



The Cornell Chronicles

BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE
CORNELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

IMPORTANT DATES

NO SCHOOL

September 1 & 4 - Labor Day

September 25 - Staff PD

IMPORTANT LINKS

[DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)

[LUNCH MENU](#)

[CORNELL STAFF DIRECTORY](#)

[ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL PROCEDURES](#)

[CARLINE SIGNS](#)

[BUS ROUTES/SCHEDULE](#)

[SUGGESTED SUPPLY LISTS](#)

[PTO WEBSITE](#)

[IMPORTANT FLYERS](#)

CONTACTS

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A Message from the Principal

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! We had an EXCELLENT start to the school year and look forward to working with all of our Cornell families, those returning and those we are welcoming for the first time. Our school theme for this year is "**You Belong!**" As we move through the year together, Cornell teachers and support staff will weave our theme into our schoolwide expectations, character education, school/classroom events and learning experiences, while honoring our individual and collective identity, culture, and making intentional connections with all students. Cornell Elementary is a very special place and we are delighted that your family is now part of our Cornell Family!

~Mrs. Ojerio, Principal

Cornell Elementary Information

School Hours

Full Day: 8:50am-3:45pm

Half Day: 8:50am-12:00pm

PTO Information

Our next PTO Meeting will be held on August 30 @ 6-7pm in the Library! Learn more @ the Cornell PTO Website

"Together...educating with excellence,
inspiring each learner for life."

News and Updates

Wolf of the Week!

In this section of the newsletter you will find the names of several Cornell Wolves who are being acknowledged for being a shining example of what it means to be Respectful, Responsible, and Safe!



Cornell Wolves will be acknowledged for their positive behavior every week. Teachers will draw 3 "Caught Being Good" tickets (CGBs) & a *Wolf of the Week* from each classroom on Fridays. Students will be recognized on the Morning Announcements each Monday.

Golden Spoon Awards

In this section of the newsletter, you will find the classrooms who are being acknowledged for being a shining example of what it means to be Respectful, Responsible, and Safe in the Lunchroom!

Our first recognition is on Sept. 5th and will be included in the Sept. 11th newsletter!



Cornell CR-PBIS Overview!

What is CR-PBIS?

School-wide Culturally Responsive - Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (CR-PBIS) is a proactive, team-based framework for creating and sustaining safe and effective schools. Emphasis is placed on prevention of problem behavior, development of prosocial skills, and the use of data-based problem-solving to address existing behavior concerns. School-wide CR-PBIS increases the capacity of schools to educate all students utilizing research-based school-wide, classroom, and individualized interventions.

What does CR-PBIS look like in school? The 3 Tiers of CR-PBIS!

Tier 1 support is about getting busy before there is a problem. Much like learning to wash hands to prevent getting sick, expected behavior is taught and modeled to prevent unexpected behaviors. At school we teach behavior expectations, giving students opportunities to practice desired behaviors, and we acknowledge positive choices! In Tiers 2 and 3, adults provide more support for specific behaviors that are getting in the way of relationships or how the child functions. In a school setting, Tier 2 is for students who need a social group or some extra teaching, practice, and reinforcement.

How can grown-ups support CR-PBIS at home?

Grown-ups are an important part of PBIS implementation. Children thrive when they have consistent, predictable expectations and consequences. We encourage parents to review school rules and expectations with their children, helping students with any questions they may have. Using common language creates consistency and unified support for expected student behavior. Parents can post these expectations at home for easy reference. Here are some ways you can help your child be their best:

~Stay connected with your child's classroom!

Be sure to read emails coming from the classroom and school

~Make sure your child gets enough sleep and gets breakfast either at home or at school

~Frame questions in a positive way -

Examples: What was the BEST part of your day? What made you smile today? How did you help someone today?

~Assume good intentions and recognize that children learn at different rates and in different ways

September Character Trait

Kindness

At Cornell Elementary, kindness means being generous and considerate of others' needs. Showing kindness might look like letting someone go first, helping others, or simply smiling!

