

Dear Le Phare families! Welcome back!

We hope you had a healthy and happy summer. We're so glad to be back. ALL THE FEELINGS.

We have **4 things we want to share** in our first message of the year...

First: Please answer our short family survey! <https://forms.gle/Q5WMbBibvgVcECkq9>

- This survey will help guide us this year. It is anonymous and open-ended. Open until Sept 20th.

Second: Who we are and what we do?

- [Click here](#) for a snapshot of what we do.
- Read below for more info on our recent activities and our goals this year!

Third: Le Phare is at its best when families are engaged.

- Read below for flexible ways you can help Le Phare, however works for your family.
- Our first meeting this year is **Tues, Sept 21 at 7pm** via Google Meet. We will vote for this year's Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.
- It's super easy to join! If you'd like to take part, feel free to fill out [this form](#)

Fourth: The Chapters store on Ogilvie has adopted our school until October 3rd.

- Our incredible librarian Ms. Paula arranged a super book-raising event for Le Phare!
- Share [this poster](#) far and wide - and shop at Chapters on Ogilvie this month
- You can even [donate directly online](#)
- All the info is on our [webpage](#)
- Also, please check out Ms. Paula's incredible [virtual library](#) for Le Phare students!
- Hooray for books books books!

So, what's School Council, anyway?

We're a small group of parents and guardians, just like you. We have 3 main goals:

- 1) Enrich education and the learning experience for students**
 - **This year:** Support students and adjust to their needs; Respond to your priorities for your kids, and raise and spend funds where YOU choose
- 2) Collaborate with principals, teachers and staff**
 - **This year:** Hear from you and share your feedback with the Principals; Create joint projects we can work on together to foster unique learning opportunities.
- 3) Support and foster our community!**
 - **This year:** Engage you and host events if/where possible; Encourage your involvement and an ongoing dialogue among our school community

Ways we've recently contributed to Le Phare:

- Hosted the Monster Mash dance, picnic, yoga, movie nights, and virtual candy science night
- Helped fund a library update and a kinder yard replacement (when the climber burned down)
- Bought musical instruments, books, and snowshoes for the school
- Organized and delivered thousands of school lunches (pre-COVID)
- Bought healthy snacks for kids at Le Phare (so. many. apples.)
- Wrote a letter to the School Board regarding COVID measures
- Made community donations (4 chromebooks for families, food bank, community centre).

Le Phare is at its best when you're involved:

- Please fill out our family survey! <https://forms.gle/Q5WMbBibvgVcECkq9>
- Email SC-LePhareES@ocdsb.ca to join our "Friends of Council" email list to receive updates, or share your opinion, or to **send a photo** of your kid or their crafts for our [photo gallery](#). You can even send **feedback** that you'd like Council to send to Principals on your behalf.

- Follow us on Twitter! We're very chatty. <https://twitter.com/LephareCouncil>
- Donate if you can. **Creative ways to donate** are [posted here](#).
- Attend Council meetings for fun whenever you can. This is easier than you think!
 - Our first meeting this year: **Tues Sept 21 at 7pm.**
 - Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/fvz-sqxxw-mdu>
 - Our meetings are virtual, so **drop in and out!** (One day, maybe we can meet in person.)
 - Meetings are good for **communication from Principals**, and we love **diverse views**.
 - [Click here](#) for meeting dates.
 - [Click here](#) for Agendas and Minutes.
- Join School Council. This is also easy, no pressure!
 - You attend most meetings and **help make decisions** on our activities and spending.
 - It's most fun to **talk together** during meetings, but we also exchange views **via email**.
 - [Click here](#) to fill in a quick participation form.

Thank you for everything you do for your kids and for our community during this weird pandemic life. If there's anything we can help with, or if you have any ideas - big or small - please don't be shy.

See you soon,
Your neighbourly friends,

Le Phare School Council

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