

Oyama Traditional School



Handbook 2024-2025





OTS HANDBOOK

Welcome to Oyama Traditional School!

Citizenship • Responsibility • Respect

"Where Awesome Meets Traditional"

Please take the time to review the information in this handbook. The handbook outlines all of the important policies and procedures of the school and gives clarification to the expectations for parents, students and staff members. I look forward to meeting you and working with you. If you are a parent who has a child enrolled at another school but are wondering whether Oyama Traditional School might better meet the needs of your child, I encourage you to arrange to contact the school to schedule a tour.

If you have any questions, please call me at the school at (250) 870-5121 or send me an email at robbie.franklin@sd23.bc.ca.

Respectfully,

Robbie Franklin
Principal
Oyama Traditional School





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Oyama Traditional School Staff 2024-2025



Principal	Mr. Robbie Franklin
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Nikki Ratray
Grade K	Ms. Laura Easton/Ms. Hannah Reisdorf
Grade K/1	Ms. Kerstyn Stewart
Grade 1	Mrs. Lory Penner
Grade 2/3	Mrs. Shannon Daniels
Grade 2/3	Mrs. Katy Hewitson
Grade 3/4	Ms. Tammy Gleboff/Ms. Kiah Wallace-Webb
Grade 4/5	Ms. Lori Day
Grade 4/5	Mr. Brad Reiben
Teacher Librarian	Mrs. Angela Allen
Library Assistant	Mrs. Teresita Smithman
Learning Assistant	Mrs. Marisa Andrews
Inclusion Teacher	Ms. Tiffaney Gamble
CEA	Mrs. Dawn Jones
CEA	Mrs. Leah Kotanko
CEA	Mrs. Jennifer Gouwenberg
CEA	Mrs. Michelle Trombley
Indigenous Advocate	Mrs. Tamara Rose
School Counsellor	Mrs. Candice Zeigler/Mrs. Kelli Cook
Speech and Language Pathologist	Ms. Cheryl Elsworth
Custodian	Mr. Dylan Cahill

Bell Schedule		
All Grade (K-5)	8:25 a.m.	Welcome Bell
	8:30 a.m.	Classes Begin
	11:10 – 12:08 p.m.	Lunch
	1:15 – 1:30 p.m.	Recess
	2:30 p.m.	Dismissal
School Office Hours	8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	



PARENTS AS PARTNERS



Studies show that when parents actively support their children's learning, their children get better grades, develop a more positive self-image and are more likely to graduate from high school and go on to higher education.

At OTS, we value the role of parents in supporting their child's learning and the school's philosophy. We encourage families to engage with our homework and uniform policies and to ensure their child attends school regularly and on time. Parents are also invited to strengthen our community by participating in the Parent Advisory Council, the School Planning Committee, or by volunteering. Regular communication between home and school fosters an optimal learning environment for all students.

The OTS Parent Advisory Council (PAC) and What They Do for our Community

- Meet once a month, please check the website calendar for dates and times.
- Organization of parents who are dedicated to the education and well-being of children.
- Facilitates communication between home and school, advises parents on participating in educational activities and decision-making, strengthens family involvement in education, and fosters meaningful parent participation.
- All parents and guardians of OTS learners are PAC members and are encouraged to attend meetings.
- Involved in various fund-raising activities, including the Fun Lunch Program.

The OTS PAC manages a Facebook page for parents. We request parents practice good digital citizenship when commenting, as the page reflects our school community. If parents have concerns about a school district employee, please contact the principal directly instead of posting comments about the employee on Facebook.

VOLUNTEERS

Parents and visitors are warmly welcomed at OTS. A key aspect of our school is teamwork among staff and volunteers. Teachers and the principal coordinate volunteer efforts in classrooms and throughout the school. We are grateful for the support of numerous volunteers, whose contributions enrich the programs we offer to our students. Every volunteer is valued—whether you can commit an hour occasionally or are available for a regular schedule, we truly appreciate all the help we receive.

All visitors must report to the office to sign in on arrival and sign out upon leaving. Visitors must follow all emergency procedures if present in the building during an emergency.

