

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This year, our school will have regular visits from an Occupational Therapist (OT) who works with the School Based Rehabilitation Services (SBRS) program at ErinoakKids Centre for Treatment and Development.

OTs are regulated health professionals who use their skills to help students participate in school and learning activities. They can help students develop fine motor skills (printing, writing, cutting with scissors), daily living skills (doing up zippers, opening containers, increasing independence) and self-regulation skills (how a child manages and adjusts their behaviour during a learning activity).

The OT or an OT Assistant may visit your child's classroom, gym or playground to work with the school team to support classroom needs. They may provide a zipper lesson, a printing or cutting station, review best seating posture for printing or set up a classroom activity routine that supports motor skill development, self-regulation and participation. If you would like to be notified of the date of the OT visit to your child's classroom, please speak to their teacher.

Your child may also have the opportunity to participate in a small group lesson on letter formation. Should your child be selected to participate by the school team, they will notify you to discuss any questions you may have.

OTs and OTAs may be shadowed or supported by post-graduate health care students from a University or College where a Student Placement Agreement is in place. They may also be joined by additional staff supporting or learning about our program.

If your child appears to need more specific help with their fine motor, gross motor, self-care or self-regulation skills, your child's teacher will contact you to provide more information. Consent for OT support would be required from you prior to referral and assessment.

You might also find it helpful to go to the ErinoakKids website at www.erinoakkids.ca to find workshops and resources to support your child in developing skills for independence and participation at home and school.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Principal Name / Signature

School

School Phone Number