

Updates, Observations & Anecdotes for Bulldog Parents & Caregivers
from Julianne Allen, Family Engagement & Communication Specialist

Upcoming Family/Community Engagement Opportunities & Important Dates

- 12/8 OFMS PTA Meeting- 7:00 PM @MS Media Center
- 12/9 OFIS 5th Grade Choir Concert- 6:30 PM @MS Cafetorium
- 12/9-11 FL 2nd Grade Silver Linings Programs*- 9:00 AM @FL
- 12/11 OFHS Holiday Band Concert- 7:30 PM @HS
- 12/11 Falls-Lenox Family Wellness Night- 6:00 PM @FL
- 12/16 OFHS Holiday Choral Concert- 7:30 PM @HS
- 12/18 OFHS Holiday Band Concert- 7:30 PM @HS
- 12/22-1/2 Winter Break - NO SCHOOL
- 1/5 Return from Winter Break
- 1/8 OFHS College Credit Plus Info Night- 7:00 PM @HS Auditorium
- 1/8 OECPTA Meeting- 7:00 PM @FL
- 1/12 OFMS PTA Meeting- 7:00 PM @MS Media Center
- 1/13 Our School Facilities: A Community Forum- 6:00PM @ECC
- 1/15 OFHS PTA Battle of the Schools Dodgeball Tourney- 6:30 PM @HS
- 1/16 Staff Professional Development Day - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
- 1/19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day - NO SCHOOL
- 1/20-23 Helping Hands Celebrating Differences Week
- 1/22 OFIS PTA Mtg.- 6:30 PM @OFIS
- 1/22 OFHS Junior Parent Pathway Night- 7:00 PM @HS Auditorium
- 1/26 OFHS PTA Mtg- 7:00 PM @HS
- 1/28 ECC Kindergarten Information Night- 5:30 PM @ECC
- 1/28 Falls Lenox/ECC PTA Meeting- 6:30 PM @ECC
- 1/28 OFMS DC Parent & Student Mandatory Meeting- 7:00 PM @MS
- 1/29 OFHS Incoming Freshman Orientation Night- 7:00 PM @HS Audit.
- 1/30 OFMS PTA Breakfast Buddies- 7:15 AM @MS Cafetorium
- 1/30 ECC Online Kindergarten Registration Opens for '25-'26- 12:00 PM



*Registration required. Please contact your building with questions or to confirm events!



ParentingSpecialNeeds.org

Parenting Special Needs Magazine delivers again with great resources for creating inclusive holiday traditions!

Check out this "Countdown of Connection" Calendar for ways to celebrate across generations! Click the photo below to download a beautifully designed 4-page printable calendar filled with Connection Activities, Gratitude Reflections, and Sensory Tips. And check out the magazine for ways to reimagine the holidays for every age and ability!



ICYMI IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

Olmsted Falls City Schools is developing a Master Facilities Plan to guide the future of our buildings. The district's Facilities Master Planning Committee is presenting two community forum opportunities to provide updates and gather input from residents. There is one forum remaining! Be sure to join us!



Our School Facilities: A Community Forum

**Tuesday,
January 13**

6:00 p.m.

Olmsted Falls

Early Childhood Center
Gym- 7105 Fitch Road

For more information about our school facilities, visit
www.ofcs.net/our-district/facilities



RANDOM
ACTS
OF
AWESOME!

Taking care of others who need help is one of the things our school community does best. In this season of giving, why not consider committing a Random Act of Awesome and make someone's holiday season brighter? Check out page 2 to find out about a few places to donate your extra "stuff"! We love seeing our students get involved in service of others.

Thanks, Bulldogs!
#BeKind



BULLDOGS HAVE HEART!

Ways to share yours this holiday season



Charlotte's Closet

A FREE RESOURCE FOR BULLDOG STUDENTS, GRADES K-12
CLOTHES • BULLDOG GEAR • SHOES • COATS • FORMAL ATTIRE • SCHOOL SUPPLIES



OPEN WEDNESDAYS FROM 5-7PM &
SATURDAYS FROM 9-11AM

FOR AN APPOINTMENT OUTSIDE OF
OPEN HOURS 440-427-1599

LOCATED INSIDE MADER REALTY AT
8026 COLUMBIA RD, OLMSTED FALLS

FAST FACTS!

