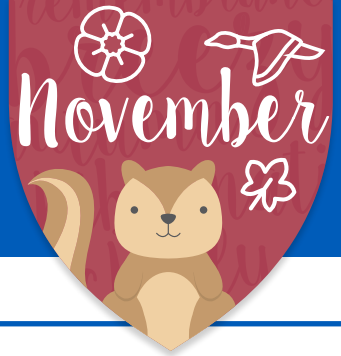




# THE OXFORD SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER



### HEAD OF SCHOOL MESSAGE

Parent/Caregivers,

We have completed two months of learning and personal development at The Oxford School. This learning has included students and faculty and is displayed in various ways daily.

Here is a list of highlights of the events we participated in and celebrated.

#### AUGUST

- Faculty Orientation and Professional Learning
- Parent Teacher Meet and Greet

#### SEPTEMBER

- Cross Country
- Terry Fox Run
- Orange Shirt Day
- WCC Welcome Back Barbeque

#### OCTOBER

- Disc Golf Day Competition
- Girls and Boys Volleyball League
- Non-Competitive Soccer
- Halloween Costume Day

Indeed, our Friday Tea has continued to be a weekly event essential to our community building.

We have held two successful fire drills to ensure that students are prepared for emergencies at the school.

Progressive Reports have been sent home, and we will host Parent Interviews on November 16 & 17 (Grade 6, 7, 8) and November 17 (Kindergarten to Grade 5).

The Ontario Ministry of Education Growing Success - Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting in Ontario Schools identifies

two essential types of assessment - Assessment for Learning (Formative Assessment) and Assessment of Learning (Summative Assessment). These Progress Reports focus on students' learning skills and work habits.

Reflecting on my first sixty days, I have enjoyed working with an excellent Faculty, Board, Parents/Caregivers and most importantly, the children. My highlight of the day is meeting you and your children in the morning and at dismissal.

The next six weeks will go quickly, and we will keep you updated on our Holiday and Christmas events and activities,

Sincerely,

**Gerry Cockburn** OCT. MSc.Ed.  
Head of School

# CLASS UPDATES

November 2023

## EARLY YEARS

The Pre-K class has navigated their first 2 months of school with so much confidence, they came to school ready to have fun! It has been so wonderful getting to know these students and their awesome families. Going to Tea every Friday and attending music class with Mrs. Forgie are the highlights of our week. Our small class has felt like family and I am so excited to see all the adventures the rest of the year will bring.

*Written by: Miss Leah Pellar*



## JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN

The start of the year in Junior Kindergarten has been filled with fun and exploration. We have been busy getting to know one another, the school building and all the new routines. In Junior Kindergarten we have made friends and are learning how to work together and do things for ourselves.

We had a fantastic trip to Apple Land Station in October. We got to ride a school bus, a tractor-train and pick our own apples! It was a great day.

Junior Kindergarten loves to have Music with Mrs Forgie, Phys Ed with Ms Mason and library time with our Gr 4 Buddies in Miss Kleebaum's class.

We are thankful for our time outside and love exploring both the Kindie and big kid yards.

We might be some of the smallest students at school, but we are growing everyday and we can do big things! I can't wait to see what we get to learn about next.

*Written by: Mrs. Kim Barlow*



## GREAT NEWS!

Our school has recently transitioned into a registered charity, which means we can now provide charitable receipts for your generous donations. This step allows us to further enhance our school's programs and initiatives, benefiting our students and the community at large. If you're interested in supporting our school and contributing to our educational endeavors, we warmly invite you to make a donation. Your support is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

To make a donation, please click on the following link:  
[theoxfordschool.ca/donate](https://theoxfordschool.ca/donate)

Together, we can continue to make a positive difference in the lives of our students and foster a thriving educational environment.

*Thank you for being a part  
of our community and  
supporting our mission.*

# CLASS UPDATES

November 2023

## SENIOR KINDERGARTEN

My name is Mrs. Saeed and I am so excited to be taking over from Mrs. Miller. We have had a great start and I believe this is going to be a fruitful journey, full of knowledge and laughter. I have kickstarted by reviewing letters and numbers with our little learners so I can tailor learning materials according to each individual's need. We enjoy story time and focus on comprehension and relating the stories to real-life experiences. The students complete puzzles and engage in fine motor activities on completion of classwork. We are also starting some creative art work based on different themes and concepts that we cover in class. I look forward to the great year ahead of us..