Prior to working with students, all volunteers must undergo a Criminal Records Check. Drivers also need to complete paperwork and provide a copy of their insurance and driver's license. See the secretary at the school for the correct forms.



REPORTING TO PARENTS



The following information is copied from the Ministry of Education website:

The K-12 Student Reporting Policy (the “Policy”) outlines the requirements for communicating student learning: it requires concise Descriptive Feedback in clear and accessible language to ensure students and families understand where the student is at in their learning, and areas for further growth. The Policy also requires Student Self-Assessment of Core Competencies and Student Goal Setting as part of the reporting process. For Grades K-9 the Policy requires use of the Provincial Proficiency Scale while for Grades 10-12 the Policy requires use of letter grades and percentages. For Grades 10-12 a graduation status update is required on the Summary of Learning at the end of the year.

The Policy pertains to all learners in the B.C. education system. A student who is an English language learner, French language learner in a Francophone program, has a disability or diverse ability (with or without an IEP), adult learner, or learner in an online learning program should receive communications of student learning in the same way as their peers in any other program and should align with the school districts’ regular reporting periods. All learners benefit from individualized descriptive feedback and personal involvement in the assessment process.

Communication of student learning is ongoing throughout the year. This Policy is designed to ensure school districts have the freedom and flexibility to communicate about student learning in a way that best meets the needs of students; this includes communication with students and parents/guardians that is inclusive, accessible, and culturally responsive.

Teachers provide timely feedback to parents/guardians and/or students that is responsive to student needs. The communication between home and school can take many forms. However, during the school year students and parents/guardians will receive at least 5 communications of student learning. At least three of these communications will be written in the form of a Written Learning Update or Summary of Learning. At least two of these communications will be in the form of an Informal Learning Update. This ensures all parents/guardians and students in the province receive regular, informative updates on where the child is at in their learning, and areas of further development.

At Oyama Traditional School, in addition to three Written Learning Updates throughout the year, there are two key opportunities for parents to connect with teachers to discuss their child’s progress. The first is a “Meet the Teacher” evening in late September, where parents can schedule follow-up conferences in October. The second is a set of parent/teacher conferences, held in late January or early February, which coincide with early dismissal days.

Parents are encouraged to reach out to the teacher with any questions or concerns. Either the teacher or parents can request a meeting when needed. Keep in mind that 'reporting' can take many forms: through phone calls, emails, notes, or informal conversations after school - at any point during the year. Ongoing communication between home and school is always welcome and plays a key role in supporting student success



COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOL



1. **Contacting your child's teacher:**

If you have a question or a concern regarding your child, please contact your child's teacher.

- Write a note in your child's agenda
- Send a note or email
- phone
- leave a message at the office

In the case of a more involved issue, an appointment must be made. Appointments made in advance are the most efficient way to raise concerns or questions with your child's teacher. While sometimes it is possible to drop in to see the teacher, usually they will be busy meeting the needs of the whole class, and therefore appointments, phone calls, and emails work best.

2. **Contacting the Principal:**

If you have any questions or concerns, you'd like to discuss with the principal, please call the school to schedule an appointment or email Robbie Franklin at Robbie.franklin@sd23.bc.ca.

For matters related to your child's class or teacher, it's recommended to contact the teacher first. If the issue cannot be resolved, please reach out to the principal for further support.

Throughout the year, we will share important school information through written communication. We encourage you to read these updates, discuss them with your children, and keep them for future reference.

- Each month, a school newsletter will be sent home, providing updates on past and upcoming events, as well as news about our school community.
- Additional letters will also be sent home to announce special events and field trips. If a reply slip is attached, please return it promptly



STUDENT ATTENDANCE



Regular attendance and being on time are two key factors in ensuring success in school. Students who attend regularly and on time develop strong bonds with their teachers and their peers and feel less stress about being on top of the workload. Equally, students learn important lessons about responsibility that serve them well through high school and their entry into the workplace.