- THIS IS NOT INCOME BASED, WE ONLY NEED YOUR STUDENT ID OR HOMEROOM TEACHER/SCHOOL TO TRACK USAGE FOR OUR GRANT
- THIS IS FOR ALL STUDENTS TO BREATHE NEW LIFE INTO CLOTHES AND REDUCE THE FASHION WASTE IN OUR COMMUNITY
- WE LOVE TO SWAP CLOTHES, BRING IN WHAT DOESN'T FIT AND TAKE STUFF THAT DOES → ESPECIALLY BULLDOG GEAR OR BAND AND CHOIR CONCERT OUTFITS!
- WE DO STOCK PERSONAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS ON HAND FOR STUDENTS WHO MIGHT NEED THEM → WHATEVER YOU NEED OR TAKE IS CONFIDENTIAL
- WE ALSO HOST THE ANNUAL HOMECOMING AND PROM POP-UP SHOPS EVERY YEAR
- DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT THE OLMSTED COMMUNITY CENTER

CHARLOTTE'S CLOSET IS A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN



FALLS-LENOX COZY COLLECTION

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING
OUR BULLDOGS AS WE DONATE
NEW WINTER CLOTHING
ITEMS TO THOSE IN NEED.

DECEMBER 1 - 19

SOCKS | SCARVES | GLOVES | HATS | COATS



**WE'RE HAPPY
TO ACCEPT ALL SIZES!**

COLLECTION LED
BY THE FALLS-LENOX
STUDENT GROUP,
KIWANIS TERRIFIC KIDS



The Giving Tree at the ECC

Happy Holidays Bulldog families! With the winter months upon us, the Kinder Council is asking for your help! We are collecting hats, mittens, and scarves for children in need. Please feel free to send your donations in with your children through December 19 and they can add them to our giving tree in the front lobby area. What a wonderful way to show our students what the holiday season is really about! Thank you so much for your help and we wish everyone a wonderful holiday season!



**OLMSTED FALLS HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENT COUNCIL & TRI-M**

FOOD DRIVE

LET'S FEED THE HUNGRY
Benefitting the Olmsted Community Food Pantry



**WHAT
WE NEED?**

**UNEXPIRED &
NON PERISHABLE
FOOD ONLY**

**the grade with
the most cans
wins donuts!!**

PLAN ON IT!*

*Plan on checking out these programs and events!

HIGH SCHOOL

HAPPENINGS!

Yes, high school students still need their families to stay involved at school! Don't miss these opportunities!

(and for more info, visit the Counselors' Corner website, or follow @OFHSCounselors on Instagram!)

CCP INFO NIGHT

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2026
7 PM - OFHS AUDITORIUM

COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS (CCP) IS A PROGRAM IN WHICH STUDENTS IN GRADES 7-12 CAN EARN BOTH HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE CREDIT AT THE SAME TIME.

LEARN ABOUT THE PROGRAM, MEET COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES AND FILL OUT PAPERWORK FOR THE 26-27 SCHOOL YEAR.



MORE INFORMATION

<https://sites.google.com/a/ofcs.net/hs-guidance/college-credit-plus>

Junior Parent Pathway Planning Jan. 22nd, 7:00 PM @HS Rm 606

This session will have info for parents of students who are preparing for college applications, vocational school and the military. We will discuss the different pathways, financial aid, and what you and your student should be doing between junior and senior year. Parents and students in all grades are welcome, but the program is most ideal for juniors/parents.

Incoming Freshman Orientation Night Jan. 29th, 7:00 PM @HS Audit.

During the orientation, topics such as guidance services, high school courses and curriculum, graduation requirements, and scheduling will be discussed. Counselors will be available for individual questions after the presentation.



OLMSTED FALLS CITY SCHOOLS DAY WITH THE CLEVELAND CAVALIERS

Join us for OFCS Day on Monday, January 19th vs Oklahoma City Thunder at 2:30PM. Everyone that purchases tickets will be entered into a raffle to hold the Big Flag on the court during the National Anthem. Come out and support Olmsted Falls City Schools and cheer on our Cleveland Cavaliers!

CLICK FOR TICKETS

OFHS PTA PRESENTS THE 22ND ANNUAL BATTLE OF THE SCHOOLS DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT

Come out and cheer for your teachers, building staff and other team members as they compete for the coveted Battle of the Schools trophy!

OLMSTED FALLS HIGH SCHOOL GYM
THURSDAY, JANUARY 15TH | DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM
WITH THE EVENT STARTING AT 07:00 PM

Half-time 3 point shooting, 50/50 Raffle, Concessions and other fun!

PRE-SALE TICKETS
\$4 STUDENTS | \$6 ADULTS
+ SMALL PROCESSING FEE
[HTTPS://OFHS.GIVEBACKS.COM/SHOP](https://ofhs.givebacks.com/shop)



DAY OF TICKETS AT GATE
\$5 STUDENTS | \$7 ADULTS
(CASH ONLY)

Proceeds will benefit the senior scholarship fund

Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds!

