

# ÉCOLE OKOTOKS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

## NEWS- February 2019



### Important Dates

Mar 1 – Grade 9 tour at FCHS  
Mar 5 – School Council Meeting, 6 pm  
Mar 6 – Parent/Teacher Interviews, 4-7 pm  
Mar 7 – Parent/Teacher Interviews, 4-7 pm  
Mar 8 – PD Day, No School  
Mar 18 – Global Information Night at FCHS, 7-9 pm  
Mar 22 – Learner Profiles Sent Home  
Mar 27 – FCHS Open House for Grade 9 Students, 6:30-8:30 pm  
Mar 29 – Alice Through the Looking Glass Production, 7 pm  
Mar 30 – Alice Through the Looking Glass Production, 2 pm  
Mar 30 – Alice Through the Looking Glass Production, 6 pm  
Apr 6 – Young Authors' Conference



### Long Term Dates: (Subject to Change)

Apr 12 – PD Day, No School  
Apr 18 – Early Dismissal at 12:05 pm  
Apr 19 – 28 – Easter Break

### Parent/Teacher Interviews

Parent/Teacher interviews are scheduled for Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> from 4pm to 7pm. Appointment times will be limited to 10 minutes each. Prior to booking your appointments, please be sure to have a discussion with your child as to determine the names of the teachers you wish to meet with, as these meetings are being scheduled prior to the second Learner Profiles being sent home. We respectfully ask that each family books one appointment per teacher, so as to maximize the number of students that our teachers can meet with. If you are unable to meet with a teacher on these days, or if there are no spots available, please be sure to contact them at any time to talk about your child's learning or to set up an alternate time to meet.

**Please Note:** Mr. Cummins and Ms. Graham will both be unavailable during Parent/Teacher Interviews March 6<sup>th</sup> and March 7<sup>th</sup>.

### Lifetouch Photography - Grade 9 Cap & Gown Photos

If your child missed their cap & gown pictures held January 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> at EOJHS, Lifetouch will be holding studio appointments for Grade 9 students on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Please call Lifetouch to book your appointment at 403-255-5440, ext. 4. The Calgary studio is located at 3628 Burnsland Rd SE, Calgary.

### Drama Performance "Alice: Through the Looking Glass"

EOJHS is pleased to announce that the public performances for "Alice: Through the Looking Glass" will be held on Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm and 6 pm.

Tickets prices are: \$5.00 for students, \$10.00 for adults, \$25.00 for a family pack of 4. Children under the age of 5 are free. **All cheques are to be made payable to Foothills School Division please.** Tickets can be purchased at the Main Office of the school.



### **School Fees Updated**

Your School fees accounts are updated regularly and of particular note Second semester fees have been added to your students Maplewood accounts. Please check your account to ensure that they are paid up to date. Invoices for school fees for 2018/2019 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. Please check your Maplewood accounts regularly as they get updated throughout the school year. <https://hosting.maplewood.com/ab/fsd/OJHS/parents>

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

### **Foothills Local No. 16's Diversity, Equity, and Human Rights Committee (DEHR)**

DEHR Committee is hosting a free documentary showing followed by a panel discussion focused on trauma and resiliency. This event will take place at 6pm on Wednesday April 3rd at the Rotary Performing Arts Centre in Okotoks. We will begin with a showing of Paper Tigers, a 2015 documentary about the impact trauma has on children's learning and their well-being. This documentary follows students affected by divorce, addiction, poverty, and mental health issues at Lincoln High School. This ultimately uplifting story illustrates the supports students were offered and how it transformed their lives and their larger school community. The documentary will be followed by a panel discussion featuring experts that work with our local youth, including psychologists, therapists, and teachers.

This educational and enlightening event is open to anyone who is interested in learning more about trauma, mental health, and resiliency.

Please join us at 6pm on Wednesday April 3rd at the Rotary Performing Arts Centre in Okotoks. The documentary is PG-13. This event is free to attend. All are welcome.

### **Young Authors' Conference 2019**

This year's Conference will be on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at Holy Trinity Academy. More information about registration will be sent out in the near future.

### **EOJHS Breakfast Club**

Did you know, have a breakfast program at EOJHS? Breakfast is served Tuesday through Friday every week! It is free for every student. We serve toast, bagels, fruit, juice, cheese and a variety of other weekly specials. Please take advantage of this wonderful program! Can't wait to see you there!



### **Phys Ed Program at ÉOJHS**

Every module will head outside at some point for the rest of the year. Please remind your children to be prepared for all types of weather. Please see below for the expectations around gym strip. We have been recommending that students have layers so that they can add or remove layers as needed.

The physical education uniform for students includes:

- rubber soled gym shoes
- an École Okotoks Junior High P.E. or other ÉOJHS athletics approved T-shirt and ÉOJHS school gym shorts.
- Students may wear their own sweat pants for outdoor use only
- Students who wish to wear sweatpants indoors MUST purchase a pair of ÉOJHS sweatpants, which can be purchased in the main office. ÉOJHS sweatpants may be worn indoors or outdoors.
- Hoodies must not be the same hoodie as the student wears to school
- Boots are allowed for outdoor modules
- Mittens and toque or hat are allowed outside (The small black stretch gloves work great.)

