



STUDENT PERSPECTIVE



Triple C Farms Adventure

A day at the petting zoo.

This will go down as one of the best days we have ever had at Oak Bridge Academy.

Special thanks to Triple C Farms for this exciting adventure.

Parents keep an eye out for live animals under the Christmas tree this year!

Service Dogs Change Lives

Nine-year-old Rory Small loves to introduce his service dog, Preston, to everyone he meets. The black lab is Rory's best friend, confidant, classroom buddy, guardian angel, confidence builder and the one who can settle Rory if he is having a tough day.



"I knew having an Autism assistance dog would be amazing, but what Preston has done for our family is even more than I had hoped," said Monica, Rory's mom. "Rory was non-verbal before Preston came to live with us. I have a video of Rory with his therapist soon after Preston joined our family, and they are laying on the couch and Rory is singing Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star to Preston. Both the therapist and I were in tears."



Service dogs are welcome at Oak Bridge Academy and also impact our students. Students earn points throughout the day for good behaviour. At the end of the school day, they can cash in the points to spend time with one of our off duty - service dogs. It's a win-win situation for everyone.

At Oak Bridge Academy, accommodations such as service dogs are vital to some of our students' well-being. We teach our students to advocate for themselves and we as a community will continue to advocate for our students and our community on the rights people with disabilities have. We recognized the struggles some of our students face given their disabilities, and we will continue to fight for equity for all.

POINSETTIA SALE FUNDRAISER

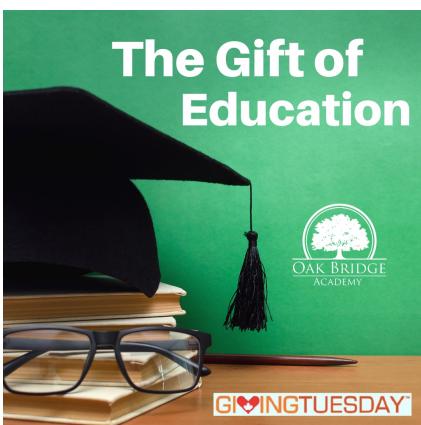


**PLACE YOUR ORDER TODAY FOR
PICK UP DECEMBER 3rd**

Get your seasonal Poinsettia from Oak Bridge Academy and support our fundraising efforts.

For ordering information, contact us at info@oakbridge.ca. Local orders only.

Giving Tuesday 30 November, 2021



Once again we are thrilled an anonymous donor will match the 1st \$15,000 raised this year!

We are so fortunate to have such dedicated donors.

Save the date and DONATE
30 November 2021.

**SUPPORT OUR "GIFT OF EDUCATION"
Bursary Fundraising Programs**

Oak Bridge Academy MERCH

Stuck for gift ideas?

Check out Oak Bridge Academy MERCH

OBA MERCH



Kathie's Corner

The start of the 2021-2022 school year has been fantastic!

Oak Bridge Academy's staff and students are thrilled to be back to our caring and compassionate community!

Staff returned to work on August 23rd for 2 weeks of training. Some of the main content we covered in training included: "Trauma Informed Practice" and "Positive Behaviour Supports."



**Kathie Shaw, MSW, BCBA
(Principal)**

We also spent time introducing "Writers Workshops" in all grades! This has been an exciting initiative to increase our students' written expression.

Coding is now in the Ontario curriculum and we couldn't be more excited to augment coding in our school. We were fortunate to purchase Sphero Bolt coding balls through fundraising dollars to promote interactive coding experiences for our students.

What a hit it has been!

Principal Kathie

SAVE THE DATE! Upcoming Fundraising Events

**The Second Annual Rock
For Oak Bridge
Extravaganza
April 23rd, 2022
7pm - midnight**





The Fourth Annual Golf Tournament

July 5th, 2022

Whistle Bear Golf Course

The Break Room Bar and Billiards Bursary Fundraising Event Coming Next Year - TBD



Keep an eye out for dates and details.

Fundraising Update



Stemmler's Meats Fundraiser Event

YUM, YUM, YUMMMMM!

Thank you to everyone who purchased products through our Stemmler's Meats fundraiser.

We were able to raise \$3,494 and we couldn't be happier.

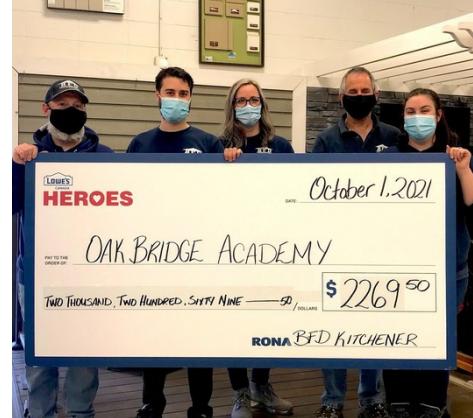
Thank you also to Hillarie and Tina our incredible RBT's who organized this fundraiser and to our parent volunteers that sorted all of these orders.

LOWES HERO CAMPAIGN

We were honoured to be selected as the recipient for donations accepted by BDF Kitchener for the month of September 2021.

Most generously, \$2,269.50 was collected. What an amazing community we live in!

Thanks so much!



BOTTLE DRIVE

Many thanks to all who participated in our fundraising bottle drive last spring.

**All gathered, we raised
\$3,844.45!**

Start saving up again! Let's challenge ourselves to surpass last year's success.

ENJOY!

THE TREE OF GIVING

The tree that gives and gives...

**The TREE OF GIVING Fundraiser
Winner - Kamini Morar.
Congratulations Kamini!**

**Just in time for the holiday season.
Once again we are thankful to our
generous donors.**

**We raised \$2,532.84. Thanks so
much for all who participated.**



TREE OF GIVING

Dr Karen's Take

The past 18 or so months have been quite the challenge huh? And though the tide seems to be turning, our return to 'normal' is tenuous and likely still a ways off. To tackle persistent challenges, learn to ask better questions.

When we are tasked with a challenge we

tend to ask ourselves questions similar to "Why is this so hard?" or "Why can't I figure this out?"



**Dr Karen Backway, Retired Pediatrician
Chair OBA Board**

And most faithfully our brain offers up answers - you overslept; you struggle with time management; it's hard because_(fill in the blank). While those answers may be true, they are not overly helpful.

Instead flip the question and ask empowering questions. How can I figure this out? How can I make this easier? Again your brain will faithfully answer - make lunches the evening before; get to bed 20 minutes earlier.

If you struggle to come up with an empowering question (it's tricky for everyone, not just you!), think about opposites. It's hard vs it's easy. It's complicated vs it's simple. It's impossible vs it's possible. Or if that is too far a stretch, just make it a little bit different. It's hard vs a little easier.

Ask empowering questions, and get empowering answers. Your brain will answer either way. Choose the latter - so much more helpful!

Dr Karen

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Canadian Registered Charitable #711544296RR0001

STAY CONNECTED

