



Principal.....Mrs Leah Kingston 403-938-4426 ext 19107  
 Vice-Principal.....Mr. Bill Holmes 403-938-4426 ext 19106  
 Vice-Principal.....Mrs. Rhonda Bymak 403-938-4426 ext 19104

Attendance Line.....403-938-4426 press "1"  
 Attendance Email.....ojattendance@fsd38.ab.ca  
 OJHS website.....http://ojhs.fsd38.ab.ca  
 Twitter at..... OK\_Ocelots

**École Okotoks Junior High School**  
 1 Pacific Avenue, Okotoks AB T1S 2A9  
 Telephone: 403-938-4426  
 Fax: 403-938-4410  
 okotoksjr.fsd38.ab.ca

## THE PAW PRINTS

April 2017

### Important Dates

May 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup>	EOJHS Track and Field
May 5 <sup>th</sup>	Staff PD Day – No School
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Okotoks Youth ZOOOM
	Film Festival, Okotoks Public Library
May 10 <sup>th</sup>	Pep Rally, 12:35 – 1:10pm
May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Gr 6 EOJHS Open House,
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	PD Day, No School
May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Victoria Day, No School
May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	School Council AGM
May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Gr. 6 Registration
May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Track & Field Divisionals
May 25 <sup>th</sup>	Instrumental Concert
June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	PD Day, No School
June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Triathlon Club at Vulcan
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	Gr9 Water Fight and BBQ
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	Farewell to Grade 9 Dance

### PAT Exam Schedule (All Grade 9s)

May 9 <sup>th</sup>	ELA, Part A	
May 11 <sup>th</sup>	FLA, Part A	
June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	FLA, Part B	
June 26 <sup>th</sup>	Social	Studies
June 27 <sup>th</sup>	ELA, Part B	
June 28 <sup>th</sup>	Math	
June 29 <sup>th</sup>	Science	



### Hey Families! Did you know...?

With approximately 40 school days left in the year, our staff and students continue to prepare for year-end assessments, exams and activities. Please be sure to check the dates for the upcoming Provincial Achievement Tests. These exams are a 'snap-shot' of your child's learning; please ensure that your child is well-rested, has a hearty breakfast and arrives at school on time. If your child is absent on the day of the exam and there have not been any arrangements made to re-write it, their score counts as a zero for our school. We thank you for your support in emphasizing the importance of these exams, but we do not want students to worry or stress themselves.

Here are some tips for taking tests:

- **First, be sure you've studied properly.** It sounds like a no-brainer, but if you're sure of the information, you'll have less reason to be worried.
- **Get enough sleep the night before the test.** Your memory recall will be much better if you've had enough rest. In a scientific study, people who got enough sleep before taking a math test did better than those who stayed up all night studying.
- **Listen closely to any instructions.** As the teacher hands out the test, be sure you know what's expected of you.
- **Read the test through first.** Once you have the test paper in front of you, read over the entire test, checking out how long it is and all the parts that you are expected to complete. This will let you estimate how much time you have for each section and ask the teacher any questions. If something seems unclear before you start, don't panic: ask.

- **Focus on addressing each question individually.** As you take the test, if you don't know an answer, don't obsess over it. Instead, answer the best way you can or skip over the question and come back to it after you've answered other questions.
- **Relax.** If you're so nervous that you blank out, you might need a mini-break. Of course you can't get up and move around in the middle of a test, but you can wiggle your fingers and toes, take four or five deep breaths, or picture yourself on a beach or some other calm place. As we all know, it can be easy to forget things we know well — like a locker combination. The difference is we know we'll remember our locker combination because we've used it hundreds of times, so we don't panic and the combination number eventually comes back. During a test, if you blank out on something and start to get tense, it suddenly becomes much more difficult to remember.
- **Finished already?** Although most teachers will let you hand a test in early, it's usually a good idea to spend any extra time checking over your work. You also can add details that you may not have thought you'd have time for. On the other hand, if you have 5 minutes until the bell rings and you're still writing, wind up whatever you're working on without panicking. These tips should help most people, but some can get serious test-taking terror. If you're one of them, you may need to talk to a parent, teacher, or counselor for help. Good luck!  
With Ocelot P.R.I.D.E.,

### Track & Field Concession

EOJHS Track & Field is scheduled for May 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, with the rain out day being May 4<sup>th</sup>. The school does provide a concession for students and staff to purchase food. Food items for sale are:

Burgers	\$3.50
Hot Dogs	\$2.00
Drinks	\$1.00
Potato Chips	\$1.00
Cookies	\$0.75
Assorted Goodie	\$1.25

### Gr 8 Badminton Tournament at Edison School

Our grade 8 badminton team did a great job representing our school today. All groups played extremely well. Below are results of players making it to GE finals.