Be On Time

Mornings are an important time when key information, upcoming events, and the structure of the day are shared with students. This information can be difficult to relay to those who arrive late, so it's essential that students are on time to avoid missing out. Students who are late are required to report to the office before going to class and should be signed in by a parent or bring a note excusing their lateness. Please ensure your child leaves home with enough time to arrive at school by 8:25 a.m.

Be Here

When students miss extended periods of school, they often miss important skills, concepts, and learning experiences that are difficult to make up independently during vacations. It can take time for students to catch up, and consistent attendance ensures they benefit fully from the structured and sequenced educational program. For this reason, absences for reasons other than illness are discouraged, and we recommend planning family vacations during school breaks whenever possible.

If parents choose to take their children on vacation during instructional time, it's important to meet with the teacher upon return to review the missed material and help the student catch up at home. Please note that teachers are not expected to provide assignments in advance for vacations taken during regular school sessions.

If your child is ill or absent for important reasons, please phone the school absentee reporting system, (250) 870-5121 to let us know of the reason and duration of the absence. If the secretary is not available, please leave a message on our answering machine.

Students who are absent for illness over an extended period are referred to the school district's Hospital Homebound program which supports these students with work and their re-entry to school.



STUDENT ATTENDANCE



"Safe Arrival Program" using the School Messenger APP

To prioritize the safety of our students, we have implemented a "Safe Arrival" program. Absences can be reported in advance for the entire school year. However, on the day of absence, reports must be submitted before the school's cut-off time, which may vary. If you attempt to report an absence after the cut-off time, Safe Arrival will notify you, and you will need to contact the school directly.

Reporting an Absence

Follow these instructions to report an absence using Safe Arrival:

1. Select - REPORT AN ABSENCE 
2. Be sure to enter your selections for all of the requested items:
 - Select which student will be absent.
 - Select the type and reason for the absence.
 - Select the date(s) and any time(s) of the absence.
 - If the **Send button** is not activated, it means you've missed something.
3. Click **Send** to report the absence.



UNIFORM GUIDELINES



At Oyama Traditional School, wearing a uniform is an important part of our community. We believe that uniforms help foster a sense of belonging, strengthen school spirit, and create an environment where students can focus on learning without the pressure of comparing clothing.

We kindly ask that families ensure students come to school wearing their complete uniform in a neat and presentable way, with garments clean and well cared for. To help avoid any mix-ups, please make sure all uniform items are clearly labeled with your child's name.

Our staff will help remind students about the dress code. If a student's uniform doesn't meet the guidelines, a gentle reminder will be sent home. Should there be any ongoing concerns, the principal will connect with parents to offer support and work together to resolve the issue.

Uniforms

Please purchase uniforms online from the selection of items available on the Cambridge Uniforms website at www.cambridgeuniforms.com. Log in or create a profile using the school **code AMA975**, then place your order online. Each day, students should wear an OTS logo top paired with navy bottoms while in the classroom. The logo shirts are available in light blue, red, or navy, and students are free to choose whichever color they prefer. To maintain a uniform look, we kindly ask that non-uniform sweatshirts or sweaters not be worn over the school shirt in the classroom. However, OTS crested hoodies or pullovers are a great option for cooler weather.

We understand that some of our uniform tops, particularly those made from 100% cotton, may shrink a bit, especially for our taller intermediate students. If needed, students may wear a plain undershirt in one of the uniform colors (light blue, navy blue, or red) that can be visible under their uniform top.

For students in grades 4 and 5, a change of clothes for P.E. is required. The grey logoed P.E. t-shirts are reserved for gym class only and should not be worn in the classroom.

Uniform Items:

Bottoms

- Navy 100% cotton non-stretch pants or navy blue "jeggings" with a button front and pockets but **NO jeans**. Navy or white tights may be worn with a skort, tunic or skirt. Note that tights may only be worn if accompanied by a skort, tunic or skirt.

Please note—ripped or faded cotton bottoms should be replaced as soon as possible

Tops

- OTS logoed light blue, navy, or red short or long-sleeved golf shirts
- OTS logoed hoodies (pullover or zip-front)



UNIFORM GUIDELINES



Field Studies

Students are required to wear school uniform on field trips, unless otherwise stated on the field trip form. This may be regular uniform or may also be more appropriate to the type of field trip – for example, gym strip to a sporting event.

