



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

March 2017

Important Dates

Apr 1st ZOOM Film
 Festival, Okotoks Public Library
 Apr 3rd SCREENAGERS
 Movie Playing at EOJHS, 7:00 - 8:30 pm
 Apr 5th Senator Riley
 Band Festival, Grade 7 & 8 students
 Apr 8th Cheerleading
 Provincials
 Apr 8th Young Authors'
 Conference
 Apr 10th Telus Spark Field
 Trip – Grade 8s
 Apr 13th EOJHS Talent
 Show and Early Dismissal at 12:05 pm
 Apr 14th – 23rd Easter Break,
 School Is Closed
 Apr 22nd – 25th Yellowhead
 Regional Arts Festival, Jasper/Hinton
 Apr 25th School Council
 Meeting at 7pm
 Apr 26th Choral Day with
 Robert Bateman Secondary School,
 Calgary/Okotoks
 Apr 27th Partner Band at
 the Calgary Performing Arts Festival

Apr 28th Glenbow Museum
 Field Trip – All Grade 9 Art Students
 May 2nd & 3rd EOJHS Track and
 Field Meet
 May 4th Rainout Day –
 EOJHS Track and Field Meet
 May 5th Staff PD Day – No
 School for Students
 May 23rd School Council
 Annual General Meeting (AGM), 7:00 pm

PAT Exam Schedule (All Grade 9s)

May 9th ELA PAT, Part A,
 9am – 11am
 May 11th FLA PAT, Part A,
 9am – 11am
 June 23rd FLA PAT, Part B,
 9am – 10:15am
 June 26th SS PAT, 9am –
 10:20am
 June 27th ELA PAT, Part B,
 9am – 10:15am
 June 28th Math PAT, 9am –
 10:30 am
 June 29th Science PAT,
 9am – 10:15am



Hey Families! Did you know...?

...we have the best Guest Teachers working for us in Foothills School Division! A big thank you to all of the individuals for coming into our schools throughout the year; last week we celebrated Guest Teacher Appreciation Week!

...we have the best RCMP members working here in Okotoks! We greatly value and appreciate the relationship that we have with them. Their commitment to keeping our school and community safe was evident last week. Please extend your own thanks to them if given the opportunity.

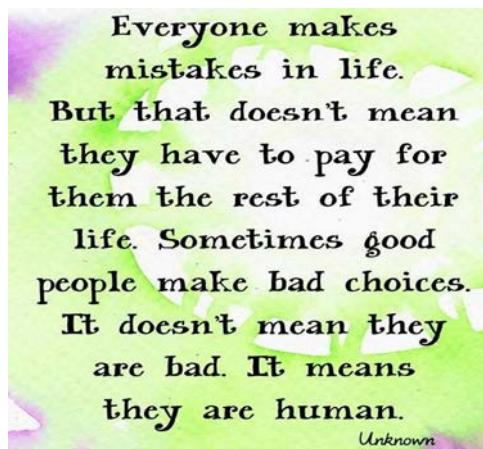
In reflection from the events of March 9th, I wish to thank all of the families for their support and words of encouragement

“In Pursuit of Excellence”

during the stress of the situation that forced us to close our school. I completely empathize with the fear and anxiety that it caused many people, but want to ensure you that thorough measures were taken to ensure the safety of all students and staff before we welcomed everyone back on March 10th. I am confident that all precautions were taken and want you to know, from the bottom of my heart, that your child's well-being and safety is my top priority.

- Please remember to have the conversations with your children that **'if they see something, say something'**. The threat was reported by a very brave student and his family, and I am very proud of their actions to ensure the safety of all.
- Please remember to talk to your children about the **'power of words'**. Saying something out loud that is hurtful or threatening is totally unacceptable.
- Please ensure that you monitor your child's technology regularly. You probably are the ones paying for their cell phones, and so you have the right to check it!

At the end of the day, NOTHING happened and all of our precious students and staff were and are safe.



Sincerely,
Leah, Bill & Rhonda

ZOOM Film Festival News:

The third annual Okotoks Youth Film Festival preparations are under way. Students in Okotoks and the Foothills Area are encouraged to create and submit films. **Submissions will be accepted starting April 1st and the deadline is August 31st.** Shawna, the director of the ZOOM Film Festival, visited OJHS classrooms on March 31st and discussed how to become involved. A meeting was held at noon in Ms. King's room for all interested students who did not receive a visit from Shawna.

The first of the film making workshops being held at the Okotoks Public Library will be Saturday, April 1st. Pre-registration is required and can be done online. Visit their website at www.zoom.ca for more information on the festival, film making, and upcoming workshops.