A reminder that when your child can not participate, or participation needs to be modified in physical education, please send in a note of explanation. This includes both injuries and illnesses. If your child needs to be excused for more than four days, we require a medical note. If you have questions or concerns about physical education, please contact your child's teacher.

### **School Parking Awareness**

Thank you for acknowledging the "No Stopping/No Parking School Bus Only Zone in front of the school.

Also, thank you being considerate of our neighboring preschool, Children's Montessori Academy that is directly across the street from EOJHS. Their parking area is their driveway and keeping that area open has been greatly appreciated.

On Another Note: The school has been made aware of another parking issue in the alley entrance north of the school. Please refrain from using the alley to drop off and pick up students. There is a concern that the residents that use this alley are often delayed from getting out of the alley onto the main road in a timely fashion. Residents have contacted Bylaw officers who will be patrolling this area as well.

We are aware that parking around the school is at a premium and we certainly appreciate everyone's participation in keeping our students safe when picking up and dropping off your child. You are welcome to use both the South and North school parking lots went at the school and area. Thank you.



## ÉOJHS Wellness Conference



Our Wellness Conference is done for another year! We are so grateful for all the staff and students that helped to make this another amazing day. A huge kudos to Save-On Foods for donating enough apples and granola bars for each student. A big thank you to the following presenters who took time out of their day to share their talents and passion with us:

Michela Sheedy – Singer  
Rachel Brodsky - Former National Canadian Teen  
Jack from Kids Cancer Care Foundation  
Megan Janzen - Former Athlete  
Gita & Stephen from Sheep River Library  
and Studio Me Drumming Circle  
Jennifer & Susan from McBride Career Group  
Jana from FCSS  
Angela from Rowan House  
Michelle from Paint It Up!  
Constable Andrew Morton from AARCS & CPS  
Kelly from Developments 2  
Christian from ABCCRS  
Stephen from Momentum Physical Therapy Okotoks  
Charity & Katelyn from AHS  
Malcolm Russell  
Big Rock Bouldering  
Mr Meehan & Ms Bruvall from OJHS  
Sarah from Modern & Mindful  
MWO John Stegmeier & WO Rylen Ramcharan-Bigelow from CAF

Kristine from Balance Dance Centre  
Kristine From AHS  
Millennium Lanes  
Christine From The Kinkonauts  
Jenna from Wymbin Yoga  
Amber Kreis  
Money Mentors  
Matt from Rising Phoenix  
Jamie-Brett from Okotoks Art Gallery  
Mobile Escape  
Jim Critchley  
Danna Form Foothills FAS  
Robin From Spectacle Blue  
Michelle from Living Prairie Kennels  
Raeanne from AHS  
Cody from Good Life Fitness  
Todd from CME Group Inc.  
Sara from Tail Appliances  
Greta from AHS



## ***SCHOOL/STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS AND VIEWS!***

### **"Zinc Saves Lives Fund Raising Campaign"**

Thank you to all the students who brought in batteries in January. We collected a total of 6070 batteries and saved 36,420 lives in India! Student Council is happy to announce that our Wellness Conference was a huge success; the school was packed full of inspiring speakers, entrepreneurs, and news reporters. Students had a wonderful day attending their courses and learning about new ways to get involved in our community. Our upcoming anti-bullying week is scheduled for the last week in February. Students will take part in various activities throughout the week.  
Sincerely Layna, Student Council President

### **Teacher Appreciation -Wednesday March 6**

Ecole Okotoks Junior High School's Teacher Appreciation day is March 6th. Show your appreciation by signing up to contribute to the teacher's meal. This can be a salad, bread, dessert, lasagna, whatever you like, preferably in individual portions and/or disposable or recyclable dish/container. All food needs to be in by 3pm as teachers will be eating directly after school. Parent/Teacher conferences start at 4pm. If you can please sign up and say in the comments what you will be contributing, thank you for your support! <http://signup.com/go/PXvzZwW>

### **School Council Meeting**

The next School Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 6:00-7:30pm in the staff room at the school. This is a parent led council and everyone is welcome.

### **Hot Lunch in Danger**

In order for the Hot Lunch Program to continue twice a week, we are in need of volunteers to help out. If you can spare one hour at lunch time to help sort classroom lunch orders, please contact Kim Owen, Volunteer Coordinator, at [volunteeroj@gmail.com](mailto:volunteeroj@gmail.com). Without volunteers, the Hot Lunch program might be cut down to one day a week starting in January.