Physical Education

- Gym strip is required for students in grades 4-5 and consist of:
 - OTS grey logoed gym shirt
 - OTS Cambridge navy shorts

Accessories & Footwear

Socks and tights worn with skirts, shorts, or tunics should be in the school colors: solid navy, light blue, red, or white. Outdoor footwear must be safe for the playground; therefore, flip-flops and high-heeled sandals are not appropriate. Non-marking shoes are required for indoor use in the classroom and gymnasium.

Please note: The following accessories are not acceptable for classroom wear:

- Hats, including baseball caps, are not permitted
- Scarves may be worn as outerwear but not inside the classroom.
- For safety reasons, large earrings, bulky necklaces, and bracelets are not allowed during class, P.E., or on the playground.
- Students may wear stretch material "jeggings" with pockets and a button. Jeggings must be solid navy blue without denim-like features, such as tawny stitching or a faded appearance. Tights are not permitted.
- Black pants and jeans are not part of the approved dress code

Exceptions- Spirit Days

On Spirit Days, students will be encouraged to dress according to a fun theme chosen by the Leadership group. Themes can range from casual non-uniform days to more creative ideas. Students will receive at least one week's notice before each Spirit Day



UNIFORM GUIDELINES



Uniform Sales

Uniform items are available year-round from our supplier, Cambridge Uniforms. Having a designated uniform supplier helps ensure that all students have access to consistent, high-quality clothing, promoting equality and reducing the potential for discrimination based on clothing differences. Please purchase uniforms online from the selection of items available on the Cambridge Uniforms website at www.cambridgeuniforms.com. Log in or create a profile using the school **code AMA975**, then place your order online.

All students are asked to wear uniform tops with the school logo from the designated supplier, along with solid navy bottoms.

Suggestions for minimum weekly clothing requirements are three tops and bottoms.

The Turner Fund

This fund is available to help families who may need financial assistance with purchasing the required school uniforms. If you would like to apply for support, please reach out to the principal. All applications are handled with the utmost confidentiality.

Clothing Exchange

The school offers a clothing exchange bin for gently used uniform items. Families are welcome to donate or exchange uniforms as students outgrow them and need new sizes. Each pre-loved uniform item is available for \$3.00.

The OTS logo is the property of Oyama Traditional School and may not be used by any person or company without the written permission of the OTS Principal.



SAFE, SUPPORTIVE, & RESPECTFUL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

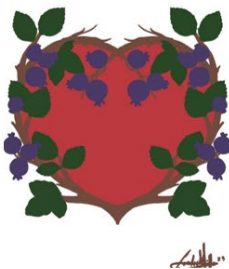


Our goal is to create a safe, supportive, respectful, and purposeful learning environment for all students. Rooted in the values of respect, commitment, family, and integrity. Staff and parents have worked together to develop clear expectations for student behavior. We encourage students to consistently demonstrate positive behavior, focusing on respect, honesty, courtesy, self-discipline, integrity, responsibility, and active citizenship.

To ensure that everyone understands these expectations, we will reinforce them through class discussions, whole-school assemblies, and personal conversations with both students and parents.

At the heart of our approach is the belief that children learn from their mistakes and grow in empathy for others.

The Oyama Traditional School discipline policy aligns with School District #23's policies (Policy 455 and 455[R]). If you would like a full copy of these policies, you can request one from the school office or visit the district website at www.sd23.bc.ca.





Code of Conduct



A school's Code of Conduct is established to help maintain a safe, caring and orderly environment for learning.

School Rights & Responsibilities

At OTS, we uphold the following expectations:

- Demonstrating good manners
- Respecting self, others & property
- Giving best effort at work & play
- Making safe choices
- Honesty
- Punctuality in attendance
- Using appropriate language
- Following school guideline's
- Showing responsibility and leadership

Our school has identified "Rights and Responsibilities" for all students and "School-Wide Expectations". These are the foundation of our Code of Conduct and are taught to all students and posted on our website.