Screenagers Movie – April 3, 2017

Foothills School Division, in partnership with the Council of School Councils (COSC) is pleased to present the award-winning SCREENAGRS: Growing Up in the Digital Age, a documentary about the biggest parenting issue of our time. Are you watching kids scroll through life, with their rapid-fire thumbs and a six-second attention span? Physician and filmmaker Delaney Ruston saw that happening with her own kids and began a quest to uncover how it might impact their development. As with her other two award-winning documentaries on mental health. Ruston takes a deeply personal approach as she probes into the vulnerable corners of family life, including her own, to explore struggles over social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. Through poignant, and unexpectedly funny stories, along with surprising insights from authors, psychologists, and brain scientists, SCREENAGERS reveals how tech time impacts kids' development and also offers solutions on how adults can empower their kids to best navigate the digital world to find balance. As seen on Good Morning America. Get your FREE movie tickets today! April 3rd in Okotoks: <https://fsd.is/2IDsa2x>

EOJHS School Council Meeting

The next School Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 25th at 7:00pm. Please feel free to join us, we would love to see and hear from our parents!

“In Pursuit of Excellence”

Young Authors' Conference – Sat. April 8th

EOJHS will be participating again in the annual Young Authors' Conference being held on Saturday, April 8th at Ecole Secondaire Highwood High School. This year EOJHS is thrilled to have 32 students attend the conference! The students attending have a wonderful opportunity to meet lots of amazing writers, illustrators and song writers.

Telus Spark Field Trip – Grade 8

All grade 8 science students are scheduled for a field trip to Telus Spark on April 10th. Each class requires two chaperones. Admission for chaperones is free. Student cost is \$20.00 each and deadline for money and forms is March 31, 2017.

School Council Annual General Meeting

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

EOJHS Triathlon Club

The EOJHS Tri- Club is still looking for student athletes! If you are interested in swimming, biking and running with Mr. Van Der Veen and Mrs. Burgess, please pop by the PE Office for the information form. Over the next few months we will train as a group in preparation for 1 – 3 triathlons beginning in June! Get ready to SPLASH, MASH and DASH! Please check out the following website for more information on our program:
www.ocelottriathlonclub.weebly.com

Ocelot CrossFit Kids

Ocelot CrossFit Kids is having its biggest year yet! We have over 70 kids signed up and are getting 25 – 35 kids at each WOD (workout of the day). Our Ocelot athletes are being introduced to functional movements in a safe and fun environment! We are now preparing for the 2017 CrossFit Kids Showdown on April 1st at EOJHS. Heritage Heights CrossFit Kids will be in our house challenging our athletes to see who holds the title of fittest kids in the Foothills School Division. Come check out the fun.
www.ocelotcrossfitkids.com

The Ocelot Triathlon Team is gearing up for our first race on June 3rd 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 for more information

Hats On For Charity:

Hats on for Charity for the month of February made a donation of \$300.00 to the Alberta Children's Hospital! Hats for Charity and the Staff/Student Hockey Game Puck Toss in February supported Kids Sport for the month of March. The total raised during the month of March was \$961.96!

Grade 8 Telus Spark Field Trio April 10th

Just a reminder that the Grade 8s are heading to the Telus Sparks on Monday, April 10th.

Glenbow Museum Trip – Grade 9 Art

The grade 9 art students will all be heading to the Glenbow Museum on Friday, April 28th.

Phys. Ed Department Update

For the next five weeks your child is enrolled in options they chose at the beginning of the year. For two of the next six weeks they will be inside for badminton. Badminton takes both of our gyms so there will be students outside for most of the next block of units.

Your child needs to be prepared to be outside and all students have been instructed on the appropriate outdoor clothing (athletic pants, sweaters, jackets, mitts, toques, boots, snow pants, etc.). The clothing students wear to school is not considered appropriate athletic wear and they must change for physical education (PE).

Your child has picked one of the following streams below:

1. Badminton A, Road Hockey, Ultimate Frisbee, Lacrosse, Rugby
2. Road Hockey, Speedball/Capture The Flag, Badminton B, Slow Pitch, Frisbee Golf/Wallball
3. Kickball, Yoga, Speedball, Trail Walking, Badminton C

Our website is up and running, please feel free to check out www.eojhspe.weebly.com for lots of useful information.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Play

The 2016-2017 drama production *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* was a huge success!! The actors involved poured an incredible amount of work and talent into the show. A huge thank you to the work of the crew, and all the parents who helped with costumes and working front of house. Lastly, thank you to everyone who supported the production by coming to the show; we hoped you enjoyed it! It meant a lot to our actors to see their school and community supporting them.

There is a special group of Grade 9's whose talent will be missed here at EOJHS: Ty 9G, Jillian 9E, Maria 9E, Sierra 9G, Abby 9B, Liam 9D, Emma 9A, Ashlyn 9G, Felicia 9F, Chloe 9G, Sam 9E, and Aiden 9D. We wish you all the best in Grade 10.

Music Notes

A huge congratulations goes out to the Senior Concert Choir, who qualified for the Alberta Provincial Music Festival through the Highwood Lions Festival on March 28th. Letters will be coming home in regards to this festival in the coming days.

The Junior Concert Choir also received a mark of Distinction, while the Chamber Choir won the trophy for most promising Junior High Choir.

Both the Senior Concert Choir and Chamber Choir won a GOLD level standing at ChoralFest earlier this month as well.

The following dates are coming up quickly:

April 5 pm Senator Riley Beginner Band Festival.