Learn the strategies we use at school...



...to think and talk about our feelings using the Zones of Regulation...



...resolve conflicts using Kelso's Choices...



...and keep our bodies healthy and strong!

Family Wellness Night

Grades 1-3
December 11
6:00-7:30 PM at
Falls-Lenox

REGISTER NOW!

Check email for registration link or scan code

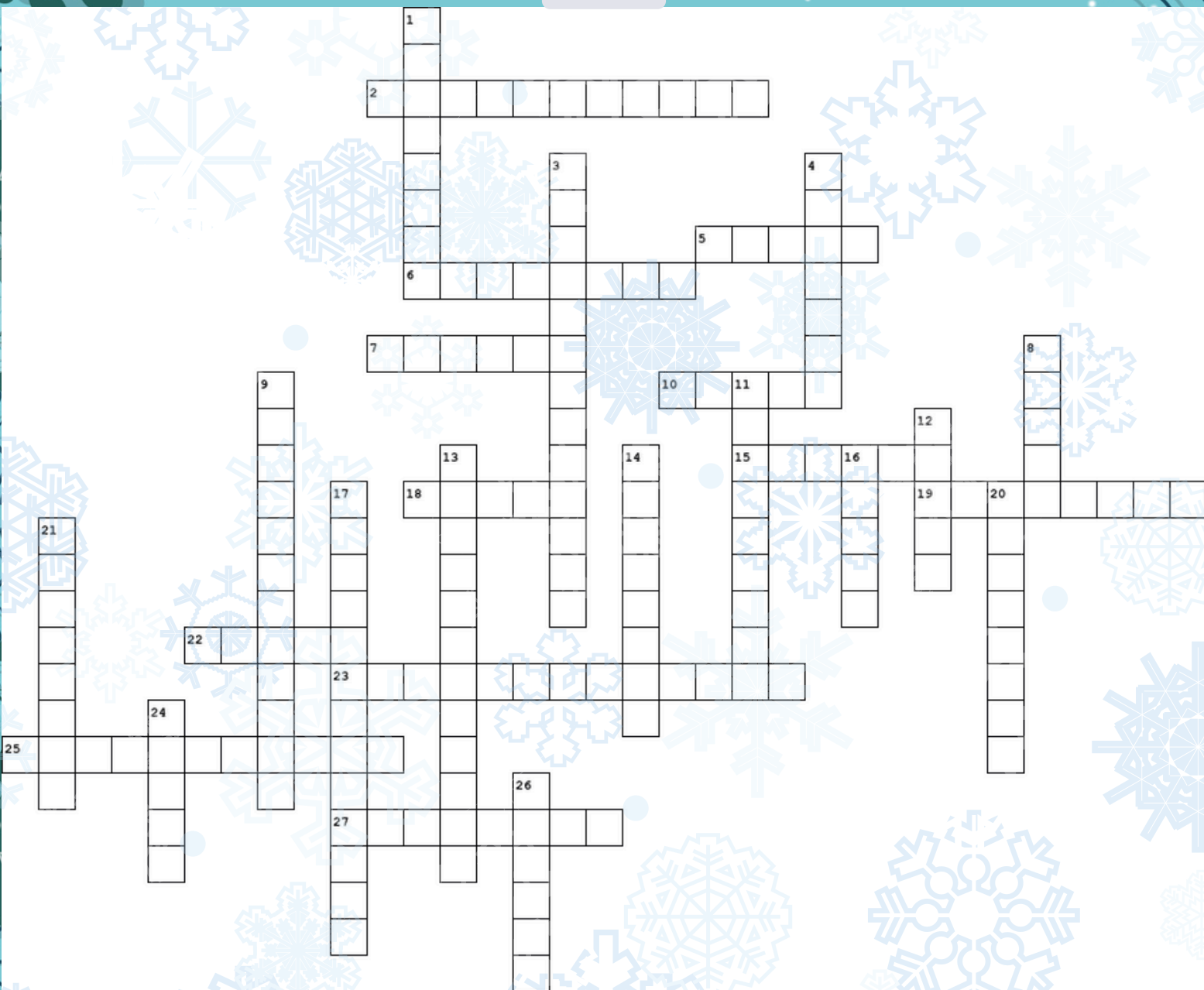


No Assembly Required

A holiday crossword for Bulldog Parents and Caregivers
by Julianne Allen, Family Engagement & Communication Specialist

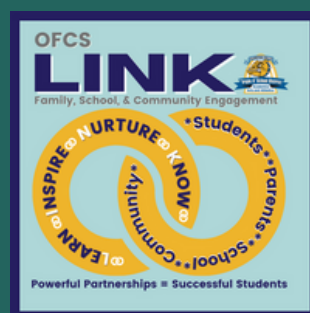
It's year four of my holiday crossword and I am happy to report despite nearly caving and letting AI do my job, this crossword is (unfortunately?) entirely the work of the OFCS Family Engagement & Communication Specialist! So, this may not be the most exciting, challenging, or even coherent crossword you've ever completed, but I deserve credit for not letting the robots win! Have a safe and very happy holiday season! See you in 2026! –

Julianne



Keep reading for the clues! In the unlikely event that you are stumped, the answer key is on page 6! **NO PEEKING!**

What is LINK?



