

Newsletter

How is it November already? It seems like we just got started in the 2023-24 school year. I guess it is true what they say, "Time flies when you're having fun!" and we have certainly had plenty of fun this past month!

October saw OJSH students experience success in many ways. Our first year and first x-country running team at OJSH was very successful this season! You can read more about these amazing athletes in this newsletter. Our volleyball teams are still vying for places for zones but have had great seasons so far. Our Terry Fox run in early October was an excellent event with OJSH students throwing intangible strings in support of the Terry Fox foundation and loved ones and community members who have had cancer or are currently fighting the disease. Many students and staff also threw tangible and intangible strings with the creation and operation of a haunted house at the end of October where admission was food bank donations. We were able to send monetary donations and food donations to the local food bank to support families in need (tangible strings) while providing a fun activity (intangible string) for students to participate in during lunchtime. Over all this activity demonstrates the kindness, generosity, and caring (more intangible strings!) that our OJSH staff and students are known for.

What is all this "string talk"? Well, if you aren't familiar with the OJSH Webs of Support framework, we have been including one string/color each month for you to become familiar with it. In this edition of the newsletter you will learn more about yellow - intangible strings. In [September](#) we covered red/rule of five/anchors and in [October](#) we covered orange/tangible strings. Click on the months in the previous sentence to be directed to the newsletter for that month so you can read about those colors/strings.

This month, we will once again have opportunities as staff and students to throw strings of orange and yellow (tangible and intangible) through our recognition of Remembrance Day. Students and staff may purchase a poppy (donation - tangible) and will attend the school ceremony on November 8 to pay somber respect, gratitude, and honor (intangible strings) to those who have fought, or are continuing to fight/or peacekeep for our freedom. Parents may join us on November 8 in our school gym if they wish. We will get seated around 10:30 am.

November will reveal the first of four report cards for students and families. Please note we will shut powerschool off to families on November 6 and it will remain closed until the end of the day on November 15. When it reopens the first report card will be viewable for your child. Please join us at the school on Thursday the 16th between 5 and 8 pm to meet your child's teachers and discuss the report cards with them. It is a drop-in event - no times need to be booked.

I would also encourage families to join us at OJSH the evening of November 15 at 7:00 pm as Constable Gord Marshall returns to update us on the technology and apps that teens are using and what we adults need to be aware of. He did a great job last year and the parents who attended were very engaged and able to ask a lot of questions. Please join us for this presentation. The information is in this newsletter, too.

November is sure to be a busy month and fly by as well! Students and staff are surely looking forward to a bit of a break mid-month. We wish you all an opportunity for rest and relaxation - or fun! Whatever it is you need!

November 2023

Take good care and I wish you all a happy November!
Dr. Amy Villneff, Principal

Please Note

Our doors are locked for the most part of the day for security and safety of our students and staff. If you need to come to the school, there is a doorbell you may ring for our office staff to hear - but it is always a good idea to phone ahead and book an appointment

(780) 967 2271

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Or please visit our website onowayhigh.ca for all information and updates



The Mechanics department is in search of an additional vehicle that someone is willing to donate to the school for the kids to learn and work on. Ideally, the car will run good enough for us to drive on and off the lift, but body condition, etc. is not of importance.

Please reach out to Brandon Thiessen via email at brandon.thiessenengps.ca if you have a generous donation! Thank you!

New Staff Spotlight

Ms. Autumn Michelle joins the OJSH staff in the role of First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Liaison. "Autumn" as the students know her, has a wealth of experience working with Indigenous youth and their families through previous career experiences and holds a Bachelor of Youth and Child Care from MacEwan University!

Autumn tells us, "Boozhoo, Tansi, Hello! My name is Autumn Michelle, and I am the new First Nation, Metis and Inuit Liaison at Onoway Jr/Sr High. I identify myself as an Anishnabekwe, which translates to Ojibwe Woman. My roots are from Lake Helen First Nation which is located in Northwestern Ontario along the shores of Lake Superior. I have been living and working within Treaty 6 territory for 10 years. I look forward to building and maintaining long lasting relationships with the students, parents and faculty of this school. I am available to speak in person or via phone, please do not hesitate to connect with me. I look forward to meeting with you all." If you need to speak with Autumn, please contact the school at 780-967-2271 and we will be happy to connect you.



Mr. James McKenna has joined OJSH staff as of a couple weeks ago. Mr. McKenna is filling in every afternoon teaching Grade 8 and Grade 9 humanities as Mr Rosychuk has shifted into Physical Education for the afternoons until December. Mr. McKenna has come to OJSH with a wealth of experience teaching and working with students in Parkland and on Alexander First Nation. His passions are language arts and social studies - so what a perfect fit! If you have children in 8-2 or 9-3, they have been working this passionate teacher and you can meet him at PTIs November 16. If you need to speak with Mr. McKenna about your child's progress and do not make it to PTIs, please contact the school.

Welcome to Autumn Michelle and James McKenna!

