

COBBLESTONE

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



179 Grandville Circle
Paris, ON
N3L 0A9
519-442-2500

Principal
Cheryl Bannister

Vice Principal
Lisa De Graaf

Office Coordinators
Erin Van Ry
Jaclyn Robinson

Bell Times
Entry Bell - 9:05am
Instructional Block #1
9:05am - 11:05am
First Nutrition Break
11:05am - 11:45am
Instructional Block #2
11:45am - 1:25pm
Second Nutrition Break
1:25pm - 2:05pm
Instructional Block #3
2:05pm - 3:25pm
Dismissal Bell - 3:25pm

Message from Administration,

With winter now making its presence known, as marked by our first Inclement Weather Day on the last Friday in November, we head into December ready for a month of learning, celebrations, and community connection. We are grateful to our families for their ongoing support and for helping make our school a safe and joyful place for all.

It was wonderful to hear and see that so many of you participated in November's parent-teacher interviews. We want to remind you that you are welcome to reach out to your child's classroom teacher at any point throughout the year if you have questions or concerns about your child's academic progress.

We extend a big thank you to all staff, and especially to Mrs. Bage and members of the Coyote Crew, for their work in organizing our Remembrance Day Presentation. We also want to recognize the students of Cobblestone for demonstrating such a high level of respect during this important assembly.

Additionally, we are grateful to Aarvi P. and Sathvika T. for representing our school with such dignity as they presented Cobblestone's Remembrance wreath at the Cenotaph during the Paris Remembrance Day Ceremony downtown on November 11th.



Despite the cold and sometimes unpleasant weather, both students showed poise and respect. Thank you to both of you for your grace and exemplary role modeling. We would also like to extend special recognition to our volleyball teams, who will soon be representing our school at their respective tournaments. Our Cobblestone athletes have come together before school and during nutrition breaks to practice, and we are confident they will demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship during their competitions. We are so proud of our teams, and we offer a heartfelt thank you to Mr. Janushewski, Mr. Joynt, Ms. Mancini, and Ms. Tugby for generously giving their time to coach them. Thank you again, and best of luck to all our teams!

This year, we will be celebrating a month-long theme of Winterfest leading up to the Winter Break, beginning on December 20th. Please take a moment to review the list of Special Days on the attached calendar—created by our amazing Coyote Crew—as well as the details about our Winterfest Open House on December 11th (4:30–6:30 p.m.) included in this newsletter. Feel free to participate in whichever days and activities suit your family, hopefully, there is something for everyone!

Best Wishes,

Mrs Bannister and Ms DeGraaf



Kindergarten Registration

It is never too early to think about the start of school, and if you have a child who will be four years old by December 31, 2026, online registration is now open! Early Kindergarten registration allows us to plan and implement programming and resources so your child can make the most successful transition as they start school. Our Kindergarten classrooms are vibrant, welcoming spaces where our youngest learners form positive relationships, build problem-solving skills, and develop a strong sense of themselves in the world.

Parents and caregivers of soon-to-be Kindergarten students can visit Grand Erie's Kindergarten webpage to register, as well as find information about transportation, before-and-after care, and resources to ensure the best start to school. Our office is also available to answer any questions you have about the process. We can't wait to welcome your child to Cobblestone next September!



Attendance Counts!

Did you know that missing just one day of school every two weeks adds up to four full weeks over the course of the school year? Success at school is directly related to regular attendance.

School attendance for all students is tracked for absences and late arrivals.

If your child is going to be absent, please use the Safe Arrivals app or toll-free number to report before the beginning of the school day. A GEDSB attendance counsellor works with our school to track student absences. Absences of 15 consecutive days can result in the removal of the student from the school's registrar.

Please note that if you are planning a family trip or have a reason to take your child out of school for more than 15 consecutive days, you are required to complete a "Request for Absence from School" form.

Please remember to report any student absence, late arrival or early pick up online using the School Messenger app!





Cobblestone's Coyote Crew Presents...

Holiday Spirit Days!



Monday December 1	Tuesday December 2	Wednesday December 3	Thursday December 4	Friday December 5
	<p>Gearing up for a super fun, spirit-filled month...</p>			
Monday December 8	Tuesday December 9	Wednesday December 10	Thursday December 11	Friday December 12
 <p>Bring in cereal and oatmeal today!</p>	 <p>Bring in canned or boxed soup today!</p>	 <p>Bring in pasta and sauce today!</p>	 <p>Bring in baby food today!</p>	 <p>Bring in canned vegetables and meat today!</p>
<p>Cobblestone Cares: Fill-A-Bus for the Christmas Hampers</p>				
Monday December 15	Tuesday December 16	Wednesday December 17	Thursday December 18	Friday December 19
<p>Wear your</p>  <p>BRIGHTEST colours as we fill-a-bus with the food collected!</p>	<p>Winter Solstice BINGO</p> <p>Kindergarten, Primary, and Junior/Intermediate BINGO Games</p> 	<p>Deck The Halls</p> <p>Come DECKED out in your favourite holiday or winter gear!</p> 	<p>Learn Lead Inspire</p> <p>Assembly</p> <p>Holiday Spirit from our</p> <p>HEAD to our TOES</p> <p>Choose to wear something on your head, something on your feet, or do both!</p> 	<p>LONG WINTER'S NAP</p> <p>Cozy up in your comfy clothes or pyjamas</p> <p>BYOM: Bring your own mug for complimentary hot cocoa from the Coyote Crew</p> 

A Special Shout-Out!

