

Dear Parents,

Students and staff have enjoyed a great first week back. It was wonderful to have all of our students under one roof today.

On Tuesday, you received a fairly lengthy package of paperwork to complete. Please return the forms on Monday to ensure that your child can participate in all that Jockvale has to offer. Additionally, just a reminder to complete the electronic Media Consent and Use of Technology forms online at

<https://forms.ocdsb.ca/Forms/Media-School-Website-Consent-Form>

<https://forms.ocdsb.ca/Forms/Use-of-Technology>

Thank you to all of our Junior and new Senior Kindergarten parents who attended their intake interviews. What a great opportunity to open the lines of communication and to ensure that staff have all of the important information to ensure a smooth start to the school year.

We were happy to start our year off with an assembly led by Rebecca Lira from Mindfulness Rocks. Ms. Lira talked about different parts of the brain, being present, understanding and compassionate, and aware of how our thoughts influence our feelings and reactions. She presented our students with strategies to help get back to a calm, happy and focused state of mind. One of these strategies is to take 5 slow breaths before responding to a stressful, worrisome, or unexpected situation. If you would like to learn more about Mindfulness Rocks, you can visit the website: <https://www.mindfulness-rocks.com/how-it-all-began.html>

Have you heard about the Leaders of the Pride? The Grade 6 Leaders of the Pride is a new club at Jockvale. It invites Grade 6 students to take on leadership roles within our school. This week, the Leaders of the Pride were an amazing asset to our school. On the first day, all of the Leaders of the Pride led classes around the school yard to show the boundaries and to reinforce the homeroom teacher's message about expected and unexpected recess behaviours. On Wednesday, some of our Leaders welcomed a guest speaker and helped to set up the technology and chairs for our assembly. They were also instrumental in the success of today's Play Day. We thank them for their leadership and look forward to seeing them continue to lead the Jockvale Jaguars throughout the year! Thank you to Mme Phillips and Mrs. Azarbar for providing these opportunities for our students.

Today, our Grade 6 students (with help from the grade 5 students in Mrs. Ross' class) led our Jaguars in a Play Day. All classes from grades 1-5 took part in fun and engaging outdoor team building activities with their teachers. What a fantastic way to nurture friendships and trust in our classrooms! Thank you to M. Meilleur, Mrs. Sinclair, and Mrs. Azarbar for organizing the activities and coaching the students in this endeavour!

Looking ahead to next week, the Jaguars will put on their dancing shoes. Jockvale welcomes Luv 2 Groove for a week of hip hop dance lessons. Thank you to our School Council for providing this curricular extension.

Meet and Greet

Please mark your calendar! On Tuesday, September 17th, we will be hosting our annual Meet and Greet event. Staff members will be available in their classrooms from 4:30 pm- 5:30 pm. We will then head outside from 5:30-6:30 pm for informal conversation. Food trucks will be available throughout the evening so that you may purchase your dinner. We look forward to seeing you!

School Council

The School Council is a group of parents, just like you, who join staff and the community in monthly meetings to be informed, gain firsthand insight and have a voice in what's happening at our school.

On September 18th, Jockvale School Council will hold their first meeting of the school year at 6:30 pm in the Library. During this meeting, elections for the 2019-2020 Executive will take place. Whether you are interested in a formal role or would simply like to hear more about how you can contribute to the school community, we hope to see you on the 18th. Please note that childcare is available.

We wish you an enjoyable weekend and look forward to seeing all students on Monday.

Robyn

robyn.darragh@ocdsb.ca