LINK is an acronym for Learn, Inspire, Nurture, Know. The LINK Program is a district-wide family-community engagement resource. The goal of the program is to connect the Olmsted Falls School District with parents and families, to encourage two-way communication, and to help parents support learning at home.

ACROSS

2. No matter what holiday you celebrate, you probably put too many of these up every year, vowing to scale it down next year. 
5. If you love overpriced popcorn, people talking on their phones, and kids kicking the back of your seat, then going to see one of these is a great way to pass the time!
6. You used to have to go to the mall to do this. Now you just fire up your computer and hope your Wi-Fi isn't glitching.
7. This green guy starts off as a villain but the magic of the holidays turns his bad attitude around. If only your grumpy relatives were so easily manipulated by cute children and presents!
10. If the kids eat too much of this during the holidays, they'll get a belly ache. If you eat too much of it, you'll get a belly. 
15. You use this to make a bow or to dress up a package. Then you just throw it away like a used Kleenex. SAD! 
18. Not to be confused with the Valentine's Day mascot, this reindeer is super underappreciated and he (or she?) wants you to know it!
19. When you don't know what to buy, you give them one of these. Heck, you may even have one you never used that you can re-gift! Score!
22. While many people opt to send digital versions, if someone takes the time to buy stamps in order to mail these, you must be really important to them. (Who needs my address?) 
23. There is an entire Christmas ballet based on this guy. I must confess I never really understood what was happening there, but it's a classic! 
25. This happens every January 1st and marks a time of opportunity and optimism. And perhaps regret that you stayed up way too late.
27. You can't travel over the river and through the woods to get to grandma's house, so make sure you have your EZ Pass to travel on this.

DOWN

1. Every kid, everywhere, no matter who they are or how your family celebrates, wants more of these than they probably deserve (or than you can afford!) 
3. If you're not sure what/if someone celebrates this time of year, this is a polite way to wish them well. Don't overthink it!
4. The big guy in the red suit insists on squeezing down this despite your explicit instructions to "Just use the front door, man!" 
8. This is one hard-working reindeer who shares its name with a hard-working household cleaning product.
9. This is the best part of winter break and the holiday season. At least for the first five days or so!
11. When Santa isn't stuffing himself down the answer to clue 4 (above), he's at home in this place stuffing his face with cookies and sugarplums.
12. Every time a bell rings, one of these gets its wings. (or, that might just be the Amazon driver at the door.)
13. This Scottish phrase commonly heard on December 31st means "old time's sake". No, it is not "pass the Cheetos".
14. It's a fancy word for a sled, and I wish you good luck as you attempt to spell it. 
16. If you want to keep your feet warm and dry, don't forget these! In a pinch, wrap your shoes in bread bags like we did in the 80's! (Or was that just me?)
17. It may be real or artificial, but it's a pain in the behind no matter how you cut it (or unbox it!) 
20. Some call it icing, I call it the best part of any cutout sugar cookie! 
21. Kids love this month because school only ruins about half of it. 
24. You may hear these ringing throughout the holiday season, or year-round if you are using a vintage ring-tone on your cell. 
26. It's fun to drive around town to see the beautiful displays of these on everyone's homes that look better than yours despite your best efforts. Maybe next year? 

GOOD STUFF

HAPPY HANUKKAH

December 14th-22nd



HAPPY NEW YEAR

NO BAD JOKE

LIKE A DAD JOKE!

A cringeworthy feature inspired by bad dad jokes everywhere

Q. How does a snowman get around town?

A. By icicle.



Merry Christmas

HAPPY

KWANZAA

December 26th-January 1st

Olmsted Falls City School District
We want your FEEDBACK for our FUTURE! Take our survey:

Click → **OFCS District Survey**



SCAN HERE



OFCS District Survey

SERIOUSLY COMICAL

**NO ASSEMBLY REQUIRED
CROSSWORD**

ANSWER KEY

NEW WINTER SPORTS



ICE HATING



NO-MOBILING



SNOW SHOO-ING



CROSS-COUNTRY FLEEING

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