Let's Give Them a Coyote Howl! A-WOOOOOOOOO

Thank you to our amazing Coyote Recycling Crew! Every week they work hard to collect and discard all of our schools recycling items. You do a wonderful job every week and we appreciate all of your hard work! Thank you to Ms. Amy, Paigelyn, Elliot and Bentley - **You guys ROCK!**





WINTER FEST OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11
4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Join us for an evening of fun, crafts,
and community celebration.

During Winter Fest, we will also be
collecting items for our Christmas Hamper
Food Drive.



Student Nutrition Program

Each day, all students have access to healthy snacks, if they are interested.

We are thankful for the support of Brant Food for Thought for providing funding for this program. **Additional donations can be made to the school snack program through SchoolCashOnline.** Thank you to those families who have already made donations, our students and snack team appreciate your support!

Thank you to Mandy Young, Kay Macdonald, and their team of faithful volunteers for their contributions to the school snack program! If you are available to volunteer for the snack program, please contact the office.



Fire Drills and School Lock Down Procedures

In accordance with the Brant Fire Department and GEDSB Policy on School Lock Down, your child(ren) will be involved in 3 Fire Drills during the Fall and Spring months. Lock Down Procedures will also be practiced.

Peanut/Nut Aware School

A few reminders about food policies at Cobblestone:

- This is a peanut/nut aware school. Please do not send peanut-based products, peanuts, nut/soy products, or anything that may contain nuts of any kind into the school. The safety of our students depends on this.
- Peanut butter substitutes such *Wow Butter* are not permitted in GEDSB Elementary Schools.
- Food of any kind is not permitted on the school playground during recess breaks. Students are given the opportunity to eat their snacks and lunches prior to or immediately following recess.

Messages from Grand Erie Public Health

Mental health – your children

We all experience emotions; ups and downs are a normal part of life at any age. For children, recognizing signs of struggle, providing support and care can help them to develop strong emotional awareness and self-regulation skill.

Possible signs of mental health concern

Younger children

- Frequent changes in mood/emotions
- Easily hurt feelings, crying, anger, irritability
- Ongoing temper tantrums, throwing things, hitting others, etc.
- Persistent sadness and lack of interest in activities they normally enjoy
- Withdrawing from friends and family
- Increased need for contact and reassurance

Older children

- Outburst of anger or distress, frequent irritability
- Feelings of anxiety or panic
- Increased defiance or opposition
- Refusal to attend school or declining grades
- Use of drugs/alcohol
- Withdrawal from family, friends, activities
- Ongoing negative self-talk
- Renewed interest in activities from earlier childhood years

For further resources and support, visit [School Mental Health Ontario](https://www.schoolmentalhealthontario.ca/).



Hand washing

Why is it important to wash our hands?

Washing your hands with soap for 20 seconds is the best way to stay healthy and stop germs from spreading.

Helpful tips:

- Use regular reminders for your child to wash their hands
- Lead by example washing your hands
- Make it fun by making up your own song or game. There are also videos you can find on YouTube
- Use hand sanitizer if soap and water aren't available

Stay Home when you are Sick!

When children are sick, it is difficult for them to learn and participate in school and activities. Home is the best for your child if they have any new symptoms of illness.

They can return to school and activities when they feel better for at least 24 hours (48 hours for nausea, vomiting or diarrhea) and they do not have a fever.

Remember to report your child's vaccinations

All children attending school in Ontario are required by law to report their vaccination status to public health.

You can contact your child's healthcare provider to obtain records, or to get missing vaccinations. You can report your child's immunization by phone, email or online. You will need their Ontario Health Card number when reporting their vaccines online.

Ways to report:

- **Online:** [Immunization Connect \(ICON\)](#)
- **Phone:** 519-753-4937 ext. 451
- **Email:** immunizationintake@bchu.org
- **In Person:** 194 Terrace Hill St., Brantford, ON N3R 1G7 Monday-Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm
- **Fax:** 519-753-2140



Mind your health

Mental health is an important part of our overall health. It influences how we think, what we feel, and how we behave. Our mental health can greatly impact our relationships, self-esteem, and ability to learn new things. Mental health challenges can happen to anyone, at any age, and in any situation.

Did you know: 1 in 5 students experience mental health challenges?

This is why it is so important to talk to your children about mental health and learn how to recognize the signs of when they might be struggling.

Possible signs of poor mental health:

- Avoiding friends and family
- Rebelling against authority
- Losing interest in activities they once enjoyed
- Frequent mood swings
- Significant drop in school marks

How parents can support their child's mental well-being:

- Encourage children to talk about their feelings
- Respect their feelings and emotions
- Stay positive and avoid being judgmental
- Take children to their family doctor to explore concerns

Your child can speak over the phone or chat online with a counselor from Kids Help Phone at 1-800-668-6868 or [kidshelpphone.ca](https://www.kidshelpphone.ca)

For more information visit [Grand Erie Public Health's website](https://www.granderiepublichealth.ca).



GRAND ERIE
PUBLIC HEALTH

Parent/Caregiver/ Community Member Concern Chart



We're Here to Help



Parent/Caregiver/Community member inquiries will receive an acknowledgement within 2 business days. Grand Erie shall make a best effort to provide an estimated date of response in a parent/caregiver/community member inquiry if it cannot be fully addressed within 5 business days of receipt.

Your Trustee can guide you through this process.

Find your Superintendent and Trustee Representative at granderie.ca/board/about/trustees