Athletics



Cross Country



It was terrific to re-introduce cross-country running to OJSH! Our team was small (and young) but was chock-full of hard working and talented runners. Our group attended 5 runs in the PCAA race series, GCAA's up in Whitecourt, and ASAA's in Slave Lake. In every race our team had many top-10 finishes and we also had podium finishes at every race! Highlights certainly included winning GCAA's up in Whitecourt and then qualifying to race at the ASAA race in Slave Lake. I look forward to working with our XC athletes next year and vying for that ASAA championship!

- Mr. Hallows



Golf Club

Congratulations to Mack Dombroski, Mason Trueman, Eric Bennett, and Chase Richter. The boys were the GCAA Jr. High Team Golf Champions for 2023!



Volleyball

Volleyball is wrapping up. Good luck to teams as they attend final season tournaments and zones in November! Great season!



Basketball



Basketball is just around the corner!

Stay in the loop for tryouts, open training camps and information regarding the 2023-24 Basketball season. Check the Bulletin Board inside the gym doors, Facebook, IG, and the Daily Bulletin for times and details regarding everything basketball! Students remember to make sure your caught up and on top of your assignments and class work, before tryouts start if you are planning on becoming a student athlete and playing on a basketball team.



Great job to those that participated in the Terry Fox Run 2023 this year! OJSH staff, students, and outside donations raised over **\$500** this year! Great job!

Special Thanks



Thank you Mr. Law and his 8-5 group of students for taking the time to clean up our school property before the snow came! We appreciate your efforts in keeping our school litter-free



Welding

OJSH competed in the Wicked Welding tournament hosted by the CLAC in Edmonton on Saturday, October 28th! After 6.5 hrs of fabrication and very hard work, the team, consisting of Austin Miner, Carter Bowman, Grady Fearnley and Zaden Rose, earned a very close 2nd place in the competition. Great work boys!



Some Special Guests

Our Jr. Highs were treated to a presentation from the RCMP and met a few of their special recruits. Constable Loney and Sergeant Hack spoke to their experiences as RCMP dog handlers and emphasized the significant importance of a relationship between an officer and their K9 partner. Sergeant Hack demonstrated some training tactics and even showcased an arm grab. Thank you to these officers for taking the time to share their knowledge and experiences in this unique area of the RCMP.



October Haunted House Results

This year's Haunted House was a huge success for everyone at the school and especially for the Onoway Food Bank.

Because of the students and staff, we were able to raise 106lbs of donations and give the food bank \$226.60.

Thank you to the entire staff and students for making the Haunted House the huge success that it was this year!

Each year, Mr Galliford and his Lightning and Staging crew, along with some of the OJSH staff, put together a Haunted House that creates all kinds of screams and scares. This year, we had the Grade 7 classes from Onoway Elementary school join us for some spooky times as well!

Huge shout out to the actors this year! They were so realistic and scary that Mr. Blount had more than one moment of sheer terror and lots of screams!



Until next year.....

Student Council News

Student Council has been eager to bring back Spirit Days to this school year. For the month of October, Student Council organized Black and White Day, Rad is Plaid and finally Crazy Hair Day. It is always appreciated that students and staff make an awesome effort to participate in these spirit activities. Cosmetology students also joined in on the crazy hair festivities by creating their own crazy hair designs. Their work was later displayed in the CTS wing.



Student Council also held their annual Halloween Costume Contest. We thank all the participants who showcased their attires during the Halloween Parade at lunch. Group consume was awarded to the Super Mario Characters group, most creative costume was awarded for Dr. Grant in his Jurassic Park Jeep, funniest costume was given to the inflatable banana and scariest costume was awarded to Jigsaw.



Please join us on
November 15th at
7pm in Room 165 for
an info session on
youth and
technology with
RCMP Constable
Gord Marshall



An Evening of Christmas Enchantment Returns!

It was such a hit last year, we are bringing it back! Join us at OJSH on December 7 in the evening to get your Christmas shopping done with our Christmas market, enjoy punch and snacks, bid on silent auction items, see beautiful student-created art work, and enjoy Christmas music played by our very own band students!

This is an evening you won't want to miss - it only comes once a year! It is also in support of our Onoway Parents Educative Association - the fundraising group for the school. Proceeds from the event go to OJSH and support a variety of programs for students!



If you are interested in donating items for our bake sale or for our silent auction please contact Janine at 780-257-4972 or email onowayhighparents@gmail.com
If you are interested in renting a table and being a vendor for the market Call Amy at 780-940-9716 or email Amywhalen13@gmail.com

Significant Dates

November 1	Take your kid to work day (gr 9)
Nov 3	Money Mentors in Calm Classes
Nov 6	Powerschool closes to parents/students for report card preparation
Nov 8	School Remembrance ceremony 10:30. JH Quarter 1 options end. Locker Clean up.
Nov 9	PD day. No students attend.
Nov 10-13	Mini-Fall Break
Nov 14	JH Quarter 2 options begin.
Nov 15	Report Card #1 available on PowerSchool at end of day. Youth and tech info session with Constable Gord Marshall - 7pm @ OJSH
Nov 16	Parent-teacher Interviews 5-8 PM (drop-in) School Council Meeting at 6:30 PM



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