prout
Cassandra Mackison/Halylee Lister LTO
Stacey Luther

Cross Divisional Teaching Team

Leigh Watson	Learning Support
Jennifer Lussier	Learning Support/French
Aretta Blue	Library/Program
Scott Kelly	Library/VP
Maria Marra	French
Sheri Kitching	Physical Literacy/Kindergarten/Program
Rob Poirier	Physical Literacy/Kindergarten /Program
Rob Inch	Music/Drama

Administrative and Custodial Team

Carol Edy	Principal
Scott Kelly	Vice-Principal
Heather Smith	Administrative Assistant
TBA	Attendance Secretary
Josh Dixon	Charge Custodian
Jason Schembri	Evening Custodian
Sandy Hickson	Evening Custodian

New Staff for Oxbow:

Scott Kelly Vice-Principal
Jacquelyn Evans - Kindergarten K1 K2 with D. Hardy
Genevieve Bolton LTO - Grade 5 with Kelly Vervoort
Derek Brandow LTO—Grade 7 (Ingrid Bergman)

STAFFING

Oxbow Staff take class placements very seriously. We spend a great deal of time doing our very best to create balanced classes. I assure you that combined grades are not organized based on the stronger students (lower grades) and weaker students (higher grades). Factors such as academic ability, leadership strengths, maturity, learning styles, strength/needs, behavior concerns, gender, social skills are all considered. The goal is to establish balanced classes and meeting every parent's requests wouldn't necessarily meet that criterion.

Keeping the class placement procedure in mind, we can not accommodate the large number of parent requests for specific teachers or requests for specific students to be placed in your child's class; nor can we accommodate parental requests for changes in classroom placements when school begins September 2018.

Oxbow School
SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS – 2018-2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please find attached a nomination ballot for School Council parent/guardian positions for the 2018-2019 year. I would encourage all of you to consider involvement on our Oxbow PS School Council, which is an organized advisory group that provides a link between the school and the parents/community. Members discuss issues that affect their school, plan activities, raise funds, and provide input to the school principal and the school board. The ultimate purpose of the council is to allow a forum for parents to have a voice in the school system in regard to improving student education and achievement. There are many good reasons to be involved in this important volunteer activity including the opportunity to (1) learn about significant issues at your school; (2) be actively involved in making decisions concerning the education of your children; and (3) get to know other parents, teachers, and the principal.

Elected Positions: The School Council for 2018-2019 will be composed of several elected positions including the following: Chairperson, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and several positions for "Parents at Large". The "Parents at Large" would not have any specific duties as do the other positions, but would be full members of the council with voting privileges. In addition to the elected parent members, the School Council also includes the Principal, Vice-Principal, one or two Teacher Representatives (elected by the teachers). Please note that all School Council members have voting privileges except for the Principal and Vice-Principal.

CANDIDATE NOMINATION FORM

The following timetable will be used to form the Oxbow Public School Council for the 2018-2019 school year:

Friday, September 21st - Nomination Forms returned to Mrs. Edy at our front office

Tuesday, October 2nd @ 6:30 pm - Formation of School Council and an election to be decided if necessary

First School Council Meeting - date to be announced in upcoming newsletter

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

I am the parent/guardian of _____ who is currently registered at Oxbow.

(Name of Student) and (Name of Teacher)

If elected as a School Council member (i.e., Representative or a Parent at Large), would you be interested in serving in any of the following officer positions?

If yes—Please indicate the parent member positions in which you are most interested by ranking up to 2 positions (i.e., indicate "1" and "2" beside each position). Note that voting for these positions will occur at the election meeting. Prior to any vote, we may ask nominees to speak briefly about their interest in participating in the school council. If there is only one nomination for any given position, the nominee will require affirmation by the voting group.

(Please check)

POSITION	Check ("1" and "2")
CHAIR	
VICE-CHAIR	
SECRETARY	
TREASURER	

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the School Council.

Candidate's Signature: _____ Date: _____