**Grade 2/3 Welcome letter**

Welcome to Grade 2/3! I am very much looking forward to getting to know your child and helping them progress in their learning throughout the school year. As you may quickly guess from my accent, I am English! I trained as a teacher in England and have been teaching there for 8 years (although one of those years was spent teaching in New Zealand!). I am excited about spending the year teaching in Canada and discovering all that Ottawa has to offer.

**Learning at Home**

Nightly reading and discussion is invaluable to improving your child’s literacy success at school. Your child will be given a ‘Home Reading Folder’ and reading book within the first couple of weeks of school. Please look in this folder for information and tips on nightly reading with your child.

On a Friday your child will be given a home learning task. This could involve writing, reading, math, creating, research or discussion. This task should not take your child more than 30 minutes to complete (of course if they want to continue their learning let them!). If you are concerned with the homework task, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

**Food at School**

Bringing healthy food to school is important to help your child’s body grow and make their mind work at its best! Hilson’s daily schedule is a ‘Balanced School Day’. This means your child will be eating during two different 15-20 minute Nutrition Breaks instead of one longer lunch period. Please send enough healthy foods for both eating times.

*\*If possible, please avoid sending pop & energy drinks in your child’s lunch.*

**Allergy Alert**

Due to severe allergies in the class, please do not send **peanuts, nuts or nut products** to school with your child. No food containing these products should be in school

We also have severe allergies in the school towards **sesame,** **eggs, shellfish, fish, kiwi, mustard** and **dairy**. Please let your child know if you are sending any of these foods in their lunch so they can exercise caution when eating them in our room (wash hands after eating, wash desk, dispose of garbage/peels carefully).Thank you for making our room safe for everyone!

**Contact**

My door is always open, please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments or concerns. I am here to help.

By Email – [lina.haines@ocdsb.ca](mailto:lina.haines@ocdsb.ca) By phone: (613) 728-4607 By agenda

By appointment By ‘Remind’

This year, when possible I will be using an app called ‘Remind’ to send home reminders and information about the school day. Please sign up using the code @8abfk. Details and instructions on how to sign up can be found on the back of this letter!

I look forward to working with you, as we help your child do their best this year!

Lina Haines

**Remind**

*This year, when possible I will be using an app called Remind to send home reminders and information about the school day. You may also contact me through the Remind app. However, please be aware that between 7:45am and 2:45pm I will be busy teaching your child and so not likely to check for messages! If an urgent matter arises during the school day please contact the school office.*

**How to sign up**

There are 3 ways to receive messages on Remind. You can receive messages via text, email, or push notification (or any combination of these).

To join a class on Remind, you have lots of options! You can sign up directly via text/email, head to our website, or download the Remind app.

**Text**

Join directly via text: Participants text the class code @8abfk to (613) 699-8156

Join online: Visit www.[remind.com/join](http://www.remind.com/join) and enter the class code (@8abfk) along with your phone number.

**Download the Remind app**

Remind is available on iOS and Android devices. Anyone can download Remind, create an account and join a class quickly (tap the + next to Classes Joined) by using @8abfk or search for our class (Grade 2/3)

**Email**

Join online: Visit [remind.com/join](http://www.remind.com/join) and enter the class code and your email address.

Join from your inbox: Send a blank email to 8abfk@mail.remind.com. You'll get a response with further instructions.