

**PARENT/FAMILY/COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES &  
IMPORTANT DATES\***

- 11/16 FL Parent-Teacher Conferences 3:00-7:00 PM
- 11/16 OFHS Parent-Teacher Conferences 5:00-8:30 PM
- 11/16 ECC Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 11/17 OFIS PTA Meeting 8:00 AM- Media Center
- 11/20 FL Parent-Teacher Conferences 3:00-7:00 PM
- 11/21 ECC Preschool Thanksgiving Feast
- 11/22-24 THANKSGIVING BREAK- NO SCHOOL
- 11/27 OFHS PTA Meeting 7:00 PM Media Ctr
- 11/28 FLECC PTA Meeting 6:30 PM at FL
- 11/29 ECC Parent-Teacher Conferences

\*Contact your building principal or visit [www.ofcs.net](http://www.ofcs.net) for details.

**NUMBERS THAT  
COUNT**

237

In a recent study by Common Sense Media, this is the median number of notifications a day that the average tween or teen is receiving on their phones. Some participants in the study received over 4500(!) notifications delivered to their phones a day! This many beeps, boops, and vibrations can add up to a stream of interruption and often disruption, especially when these notifications occur during the school day or when a child should be ASLEEP! (another great reason to turn phones off at night.) Read more about this study [HERE](#) and visit the link below for tips about helping your tweens/teens use their smart phones responsibly.

\*Source: [commonsensemedia.org](http://commonsensemedia.org)

November  
is  
**NATIONAL FAMILY  
ENGAGEMENT MONTH**

If you're a family engagement professional (like me!) EVERY month is family engagement month! Because not everyone has the time to devote to researching and understanding the benefits of high impact family engagement, I will do the work for you. Over 50 years of research shows that students whose parents/caregivers are involved in their education have higher levels of academic achievement, decreased disciplinary issues, improved parent-teacher and teacher-student relationships, and an improved school environment. There are way too many more benefits to list here, but don't take my word for it. Get involved and make a difference in your child's education today. Go to parent-teacher conferences. Stay in regular contact with your child's teacher(s). Talk to your child about school. Read and practice math facts with younger kids, and help older kids with homework when needed. Talk about planning for the future and for college and career options. Your future grown-up child will thank you!



**Volunteers  
needed**

The Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center is seeking a diverse group of parents and caregivers of children birth to Grade 12 from all regions of Ohio to fill seats on the 2024 State Advisory Council. Applications are limited to parents and caregivers who are not professional educators or administrators. We are looking for families that have children currently enrolled in public schools in Ohio.

Apply to be a part of this wonderful opportunity to share your ideas about how Ohio families and schools can work together to support the education of all children. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to fill out the application.















# IYKYK\*

by Julianne Allen, Family Engagement and Communication Specialist

As a new member of the empty nest club, I'm even more desperate to find ways to connect with my Gen Z kids. They aren't known for replying quickly to my texts, so I often call to ask if they saw my texts. Luckily, they still take my calls (for the most part!) but it's a bit counterproductive, don't you agree? They communicate with their peers via Snap or Insta (that's Snapchat and Instagram for all you boomers- AKA anybody older than them- out there). They only visit Facebook to say "thank you" when old people like myself wish them a happy birthday. They spend their free minutes scrolling through TikTok and speaking in code- acronyms, emoji, slang, memes...it's a language all their own. I imagine it's what the cave people felt like the first time their kids drew something on the cave wall that only the other cave tweens and teens could understand. The kids all gathered in their animal skin fits (that's outfits, guys) and laughed at the images on the cave wall while the elders sat around the fire with the other elders and shrugged. Kids these days!

Before you get together with the fam this Thanksgiving, there are a few words and phrases that I think we should all know. Why should the kids get to be all "cool" and stuff, while the fuddy-duddies like myself wait for them to email us back? With the help of YourTeen Mag, here are a few of my favorites with my own examples of how you might hear them applied. Try dropping some of these at the dinner table for maximum impact!

-  **Delulu- You are delusional or have unrealistic expectations.** "Nana is delulu if she thinks we are eating those yams!" 
-  **Mid- Mediocre.** "I know mom thinks that her homemade PSLs (Pumpkin Spice Lattes) are as good as Starbies (Starbucks) but honestly they are mid." 
-  **Sus- Suspicious behavior.** "Dad keeps asking me what time I'll be there like he isn't already checking my location. It's a little sus." 
-  **Taking an L- A loss.** "At the kids table again? Ugh- still taking an L this year." 
-  **Main character- Trying to have the spotlight.** "Someone needs to tell mom she is not the main character when we play board games this Thanksgiving. I feel second-hand embarrassment for her." 
-  **TFW- That feeling when.** "OMG, TFW grandpa starts talking about his foot surgery. Somebody pass the pie!" 

