



Principal: Hope Sterling
OAA: Diane Dickson
Director of Instruction: Padro da Silva
Trustee: Janet Fraser
PAC Co-Chairs: Esther Moreno & Suzanne Clarke

Dear Oppenheimer Community:

There were many highlights in October, but I think one of the biggest was our first annual **Halloween Dance**. A big thank you to all the families who joined us that evening and an ever-louder applause to the PAC and all the parents that helped plan, decorate and run the event. Well done!



October is also remembered for the **Oppenheimer Kindness Challenge**. In a school assembly, students were encouraged to find ways to be extra kind to one another. Then, at our next school assembly on Monday, November 5th we will be reading some of the reports that were made from the recipients of kindness. This is a great way to set up our year at Oppenheimer for continued kindness.



One of our goals at Oppenheimer is to get all our **students to school on time**. I am happy to report that we have made great progress with this. Thank you for your help in getting your students to school and ready to learn by 9 AM. I appreciate the challenges we all face in “getting out the door” and we are continuing to work with a few more families.



Recently our students in Grades 5 to 7 have had an opportunity to join our **Peer Helpers** and **Student Council**. Playground Leaders will be training with me over the next two weeks. I will be teaching two problem solving techniques to the Playground Leaders and Supervision Aides. **WITS** (Walk away, Ignore, Talk it out and Seek help) is a problem solving acronym to help students remember some strategies to handle difficult situations on the playground. **LEADS** is a second acronym to help the Peer Helpers work with students to resolve conflicts. For more information visit www.witsprogram.ca The students will also be learning basic playground games to teach to their peers. We are excited to see what Student Council will bring this year to Oppenheimer. They have already planned **Decades Day** on November 27th. I look forward to seeing students dressed in their poodle skirts and tie-dyed tee's.



I met last week with the head of **VSB Grounds** to express my concerns around drainage and mud. He has promised to start work on his 3-step plan in the middle of this month. We are hoping this will result in less dirt brought into our school.



We will be holding our **Remembrance Day Assembly** on Thursday, November 8th at 11 AM. If your child is a member of Scouts or Guides or another organization, we encourage you to send them in their uniforms that day.

Also, in November we are holding our **Reporting Conferences**.

Again this year, we have about half of our teachers participating in the VSB pilot project on Communicating Student Learning. So, you may notice teachers sending out report cards at different times during the year.

We will keep you posted on this. We hope to see you all at reporting conferences!



Hope Sterling, Principal