*Written by: Ms. Kashmala Saeed*

## GRADE 1

Grade 1 has gotten off to a vibrant start this year. We jumped right into our language and reading programs and are now working to sound out anything we can get our hands on. What a joy it is to hear students reading to teachers and one another. Have you heard of "The Better Alphabet Song"? We have! Ask us! We learned to use our eye glue and our muscle mouths in order to discover that there are more than 26 letter sounds! What a mind blowing experience. We loved our science unit on Bats. We dug into the bat cave deeply to discover the unique

### GRADE 1 CONTINUED

characteristics of this special, and slightly creepy mammal. We created some batty art projects and continued to learn and talk about echolocation. We are having a lot of fun and can't wait for snow!

*Written by: Ms. Kim Dorken*

## GRADE 2

I'm excited to share a glimpse of the fantastic first two months of school in Grade 2 with you. We had an incredible time on our school trip to Apple Land, where we learned about apples and had a blast!

In Math, our young learners have been diving into place value, patterns, column addition and subtraction, and number bonds. They're making great strides in their mathematical skills.

Our language journey has been just as thrilling. We're currently halfway through our novel study on "Matilda." Along the way, we've explored persuasive writing. In Language, we've explored nouns, verbs, synonyms, and even tackled syllables.

In Science, we've been exploring habitats and animals, and our students have created amazing animal fact file posters as a project.

For Social Studies, our focus has been on heritage and traditions. We've learned so much about each other's backgrounds and cultures through presentations and discussions.

In our Art class, we've experimented with pointillism and mosaics, creating beautiful

### GRADE 2 CONTINUED

works of art.

These first two months have given us the chance to get to know each other, learn, and grow together. I'm looking forward to the rest of the school year and the exciting adventures that await us.

*Written by: Ms. Annie Aziz*



## GRADE 3

During the first two months of grade 3, we've been having a fantastic time and are evolving into enthusiastic and smart students. Our classroom has an enchanting Harry Potter theme, and we're excited to have several Potterheads among us. Drawing inspiration from our magical surroundings, we created a Halloween pumpkin featuring Harry and his faithful companion, Hedwig. In our math lessons, we've been mastering addition and subtraction with larger numbers. In science class, we've had a blast conducting exciting experiments and scavenger hunts. We learned about germination and even had the opportunity to repot the plants we germinated. Our reading adventures continue as we immerse ourselves in new stories and meet intriguing characters created by the renowned author Roald Dahl and Dr. Seuss. We're also learning about our community and Indigenous peoples. Most importantly, we are learning to be respectful, kind, and helpful to our friends. We are looking forward to exciting adventures as the school year continues.

*Written by: Mrs. Nam*

## GRADE 4

It has been an amazing first 2 months in Grade 4. We have all settled into our routines and are enjoying our learning. We especially look forward to Fridays after tea when we have a dance party before going home. We have completed 2 projects already! One was a research presentation about the physical regions in Canada and the other was a habitat diorama. We also had our first field trip. We went to Dairy Days to learn all about dairy farming. The best bit was seeing and petting the cows! We have enjoyed reading the novel Charlotte's Web and liked how our writing units were based off of the book. Since we are nearly done with this book, we are wondering what our next one will be?

*Written by: Ms. Melanie Kleebaum*

# YOUR BUSINESS ADVERTISEMENT HERE

## NEW SCHOOL FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE

Advertisement spots will be available to our school family businesses in our quarterly school newsletter. The revenue generated from advertising sales will go towards The Oxford School's yearly fundraising goals.

Advertising spots will be sold for \$75 per spot (3.5" h x 5" w)

Coupons and special offers are encouraged.

Examples: "Buy One, Get One", "Use code: oxfordschool at check-out"

Contact [donations@theoxfordschool.ca](mailto:donations@theoxfordschool.ca) to learn more or purchase an advertisement spot in future newsletters.

## GRADE 5

We have had an exciting start to our year in Grade Five. In Science, students have had the opportunity to learn about the properties of matter through many hands-on experiments. In Language Arts, we have focussed on parts of speech and begun to work with prefixes and suffixes to help us understand different word meanings and spelling patterns. Students had a lot of fun creating and writing about a haunted house and have thoroughly enjoyed our class read aloud of *The Jumbies*. In math, we have developed our understanding of addition and subtraction, multiples and factors, and multiplication of multiple digit numbers. It has been a great start to the year and we look forward to many more fabulous adventures in fifth grade!