#### **Badminton grade 8 results**

##### Girls Singles

Sohee, 8D - 4<sup>th</sup> Place

##### Mixed Doubles

Gold- Daniel , 8F/Taryn, 8F

4th- Logan, 8F/ Sage, 8F

##### Boys Singles

Silver – Nolan, 8B

##### Boys Doubles

Bronze- Brady, 8F/Brady, 8I

##### Girls Doubles

5th- Aasha, 8F/ Meghan, 8A

### School Council Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The Annual General Meeting of the School Council is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 at 7:00 pm**. The meeting will be held at EOJHS in Room 153. All parents are welcome!

### Ocelot CrossFit Kids

The Ocelot Triathlon Team is gearing up for our first race on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Vulcan Tinman Triathlon. We have 26 athletes signed up for this year's team and it's our biggest group yet! Check out [www.ocelottriathlonclub.weebly.com](http://www.ocelottriathlonclub.weebly.com) for more information

### EOJHS Triathlon Club

The EOJHS Triathlon Club is gearing up for race season. Our first race is on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Vulcan Tinman. We have 24 athletes signed up to SPLASH, MASH and DASH! Check out [www.ocelottriathlonclub.weebly.com](http://www.ocelottriathlonclub.weebly.com) for more information.

### ZOOM Film Festival Second Workshop

The third annual Okotoks Youth Film Festival preparations for a second workshop are under way and is scheduled to take place at the Okotoks Library on Saturday May 6<sup>th</sup>. Students in Okotoks and the Foothills Area are encouraged to create and submit films. **Submission deadline is August 31<sup>st</sup>**. Visit their website at [www.zoom.ca](http://www.zoom.ca) for more information on the festival, film making, and upcoming workshops. The cost is \$10.00 to register on line or at the Okotoks Library.

### EOJHS Pep Rally – May 10<sup>th</sup>

The Pep Rally is scheduled for Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:35 pm – 1:10 pm (Wellness Period). The Rally will recognize all teams and clubs. In addition, the Cheer Team and the Band/Choir will perform. The Pep Rally coincides with

Blue and White day, so we are encouraging students and staff to wear their blue and white apparel.

### **EOJHS Music Department School Year Results**

#### **ChoralFest**

Senior Concert Choir - Gold  
Chamber Choir - Gold

#### **Highwood Lions Festival**

Senior Concert Choir - Distinction (Gold) - Recommended to Alberta Provincial Music Festival  
Junior Concert Choir - Distinction (Gold)  
Chamber Choir - Honors (Silver)  
Vocal Trio - Honors (Silver)

#### **Yellowhead Regional Arts Festival**

Senior Concert Choir - Distinction (Gold)  
Chamber Choir - Distinction (Gold)  
Jazz Band - Distinction (Gold) (Mr. Cummins)  
Junior Concert Band - First Class Honors (Silver)  
Senior Concert Band - Honors (Bronze)

#### **Calgary Performing Arts Festival -**

Please note, provincial recommendations are still pending  
Senior Concert Choir - Excellent (Silver)  
Junior Concert Choir - Excellent (Silver)  
Chamber Choir - Excellent (Silver)  
RBSS/EOJHS Combined Choirs - Superior (Gold)  
Foothills Regional Grade 9 Partner Band - Excellent (Silver)  
The Junior Concert Choir won their class, so there's a very strong likelihood of them

heading to Edmonton at the end of May with the Senior Concert Choir. Yes, it would mean we'd be competing against ourselves. Further information will be forthcoming as to who will be participating once the official results are in.

I especially want to congratulate Mr. Cummins on his significant achievements with the jazz band this year. It's a new ensemble to the school, but is quickly proving itself to be a potent force in the music community.

#### **Music Notes**

Following is a list of upcoming dates for the Music Department

**May 16th** Junior Concert Choir performing at the AHSFA/FCHS Choral Concert 6:30pm at the E-Free Church

**May 24th** Year End Choral Concert 7:00pm at the E-Free church (students arrive at 6:30). Reminder that students are expected to stay for the whole concert.

Any parents that would like to assist in hauling the risers down to the church and back to the school would be greatly appreciated.

**May 25th** Year End Instrumental Concert 7:00pm at OJ in the Eastlick Gym. Reminder that students are expected to stay for the whole concert, and help tidy up the gym.

#### **Alberta Provincial Music Festival**

The Senior Concert Choir has qualified for the Alberta Provincial Music Festival which is being held on May 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations!

The Junior Concert Choir and Chamber Choir are still pending qualification through the Calgary Performing Arts Festival and we will keep you informed.

#### **Hats On For Charity:**

Hats on for Charity for the month of April made a donation of \$140.15 in support of our local firefighter team who participated in the Firefighter Stair Climb Challenge. The challenge for the team is to climb the Bow Building in downtown Calgary, which is 775 vertical feet (1204 steps) in support of Wellspring Calgary, an organization which provides free programs and resources to people who have been impacted by cancer, as well as those who care for them.

#### **EOJHS Hot Lunch Program**

This program offers a preordered hot lunch twice a week on Monday and Wednesday. All lunches are to be picked up during the school lunch break in the front foyer. Unfortunately, if a student is absent from school, their ordered lunch will not be held for the next day, nor will money be reimbursed. You can register your child for this program by visiting [www.healthyhunger.ca](http://www.healthyhunger.ca) and following the instructions. If you require any further information or have questions please email [eojhsmomhotlunch@gmail.com](mailto:eojhsmomhotlunch@gmail.com).

