

December 2020

OJSH Newsletter

Administrators Message by **Mr Lobo**



December 2020

Well we have seen this story before - online learning. Covid-19 infection rates have increased, so out of caution, the province has determined all gr 17-12 students will be online from November 30, 2020 until January 8, 2021. We do have our Christmas break, from Monday December 21 until Friday January 1, 2021, so there will be no online classes during this time.

Teachers will keep their regular schedule of classes as in Powerschool, connecting with students via Google Meets. Classwork will transition back and forth via Google Classroom and Google Docs. We hope the rural internet gods are good to us. For those few with no online option, we will endeavor to have some type of paper copy option. Please call the school or email teachers directly to ensure work is completed .

OJSH has given out over 120 chromebooks to students to work from home, during this online learning timeframe.

Please keep safe over the holidays, as we all need to work together to ensure infection rates stay as low as possible, and the healthcare system can manage to support those who need it.

Important dates - December 2020/

January 2021

Date	Event
Nov 30 -January 8	Online classes
Dec19- January3	Christmas break
Friday Jan 22	Last day- Sr high Classes - Semester1
Jan 25-Jan 28	Sr High Final exams
Jan 29	PD day- no classes

Mr Van Camp - Last day is Friday Dec 18.
by **Mr. Lobo**

OJSH staff will say goodbye to Mr. Kyle Van Camp on Friday December 18, 2020. It is his last day as a staff member. He is pursuing a Masters of Plant Ecology at the University of Alberta, starting in January 2021. We wish him the best in this new adventure. There will be a new teacher in place for the rest of the 2021 school year for his courses.

Students in his classes would have been informed, so they could say goodbye in person Friday Nov 27. If not, a virtual good bye will take place Friday Dec. 18.

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Sr High finals in January 2021

by **Mr. Lobo**

We have been able to extend the teaching time until Friday January 22, 2021, as most diploma writers are opting out. Students will have 4 days of Sr. High Exam Week .

Am exams from 9am - noon and Pm exams from 12:30pm -3:25pm

<u>Date</u>	<u>Exam</u>
Monday Jan 25 AM	Soc 30-2 Sci 30 Physics 30
Monday Jan 25 PM	Science 10 Sci 14 Sci 24
Tuesday Jan 26 AM	Eng 30-2 Eng 30-1 Biology 20
Tuesday Jan 26 PM	Social 20-1 Social 20-2
Wednesday Jan 27 AM	English 10-1 English 10-2
Wednesday Jan 27 PM	Physics 20 Math 30-1 Math 30-2 Math 30-3
Thursday Jan 28 AM	Math 10c Math 10-3 Soc 10-1 Soc 10-2
Thursday Jan 28PM	Eng 20-1 Eng 20-2

Communication Technology Studies

Mrs. E. Radvanszky

CTS students have been fully engaged in their current module of study, Animation. On Friday, November 6, students had the opportunity to Google Meet with professional Animator Eric Burnett to hear about his experiences in the industry. Eric has worked on feature films such as, The Smurfs, Free Birds and Book of Life. His most current film was The Willoughbys, a Netflix original film in which Eric was the Character Lead Animator for some of the characters in the film.

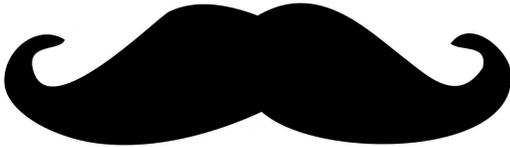


Students were able to ask Eric questions about his challenges and successes in the industry, and Eric was more than happy to give a realistic perspective about a career in animation.



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MOVEMBER!!

OJSH students and staff recognized and participated in Movember all of the month of November. Movember activities are in support of Men's health and mental health issues. Unfortunately - many of the events planned by Ms. Ferguson had to be cancelled because of Covid restrictions. However on Friday November 27 students from Mrs. Radvansky's Communications Technology class and Mrs. Villneff's Cosmetology class judged the participants. Students and staff, with and without facial hair, were able to participate! Our winners were:

Best High School student: Ethan Bruckner

Junior High: First Place: Avin Thomsen 2nd Place: Helena Kootenayoo 3rd Place; Waylynd Vollema

Teachers: First Place: Ms. Schmidt-Peterson

2nd Place: Mr. Blount

Coping with Stress

Ms. Ferguson

It's that time of year again. Lights are twinkling, snow is falling, and exams are starting. During this month with everything going on (Covid-19), it is important that students are able to find ways to cope with the stress of it all. Students will be given presentations online with different tips and tricks to help with the stress of exams, and once again being on lockdown.

