



# OCV Elementary School

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InnoVative • CreatiVe • Virtual

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**Jennifer O'Doherty, K-1 Vice Principal**  
**Marc Laliberté, Gr. 2-6 Vice Principal**  
**Welcome Back Newsletter – August, 2022**

## Welcome!

Welcome to OCV Elementary School for the 2022-2023 school year! We hope you and your family are well and you have enjoyed a healthy and happy summer.



We are looking forward to welcoming you and your child(ren) to school on September 6th! We are excited to be working with approximately 650 Kindergarten to Grade 6 students, their families and 50 staff this year. I am thrilled to be returning, in my third year, as the Principal of OCV Elementary. I am very fortunate to be working with some wonderful colleagues, including:

- Jennifer O'Doherty, Kindergarten-Grade 1 Vice Principal, [jennifer.odoherty@ocdsb.ca](mailto:jennifer.odoherty@ocdsb.ca)
- Marc Laliberté, Grades 2-6 Vice Principal, [marc.laliberte@ocdsb.ca](mailto:marc.laliberte@ocdsb.ca)

We had an amazing 21-22 school year and we are planning on making the 22-23 school year even better! OCV Elementary brings students, families and educators together from all over the Ottawa region, creating a diverse, engaging and dynamic learning experience.

We thought we would share some important information with you in advance of hearing from your child(ren)'s teacher(s).

## Virtual Learning

Again this year, students will have a full 300 mins/day of teacher facilitated instructional time. Although there are no defined "asynchronous" hours in the day, teachers will be employing a variety of instructional strategies throughout the week to vary the learning. At times, students may have independent work time, group work/projects, 1:1 conferencing with the teacher, social time with peers, quiet reading, small group instruction or whole class instruction. There will always be a teacher online in their Google Meet to guide and support them.



## Use of Webcam, Audio, and Chat Features in OCV Virtual Classes

Full and active participation in the synchronous class meetings is essential for students engaged in Virtual Learning. While not mandatory at all times, as much as possible and whenever appropriate, we encourage students to have webcams on and to use microphones to interact verbally. We know from our experience with virtual learning that active participation relates directly to increased sense of connectedness and ability to demonstrate learning. Active participation is required via text/chat, audio (microphone), and, when appropriate, video/webcam, and is a key component to finding success in staying engaged during virtual learning.

When Video/Webcams are essential for learning:

- Demonstrations of skill (e.g. physical education/daily physical activity)
- Demonstration of techniques (e.g. arts, etc.)
- Public speaking/performance (e.g. drama, language classes, etc.)
- Oral Communication curriculum strands (e.g. English or French)
- Community/togetherness/well-being: “check-ins” to build sense of connection and classroom community

Alternatives to use of webcam:

Research tells us that webcam use is a key way for students to forge strong connections to peers, their class, and their teacher. However, we recognize that there will be times or circumstances that a student may be unable to do so. In these cases, students should speak to their teacher. Alternative methods of demonstrating the required presence will be considered, such as: recording a video message to be sent only to the teacher, moving to a separate “Breakout Room” to present only to the teacher and/or subset of the class, recording a “voiceover” to a screen recording, etc. Such alternatives allow students to retain privacy as necessary, or to overcome anxiousness around presenting “live” online to a large group while still allowing teachers to be able to fully assess and evaluate student learning using conversations, observations, and products as required under the [Growing Success policy](#) (p. 39).

Tech Tips for Using Audio/Video during remote classes:

[How to “blur” backgrounds in Google Meet](#)

[How to eliminate background noise/voices in Google Meet \(noise cancellation\)](#)

[How to record video presentations and share via Google Drive as an alternative to “live” presentation \(screencasting\)](#)

## Access to Technology

OCV Elementary School has a limited number of Chromebooks which we will be able to loan to OCV students who do not have access to a device for their learning. If your child(ren) is/are in need of a device, please complete this [form](#) (one form per child). Submissions will be reviewed and, if approved, a device will be assigned to the student for the 2022-2023 school year (to be returned to the OCDSB in June 2023). Devices can be picked up in-person at OCV Elementary School, located at Confederation Education Centre (1645 Woodroffe Avenue), or shipped to another OCDSB school for pickup from the school office (during regular school hours). Should Internet connectivity be an issue for you, due to living in a rural community or for financial reasons, please contact [ocvelementary@ocdsb.ca](mailto:ocvelementary@ocdsb.ca) to request a hotspot.



Parents who are still in possession of a Chromebook and/or hotspot from last year should keep the device(s) to use this school year.

## Supplies

We want all our students to start the year off right! In addition to virtual learning, students may engage in learning activities that require other school supplies, such as writing and basic art materials. Please see this [voluntary list of school supplies](#) that you may consider purchasing.



We will be mailing all students the following standard supplies. Due to back orders on certain supplies, these will not be shipped before school starts. We are sorry for the delay and will send the supplies as soon as possible. We appreciate your patience!

Kindergarten	Grades 1 & 2	Grades 3-6
Pencils	Pencils	Pencils
Eraser	Eraser	Eraser
Scissors	Scissors	Scissors
Crayons	Crayons	Coloured pencils
Blank notebook	Ruler	Ruler
Construction Paper	Half blank, half lined notebook	Graphing notebook Lined notebook

## Schedule and [Calendar](#)

School Hours: 9:00 to 3:30

Instructional Block	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Nutrition Block/Recess	11:00 AM - 11:45 AM
Instructional Block	11:45 AM - 1:45 PM
Nutrition Block/Recess	1:45 PM - 2:30 PM
Instructional Block	2:30 PM - 3:30 PM



**OCV Recess runs from 2:05-2:30 - your child's teacher will share more information!**

## Before the First Day of School (September 6th)

Your child's educator team will be in contact with you to introduce themselves by Friday, September 2nd. They will share which Learning Management System they will be using (e.g., Google Classroom), the student's login information, the daily class schedule as well as any other important information. Please have your child(ren) practice logging into their device and ensure they can access the Learning Management System provided as well as Google Meet.



## School Office

Our school office hours are 8:45 to 4:15. Please let us know if your child will be absent by emailing: [ocvelementaryattendance@ocdsb.ca](mailto:ocvelementaryattendance@ocdsb.ca). Please provide your child's first and last name, grade, date of absence, and reason for the absence.

Please feel free to contact us by phone at 613-596-8753 or by email at [ocvelementary@ocdsb.ca](mailto:ocvelementary@ocdsb.ca) if you have any questions. You can also reach out to our Vice Principals (emails above) or myself at [rian.bayne@ocdsb.ca](mailto:rian.bayne@ocdsb.ca).

We look forward to a wonderful school year together!  
Take good care,  
Rian Bayne

