

Happy Friday, Phillips!

We have had a great week! The weather has co-operated and outdoor opportunities abound. We see many kids starting to bike and scooter to school which is awesome! Don't forget to dismount on property, give way to pedestrians and wear a helmet.

This is also the time when more students get permission to leave property at lunch. If your child usually stays for lunch, but is leaving for a day here or there, they must bring a note to the office and sign out before leaving. Please also remind your child to cross safely at lights and corners. Thank you for helping us to keep your children safe.

Class Placements for next year: In May, our teachers will be given release time to create draft versions of next year's classes. Changes in staffing and enrollment do make this a dynamic process well into September, but we work hard to create a solid starting point. Our teachers know our students well: behaviour, focus, learning styles, academic and social skills, student interactions, strengths and areas for growth. We strive to make balanced classes based on many factors, academic and social. Our SERTs and administrators also attend the meetings. A few parents have already submitted requests and we have added them to a file. We do place siblings and twins together, or separate them, based on parent and teacher feedback. We also strive to have students with a friend or two, while also creating space for new friendships and social opportunities. However, teachers will organize this. We will accept letters/emails outlining specific needs in your own child(ren) until May 7. Unfortunately, we are unable to consider requests for specific teachers or friend groups as this makes our task of prioritizing positive learning environments and balanced classes impossible. Imagine if everyone requested specific teachers and friend combinations. Change can be stressful, and we do put a lot of time and effort into creating the best-case school organization possible.

Yearbooks are available to purchase on school cash online. They are \$25. Only 5 days left to purchase them! Flyer: [Yearbook2025 \(1\).png](#)

Perennial Plant Drive: May 3rd, 11 am - 2 pm: [IMG_9770 \(1\).jpeg](#)

Our Centenary committee is seeking some feedback with regard to a beautiful booklet (over 30 pages of memories and information) that has been created to commemorate our 100 years. Please fill out this form to help us know if you are interested in purchasing a paper or digital copy. We would like to have a fairly accurate idea of how many to order. <https://forms.gle/ahTgUxsA2ZMX7JqH6> Thank you!

April:

**29-30 Wrestling 9-3
30 Snack Shack**

May:

2 Coffee and Chat (SCC outside before school)
3 Perennial Plant Drive 11-2
5 Staff Meeting; Folkdance Jamboree; Swim to Survive Townsend
6 Swim to Survive Peterson
8 Spring Concert 6:30 pm
12 Grades 1-3 to O'Neill in the morning
15 Great Beginnings (Kindergarten orientation); Teacher Release Day
16 Track and Field Day (4-8)
26 Band to Wonderland
27-29 Grade 3 EQAO
29 - 1 IPRCs
31 Centenary celebration at Phillips 1-5pm

June:

3-5 Grade 6 EQAO
12 Water Day (student leadership team leading)
19 Grade 8 Graduation; Grade 3s to Pickering Village
23-24 Grade 8 trips

Links from the community:

Feed the Need in Durham – [CRAM-A-Cruiser Food Drive](#) – Elementary – Ajax, Brock, Oshawa, Pickering, Scugog, Uxbridge, Whitby
Ontario Tech University - [Science Rendezvous](#) – Elementary - Ajax, Brock, Oshawa, Pickering, Scugog, Uxbridge, Whitby
Oshawa Hawkeyes Football Club – [Football Registration](#) – Elementary – Oshawa, Uxbridge, Whitby
Liberation75 - [Free Virtual Event for Grades 4-12 for Holocaust Remembrance Day](#) – Elementary - Ajax, Brock, Oshawa, Pickering, Scugog, Uxbridge, Whitby
The Club – [Transgender Youth Club](#) – Elementary & Secondary Ages 10-17 years old – Oshawa
Under Armour (UA) Flag Canada - [Durham/Oshawa Under Armour \(UA\) Flag Canada](#) - Elementary - Ajax, Brock, Oshawa, Pickering, Scugog, Uxbridge, Whitby
Future Aces - Symposium for Elementary Students - [FREE 2025 Elementary Leadership Symposium taking place May 12th](#) – Elementary - Ajax, Brock, Oshawa, Pickering, Scugog, Uxbridge, Whitby
Oshawa Public Libraries – [TD Summer Reading Club](#) – Elementary - Oshawa

Have a wonderful weekend!

C. Mackey and J. Demmerling