### **EOJHS Hot Lunch Program**

Hot lunch ordering is available by visiting [Healthyhunger.ca](http://Healthyhunger.ca) to view menus and place orders. There is a new procedure to sign up for Hot Lunch Volunteers – Please Volunteer! Three steps to volunteer:

**Click this link** to go to our invitation page on SignUp.com: <http://signup.com/login/entry/9702882895492600>

**Enter your email address:** (You will NOT need to register an account on SignUp.com)

**Sign up!** Choose your volunteer spots.

**REPEATED  
INFORMATION FOR NEW  
FAMILIES...  
OR IF YOU NEED A  
REMINDER...  
OR FOR YOUR READING  
PLEASURE!**

Short Term Memory Rule #5  
"Repeat to Remember"

Long Term Memory Rule #6  
"Remember to Repeat"

**Drama Production "Alice Through the Looking Glass"**

The Drama department is accepting donations of the following things:

- Tupperware bins with lids
- Sturdy hangers
- Halloween costumes, masks, wigs, costume jewelry, hats, and retro clothing (not current fashions) in good condition.
- Large amounts (bolts) of fabric
- Wall Paint (especially Black and white), at least half tins

Our play this year is "Alice Through the Looking Glass" so if you have any unique items that you think would fit, please email Mrs. Ferguson at [fergusonc@fsd38.ab.ca](mailto:fergusonc@fsd38.ab.ca)

**"Hats On for Charity":**

In addition to other Fundraising campaigns that are held at ÉOJHS throughout the school year, on the last school day of each week we encourage our staff and students to contribute a minimum of \$1.00 to have the privilege of wearing their hats in school for the day. Each month the monies raised are donated to a different charity which ties in with other philanthropic activities that we are focusing on in the school.

**Our results to date:**

- September (Terry Fox) - \$237.25**
- October (Okotoks Food Bank) - \$226.35**
- November (Canadian Legacy Project) - \$262.55**
- December (WE "Create Change for Goats") - \$1,000. ÉOJHS purchased 20 goats for Haiti.**
- January (Alberta Children's Hospital) \$132.40**
- February (Kids Sport) \$57.80**

**Show your Ocelot Spirit - Optional Athletic Wear**

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

The ÉOJHS Sweat Shirts - \$40.00 each

The ÉOJHS 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.

Water bottles are for sale \$6.00 each in a variety of colors (Red, Green, Purple, Blue and Black) and they can be refilled with at the bottle fountains located conveniently throughout the school including the gyms. Please see Mrs. Thorbjornsen any time to pick up these great items that will help keep you warm on those chilly outdoor PE Days or just to show your OCELOT PRIDE.

If you are looking for something special, try our new online shopping portal for École Okotoks Jr. High School Spirit Wear. Simply Log onto <http://okotoksjr.entripyshops.com> to place your order. You simply create an account to order and delivery will be made directly to your home.

### **Sobeys/Safeway 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 6% 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.

### **Visitors In The School**

PLEASE remember that ALL visitors in our school are to check in and sign in at the office. Once you have signed in, the office staff will give you a visitor's badge to acknowledge to all of our staff and students that you are a visitor at EOJHS. This policy within the School Division is to ensure a safe and secure environment for all.

### **Tuesdays Are Pizza Day at EOJHS**

Pizza is for sale at the school every Tuesday at lunch time. Pizza selection includes Pepperoni, Hawaiian and Cheese. \$3.00 for 1 slice and \$5.00 for 2 slices.

### **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 high risk medical conditions 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.

### **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.

**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.

Attachments: Calgary's Child Magazine – March/April Issues



## **Calgary's Child Magazine March/April Issues**

We're excited to share our 2019 March/April issue with your school community! Spring is just around the corner and that means it's time to look ahead to warm weather, summer camps and programs, and fresh new beginnings for families across Calgary and the foothills!

Once again, Calgary's Child Magazine is delighted to provide your school the opportunity to distribute the digital edition of our magazine via a link placed on your school's website or in your newsletter. We have unified the link for our current issue so from now on, the link stays the same for every new issue, we simply update the issue on our end. The March/April issue is live now! <http://calgaryschild.com/current-issue/> Please let us know if you would like us to send the announcement email of our issue releases directly to your newsletter or website parent volunteer.

To read the current issue Calgary's Child Magazine, please visit <http://calgaryschild.com/current-issue/>



### **2019 MAR/APR ISSUE: NEW BEGINNINGS!**

This issue features our Bump, Baby & Toddler Guide, our Spring Fun Feature, Early-Bird Camps & Programs, and much more! Make the most of what the season has to offer right here in Alberta!

To read our latest issue, visit <http://calgaryschild.com/current-issue/>



If you feel that continuing the distribution of print copies is beneficial to your school community, we are happy to re-establish our regular distribution schedule. If you do not currently receive print copies and would like to receive them (typically schools distribute to first and only children or to their kindergarten students) please contact us at [calgaryschild@shaw.ca](mailto:calgaryschild@shaw.ca) or 403-241-6066.

We thank you for your continuing support! Ellen



M.L. Ellen Percival, Publisher & Editor-in-Chief

Calgary's Child Magazine

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