



# Our Lady of Fatima School

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Happy Monday! I hope you had a great weekend.

As we enter the season of Advent, we are reminded of the importance of preparation and reflection as we await the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. At school, we will be taking time to pray and participate in acts of kindness and service. There are opportunities for parents to join us as we celebrate this wonderful time of year.

Thank you to Mrs. Thurston and her grade 2 students for leading us in our Week 1 Advent liturgy. You did a great job!



Last week our boy's volleyball team, coached by Mrs. Matchett did a terrific job representing OLF. Today, the girl's team, coached by Mrs. Campbell, did so as well. Way to go, Saints!

## **Holly Jolly Bazaar**

Christmas is on its way and so is the OLF Holly Jolly Bazaar! Students will be able to 'shop' for items at the Bazaar for their immediate family members (i.e., those that live in their household) on **Wednesday, December 17**. We need your help. We are looking for donations of items. Please see the information and suggested items below.

**Winter** has arrived! Please note that the students are outside for recess every day unless the weather gets to -25 degrees celsius (with the wind) so it is extremely important that students are dressed appropriately for the weather. Boots, toques and mitts are a must. Please reach out to the office if you need help with this.

With winter comes snow days and bus cancellations. Be sure you are signed up with OSTA to receive notifications of bus delays and cancellations. (see OSTA info below)

Please read the document, [here](#) from Ottawa Public Health with regards to helping to **reduce the spread of respiratory illnesses**.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education.

Sincerely,  
Kevin Shannon  
Principal

### **Important Dates**

December 1- Week 1 Advent liturgy @ 8:30 am in gym - Parents welcome  
December 2- Donations for our Holly Jolly Bazaar are now being accepted  
December 5- PD Day - no school for students  
December 8- Week 2 Advent liturgy @ 8:30am in gym - Parents welcome  
December 12- Kinders visit Santa @ Carlingwood Mall  
December 16- Week 3 Advent Mass @ 10am OLF church  
December 17- Holly Jolly Bazaar  
December 18- Kindergarten Christmas Concert  
December 20 to January 4th- Christmas Break  
January 5th- First day of school after the break

### **School Council Corner**

#### **School Council Meeting**

Our next council meeting will be virtual on Monday, December 8th at 6:30pm. All are welcome. Link to meeting [here](#)

#### **Holly Jolly Bazaar**

Hello OLF Families,

Christmas is on its way and so is the **OLF Holly Jolly Bazaar!** Students will be able to 'shop' for items at the Bazaar for their immediate family members (i.e., those that live in their household) on **Wednesday, December 17**. Volunteers will then wrap the presents the students have picked out and send them home with them for Christmas.

In order to make this possible, students are asked to donate **gently used items** that will be for 'sale' at the Bazaar. **5 or more items** per student are needed to make this event a success. Gifts for all family members are needed including those that would traditionally been given to dads or brothers. Popular gifts include toys, holiday ornaments, mugs, candles, jewelry, gloves, games, picture frames, Lego, decorative items, books, small household items or electronics and sport items. We are also in need of gift bags, tissue paper and tape. We ask that **no stuffed animals, food, or clothing** be donated.

**Donation collection will begin on Tuesday, December 2** in the front foyer of the school.

We are also looking for volunteers to help set up the Bazaar after school on Tuesday, December 16th and to help wrap presents on the day of the event. If you think you may have some time to volunteer email [olfcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:olfcouncil@gmail.com) for more details.

Thank you in advance for making this event possible and a special day for the OLF Community!

### **Support our School with Mabel's Labels**

Looking for an easy way to support our school without any extra effort? Check out our ongoing Mabel's Labels fundraiser! Simply order custom labels for your kids' belongings, and a portion of each purchase comes back to our school. <https://mabelslabels.ca/en-CA/fundraising/support>

Have questions, concerns, or suggestions? We would love to hear from you!

**Please reach out anytime to: [olfcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:olfcouncil@gmail.com)**

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### **Our Lady of Fatima Parish News**

- [Our Lady of Fatima Parish website](#) for parish news.
- Children's Liturgy is offered during the 11:30 Masses for children from 4 to 12, all are welcome
- Sunday, December 7 is the Christmas concert. Musicians from the parish will be performing from 3:00 PM to 4:40ish. A reception follows in the parish hall until 5:30 PM. **DONATIONS TO THE FOOD BANK ARE APPRECIATED.**
- Our Lady of Fatima Parish - Christmas Party, Saturday - December 13, 2025



### **Community News**

- **Homework/Tutoring help** is being run at the Carlingwood library by United for Literacy, every Wednesday from 5:30pm to 7:00 pm. There are tutors who work with students in both English and French. (see flyer)

**Does your child need homework help?**

United for Literacy offers a free homework club for students aged 6 to 12. We help with English, French, Math, and Science!

 **Carlingwood Library** 281 Woodroffe Ave, Ottawa

**Wednesday from 5:30 pm to 7 pm**

Contact Sarah Brydges at [sbrydges@unitedforliteracy.ca](mailto:sbrydges@unitedforliteracy.ca) for more information.

 1899-2024 United for Literacy Littératie Ensemble



- **Canada Safety Council Home Alone and Babysitting Course**

See info [here](#).

## **Bussing**

Changes can occur daily so please be sure to sign up for bus cancelation/delay notifications from [OSTA](#). Please be sure to review bus rules and expectations with your children to help keep everyone safe.

## **Weather**

Reminder to continue to monitor the **weather** and ensure students are dressed for the weather of the day. Hats, gloves, boots, snow pants and warm jacket weather is here.

## **Parent Volunteers**

Are you looking to be a Volunteer in your child's school? In order to be a volunteer (field trips, in class volunteering etc), you must be approved and on the list with your child's school.

### **OCSB Volunteer Information:**

Any Parents or Guardians wishing to volunteer at Our Lady of Fatima School, please email [volunteers@ocsb.ca](mailto:volunteers@ocsb.ca) and put in the subject line: Volunteer at Our Lady of Fatima. They will then send you the instructions you need and make sure you are on the right track.

If you completed a vulnerable sector check last year and are on our volunteer list, you do not need to apply for another vulnerable check. More details about the process can also be found here [OCSB Volunteer LINK](#)

## **School Messenger**

Most of our communication will be done through School Messenger. It is an efficient way to communicate with all of our school community. If you haven't done so, please go to <https://www.ocsb.ca/schoolmessenger> to sign up for an account. In order to receive communication, like this newsletter, please review your settings to **ensure that you are signed up to receive General messages**. The reason you are receiving this newsletter today is because we have sent it as an **Emergency Message**. Please note that future messages will be sent as General as to not alarm families.

**School Day Schedule:**

Block 1 — 8:00 - 9:15

Morning Recess — 9:15 - 9:30

Block 2 — 9:30 - 10:45

Lunch Hour: Eating & Outdoor Time — 10:45 - 11:45

Block 3 — 11:45 - 1:00

Afternoon Recess — 1:00 - 1:15

Block 4 — 1:15 - 2:30

Dismissal/Pick-up — 2:30