If any student is in need of extra support, and wanting to chat I can arrange time slots for that to happen. With that being said, it is important that children are also given the number to the Kids Help Phone (1-800-668-6868). The Kids Help Phone is an organization that provides 24/7 free, and confidential counselling, and support for those who may need it.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at; tashona.ferguson@ngps.ca.



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Webs of Support - Color Violet “Social Norms”

By Mrs. Villneff

Webs of Support frames much of the language and ways we understand youth in our school community. It is also how we, as adults, can understand one another.

The color violet, which represents social norms, is often the most difficult for people to understand. It usually takes something “big” to affect what we are used to, before we fully understand what this color represents.

Unfortunately, the Covid-19 pandemic is truly demonstrating what effect changing social norms have on all of us. The pandemic has affected how we all live our day-to-day lives. Whether we think of having to don a mask everywhere we go, or how students have had to learn online from home this year, or even how rules are imposed on how we conduct our social lives - the change in our social norms is evident. The pandemic has not only changed the global community, but also has impacted many of the families and people we all know. With job losses or reduced hours, many families have had to go without certain things, or rely on others for support.

When your children engage in conversations with you about covid-19 and the way things have changed in light of it, this is how you can emphasize what is

meant by social norms. It is also what is represented by the color violet in our webs of support framework.

Something for we can all consider in light of the changing social norms would be the color indigo. The color indigo in our Web represents “caring for the carers”. When we think about the adults who care for children and who struggle sometimes to do so, this color reminds us that even adults need anchors (support people) too.

Christmas is one time of year we are often reminded to care for others near or far - including adults. Naturally the spirit of the holidays inspires us to be more generous, kind, and thoughtful. This Christmas the means to do so may be different. Donations of money may not be something as easy to do as in previous years, however, there are other ways youth and adults can show others that they care.



Encourage and model for children that shoveling someone’s walk or phoning someone just to talk and be supportive are also ways we can care for others. There are still ways we can show we care for others and help make their Christmas - or any time

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of year, better. 2020 has certainly not been an easy year, but when we have people that care about us, it makes it a bit more bearable.

OJSH misses our students and we have missed the parents and volunteers in our building this past year. We are all hopeful that the social norms of 2021 will change again - for the positive! Students - please keep attending your GoogleMeets and keeping in touch with your teachers. They want to support you. Having that day-to-day contact will help you mentally, as well as academically. Staff at OJSH want to keep throwing you strings and helping you grow your balloon!!

On behalf of the staff at OJSH, we wish all of our families a healthy and safe holiday. We know it may very well be a holiday like none we have ever seen before, but we are hopeful you will all find something to be thankful for in spite of the nasty virus!

Take care, everyone. See you in 2021.



COUNSELLING CORNER

The counselling staff would like to start this month's newsletter entry with a bang and a big congratulations. Kaitie Normand has been conditionally accepted into Norquest College in the Practical Nurse Program. Nice going Kaitie! Our best wishes and keep up the good work at Norquest. We would like to encourage all students and parents to let us know when you are accepted, conditional or otherwise, into the programs that you apply for. We are proud of all of our students and would like to publicly acknowledge them for their success when they are accepted into any of the post-secondary programs.

We would also like to remind students and their parents that even though students are not attending classes in our school for the next few weeks, they are still our students and we are concerned about their well-being, particularly during these trying and stressful times during the holiday season. Please don't forget that if any students, or their parents, are in need of support, have questions about online learning or are forced to deal with any personal or family crisis, to contact any of the counselling staff in the Wrap Around area. We are available to speak to students via phone or contact them through email or Google Meets to help them through any issues they may be facing. We wish the best of the Christmas season to all of our students and families and please ask that you remain safe and healthy over the holidays.