*Written by: Mrs. Nicole Kropf*



## GRADE 6

The first few months of Grade 6 have been full of new changes and fun curriculum. In Language Arts, students studied non-fiction text features as well as non-fiction texts. They used the exciting topic of the Titanic as a way of studying non-fiction features, the history of the ship and its passengers. They concluded the unit with a controversial debate arguing what should happen to the sunken ship and all of the items left at the bottom of the ocean. We are looking forward to starting our novel study on *Mary Poppins* this month. In science, the Grade 6 class has been learning all about Biodiversity, the five kingdoms of living things and more specifically, the animal kingdom. They are looking forward to the Fungi Kingdom and growing mould! Students are exploring the Elements of Art, including lines, value and most recently, colour. It has been a great start to the year!

*Written by: Mrs. Rebecca Moss*

## GRADE 7

Over the past two months, the grade 7 students have evolved into an incredibly cohesive and spirited collective. Their time at school has been marked by joy and fulfillment. In mathematics, they have delved into three units, namely Whole Numbers, Fractions, and Decimals. Their geographical knowledge has expanded to encompass landforms and the water system, leading to engaging projects on land reclamation and changes in the water system. Furthermore, their French proficiency has flourished with the completion of two units. In the realm of science, they have explored the intricacies of the ecosystem, culminating in

GRADE 7 CONTINUED

a stimulating project on human impact. Most notably, during the weekly Friday tea time, they have not only fulfilled their duties as ushers but have also taken responsibility for cleaning the entire venue post-tea time, showcasing their exemplary dedication and sense of responsibility.

*Written by: Mr. Tiger Li*

## GRADE 8

The first two months of Grade 8 have been a whirlwind of creativity and learning. In English, we've ventured into the thrilling world of literature, delving into captivating stories like "The Elevator" and "The Nightmare Before Christmas." Students have honed their literary analysis skills, and we've combined art with literature in projects like Tim Burton-inspired cartoon selfies and a Van Gogh-inspired art piece.

Beyond the classroom, our Grade 8 class has been active in volleyball, presented tea etiquette demonstrations, and conquered outdoor STEM challenges. We've also embraced computer science with Code.org and explored Post-Impressionism in art. STEM challenges continue to inspire teamwork and problem-solving skills. It's been a fantastic start to the school year!

*Written by: Ms. Alanna Stinson*

## PHYS ED.

All of our athletes have been working hard, challenging themselves to improve their skills everyday. The primary grades have been learning to work in teams, while working on their targeting skills and reaction time, through the game of pins. They have begun to understand that taking time to focus on strategy can be very beneficial. Our junior athletes have been spending a lot of time learning and perfecting their soccer skills. Coupled with some friendly games of pins, these students have really had a chance to improve their teamwork skills. Finally our intermediate athletes have been living and breathing volleyball. They play during gym class, at recess, at practice and during their extracurricular games, twice a week. They have shown great improvement on all fronts, but their teamwork has been the factor that has seen the most progress. These first two months have been so exciting for our athletes, we can't wait to learn and play more as the year progresses!

*Written by: Miss Samantha Mason*

## MUSIC

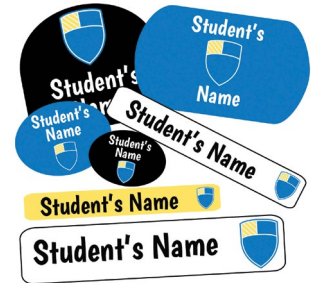
Our Music Program is off to a great start this fall with the sound of many different instruments and voices ringing throughout the school.

Over the last two months we have enjoyed many individual Tea performances and Choir presentations in the Oxford Hall.

Our Recorder, Trumpet, Hand bells, Choir and String ensemble classes are working hard to prepare our Christmas Concert in December and can't wait to perform for everyone!

*Written by: Mrs. Anne Forgie*

## SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!



### LOVABLE LABELS

Buy your child's clothing labels here and 20% of each sale will go back to The Oxford School!

[www.OxfordSchool.lovablelabels.ca](http://www.OxfordSchool.lovablelabels.ca)



### MABELS LABELS

Follow this link, and search "The Oxford School" (Woodstock) to support our school with your purchase

[https://mabelslabels.ca/en\\_CA/fundraising/support/](https://mabelslabels.ca/en_CA/fundraising/support/)



### FLIPGIVE

Buy your everyday and holiday gift cards here and a portion of each sale will go to The Oxford School! FlipGive sells gift cards to popular stores like Sobeys, Winners, Starbucks, Home Hardware and Indigo!