All Grade 7 and 8 band students will be involved. Chaperones are greatly appreciated

April 22 - 25 Yellowhead Regional Arts Festival Jasper/Hinton

All students involved know who they are. A reminder that all fees must be paid prior to April 13th. If you need to make arrangements, please contact us right away. We will be sending a packing list home in the coming days.

April 26th Choral Day with Robert Bateman Secondary School Okotoks/Calgary

This is going to be a huge day of music making and performing with our sister program from Abbotsford. The two choirs will rehearse and perform at OJ in the morning, perform at the Calgary Performing Arts Festival in the afternoon, and in the evening, perform for you at the E-Free Church.

April 27th Partner Band at the Calgary Performing Arts Festival

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.

Dates TBA but around May 30 Alberta Provincial Music Festival

Right now, the Senior Concert Choir has qualified, but the Junior Concert Choir and Chamber Choir both have an opportunity to qualify through the Calgary Performing Arts Festival. Thank you again for all your support.

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 you 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.

“In Pursuit of Excellence”

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.

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.

EOJHS Hot Lunch Program

School Council initiated a Hot Lunch Program in January 2017. The 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 and following the instructions. If you require any further information or have questions please email ejhsmomhotlunch@gmail.com.

The program is still seeking two parent volunteers for Monday and Wednesday of each week. Time required to volunteer is 11:45 am – 12:45 pm. Parents can volunteer every week, once a week or even once a month. All help is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

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 2015-2016 Year Books

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

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 or 403-9384426 ext 19105.

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!

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 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.

“In Pursuit of Excellence”

Criminal Record Check (CRC) for Volunteers

All volunteers for the school are required to have a criminal record check on file with ÉOJHS. 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.

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 for more information.

SCREENAGERS: Growing Up in The Digital Age

Foothills School Division, in partnership with the Council of School Councils (COSC) is pleased to present the award-winning SCREENAGERS: Growing Up in the Digital Age, a documentary about the biggest parenting issue of our time.

Date: Monday April 3, 2017

Time: 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Location: Ecole Okotoks Jr. High School, #1 Pacific Ave., Okotoks Alberta

Are you watching kids scroll through life, with their rapid-fire thumbs and a six-second attention span? Physician and filmmaker Delaney Ruston saw that happening with her own kids and began a quest to uncover how it might impact their development. As with her other two award-winning documentaries on mental health, Ruston takes a deeply personal approach as she probes into the vulnerable corners of family life, including her own, to explore struggles over social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. Through poignant, and unexpectedly funny stories, along with surprising insights from authors, psychologists, and brain scientists, SCREENAGERS reveals how tech time impacts kids' development and also offers solutions on how adults can empower their kids to best navigate the digital world to find balance.

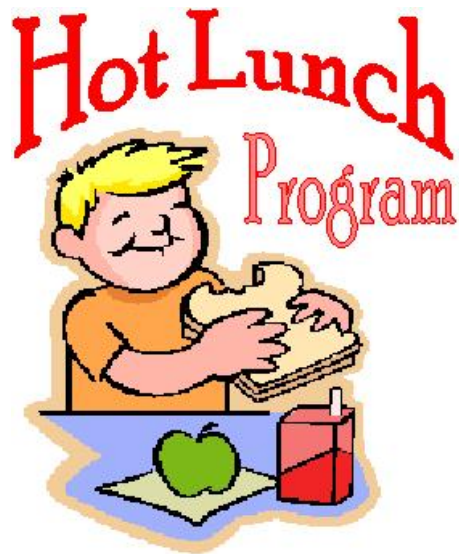
The movie is appropriate for parents of children grade 3 and up. We are encouraging our parents to bring their children with them if they are grade 5 and up so that they will have some common language as they discuss this topic in their home. There is one scene, only a few seconds long, from a video game that depicts graphic violence.

SCREENAGERS: Growing Up in The Digital Age is the first feature documentary to explore the impact of screen technology on kids, and to offer parents and educators proven solutions that work. The film is selling out audiences around North America. Foothills School Division welcomes teens and adults in our community to join us as we delve into this important and far-reaching issue.

For more information and to reserve your FREE tickets please visit: [Screenagers Tickets](http://ScreenagersTickets(ow.ly/6MRy308JE5H) (ow.ly/6MRy308JE5H)

This is a ticketed event which is expected to sell out, so please get your ticket early.

u can search Youtube to see the movie's trailer



EOJHS School Council is excited to offer hot lunch two days a week every Monday and Wednesday

Please go to healthyhunger.ca and register your child.

Please note: All lunches must be claimed at lunch hour. If a student is away for a field trip or absent due to illness, ordered lunches will not be held, nor reimbursed.

Pizza will still be available at the school on Tuesdays without pre-ordering and the canteen will operate as usual.

If you have any questions, please email ejhsmomhotlunch@gmail.com.

School Council is always looking for volunteers to help out. Please contact the school if you can be of assistance.

April 8th: 1st Annual Discover Eagles Football

- Meet Eagles coaches and players
- On field introduction to football
- Parent orientation
- Free pizza and swag
- Anyone ever thinking about being involved as a player or a coach should come check it out
- Runs from 6:30pm - 8:30pm at the Crescent Point Regional Field House



Free Event