While members of our school community conduct themselves in a positive and responsible manner, violations of our school's Code of Conduct may occur. A variety of strategies will be used to deal with incidents that occur-severity of the incident, frequency of infractions, and student age/maturity are considered when determining appropriate disciplinary action. Special consideration may apply to students with diverse abilities and disabilities who are unable to comply with expectations. Whenever possible and appropriate, consequences will be restorative rather than punitive.

Oyama Traditional School promotes the values expressed in the BC Human Rights Code respecting the rights of all individuals in accordance with the law – prohibiting discrimination based on race, colour ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, gender or sexual orientation. Behaviour or communication that discriminates based on any of the prohibited grounds listed will be treated seriously by our school.



SPECIAL MEDICAL CONSIDERATIONS



Please let us know if your child has any special health considerations. If a student requires prescribed medication during school hours, please follow the outlined procedures below:

1. A Medical Alert Planning Form and a Request for Administration Form must be completed and returned to the office. This is required to be completed on an annual basis. The Request for Administration of Medication must be signed by the child's physician.
2. Student medication must be kept at the office.

Please keep us updated on any changes to your child's medical needs or any incidents outside of school hours that we should be aware of. Your communication is essential to ensure the well-being of all our students

Head Lice:

Please notify the school if your child is affected by head lice. We will provide treatment information to support you. It's important to understand that **having head lice does not reflect on a family's cleanliness, parenting, or financial situation; anyone can be affected**. Head lice can spread easily in schools and childcare centers, especially when children play together, work on projects, or share personal items like combs. Additionally, coats and hats are often stored close together, which can facilitate the spread.

Communicable Diseases:

Please notify both the Public Health Nurse and the school about any communicable diseases. While the responsibility for managing medical information and controlling the spread of these diseases lies with the Health Unit, the school can help share important information with staff, students, and parents. It is essential for both the school and the Public Health Unit to be informed about cases of measles, mumps, chickenpox, and other communicable diseases

NUT AWARE SCHOOL:

Our school community includes students with life-threatening allergies (anaphylaxis) to certain foods, primarily peanuts and nuts (such as cashews, walnuts, almonds, pistachios, pecans, hazelnuts, and spreads like Nutella).

To help ensure their safety, we request that parents and guardians refrain from sending peanut butter or any products containing nuts in your child's snacks or lunches, including treats for the classroom.

If your child accidentally brings nut or peanut products, they will be asked to eat them at a designated table and wash their hands afterward



SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS



Before School:	A staff member will be on duty from 8:10-8:25 a.m.
Lunch Time:	Two Adult Noon Hour Supervisors will monitor students' behaviour in the classroom and on the playground at lunch.
Recess:	A staff member will be on duty from 1:20-1:35 p.m.
After School:	A staff member will be on duty from 2:30-2:45 p.m. Students still on the grounds at 2:45 p.m. are expected to report to the office

Lunch Time Expectations

Students who eat a nutritious morning snack and lunch stay focused longer during the school day. Please be sure to include fruit and vegetables in the food that you send to school and keep treats to a minimum. Also, please be aware of school-wide or classroom alerts concerning food allergies. As you will have read in this handbook, our school is **Nut Aware**, and we ask that you avoid sending products containing nuts to school with your child.

While waiting in their classrooms, students will:

- Eat their own lunch and avoid sharing or trading food
- Tell a supervisor if they accidentally brought nut products to school so they can eat in an alternate location
- Take home whole fruits, such as apples and oranges if they are not eaten
- Clean their own desk area and wipe it down after they finish eating

Students who repeatedly violate lunchtime expectations will eat in an alternate location.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Throughout the year, we conduct various safety drills to prepare for fire, earthquake, and lockdown emergencies. Teachers ensure that students are well-prepared for these drills, and we expect all students to participate responsibly. Visitors to our school are also asked to follow the same emergency procedures to ensure everyone's safety

In a major local emergency, such as an earthquake, schools will remain open until all students have been released to a parent or authorized person.



