



EJPS Week at a Glance (Oct 19-23, 2026)

Chers parents,

As you know, a School Spirit Day celebrating Halloween and Black and Orange Day will be occurring at EJPS on October 30th as done in previous years. Many schools celebrate Halloween with costume dress up and/or black and orange. Halloween is a day that is not observed by all students or staff. With this, it is considered a choice to participate as are all spirit days. Alternate and supportive accommodations are to be provided for students if school events take place (e.g. parade). **Also, I want to reassure parents that when treats are brought into the school to celebrate that we will ensure that Halal and Kosher options (e.g. gelatin free) will be available.**

Costumes: It is our responsibility to ensure that school community members avoid using identities and cultures as costumes. This includes appropriative costumes/cultural stereotypes (i.e. cultural garments), black/brown face, transphobic costumes, body-shaming and objectifying costumes, and costumes that joke about situations that have caused harm (i.e. COVID pandemic). Such costumes perpetuate stereotypes and can cause harm that can further marginalize and oppress community members.

General Guidelines:

- Participation is optional
- Wear black and orange if you prefer
- Costumes must be free of replica weapons, masks are not encouraged (**students must have full vision for safety**), no valuable items
- **Masks can be worn with teacher supervision for a costume showcase in the classroom or a structured and supervised parade**
- **Masks are not to be worn upon entry or exit on school property, or at recess or lunch**
- Costumes must be respectful of all cultures and beliefs. (For example, a costume depicting indigenous peoples would be inappropriate).
- Have regular clothes available for your child, as they may need to change out of their costumes part way through the day.

- Kindergarten teachers will communicate additional information directly to parents around the logistics of having a successful experience with Halloween costumes in Kindergarten classrooms with up to 28 students!

If students wish to wear a costume here is a list of Do's and Don'ts:

Costume Do's

- Follow our school code of conduct found on our website
- Use makeup or face paint
- Make sure you can get your costume on independently
- Check that your costume is safe
- Masks can be worn with teacher supervision for a costume showcase in the classroom or a structured and supervised parade
- Be creative!
- Have fun!

Costume Don'ts

- No costumes that are representative of another culture or religious beliefs
- No gruesome masks or gore
- Masks are not to be worn upon entry or exit on school property, or at recess or lunch
- No violent references
- No weapons
- Must be appropriate for school

Here are a few reminders and important dates:

- Oct 20 > School Council in the library at 6:30 PM
- Oct 21 ECE Appreciation Day
- Oct 22 > River Run @ PM - 1A, 12B, 12C
- Oct 26 > PA Day [October 26, 2026 PA Day Description - poster for schools.pdf](#)
- Oct 27-30 Gr 3 CCAT practice
- Oct 30 > Spirit Day (Halloween/Black & Orange Day)
- Nov 2-6 CCAT Testing
- Nov 5 Eco Stars
- Nov 6 Picture Retake Day
- Nov 8 Diwali
- Nov 8 Indigenous Veterans Day
- Nov 11 Remembrance Day (details to follow)
- Nov 11 Progress Reports go home
- Nov 16-20 Anti-Bullying Week

- Nov 17 School Council in the library at 6:30 PM

Messages from the office:

- Spirit wear went home this week. Please LABEL EVERYTHING!

Have a great weekend and we wish EJ families good times and great memory making in the coming weeks with so many activities and occasions occurring in October. Lots going on! For example, many folks just celebrated Thanksgiving and October is also Islamic Heritage Month. Diwali is just around the corner. This Hindu Festival of the Lights is celebrated all around the world at the beginning of November.

Olivier Cutz (Principal)

Olivier Cutz (he/him)
Principal École Edward Johnson
397 Stevenson Street North
Guelph, Ontario N1E 5C1
519.763.7374 ext. 223
olivier.cutz@ugdsb.on.ca