



# The Cornell Chronicles

BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE  
CORNELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

## IMPORTANT DATES

### 1/2 DAYS

October 13 & 19  
(12:00pm dismissal)

### NO SCHOOL

October 20

### PICTURE RETAKES

November 3-AM

## IMPORTANT LINKS

[DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)

[LUNCH MENU](#)

[CORNELL STAFF DIRECTORY](#)

[ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL PROCEDURES](#)

[CARLINE SIGNS](#)

[PTO WEBSITE](#)

[2023-2024 FLYERS](#)

[SCHOOL PICTURE INFO](#)

## CONTACTS

Cornell Elementary School  
4371 Cornell Rd.  
Okemos, MI 48864  
517.706.5300

**Tracy Ojerio, Principal**  
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**Nisreen Abulibdeh, Clerk**  
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## A Message from the Principal

2023-2024 Fall Parent/Teacher Conference dates for Cornell Elementary are October 17, October 18, and October 19. MyConferenceTime is *OPEN* for scheduling! If you have not signed up for your child's conference please use the link above to schedule before October 15!

NWEA Family Reports, Reading Growth Plans and Spring 2023 M-STEP Family Reports (4th grade only) were sent in the October 6 Friday Folder. Please take time to review that information!

We are excited to share your child's growth with you during conferences!

*~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 October 25 @ 6pm 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!

### September 29

KDG: Charlotte J, Weston M, Maxwell B, & Olivia W.

1: Saehae C, Beckett R, & Delaney B.

2: Sanjith C, Sawyer S, Tania P, & Basil B.

3: Hanseon Y, Niya G, Gia C, Issa M, & Tanvi G.

4: Lucy O, Addy L, Adalynn S, & Kaila H.

### October 6

KDG: Faye L, Layana C, & Oskar P.

1: Lucas T, Yoonjae O, & Milo G.

2: Chane M, Maddie W, & Margaret C.

3: Emmie K, Hunter Z, & Julian M.

4: Samaira R, Jaydan P, Elizabeth R, & Aashritha A.

## 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!

### September 29 & October 6

KDG: Petersburg & Nahat

1: Fesko/Lewis & Schuesler

2: Andersen & Hughey

3: Deladurantaye & Tousignant

4: Harnick & Coy/Godette



## October Character Trait

### Inclusion

Every student has the right to feel safe, happy, affirmed, and encouraged as a part of their OPS experience. We believe that our Cornell learning community must provide spaces where all individuals can safely be their authentic selves and reach their full potential.



The following children's literature selections focus on themes of inclusion:

*All Are Welcome Here*  
by Alexandra Penfold



*The Big Umbrella*  
by June Bates



*Strictly No Elephants*  
by Lisa Mantchev



*The Name Jar*  
by Yangsook Choi



*Fur Is Only Fur Deep*  
by Julia Schettler



# 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 School-Wide CR-PBIS Reward!

**Who: All Cornell Wolves**

**What: School-Wide  
Movie/Pajama/Popcorn Celebration**  
(popcorn generously provided by Cornell PTO)

**When: Friday, Oct. 13th during the  
school day**

**Why: All Cornell students worked  
together to meet our school-wide  
positive behavior recognition goals!**

**WAY TO GO CORNELL!**

(2nd grade has a field trip Friday, so their schedule will be a little different. Please stay tuned for communication from 2nd grade.)

# News and Updates

(continued)



## Student Spotlight

WOW! Shout out to our K-4 Wolves for conducting a "top-notch" Fire Drill on Wednesday! I think it may have been the best I've seen. All students were using a *SAFE* voice, *SAFE* body and listening for teacher directions!

Shout out to the Kindergarten students this week. They were successful and used kindness during group collaboration and independent work time!

Shout out to all 4th grade students who shined at the Stadium Show this past week! They even impressed OHS and district staff by singing along during the playing of the OPS Fight Song!

Shout out to Mrs. Hixson's 3rd grade students! Their class did a great job during the Wolf Pack Run, showing positivity toward others and giving their best effort!

Shout out to Mrs. Gutierrez's 1st grade class. The students earned a reward from the library for returning ALL library books last week! Way to be *RESPONSIBLE!*

## 4th Grade Stadium Show

4th grade students traveled to the Okemos High School football stadium to watch the OHS Marching Band perform. They learned about different instruments and what the band experience is like in Okemos. Some students had the opportunity to join the OHS band members while they marched, and all students sang along to the OHS Fight Song and ran through the tunnel on the field!



## High School Football Expectations

To maintain a SAFE and orderly environment at our sporting events, so that ALL fans can enjoy the games, we are asking parents/guardians to please help us in our effort by reviewing these expectations with their students before they attend a game. Students who choose to demonstrate unsafe behaviors will be asked to sit with their caregivers.

- All students through 8th grade must have an adult present with them to attend the game.
- Students are expected to stay within the event boundaries. At high school football games students must stay within the event boundaries defined by fences. Specifically, students are not permitted to jump fences to access the soccer field, be under the bleachers, or enter Hartrick Park.
- Always exhibit good sportsmanship:
  - Be respectful during the National Anthem, school songs, and player introductions.
  - Never boo or yell at officials or opposing players.
  - Cheer for your team's players.
  - Represent your school in a positive manner.
  - Be respectful of other students and adults attending the game.