Of course there are countless examples of slang that you could try out this year. Most, if not all, will cause your kids to cringe. Connecting with our older tweens and teens doesn't always happen naturally, especially when we are removed from the day-to-day social pressures and environments they reside in. They may pretend they don't like it when we ask questions about their lives, or try to communicate in their "language"...but hopefully, underneath the complaints about our attempts, they'll appreciate our effort. If nothing else, for a few moments, they will smile at your ineptitude while secretly admiring that you gave it a shot. And that's clutch. (Excellent!)

Happy Thanksgiving! -Julianne

\*If you know, you know:)



# CHECK THIS OUT

Olmsted Falls Masquers presents

## SOMETHING IS ABOUT TO GO WRONG

THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG

HIGH SCHOOL EDITION

Coming to OFHS  
November 17-18  
7:30 pm

OFHS Masquers is proud to present THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG. This “smash hit farce” is described by Dramatists Play Service as a “1920s whodunit that has everything you never wanted in a show—an unconscious leading lady, a corpse that can’t play dead, and actors who trip over everything (including their lines). Nevertheless, the accident-prone thespians battle against all odds to make it through to their final curtain call, with hilarious consequences! Shows are Friday, 11/17 and Saturday, 11/18 at 7:30 pm in the Harding Center for the Performing Arts at OFHS. For ticket information, visit [ofmasquers.ludus.com](http://ofmasquers.ludus.com).



LUNCH DUTY

SNACK-SIZED UPDATES FROM OFCS FOOD SERVICES

The Bulldog Cafe has gone global! OFCS Food Services director Sam Chin is on a mission to bring some new and exciting global flavors to school lunches! Below are falafel tots, chicken teriyaki stir fry, and the chili crisp condiment offered at the HS for Asian entrees. YUM! Stay tuned for more delicious updates from Food Services!



NATIONAL PTA REFLECTIONS  
2023-2024  
CALL FOR ENTRIES!  
Explore the arts and express yourself!  
Learn more and get involved!  
PTA.org/Reflections

All students are invited to participate in the 2023-2024 National PTA Reflections Contest! Students interpret a common theme through the arts. This Year’s theme is “I am hopeful because...” Students complete a work of art in one of the six categories: dance choreography, literature, photography, film production, music composition, or visual arts. All entries are due to your PTA Unit/School Office by November 27th. Click here for official entry forms: [OFHS PTA](#), [OFMS PTA](#), [OFIS PTA](#), [FL/ECC PTA](#), [OECPTA](#)

**SEEKING RECIPES!** Help PTA Council create a community cookbook that will benefit OFHS Senior Scholarships! Click [HERE](#) to submit a recipe, help design the artwork, or order a cookbook!

**PTA Council Fundraiser**

Help us create a COMMUNITY COOKBOOK filled with special recipes from our Bulldog Community  
All proceeds go towards Senior Scholarships

**SUBMIT**

OPTION 1: Submit your recipe online  
OPTION 2: Email your TYPED recipe to: [ptacouncilof@gmail.com](mailto:ptacouncilof@gmail.com)

Recipes must be homemade and not copyrighted

**DESIGN**

- THE FRONT COVER
- INSIDE PAGE DIVIDERS

Design the front cover for our cookbook. Something that encompasses our community/school partnership

Design the inside divider pages. These pages will identify each category in the cookbook. (i.e. appetizers, casseroles, etc)

Prizes for the design winners!

**ORDER**

- Information to order a cookbook will be sent out after all submissions have been made and we determine the cost.
- Pre-Orders will be taken
- Books will also be sold when they arrive - at school, local businesses, etc...

