



BELLS CORNERS PUBLIC SCHOOL BULLDOGS

February 21, 2025

Dear BCPS Families,

February is Black History Month and our BCPS classes are engaged in many learning opportunities to read stories of black Canadians and their contribution and achievements in the past and present, and challenge and examine issues of racism and discrimination. A few of the initiatives that are taking place this month include students reading announcements, biography studies, exploration of music and reading key stories that highlight the achievements of many black Canadians.



Our Dessert Dash was a success and thank you to all the families that sent in donations to make this event exciting for many of our students. The volunteers and the organization by our school council is appreciated.





Thanks to Mr. Chapman, Mrs. Mainwood and Ms. Mona for coaching our boys and girls basketball teams. Teamwork and cooperation skills were demonstrated by all students! Thank you to the BCPS School Council for our jerseys!



Pink Shirt Day:

BCPS students will be honouring Pink Shirt Day on February 26th. Pink Shirt day represents a day to help eliminate bullying and discrimination in all its forms. Educators will be leading activities where students will be taking a stand and sharing ways to demonstrate kindness. Students are encouraged to wear pink if they wish.

Individual Education Plans (IEPs)

We experienced a technology issue in sending IEPs out to families. We are sending home a copy with students' who are on a modified IEP on Monday February 24th.



Popcorn Day at BCPS: February 25th

BCPS students will have an opportunity to participate in **Popcorn Tuesday**. This is a day where our funds raised will go to the Education Foundation on February 25th. The Education Foundation provides support to our students and families in need in our community. We will sell individual 22g bags of **Papa Jack** popcorn for **\$2.00**.

Flavours: Butter, White Cheese, Salt & Vinegar, Dill, Kaboom. *The ingredients list can be found at <https://www.papajackpopcorn.ca/nutritional-info/>*

Grade 1-6 students will bring their money and buy their popcorn themselves at the popcorn booth during a nutrition break. This grows independence and financial literacy skills.

(Kindergarten students will receive an order slip so parents/guardians can help them choose flavour and quantity.)

Scholastic Book Fair: March 3rd to March 6th



What better way to promote reading to our students than by supporting this important literary event. We invite your entire family to participate by purchasing the latest and greatest in children's books. Your support of this vital literary event is a key part of helping us obtain new books and resources for our library and classrooms. You'll find hundreds of quality books at our Book Fair with a wide assortment for all reading levels. Visit the Scholastic Book Fairs website at www.scholastic.ca/bookfairs to get more detailed information about these books. You can also watch book trailers and author videos with your child on the [Book Tube page](#). A Book

Fair flyer that provides a preview of only a FEW of the many books available to purchase at our Fair will be sent home soon. Don't forget to mark the Book Fair dates **March 3rd to 6th** on your calendar! We look forward to seeing you during our Scholastic Book Fair and thank you, in advance, for supporting this great literary event.

Scholastic Book Fair Volunteers Needed!

If you would like to volunteer for the book fair for the timings 10:00am to 11:15am, 12pm to 2pm, 2:45pm to 3:30pm on Tuesday March 3rd to 6th, please email sadhana.lad@ocdsb.ca

Dates to Remember

February 25, 2025: Popcorn Sales for Toonie Tuesday

March 3, 2025 : School Council Meeting

March 3- 6, 2025 : Scholastic Book Fair

March 7, 2025: Comfy Cozy Day/ PJ Day

March 10 to 14th : March Break: There Is No School

Are you moving or have you moved? Update your address

Please contact the office if you have recently moved and provide the office with your new address as soon as the change occurs. Also, providing proof of address is a requirement for all families.

Students Arriving After 9:15 a.m.

Please remember that our supervision ends at 9:15 out on the yard and the parking lot. If you are dropping off your students at the side parking lot gate after 9:15 a.m. and the staff on duty has closed the side gate, **they must come through the main office doors at the front of the building.** There have been instances where students are coming to the back of the building and the doors are locked and they cannot enter. Thank you for your attention and cooperation on this important safety matter.

Important Message Regarding Bus Privileges

OSTA provides a service to many of our students that attend BCPS. The safety and well being of our students are critical during our students time on the bus, coming to and from school. Please go over the safety expectations on the bus with your child.

- Staying seated at all times
- Food items stay in students bags

- Aisle must be clear at all times
- Stay in your assigned seats
- Conversations are permitted
- Listening to the drivers expectations and redirection for safety purposes

Inappropriate language or behaviour may result in a student being asked to find alternative transportation. The bus provides an essential service for our students but safety at all times must be maintained for all our students. We want our students to have a safe and predictable environment. Please speak to your child regarding the expectations. Any concerns regarding transportation should be directed to OSTA.

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 (9-9:15 a.m.) and dismissal times (3:45 pm), 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 remember that student arrival is 9:00am for all students. Students should not be on the yard before this time.

**ACTION
NEEDED**

Media Forms - completely paperless

We kindly ask that you complete our Media and Technology Forms online this year in order to be more environmentally responsible. Please click on the link and complete the form for each student [here](#) (Media).

Reporting Your Child's Absence

In order to ensure the safety of our students it is **IMPORTANT** that families continue to notify the school when at *Bells Corners PS* is now using an automated student absence system called *Safe Arrival* to report student absences. Families can also enter future & extended absences into this system. Please report your child's absence by calling the interactive toll free number: 1-833-202-1417 or by logging into the School Messenger App or Web Portal. All methods are available 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Families can find instructions to these by clicking on this link: [New Safe Arrival System-Reporting An Absence](#). Click here for

FAQ's [Safe Arrival FAQ's](#) if your **child is absent**. This also applies to days when the **buses are canceled or the impact of weather conditions**. **Notification of all absences is necessary.** Please email us at 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? This dynamic team of parents meet on the **1st Monday** of the month from 6:30-7:30pm. 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 or sadhana.lad@ocdsb.ca for more details to join our first meeting that will take place **Monday, March 3, 2025 at 6:30pm in our library. Childcare is available.**

Enjoy your weekend.

**Take Care,
Sadhana Lad and Staci Jamieson**

