



Onslow Elementary News

March 2022

March Break reminder: March break begins on the week of February 28th.
We'll see everybody back at OES on March 7th.

Our 1st annual Great OES Snow Fort Contest winners!

There was a tie between the Hogriders and Liam & the Gals. Both teams enjoyed hot chocolate, fresh fruit and pancakes as a 1st prize. Runners up enjoyed blueberry muffins and fruit kabobs.

As a side note: OES students are enjoying team competitions so there will be more coming up in the spring.

Notes for the muddy spring season: *Change of clothes:* the warm and cold changes in the weather (early spring) make for slushy and muddy conditions and many wet socks. We recommend an extra pair of socks and pants. Waterproof boots and splash pants are helpful.

Mask protocol update: effective March 7th, students will no longer be required to wear masks in the classroom or outside. However, masks are required in common indoor areas (hallways, gym) and on bus transportation. A detailed letter to this effect will be posted.

St. Patty's Day (Thursday, 17 March): wear green and watch out for *leprechauns*



Professional Development Day: Friday, 25 March.

Our School Survey: each year, students in Grades 4, 5, and 6 participate in an anonymous survey that measures school climate (atmosphere), student comfort and sense of well-being at school. We are aiming to complete the survey by the end of March.

Sexuality Education at OES:

In 2018, the Minister of Education mandated schools to include Sexuality Education (SE) in our regular curriculum. What does this mean to parents? Teachers will follow the curriculum guidelines and provide a minimum of 3-5 hours of instruction in the context of subject areas like ELA, Science, and Ethics. Our plan is to begin delivery of SE in March and homeroom teachers will notify parents before they begin their sessions. Note that students will not be evaluated for academic marks. The program is designed to build awareness and allow for student understanding of their physical changes, themes, and issues related to human sexuality. For more on the curriculum, parents are invited to review the following government sites:

1 - <http://www.education.gouv.qc.ca/en/teachers/dossiers/sexuality-education/content/kindergarten-for-5-year-olds/>

2 - <http://www.education.gouv.qc.ca/en/teachers/dossiers/sexuality-education/content/elementary/>

Note: parents of students in Grade 6 may be interested to look ahead:

<http://www.education.gouv.qc.ca/en/teachers/dossiers/sexuality-education/content/secondary/>

If anyone in our community (a parent) has a specific concern about the mandate for the SE program, please contact the principal directly (rmason@wqsb.qc.ca).

Face Book page: <https://www.facebook.com/OES-Jays-112559296884065>

Our OES Website: <https://onslow.westernquebec.ca/parent-information/>

Principal: rmason@wqsb.qc.ca.

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