**\* DEADLINE \***

**NOVEMBER 30TH IS THE ABSOLUTE DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS**

(THIS INCLUDES RECIPES AND DESIGNS)

Please send all questions to Jen Prugar at [ptacouncilof@gmail.com](mailto:ptacouncilof@gmail.com)



# GOOD STUFF

"In The LOOP with LINK" is a publication of the LINK Family & Community Engagement Program. LINK: Learn, Inspire, Nurture, Know. Questions? Comments? Email [OFCSLINK@ofcs.net](mailto:OFCSLINK@ofcs.net). Thanks for reading! Julianne Allen, Family Engagement & Communication Specialist

STAY "IN THE LOOP" ON TWITTER!  
@OFCSLINK  
@OFCSDistrict

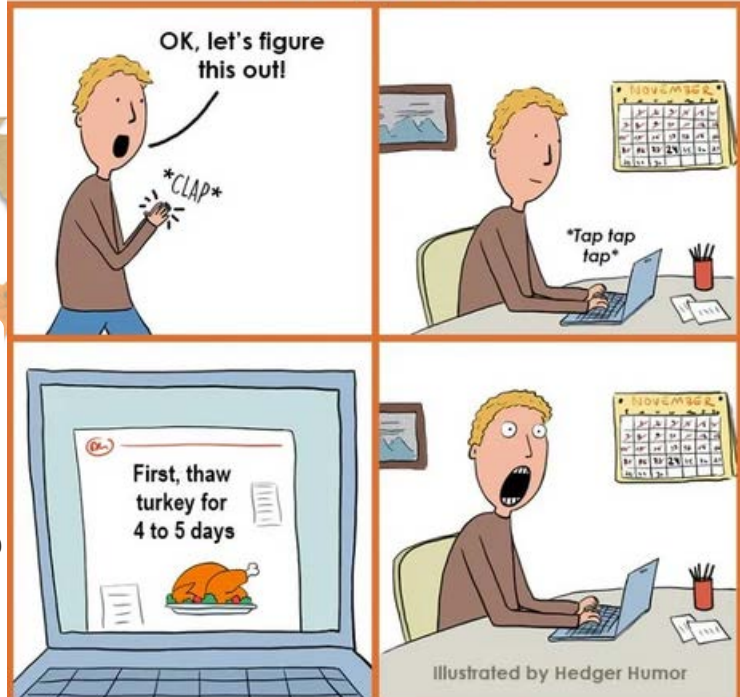
NO BAD JOKE  
**LIKE A DAD JOKE!**  
*A cringeworthy feature inspired by bad dad jokes everywhere*

Q. What do sweet potatoes wear to bed?  
A. Yammies!

SERIOUSLY COMICAL

## Reading About How to Cook a Turkey on the Night Before Thanksgiving

Written by @DadBits



## SnackScience!

When you need an excuse to snack, turn it into a learning opportunity and congratulate yourself for being so smart!



### Bread in a Bag!

There's a lot of science that goes into baking bread. But who are we kidding? It's bread we're talking about! If your kids can make their own bread and learn some chemistry along way, that's just a bonus, right?

#### YOU WILL NEED:

- 3 cups plain flour
- 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 .25oz Packet rapid rise yeast
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1 cup of warm water
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 Gallon size zip top plastic bag

#### How To Make Bread In A Bag

- STEP 1. Before you start, open up your zip top bag and place it in a large bowl.
- STEP 2. Scoop 1 cup flour into a large zip top bag, with 3 tablespoons sugar, the packet of rapid rise yeast, and 1 cup of warm water.
- STEP 3. Let the air out of the bag, then seal the bag closed and mix from the outside of the bag with your hands. Let the mixture sit for 10-15 minutes. The warm water and sugar will activate the yeast. (Read below to find out about the science behind using yeast!)
- STEP 4. Now open the bag and add 1 cup of flour, 1 1/2 teaspoons of salt, and 3 tablespoons of olive oil. Seal the bag, and mix again.
- STEP 5. Add 1 more cup of flour, seal, and mix again.
- STEP 6. Remove the dough from the bag and knead for 10 minutes on a piece of floured parchment paper to prevent the dough from sticking to the surface.
- STEP 7. Cover with a warm damp hand towel for 30 minutes.
- STEP 8. Place in a greased bread pan and bake for 25 minutes at 375 degrees.

#### Now it's time to enjoy delicious hot bread!

**YEAST IS A BEAST!** So, yeast is ALIVE! Kids will love to find this out. The type of yeast in this recipe is sleeping until you wake it up by giving it a warm bath (the warm water) and feed it a snack (the sugar!)

As the yeast eats its sugar snack, it gets a little gassy, and bubbles of carbon dioxide form. Those fun bubbles inflate your bread (ok, they cause it to rise) as the air gets trapped in the dough. Go yeast, go!  
**And GO SCIENCE!**

Source: [littlebinsforlittlehands.com](http://littlebinsforlittlehands.com)

www.hedgerhumor.com