

# OAK BRIDGE ACADEMY

## DR KAREN'S TAKE

The third year is well underway. My how time flies. It seems like just yesterday a group of remarkable women dared to dream an impossible dream, and, undaunted by the enormous task, start to create what is now Oak Bridge Academy.

**"...Impossible is temporary..."** Muhammad Ali.

I've no idea if any of those women are boxing fans, but they sure did understand what Ali was carrying on about.

Sometimes we forget that dreams - even seemingly impossible dreams, can be brought to fruition. It only takes time and perseverance.

Dare to dream impossible dreams. Because, as that founding group of women proved - you never know what the future holds.

Chat again, next year!



**Dr. Karen Backway**  
Retired Pediatrician &  
OBA Board Member



**Kathie Shaw, MSW, BCBA**  
Principal of OBA

## KATHIE'S CORNER

We are so happy to be back in class. I must confess I was quite trepidatious about a safe return. But with truly imaginative staff and with the gracious assistance and Public Health expertise of Mr Jason Ford, we were able to introduce and execute significant Covid-19 safety precautions, surpassing Provincial Covid-19 regulations. Staggered drop-off and pick-up times, colour coded 'stuff,' masks donned and handwashing galore, students and parents alike rolled with it.

To kick off our third year, we have introduced the Student Safety Patroller Position. This leadership position is awarded to a senior student who regularly demonstrates Oak Bridge Academy's core values of kindness, leadership, courage and perseverance.

Leadership positions such as this were rarely available to our students when in the public school system. But at Oak Bridge Academy, we know they can rise to the opportunity and shine. Our very first Student Patroller is Davis. Davis has grown so much since joining Oak Bridge Academy. He is definitely a role model for our younger students. We are so proud of you Davis! Well done.

I am humbled, yet again, as **Oak Bridge Academy was awarded the Reader's Choice Award for Best Private School in Waterloo Region.** Many thanks to all who voted. I believe Oak Bridge Academy truly is an exceptional place where exceptional children thrive.

In closing I must give recognition to our dedicated staff and devoted volunteers for making Oak Bridge Academy outstanding in every way.

Principal Kathie



**Kathie & Davis**  
Safety Patroller Presentation

# Fundraising Update

## Kathie Turns Fifty Fundraising Campaign – \$15,746.50!

Hard to believe given her youthful appearance and endless energy, Kathie turned 50 this fall season, and to celebrate, she decided to raise money for her most beloved charity... And of course that is Oak Bridge Academy! To her delight, Kathie's Dad generously agreed to match all donations raised during the "Kathie Turns Fifty" Fundraising Campaign.

Kathie was thrilled to announce that all tallied - friends, colleagues, family, staff and Oak Bridge Academy family members - raised \$7,873.25. Add to that, Dad's-match donation, the grand total was \$15,746.50!

Many thanks to Kathie (for turning 50!) and to her Dad for the generous donation.



**Kathie and her generous Dad!**

## Goodlife Kids Foundation

Extended from the 2019/2020 Goodlife Kids Foundation Grant, Oak Bridge Academy is able to provide a Yoga program - a practise which focuses on both mindfulness and being in the present moment - two of our core values!



## Thank You TMMC for Your Support!

Oak Bridge Academy is thankful to Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada for another generous donation. Previously Toyota graciously provided funding for the school's Smart Boards! Incredibly students will race to the smart board to do math problems or conjugate verbs.

**Thanks again TMMC for making learning fun!**

## Golf for Autism

Shout out to a charming group of guys with really big hearts and also love to golf who raised **\$4000** for our students. Your thoughtful donation is sooo appreciated!



## Getting Ready for Giving Tuesday – Dec 1st!

We are simply thrilled to announce that the first \$10,000 donated for Giving Tuesday 2020 (December 1st) will be matched by one of our dedicated donors, who wishes to remain anonymous.

We hope to raise \$5,000 for our Mindful Campaign and \$10,000 for our Literacy Campaign - TOTAL GOAL \$15,000

Oak Bridge Academy is taking the steps required to become a certified Mindful School and has already started specific staff training to meet the necessary requirements.

Many children with learning exceptionalities struggle with literacy - reading and writing. Oak Bridge Academy recognizes this common struggle and continues to provide expertise in literacy training and resources to our students.

As always, your donation will directly serve our students and enhance their learning experience at Oak Bridge Academy.



## Upcoming Fundraising Events...

In the spirit of optimistic preparedness, event organizers continue to work behind the scenes for future fundraising events including:

The Third Annual Golf Tournament and Dinner  
At Whistle Bear Golf Club in Cambridge  
June 8, 2021

Rock for Oak Bridge -TBA

The Break Room Bar and Billiards Bursary  
Fundraiser - TBA

**Keep an eye out for dates and details.**

If you have any questions, or would like to inquire about opportunities to DONATE or VOLUNTEER, please contact us.  
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