# Cornell Happenings

## A Message from the Office!

Fall Picture Retakes are scheduled for:

**November 3 @ 11:40AM-1:00PM**

This is for new students, current students who were absent on picture day, or parents who are not satisfied with the original photos. If parents were not satisfied with the photo, the student must return the purchased package at the time of retakes. Thank you!

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](mailto:tracy.ojerio@okemosk12.net). Thank you for your consideration and for passing the word along!

## Cornell PTO Spirit Wear Sale

Cornell PTO is opening a Cornell/OPS Wolves clothing and gear fundraising sale starting NOW!

Link: [Cornell Spirit Wear Sale](#)  
Online orders close October 19th @ 8pm!



# OPS Happenings

## DEI Tidbits

National Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated from September 15 to October 15. The terms "Hispanic" and "Latino" have different meanings. "Hispanic" refers to someone who comes from or is a descendant of a Spanish-speaking country. "Latina" or "Latino" (or the gender-neutral, "Latinx") refers to someone who comes from Latin America or is a descendant of any Latin American country. Latin America consists of the entire continent of South America in addition to Mexico, Central America, and the islands of the Caribbean.

Indigenous Peoples' Day  
October 9, 2023

The Anishinaabe in Michigan

Michigan's three largest Native American tribes are the Ojibwe (also called Chippewa), the Odawa (also called Ottawa), and the Potawatomi (also called the Bode'wadmi). They share a common language, customs, and beliefs. Together, they are Anishinaabe, or "original people." Hundreds of years ago, they created a partnership called the Three Fires. The Ojibwe were the "keepers of the ceremonies and song," the Odawa were "keepers of the trade," and the Potawatomi were the "keepers of the fire."

(Adapted from an article in the Summer 2008 issue of Michigan History for Kids, a publication of the Michigan Historical Center.)

## Mental Health Support

Okemos Public Schools has partnered with Child and Family Charities to provide a mental health clinic within Okemos High School. This opportunity is made possible because of the Expanding, Enhancing Emotional Health (E3) grant through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Adolescent Health Center Division. The clinic will provide on-site comprehensive mental health services from mild to moderate severity of need. There will be a full-time therapist at the OHS clinic five days a week and will be able to serve all OPS youth ages 5 to 21 years. If you're interested in services for your student, please complete this referral form. If you have additional questions, please contact:

Dr. Lara Slee, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion ([lara.slee@okemosk12.net](mailto:lara.slee@okemosk12.net), 517-706-5011).

## OPS Trunk or Treat

### TRUNK OR TREAT 2023

OKEMOS PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPERATION DEPARTMENT

#### WHEN

Sunday, Oct. 29th, 4-7pm

#### WHERE

Okemos High School Stadium Parking lot

#### More Info Here:

<https://www.smores.com/tyw0g>

#### Sign Up Here:

<https://okemosk12.revtrak.net/special-events/>

#### What is Trunk or Treat?????

Participants decorate their vehicle trunk (or tented space if you prefer) to a theme. Participants dress up in costumes to match. You can hand out tricks or treats to students as they come by. Students dress up in their favorite costume or fall clothing and trick or treat from vehicle to vehicle in a safe place, seeing all of their friends. Students, clubs, staff, sports groups, etc are encouraged to work together, creating exciting trunks! Come hungry and enjoy your favorite Food Truck for dinner!

#### More Info Here:

<https://www.smores.com/tyw0g>

#### Sign Up Here:

<https://okemosk12.revtrak.net/special-events/>



# Cornell PTO Updates

FOLLOW US  
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### TEACHER LUNCH

October 19 - lunch time

### GLOBAL CORNELL

November 10 - 6:30-8pm

### RESTAURANT NIGHT

Coming soon!



Treat yourself and your family to new Cornell gear through our fundraising collaboration with Fabricated Customs. Sweatshirts, soft t-shirts, water bottles, stickers - order your favorites!

Pre-order closes 10/19 at 8pm.

## CONTACT US

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## CORNELL PTO WEBSITE

### Global Cornell

Global Cornell is a celebration of our school's cultural diversity where families fill classrooms with representations of their culture. We often have families work together and create a shared cultural experience. It's a wonderful evening mixing education and fun! We will send out a sign up for culture hosts soon, so keep an eye on the newsletter, our Facebook page, and our website. Coming Friday,

**November 10, from 6:30-8pm.**

### Homecoming

The parade on Friday was a wonderful experience seeing the community show up and support our schools! The float was awesome, the kids were pumped, and I'm sure the candy was enjoyed immensely. A huge thank you to Toni Schingeck for her work on the float - the kids enjoyed decorating and adding their personal touches, and to Mrs. Sinila for willingly handing us her car keys and trusting all would be returned in the same condition!

### Cornell Wolf Pack Run

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of this year's Wolf Pack Run! We came so close to our goal, and we're grateful to be able to fund all the extras we've hoped for! Prizes were sent home in backpacks Friday. If we made a mistake, please, kindly, email us with your child's name, teacher, and expected prize. Thank you to the parents who helped with prizes!

### MEETING SCHEDULE

Next meeting 10/25, 6pm, Library