ONLINE PAYMENTS FOR SCHOOL EXPENSES



To enhance SAFETY and EFFICIENCY, we aim to minimize the amount of cash and cheques received at our school. Therefore, we are continuing to provide ONLINE payment options for all student-related fees. It only takes 5 minutes to register.

Here's How:

- **Step 1:** Go to this website: <https://centralokanagan.schoolcashonline.com>
- **Step 2:** Register by selecting “Get Started Now” and following the steps.
- **Step 3:** After you receive your confirmation email, please select the ‘click here’ option, **sign in** and **add each of your children to your household account**.

✓Convenient ✓Safe ✓Secure

SCHOOL SUPPLIES/CULTURAL FEES For the 2023-2024 School Year



Oyama Traditional School provides school supplies for students through our supply purchase plan. By purchasing supplies through the school, your child is provided with all the necessary materials and more for the entire school year. Materials are purchased through our School District at bulk educational prices, which ensures that parents are getting the best deal possible. All students pay a cultural fee which covers the cost of various performances at the school throughout the year.

Students in Grade 2 through 6 also receive agenda books which help develop time management and goal setting skills and include important school routines and information. The agenda is an excellent means of maintaining effective home-school communication and its use is incorporated into our homework policy.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Supplies</u>	<u>Cultural</u>	<u>Total</u>
K-5	\$35.00	\$10.00	\$45.00

Please pay school fees at: <https://centralokanagan.schoolcashonline.com> Payment for supplies is due before the end of September unless previously arranged with the office.



ACTIVITIES



OTS House system

As part of our Traditional School philosophy, students are placed in houses, with siblings placed in the same house. Working with their house teaches students to work cooperatively, to support others in a variety of endeavours, and exhibit the qualities we value as a school – *citizenship, responsibility and respect*. Our house names are:

Heart House (Red), Sun House (Yellow), Water House (Blue), Land House (Green)



Through our house system, students engage in team games and spirit activities, earning house points throughout the term. At the end of the year, the house with the most points will be honored with their name engraved on the House Team plaque

Leadership – House Team Captains:

Each House is led by House Team Captains, who assist with weekly House Team games, tally House Points, and participate in House Team assemblies.

Spirit Days

Every month, we celebrate a Spirit Day, allowing students to express themselves by dressing according to a specific theme instead of wearing uniforms. These events often include prizes and other fun activities. The themes for Spirit Days are selected through an open application process, inviting any group of students interested in submitting a proposal. If chosen, they will have the opportunity to help organize fun lunch hour activities related to the Spirit Day.

Fine Arts

We believe many academic skills are enhanced through music, dance, art and drama. Teachers with specialties in these areas will be delivering the curriculum in the intermediate grades. The music program includes a Primary Choir.



Athletics

Oyama Traditional School believes in promoting an active, healthy lifestyle. Our physical education and athletics program enable students to develop skills and a level of excellence in a sequential manner. Students are encouraged to join our school teams and participate in lunch hour activities. We may have the following school teams: Volleyball, Cross Country Running, Basketball, and Track & Field.

Clubs and Exploratory Learning Electives

At OTS, we believe in providing students with opportunities to explore their interests, passions, and strengths. Our dedicated staff and parent volunteers invest significant time outside the classroom to enrich our students' experiences at school. The clubs and Exploratory Learning Electives are shaped by the interests and availability of teachers and volunteers, and have included a diverse range of activities such as Lego Robotics, Little Bits circuitry design, computer coding, construction challenges, cooking, gardening, knitting, paper mache, scrapbooking, printmaking, watercolors, puppet making, and filmmaking

Parents who are interested in running a club or helping with an exploratory block should contact the school.

STUDENT AWARDS

House Points

Students earn house points for a range of positive actions, including academic achievements and demonstrating our values of Citizenship, Responsibility, and Respect. These points contribute to a cumulative total for each house, with a prize awarded to the house at the end of the year. Additionally, individual awards are presented occasionally; students may be recognized through random drawings from house points or for accumulating the highest points in each class.