Also, use this site to make your online purchases and a portion of each order comes back to TOS.

[www.flipgive.com/teams/199731-the-oxford-school](http://www.flipgive.com/teams/199731-the-oxford-school)



### SCHOLASTIC

Scholastic Flyers are back!

Our school code is: RC531678. Use this code to ensure your purchases are attached to our school and benefit our teachers. The school will receive 20% back from your orders and the teachers can use this money for more classroom books and supplies. Flyers will go out a few times a year. Happy reading!

Orders and shopping are done online: <https://bookclubs.scholastic.ca>.

# Upcoming Events

November						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

**THURSDAY, NOV 23RD, DEC 7TH & JAN 18TH • 10:45-11:30AM**  
**SUB DAYS**

For those who pre-ordered in September - Mr Sub is served at the first lunch. Please send additional snacks and water/juice to round out this lunch and for our second lunch break at 1:10pm.

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD**  
**GRADES 1-3: LONDON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM - FIELD TRIP**

21 Wharncliffe Road South, London ON

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH • 10:45-11:30AM**  
**FESTIVE LUNCH**

To kick off the holiday season, The Oxford School will be dining together in the main hall during first lunch.

For those who pre-ordered before Nov. 15th, lunch will be served from Chrissy's Catering, each meal option includes a drink.

December						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**WEDNESDAYS, NOV 15TH, NOV 29TH, DEC 13TH & JAN 10TH • 10:45-11:30AM**  
**PIZZA DAYS**

For those who pre-ordered in September - Crispy Slice Pizza is served at the first lunch. Please send additional snacks and water/juice to round out this lunch and for our second lunch break at 1:10pm.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1ST**  
**SPIRIT DAY**

Students are invited to wear their house colours for today's spirit day.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12TH**  
**GRADES 5-8: BYE BYE BIRDIE - FIELD TRIP**

Woodstock Collegiate Institute  
35 Riddell Street, Woodstock ON,

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15TH • 2:00PM-3:20PM**  
**PARENT TEA - CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Join us for a festive Parent Tea - our traditional Friday tea plus a wonderful performance put on by our students. The show will begin promptly at 2:00pm. Don't miss out!

January						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20TH**  
**DRESS LIKE AN ELF DAY**

Dress like an elf to celebrate the last day of school before Christmas Break. Wear your festive elf attire, jingle bells and tinsel. If students choose not to dress like an elf they are asked to come to school in their regular uniform.

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21ST TO**  
**FRIDAY, JANUARY 5TH**  
**CHRISTMAS BREAK**

We wish all our TOS students & families a safe, joyful Holiday & a Happy New Year!

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 12TH**  
**SPIRIT DAY**

Students are invited to wear their house colours for today's spirit day. If students choose not to wear their house colours they are asked to come to school in their regular uniform.

**THE EVENT CALENDAR IS ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE AT [THEOXFORDSCHOOL.CA/CALENDAR](https://www.theoxfordschool.ca/calendar)**

## WCC NEWS

The Wild Community Connection is looking forward to what this school year will bring. We are on our way with fundraisers and looking into other activities for this year. The Parent Survey and the Teachers Survey will really help the WCC to bring into focus what the 'school community' is looking for in regards to fundraising ideas and where the funds should/need to go. Our goal this year as the parent representative group is to work together with you as the parents and the teachers. The WCC would like to be transparent to where the fundraiser funds are being used, understanding that we also need to be fluid as sometimes we need to

pivot from unforeseen circumstances. As funds get spent, we will be posting them to Class Dojo to keep everyone informed. From the results of the survey, we have heard parents are looking for: product purchase fundraisers, dinner events, hot lunches, food truck events, healthy choices for kids, milk program etc. The teacher survey showed they are looking for more Chromebooks, iPads, art supplies, drama & theatre supplies, STEM/ Science resources & materials, curriculum subscriptions, teacher resources, and organizational updates. Please reach out to us at [pta@theoxfordschool.ca](mailto:pta@theoxfordschool.ca) if you have any questions.

*Written by: Tracey Arts, WCC Chair*

Wild

COMMUNITY  
CONNECTION

## BECOME A Parent Volunteer

The Oxford School is currently looking to add to our group of active volunteers. Volunteers help in various roles within the school and classrooms, including: volunteer drivers, classroom helpers, Friday Tea helpers, library helpers, and special event helpers.

**If you are interested in volunteering please contact**  
**[volunteer@theoxfordschool.ca](mailto:volunteer@theoxfordschool.ca)**