



September 5, 2025

Dear Bells Corners Families,

What a great start to the school year! Our students are ready and prepared for instruction. They have been working toward learning routines, and reconnecting with old friends and developing new friendships! Our educators are developing a better understanding of our students's academic strengths and needs by assessing literacy and numeracy skills.

Partnerships in your child's education are important at BCPS! We welcome communication with classroom educators who know your child the best, so please do not hesitate to contact your child's educator by email.



Let's stay in touch!

Finding out key information that is occurring in our school will be posted to our website weekly. Our BCPS website stores information such as newsletters, forms, calendar updates and so much more. Here is our website link:

<https://bellscornersps.ocdsb.ca/>

BCPS School Council September 8th: Our first meeting is scheduled for September 8th at 6:30pm to 7:45pm. If you would like to be a member of our team, please join in on the conversation. If you are interested in taking on the position of secretary or council chair, please email sadhana.lad@ocdsb.ca.

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school September 24th to September 26th.

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

<https://www2.scholastic.ca/bookfairs/parents-and-families/>

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 **Sept. 24th to 26th** 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.

Dates to Remember

September 8	BCPS School Council, 6:30pm to 7:45pm
September 8	Student Verification Forms sent home, please review & return
September 25	Meet The Educator Night: 4pm to 6pm
September 26	Terry Fox Run
September 24 to 26	Scholastic Book Fair
September 29	PD Day
September 30	National Day For Truth and Reconciliation
October 16	School Picture Day

BCPS Parking

End of day pick up at 3:45pm has become extremely concerning and a safety concern as there are several cars blocking the student exit gates and blocking traffic for cars that are parked in the BCPS parking lot. Please find a parking spot or park on the street in the neighbouring streets and walk into the parking lot to pick up your child. If your child is expecting a pick up, they will wait for you and your child will not be released until you arrive. I ask for your cooperation, which ensures our students' safety.

OCDSB Volunteer Approval Process:

We are so grateful to the many parent and grandparent volunteers who help make our field trips and off-site sports and arts trips possible, as well as to all the ways that our volunteers support students in our classrooms.

As part of our commitment to student safety, all volunteers are required to have a [Level 3 police record check for the vulnerable sector](#) from the last 12 months or a valid [screening from the Ottawa Network for Education \(ONFE\)](#) within the last 5 years. If you think you may want to volunteer at the school (including distributing pizza) or on a field trip (including as a volunteer driver) in the future, please consider registering with the Ottawa Network for Education (ONFE) as soon as possible. **If you were screened last year, we still have a record of that screening.**

ONFE helps OCDSB schools manage some of the screening and training processes for potential school volunteers. [Registration takes approximately 15 minutes and can be completed here](#). In order to be approved, volunteers are also required to provide a criminal record check for work in the vulnerable sector. **There is no fee for getting a Level 3 Vulnerable Sector Check in Ottawa as long as you have a volunteer letter from ONFE or the school before applying.** When registering with ONFE, please be sure to select "1. OCDSB Parent" in the drop-down menu for the question that asks, "Are you part of a group or association?"

We understand that this added paperwork may be a burden, and we truly appreciate your understanding and support as we work to follow best practices to ensure the safety of all students. We would like to continue to be able to offer meaningful and fun field trips for our students. Your cooperation and support means a lot to us. We are very grateful to the volunteers who help enrich our school!

Forms to Complete

Students with Life Threatening Medical Conditions - Plan of Care

If your child has medication that needs to be kept at school, we encourage you to bring it this week.. If your child has life threatening medical conditions such as asthma or requiring an

EpiPen due to severe allergies, please ensure that you complete this [plan of care form](#). The plan of care form needs to be completed each school year in order to ensure that the school has up to date information.

For students who require prescribed medication to be administered during school hours (not asthma inhalers and Epi pens) this form needs to be completed:

<https://forms.ocdsb.ca/Forms/OCDSB-988-Prescribed-Medication> If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Media Forms

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 forms for each student [here](#) (Media) and [here](#) (Technology).

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.

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.**



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 on September 8th .

Have a wonderful weekend!
Sadhana Lad & Mark Hooper