



The Cornell Chronicles

BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE
CORNELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

IMPORTANT DATES

NO SCHOOL

September 25 - Staff PD

IMPORTANT LINKS

[DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)

[LUNCH MENU](#)

[CORNELL STAFF DIRECTORY](#)

[ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL PROCEDURES](#)

[CARLINE SIGNS](#)

[BUS ROUTES/SCHEDULE](#)

[PTO WEBSITE](#)

[2023-2024 FLYERS](#)

[SCHOOL PICTURE INFO](#)

CONTACTS

Cornell Elementary School

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A Message from the Principal

We have experienced a smooth and enjoyable start to the 2023-2024 school year at Cornell! That takes TEAMWORK--every one of us plays an important role in our school community and we are fortunate that YOU are part of our Cornell Elementary TEAM! Go Wolves!

Friendly Reminder: All students who are walking to school or walking home after dismissal should enter and exit through **Door 10** in the back of the school! This allows our front sidewalks to stay clear for students being dropped off and picked up in the carline! Thank you!

~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 September 27 @ 9am 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!

Congratulations, Cornell Wolves! You are being acknowledged as a Wolf of the Week! Thank you for showing others what it means to be Respectful, Responsible, and Safe at Cornell!

August 31

KDG: Beauden S, Waylon C, Evelyn A, and Angelina C.

1: Collin P, Advent H, and Zach S.

2: Halid D, Rosemary A, Zoey T, and Dhruv S.

3: Issa M, Imani B, Danielle B, and Minseok S.

4: Suhyeon K, Benjamin K, Selim Y, Lucas S, James T.

September 8

KDG: Amarie M, June B, Derin Y, and Laren P.

1: Cameron H, Brenden M, Sophia N, and Abraham S.

2: Eliana J, Sam C, Mister S, and Cora H.

3: Holly S, Avery F, Kai T, Callen P, and Leo B.

4: Raima S, Mia M, and Selina R.

Golden Spoon Awards

Congratulations to the following classrooms who are being acknowledged for being a shining example of what it means to be Respectful, Responsible, and Safe in the Lunchroom!

KDG: Petersburg & Nahat

1: Hall (2 weeks in a row)!

2: Hughey & Malkus

3: Hixson (2 weeks in a row)!

4: Coy (2 weeks in a row)!



September Character Trait

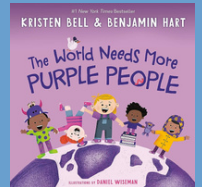
Kindness

At Cornell Elementary, kindness means being generous and considerate of others' needs. Showing kindness might look like giving a "high 5" or fist bump, letting someone else go first, helping others, taking turns or simply smiling!

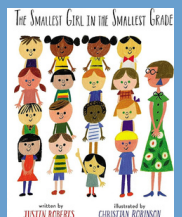


The following children's literature selections focus on themes of friendship and belonging:

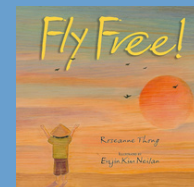
The World Needs More Purple People
by Kristin Bell



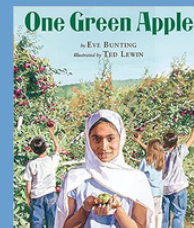
The Smallest Girl in the Smallest Grade
by Justin Roberts



Fly Free!
by Roseanne Thong



One Green Apple
by Eve Bunting



*A Hat for Mrs. Goldman:
A Story About Knitting and Love*
by Michelle Edwards



Cornell Paw Pledge



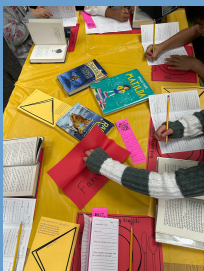
Cornell's PAW PLEDGE....

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.

4th Grade Book Tasting!

With the help of Mrs. Keller and our 4th grade teachers, our 4th graders participated in a Book Tasting event on Friday, September 8th! Each student had the opportunity to get a "taste" of several different literary genres and share their reading experiences with classmates!



News and Updates

(continued)



Student Spotlight

Shout out to Mrs. Gutierrez's First Grade class. They learned how to do the Orton Gillingham Visual drill and invited Mrs. Berridge to watch them!

All 2nd graders have done a great job of making each other feel welcome in class. They have worked hard to form positive relationships and spread kindness!

Shout out to our 3rd grade! They have been extremely kind and inclusive, helping one another and helping the teachers!

Mrs. Hixson's 3rd Grade class already met their first Whole Class Reward! We are super proud of her students for working hard to make so many positive choices during their first couple of weeks of school!

Mia and Hazel (4th Grade) helped Mr. Hope pick up garbage from the playground when he was emptying the trash.

2nd Graders created and signed their class "constitutions" this week. They pledged to... be kind, positive, helpful, and always give 100%



Cornell Fall Pictures!

Fall Pictures are scheduled for

September 20th!

Here is the link for photo information! All orders should be made online with the photographer.

 PHOTO INFORMATION 

A paper flyer was sent home in your child's Friday Folder last week!



You can use this direct link:

ospgo.com/1QSB

Message from the Office!

Any change in your child's dismissal routine should be communicated to the main office by 3:00pm. Please use the direct line and avoid late emails! This allows school staff to ensure your child is made aware of a change before the bell rings! Main Office: 517-706-5300

Fall Count Day is October 4th!

Please avoid scheduling appointments for your child on this date. Thank you!

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. It is also helpful if you write your child's name somewhere on their lunchbox, so we can return it to class if it is left behind!

Cornell Elementary is still 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

DEI Tidbits

As we put the [Okemos Public Schools Equity Plan](#) into action, we rely on the guidance of a diverse district-wide group of people. The Okemos Public Schools' Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Advisory Coalition (DEIAC) is committed to creating a culturally responsive and sustaining school district in which students, staff, caregivers and community recognize, accept, celebrate, and value the diverse attributes of one another. The DEIAC will offer perspectives to inform meaningful and relevant action throughout OPS to ensure that we are meeting the academic and behavioral needs of ALL of our students.

Expectations of the DEIAC:

- Review [OPS Equity Plan](#) on a yearly basis (Did we do what we said we'd do? Who's benefiting from what we're doing? Are we trending in the right direction?)
- Review OPS Equity Plan every three years to determine if our goals and strategies still align with the OPS Strategic Plan. Are we getting the outcomes we want/need?
- Identify data to be collected to monitor goals (qualitative and quantitative)
- Analyze data
- Monitor progress toward equity goals
- Seek input and identify priorities to share with the Board of Education and Core Leadership Team
- Provide feedback and guidance to work teams
- Inform district professional development planning
- Provide updates to BOE and community

An [application](#) process occurs every two years, and, with the exception of students, a minimum of a two-year commitment is appreciated. Each year, members will be asked to reflect on their participation in the DEIAC and to provide feedback regarding the group's dynamics, purposes, and facilitation in order to continuously improve.

[Applications](#) are due before or on Friday, September 22.

DEI Tidbits (continued)

A subcommittee of the DEIAC members will review the current composition of our membership, determine criteria, review applications and select members, and membership will be limited to 25 people.

Criteria considered by the subcommittee will include:

- Role (e.g. staff, student, parent, community member)
- Grade level band
- Reasons for applying (Do reasons align with equity plan's guiding principles?)
- Attributes (e.g. experiences, skills)

For more information, 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