News and Updates

(continued)



Student Spotlight

Shout out to the entire First Grade from Mrs. Mann! All students were focused, kind and responsible during their first lunch experience of the year! Thank you for your tremendous effort to make this an enjoyable time for your peers!

Shout out to the students in Carline in the morning and afternoon! These students have shown excellent effort in staying safe and alert at all times. Thank you for always staying behind the yellow line while you are walking into the school or waiting to be picked up!

Shout out to our 4th grade Safety Patrol Applicants! We cannot wait for you to start on your posts, assisting our Cornell Staff as they keep students safe during arrival and dismissal. Your excitement to lead is admirable!

All through the school, there has been a feeling of excitement and belonging from all K-4 students. Your smiles, kind & welcoming words, and helpful spirit has been remarkable! Cornell is truly the BEST place to belong to! Thank you for your efforts to make everyone feel accepted!



Cornell Kick Start!

23-24 Kick Start was a huge success! Thank you to the members of our Cornell Family for a warm Welcome Back and a lovely evening.

If you were unable to attend, please reference the "Important Links" section on Page 1, as well as your child's Friday Folder this week!

Cornell Paw Pledge



Cornell's PAW PLEDGE....

Today I will do my best to be my best.
I will listen.
I will follow directions.
I will be kind and honest.
I will respect the rights of others.
I can learn and I will learn.
I am proud to be me!

We recite the school pledge together each day during Morning Announcements! Please take some time to review and practice at home.

Cornell Happenings

A Message from the Lunchroom!

When considering items to pack for school lunch, please be mindful to choose those that are "ready to eat." If your child enjoys items that need to be heated, please do so at home and use a thermos to keep items warm in their lunchbox.

Cornell Elementary is looking for an additional employee to serve as a member of our wonderful Lunch Crew! If you or someone you know are interested, please call us at 517-706-5300 or email: tracy.ojerio@okemosk12.net. Thank you for your consideration and for passing the word along!

Fall Benchmark Assessments

Okemos Public Schools will continue to utilize NWEA Benchmark Assessments with BK-9 students this Fall. This is the same benchmark tool we implemented last Fall, to gather information about your child's knowledge of Literacy and Math Skills. NWEA data, along with other forms of achievement data, will inform ongoing teacher instruction, as well as assist teachers with differentiated lessons & Best Fit Groups for intervention/support.

Fall Assessment Window: September 5-15

More information:
[Cornell NWEA Student/Home Toolkit](#)

OPS Happenings

OPS Athletic Department



Hello Wolfpack!

We are excited for the first football game of the season! Our Wolves will battle against the Red Wings from St. Johns this Friday, August 25th! Kickoff is at 7:00 pm. Just a reminder that this game is taking place at East Lansing High School as our stadium construction is not completed.

Even though we are the "home team" of Friday's game, we are still guests in the facility and will adhere to East Lansing's Spectator Policy. You can find that policy attached.

We look forward to Friday Football and seeing you out at the game.

Go Wolves,
The Okemos Athletic Department

[EL Spectator Policy](#)

DEI Tidbits

The Okemos Public Schools Equity Plan ([full document](#), [1-page overview](#)) was updated over the summer of 2022, and we are putting the plan into action. We need the help of our whole community to improve upon our already amazing district, and your voice would be a great addition to our equity work.

Please take a few moments to complete [this form](#) so we can get you involved in the process. We will work to provide multiple ways to participate, so you can help as much or as little as your time and energy allow.

For more info, contact Dr. Lara Slee, Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, lara.slee@okemosk12.net, 517-706-5011.

OPS Student Health Fair



1st Annual Student Health Fair

Monday, September 18th 4-6pm
Okemos High School Gym

Vaccine Clinic, (Insurance will be billed) *signup required see QR Code below), Free EKGs, free vision and hearing testing, Sports Physicals \$25, Free walking/running gait analysis, Dental Screenings, and more!

Hosted By:



Call Okemos Health Team with questions: 517-706-5008
Please bring insurance card for immunizations