



CORNELL ELEMENTARY CHRONICLES



Volume 2022 Issue 4

October 10, 2022

| Important Dates | Important Links |
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| <p>EARLY RELEASE (1:50 PM Dismissal) October 26</p> <p>NO SCHOOL October 18, 21, 24</p> | <p><u>DISTRICT CALENDAR</u> <u>LUNCH MENU</u> BOND 2022: <u>SAVE THE DATE!</u> <u>THE FUTURE OF CORNELL ELEMENTARY VIDEO</u> <u>TRUNK OR TREAT FLIER</u> <u>CORNELL FALL CONFERENCE SIGN UP LINKS</u></p> |
| Contact Us | |
| <p>Jennifer Darjes, Cornell Admin Assistant <u>jennifer.darjes@okemosk12.net</u> 517-706-5302</p> | <p>Tracy Ojerio, Cornell Principal <u>tracy.ojerio@okemosk12.net</u> 517-706-5301</p> |
| School Hours | |
| <p>Full Day: 8:50am-3:45pm Half Day: 8:50am-12:00pm Early Release: 8:50am-1:50pm</p> | |
| PTO Information | |
| <p>Join our Cornell team! Our next PTO Meeting will be held in-person on Wednesday, October 19 from 9-10am in the Library! Learn more about the Cornell PTO by visiting: <u>Cornell PTO Website</u></p> | |

| News and Updates | |
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| <p>Student Attendance</p>  | <p>If your child will be tardy or absent for any reason, please inform the office in advance, by calling the Attendance Line: 517-706-5305.</p> <p>Any changes in dismissal routine should be communicated to your child's teacher and the main office as early as possible and especially before 3:00pm. This will give school staff ample time to communicate changes to students!</p> |
| <p>Fall Weather</p>  | <p>The temperatures have cooled and are somewhat unpredictable from day to day! Layers are great this time of year for this very reason. Please send your child to school with a jacket and/or a sweatshirt each day. Gloves and hats may also be a good idea for AM recesses. Students will continue to go outdoors unless it is raining.</p> |

**Practice Cornell's
PAW PLEDGE!**

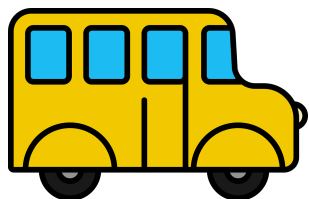


Cornell's PAW PLEDGE....

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!

Cornell students are Respectful, Responsible and Safe!

Bus Line Updates



In an effort to strengthen the organization & improve the effectiveness of our Dismissal Procedures, Cornell Elementary will implement a new color-coded bus identification system beginning Monday, October 10th. On Friday, staff worked to swap out old kindergarten bus tags and replace them with new, color-coded bus tags for Kindergarten students who are currently identified as following "bus line" procedures.

New signs have been made for Safety Patrol members (PM Dismissal) and to post on the gym doors (AM Line Up). At arrival and dismissal, Kindergarten students will line up in the FRONT of each bus line EVERY DAY! This will allow Kindergarten students to be easily identified, allow drivers to check Kindergarten tags with ease, and overall strengthen the organization of students during this transition. Your child's safety is our priority!

Bus colors are as follows and will have a sign visible in the 2nd window:

Bus 3: RED

Bus 5: YELLOW

Bus 8: GREEN

Bus 26: BLUE

Cornell staff will continue to work with K-4 students to learn the new bus colors and to implement the system throughout the coming week. *These new procedures will not affect the routing information for your child in any way.*

Afternoon Carline



If you need to stop and assist your child with a buckle, **please pull ahead as far as you can** before doing so! This will allow the line behind you space to pull out and continue moving.

Once the buses have loaded and departed, we will move all car riders down the sidewalk towards the south end of the school! Even if you see your child along the way, pull down as far as possible & we will walk your child down to you safely!

Cornell Wolf Pack Run

An **ENORMOUS** thank you to our amazing PTO for planning and executing a fabulous 2022 Cornell Wolf Pack Run! It was lovely to see so many parents come out to cheer on our students! The music was great, the children were pumped up, and the weather



(though a little chilly) was wonderful! There is still time to turn in your donation folders. Please send them in by Friday, October 14th! Thank you for your continued support!

Message from the Gym!



Please help your child to remember to pack their athletic/gym shoes. We have a limited number of shoes available for students to borrow, but of course, they will be more comfortable in their own shoes. Students cannot participate in P.E. class without the proper footwear for their own safety. Also, remember to wear clothes that are appropriate to play in.

Thank you for your help and support. Mrs. Chase, P.E. Teacher

Picture Retake Day: October 26th



School Picture Packages are expected to arrive soon! If you are not satisfied with your child's photo, students should return the original photo package (uncut, with all photos in the original packaging) at the time of retakes.

Kindergarten students who need retakes will have photos taken before departing for their field trip!

Fall Benchmark Assessments Complete!