**“In Pursuit of Excellence”**

### **Tuesdays Are Pizza Day At EOJHS**

EOJHS continues selling pizza every Tuesday without pre-ordering at lunch time. Pizza selection includes Pepperoni, Hawaiian and Cheese. \$3.00 for 1 slice and \$5.00 for 2 slices.

Please note that the school canteen will operate every day as usual.

### **EOJHS Metal Water Bottles For Sale!**

EOJHS is selling metal water bottles to help boycott the use of plastic water bottles. These metal bottles come in various colors and have the EOJHS logo on them as well. The bottles are selling for \$6 each and can be purchased at the Main Office.

### **Recycle, Reduce, Reuse.....**

The Foods and Textiles room are accepting any unwanted magazines (old Sears catalogues included), both Foods and Fashion related, to be used for different projects throughout the year. Also being accepted are any clean yogurt or sour cream containers with lids. Please drop them off at the front office or to Mrs. Schaan in the Foods Room. Thank you.

### **Student Illnesses**

At EOJHS, we endeavor to provide all students with a safe and caring environment. As such, we have students who have a high risk medical condition and we believe it is our responsibility to support them to the best of our ability. For this reason, we ask that you communicate to us any suspicions or occurrences of

illnesses, particularly measles, chicken pox or flues. Thank you for your support!

### **School Fees**

Invoices for school fees for 2016/2017 school year have been mailed home and are now PAST DUE. Payment can be made online or we accept Cash, Cheque, and Debit Card at the school. If you wish to Pay online with Visa or Master Card please follow the link using your Maplewood User Name and Password. The link to login to our schools Maplewood is <https://hosting.maplewood.com/ab/fsd/OJHS/parents>

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your billing or wish to make arrangements for a payment plan, please contact Mrs. Tracy Thorbjornsen at [thorbjornsent@fsd38.ab.ca](mailto:thorbjornsent@fsd38.ab.ca) or 403-9384426 ext 19105.

### **Absenteeism**

All students are expected to be in school on time and to attend all classes. It is the parents' responsibility to confirm with the front office at the school whether or not these absences are excusable or inexcusable. The attendance number is 403-938-4426, then press 1. Alternatively you may email us at [ojattendance@fsd38.ab.ca](mailto:ojattendance@fsd38.ab.ca) and provide the student's name, homeroom and reason for and approximate length of absence/lateness. Any student absences not reported to the office will be recorded by the office as inexcusable.

### **Student Messages**

Urgent student messages can be left by calling the school's main number 403-938-4426, ext 0. Student with messages will be called to the office at 12:30 pm (lunch time) and 3:05 pm (end of the day) only.

### **Criminal Record Check (CRC) for Volunteers**

All volunteers for the school are required to have a criminal record check on file with EOJHS. If your family is new to EOJHS, and you need to obtain the required CRC please contact the office (938-4426, ext. 0) so we can prepare the letter you will need to take to the RCMP. The detachment is charging a \$5.00 fee- exact change, cash only.

Parent volunteer drivers are also required to have a CRC as well as completing the Volunteer Driver Form and providing a copy of their driver's license and insurance coverage of \$2 million.

### **Optional Athletic Wear –Sweat Shirts**

We have available the optional Ocelot athletic wear available for sale in the front office.

The EOJHS Sweat Shirts - \$40.00 each  
The EOJHS Sweat Pants -\$20.00 each  
The athletic lightweight wicking jersey – great as a warm up shirt or gym shirt in sized youth medium to adult XXL for \$30.00. Please see Mrs. Thorbjornsen any time to pick up these great items that will help keep you warm on those chilly outdoor PE Days.

### **ÉOJHS 2015-2016 Year Books**

There are now extra 2015/16 yearbooks for sale and they are available for \$20.00 each in the office.

### **Canadian Tire Money Donations**

Ms. King is once again collecting Canadian Tire money on behalf of the Okotoks Pound Rescue. Donations are collected all year and then given to the organization to help them purchase supplies. If you can donate, please bring \$ to Room 001. Thank you.

### **School Twitter Information**

ÉOJHS is now using Twitter on our home web page to get you information about what is and will be happening in our school. Check it out! Visit <http://okotoksjr.fsd38.ab.ca> Contact [holmesb@fsd38.ab.ca](mailto:holmesb@fsd38.ab.ca) for more information.

### **Sobeys Gift Cards**

Gift cards are available again this school year and are a dollar to dollar program where anyone can purchase pre-loaded gift cards in variable denominations from \$25.00 to \$500.00. Cards can be purchased from the office and the forms are located on our website. Up to 8% of your purchases will be credited to your students account and can be directed to the program of your choice, School Fees, Athletics, Field Trip, Band Camps. If you need any further information, please contact Tracy Thorbjornsen at 403-938-4426 ext. 19105.