



# BELLS CORNERS PUBLIC SCHOOL

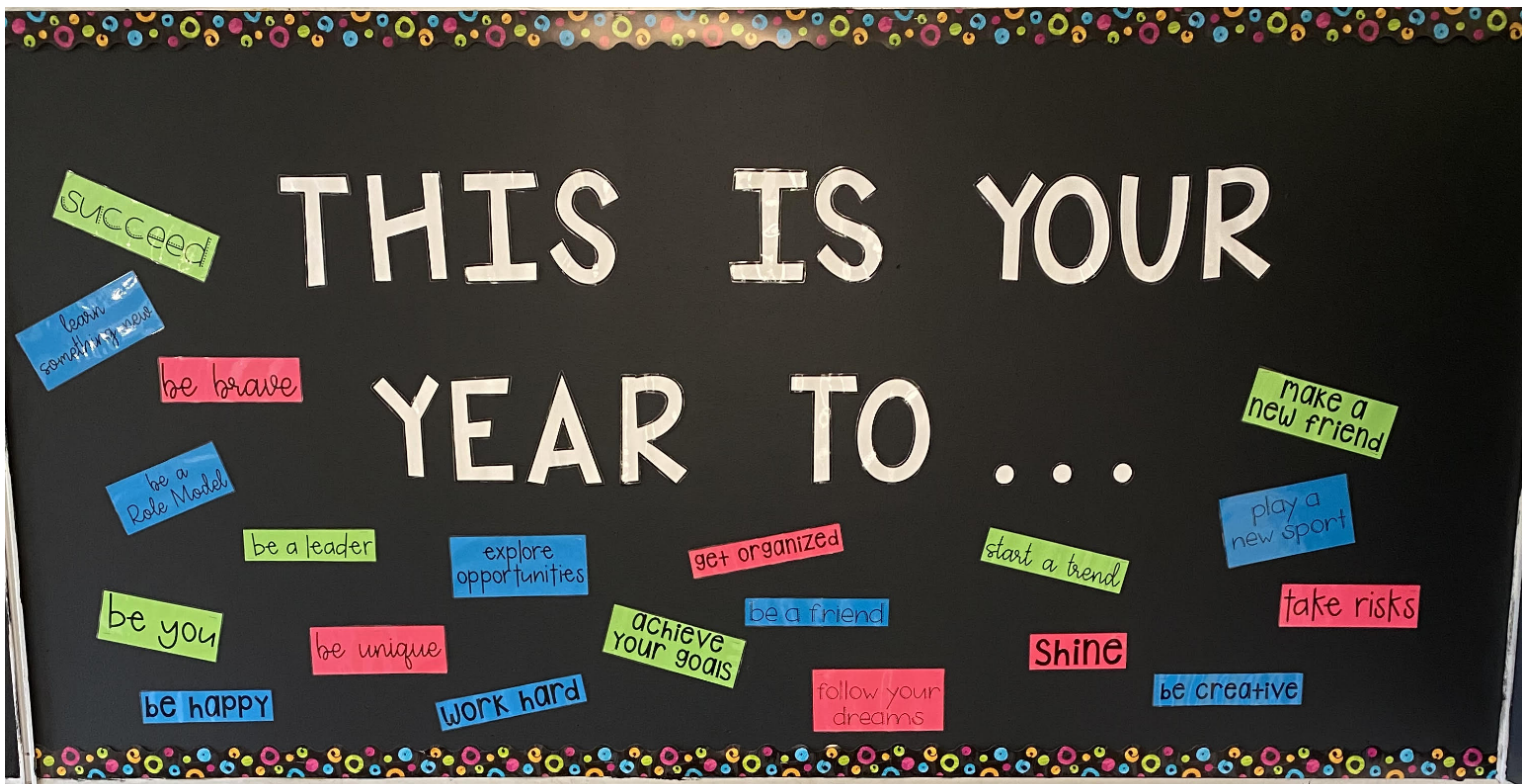
# BULLDOGS

September 8, 2023

Dear BCPS Families,

What a great first week of school! Educators and students were excited to get the school year started. Educators have been working on creating community within their classrooms and throughout the school. The most important aspect of the first few weeks of school is establishing routines, understanding expectations, and enjoying the space they will be spending the next 10 months in.