Cornell Elementary teachers have completed the NWEA MAPGrowth Reading Fluency Assessment for BK-1 and MAPGrowth Reading & Math Assessment for K-4 students. The purpose of these benchmark assessments is to gather information about your child's progress in Literacy and Math. 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. Student results will be shared following our School-Level Data Meetings in late October.

October Character Trait






Staff and students will be focusing on learning more about ***Inclusion*** at Cornell Elementary! Inclusion is seen as a universal human right. The aim of inclusion at Cornell is to embrace all people irrespective of race, gender, disability, medical or other need. It is about giving equal access and opportunities and getting rid of discrimination and intolerance (removal of barriers) in our school spaces and throughout the community.

Employment Opportunity



We are still looking for an employee to serve as members of our Lunch crew! No experience necessary. If you are a reliable and trustworthy person that would like to serve the students of Cornell, please consider applying for a Lunch Supervision position. No evenings or weekends! Lunch hours are from

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| | <p>11:15am to 1:35pm. This position includes supervising students in the cafeteria and on the playground during lunch.</p> <p>If you or someone you know are interested, please call us at 517-706-5300 or email me directly: tracy.ojerio@okemosk12.net</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration and for passing the word along!</p> |
| <p>Message from the Cafeteria</p>  | <p>Golden Spoon Awards—The following classes earned the Golden Spoon Award for excellence in the Cafeteria between 10/3-10/7:</p> <p>K- Shoen 1 - Gutierrez 2 - Malkus 3 - Mason 4 - Coy</p> <p>Special shout out to Kindergarten for eating peacefully & to 4th grade for doing a thorough clean up each day last week! Let's continue to work on using Level 2 voices this week!</p> |
| <p>Halloween at Cornell</p>  | <p>This year for Halloween, OPS Elementary Schools that celebrate Halloween have some changes. As in the past, students should arrive at school on Monday, October 31 in their typical clothing choice or they may wear black and/or orange. In the afternoon, students will have the opportunity to participate in fall themed activities within their classrooms. Students may change into a simple costume for the afternoon. If choosing the simple costume option, students should bring items they can put on over their clothes in their classrooms with minimal adult support. As they need to put the costume on independently, this may look like part of a costume rather than the whole. Please note: no full-face masks, no toy weapons of any kind, no blood or gore.</p> <p>A Parent's Guide to Cultural Appropriation (USA Today) A Parent's Guide to Avoiding Offensive Halloween Costumes Three Tips to Avoid Offensive Halloween Costumes #IAmNotACostume</p> <p>Look for our 2022 Halloween Plan to come home in Friday Folders this week!</p> |
| <p>May We See Your ID?</p>  | <p>Please put your child's name on everything they wear or bring to school, including coats, backpacks, shoes/boots, lunchboxes, water bottles, folders/books, etc. Please have your child check the Lost & Found by the gym before/after school or during lunch time if they are missing items! We already have 2 full racks with no identification.</p> |
| <p>Fall Parent Teacher Conferences</p> | <p>We are gearing up for our Fall Session of Parent Teacher Conferences at Cornell! This year, conferences will continue to be held virtually. Our Parent Teacher Conference Window is Monday, October 17 through Friday, October 28.</p> |



Conference Sign Up links are available here:

[Cornell Fall Conference Sign Up Links](#)

We are excited to share your child's progress with you!

**Ohs Marching Band
"Pack The Stands" Event:**

Friday, October 14th



Please join the Okemos High School Marching Band and special guests Chippewa 8th grade band at their free ["Pack The Stands"](#) performance and celebration on Friday, October 14th at 7:00 pm at the Okemos High School Stadium.

The Band will perform their pregame and halftime show to celebrate the final performance of the season and will be honoring the Class of 2023 Seniors. This fun, family event is a great opportunity to introduce your kids to music, marching band and one of the great performance opportunities Okemos Schools has to offer.

Visit Okemos Bands on Facebook and show your support for the Pack the Stands Event: <https://fb.me/e/2BN6W52ew>

Thank you for your support of this great event and our music program!

**How would the
2022 bond impact
[Cornell Elementary?](#)**



The current Cornell Elementary building is overcrowded and nearing the end of its useful life. A new two-story elementary building would be constructed on [its current site](#) with modern learning spaces, separate parent and bus drop-off loops, and new playground equipment. (The Board of Education approved the decision to rebuild Cornell on its current site in May 2022.)

Cornell students would eventually benefit from other projects in the bond including [two new middle schools](#). [Kinawa](#) and [Chippewa](#) Middle Schools would be replaced with two connected buildings on the Chippewa site. Fifth through sixth grade and seventh through eighth grade would remain separate yet share some amenities such as a state-of-the-art auditorium. Additional features include outdoor learning spaces and natural pathways throughout the site.

Remember to [Vote November 8th!](#)

Thank you for your support as we continue Growing Together! We are having a wonderful time together this fall! It has been a pleasure getting to know all of our little Wolves.

Thank you for sharing your child(ren) with our staff!

~Mrs. Ojerio, Principal