Terrific Kids Awards

The Kiwanis Club Kids program is promoting character development and good citizenship. They do this through the Terrific Kids Award program. The Kiwanis Club has teamed up with Oyama to honour the students at our school who display the following qualities:

Thoughtful, Enthusiastic, Respectful, Responsible, Inclusive, Friendly, Inquisitive, Capable, Kids!
(Terrific Kids!)

Certificates and prizes are awarded at our monthly whole school assemblies. We thank the Kiwanis Club for supporting this program and including our school.



SCHOOL BASED SERVICES AND SUPPORT



Learning Assistance Teacher: provides intervention strategies and additional programming for students experiencing identified learning challenges. Math and Language Arts are the primary focus of the Learning Assistance program.

Inclusion Teacher: cultivates collaborative IEP teams for students with diverse abilities and disabilities. Teams work together to develop, implement, monitor, assess, and evaluate a student's IEP progress which is designed to promote successful academic and social inclusion within their classroom. Inclusion Teachers provide case management support for students who meet the criteria for a Ministry of Education and Child Care designation.

Certified Education Assistants (CEAs): The support they provide is of significant value to students with diverse needs and plays a considerable role in facilitating the inclusion of all students within a given classroom. CEAs work under the direction of the classroom teacher and inclusion teacher/counsellor to implement the student's Individualized Education Program.

One to One Reading: a program is run by parent volunteers in coordination with the school staff. Students who need one-on-one time to gain confidence in their reading or who need a little coaching, meet with a trained parent 1-3 times a week for about 20-30 minutes.

Indigenous Advocate: offers vital emotional, social, and academic support to Indigenous students. They serve as a bridge between home and school, facilitating goal setting and career planning while fostering cultural connections and acting as liaisons among home, community, and school

Counsellor: provides consultation and counselling services for students with academic, social, emotional, behavioural, or mental health concerns. Success in the classroom is their primary goal. They collaborate with teachers, parents, and additional specialist personnel including personnel from other Ministries and agencies to promote consistency.

School Based Team (SBT) is comprised of the school principal and/or vice principal, learning assistant teacher, classroom teacher, school counsellor and other staff as required (Indigenous Advocate, arc clinician, Inclusive Education staff, etc.). This team meets regularly and plays a formal role as a school-based problem-solving team to assist the classroom teacher in developing and implementing instructional, environmental and/or behavioural management strategies for students; problem-solve, review and/or coordinate resources and services for students within the school; assist with access to additional resources and services in the district or the community as needed (i.e., referral for occupational therapy services).

Additional Services:

Speech and Language Pathologist	Occupational Therapist
School Psychologist	Physical Therapist
Teacher of the Deaf or Hard of Hearing	Teacher of the Visually Impaired
arc Clinician	Public Health Nurse



OTS 2024-2025 Calendar



Month	Day	Event
September	3	School opens - Early Dismissal 11:00 am
	19	PAC Back to School BBQ
	20	Terry Fox Run
	24	Individual Photo Day
	30	National Day of Truth and Reconciliation
October	3&4	Early Dismissal 12:30pm - Parent/Teacher Conferences
	11	Administrative Implementation Day - No Classes
	14	Thanksgiving - No Classes
	25	Teacher Professional Day - No Classes
November	5	Retake Photo Day
	11	Remembrance Day - No Classes
December	6	1st Term Written Learning Updates go home
	12	Winter Concert
	20	Winter Vacation begins at 2:30pm
January	1	Statutory Holiday - School Closed
	6	School re-opens after Winter Break
February	6&7	Early Dismissal 12:30pm – Parent /Teacher Conferences
	14	Teacher Professional Day - (Support Staff in-service)
	17	Family Day - School Closed
March	7	2 nd Term Written Learning Updates to go home
	14	Spring Break begins at 2:30pm
	31	School re-opens after Spring Break
April	18	Good Friday - School Closed
	21	Easter Monday - School Closed
May	19	Victoria Day - School Closed
June	25	3 rd Term Written Learning Updates go home
	26	Last Day of school for students
	17	Administrative Day – No Classes