This week in our daily announcements, the theme has been about “new beginnings”. A new school year brings on new goals and a fresh start to shine. Many of our walls in our halls share positive messages to our students about this year being “their year”.



## **Dates to Remember**

- September 13, 2023 : First BCPS School Council Meeting in the School library starting at 6:30 pm
- September 22, 2023: School Terry Fox Run & School Spirit Day (wear red and/or white, Canadian flag/maple leaf)
- September 25, 2023: School Orientation & Welcoming of newcomer families to our school (2:45pm - 3:30pm)
- September 26, 2023: School Photo Day!
- September 28, 2023: Meet our Educators Night & Family BBQ (4:30pm - 6:00pm)

## **Where to park at 3:45pm?**

Please take time to park in the community streets surrounding Bells Corners where parking is permitted and walk to school to get your child.

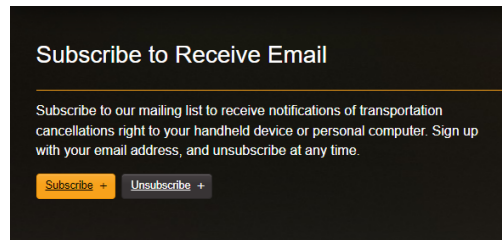
**Parking is not permitted in the parking lot across the street from the school.**

## Carpool/Rideshare

We know that bus cancellations have been challenging for families. If you are interested in carpooling with another family, please fill in the google form and Mrs. Lad will coordinate communication with families to work out a plan for transportation. Please fill in your interest [HERE](#).

## Transportation

**IMPORTANT:** The office does not have up to date information when bus or van routes are canceled or delayed or running again. Families are encouraged to check the [OSTA Website](#) regularly for any cancellations or delays. We recommend that you subscribe to their alerts by going to the bottom of their main page, to receive notifications straight to your email.



**\*REMINDER: yard supervision begins at 9:00 a.m.. Therefore, no students left unattended on school property before this time. This maintains student safety. At this time, 3 buses are NOT RUNNING - red (X86), orange (E70), green (E59).**

**\*OSTA Empty Seat Program - Suspended for 2023-2024 School Year\***

## Picking up your Student at end of day

If your student's pick up arrangements change at the end of day, you need to notify the office no later than **2:30 p.m.** This allows the office and educators to prepare the student(s) for pick up and this also ensures safety of traffic at the end of the day. Especially bus students who are not taking the bus, this needs to be clear **before 2:30 p.m.** You can also email [bcpsattendance@ocdsb.ca](mailto:bcpsattendance@ocdsb.ca) to let us know **before 2:30pm** that your student's pick up arrangements have changed.

## Signing Students in and out outside of arrival and dismissal times

If you are picking up/dropping off your student outside of the usual arrival and dismissal times, you must ring the bell to notify the office you are here and who you are picking up. As with last year's procedure, families will wait outside for their students to come out. For drop off, the office will unlock the door and only the student will come in. For kindergarten students, a staff member will be there to greet the child. Please try to avoid student pick up during recess times during 11:15am to 11:40am or 2pm to 2:25pm. It makes it difficult to locate your child on the yard and this avoids unnecessary wait times.

## Reporting Your Student's Absence

In order to ensure the safety of our students it is **IMPORTANT** that families continue to notify the school when their **child is absent**. This also applies to days when the **buses are canceled or the weather is extremely bad. We should be notified of all student absences.**

Please email us at [bcpsattendance@ocdsb.ca](mailto:bcpsattendance@ocdsb.ca). and leave a detailed message with your child's name and teacher and nature of absence. You can also leave a detailed voicemail by calling the school attendance line at 613-828-3559



### **School Council News**

Are you interested in joining the School Council next year? This dynamic team of parents meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month from 6:30-8pm. We meet in the school library with a hybrid option of tuning in virtually via google meet. You are also welcome to join as a voting member or simply as a community member at large to observe and learn about the latest that is taking place in our school. Please email either [sc-bellscornersps@ocdsb.ca](mailto:sc-bellscornersps@ocdsb.ca) or [sadhana.lad@ocdsb.ca](mailto:sadhana.lad@ocdsb.ca) for more details to join our first meeting that will take place Tuesday, September 13, 2023 at 6:30pm in our library.

**We hope everyone has an enjoyable weekend.**

**Take Care,  
Sadhana & Elysa**