

Octagon Club

Make new friends.
Help your community.
Earn volunteer hours.

What is the Octagon Club?

- Junior branch of Optimist International, which is recognized worldwide

OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL



Optimist International

- More than 2 500 optimist clubs in Canada, U.S.A., Caribbean, Europe, Asia, Africa



- Motto is “Bringing Out the Best in Kids”
- Conducts 65 000 service projects annually
- Serves over 6 million young people
- Optimist programs include childhood cancer campaign, scholarship contests, teaching young people about internet safety, etc.
- Each program / project is designed to meet the needs of the local community

Junior Optimist Octagon International (JOOI)

- Made up of youth volunteers
- Over 15 000 members in more than 500 communities
- Working towards making positive change in the community



Octagon Club at Trudeau



- Started in 2002 when school opened
- Club expanded over the years to include over 100 members who participate in a variety of school and community events
- Club is run by an executive team made up of Grade 10-12 students

Why Should You Join Octagon Club?

- Make new friends
- Help the community
- Earn volunteer hours
- Some students have been able to get all 40 hours of community service within three months in the Octagon Club!



More Reasons to Join Octagon Club

- Refines your teamwork, communication, time management, and other critical skills needed in life
- Looks great on college, university and work applications / resumes
- Is an internationally recognized organization. You are part of something greater. Together we are making positive change in the world.



Octagon Activities: Homeroom Food Drive Contest

- Collecting food for Daily Food Bank
- Food relay to Fire Station at McCowan and Bur Oak
- Homeroom with most donations per capita wins a breakfast cooked and served by Octagon Club members



Octagon Activities: Environmental Clean-up



- Teams of 3 – 4
- Compete to pick up the most garbage in the neighbourhood
- Group with the most garbage wins a prize

Octagon Activities: School Ambassadors



- Serve on parents' nights, open houses and at school council meetings
- Hand out maps and teacher room numbers
- Direct parents to correct rooms and answer any of their questions if possible
- Collect parents' e-mails
- Give school tours

Octagon Activities: Santa's Helpers

- Make cards for teachers
- Decorate the school for the holidays
- Raise school spirit



Octagon Activities: Crafting for a Cure



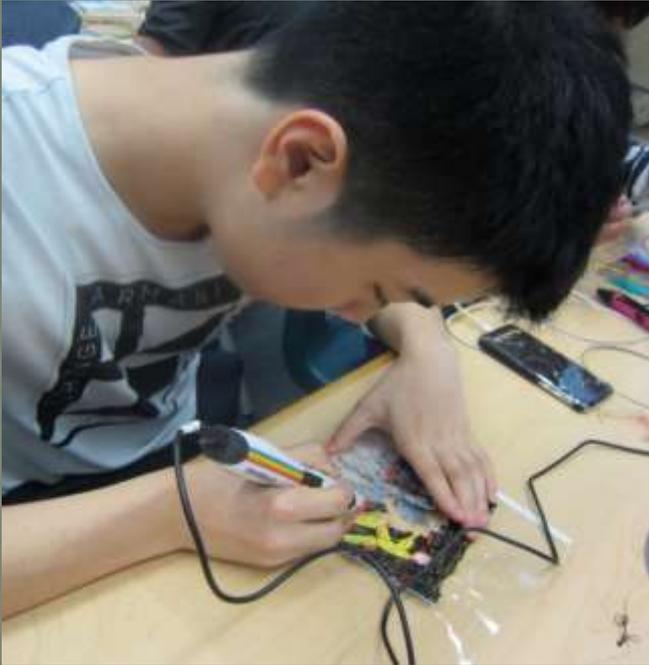
- Assembling craft kits and designing well-wishes cards for sick kids in hospitals around the world

Octagon Activities: Milk Bags for Mats



- Collect milk bags from school community
- Weave milk bags into mats to be donated to developing nations as beds for the homeless, surgical cots, etc.

Octagon Activities: Creating a Community Art Installation to Celebrate Culture



- Designed and created tiles with themes of identity, multiculturalism and being Canadian for an art installation in the community

How Much Time are Members Expected to Commit?

- Time is flexible
- Information about each Octagon event is emailed and posted on gapps.yrdsb drive about a week ahead of time
- Sign up and volunteer for as many activities as you choose
- Volunteer opportunities may occur during the school day during lunch / after school or on the weekends / P.A. Days



How to Join



Complete application form.

Check that your email is correct and clearly written.

Submit application form and membership fee (\$4 with student activity card, \$14 without student activity card) to Mrs. Yun-Lee in the Library.

Check your email regularly. If you do not receive an email within two weeks from Octagon Club, speak with Mrs. Yun-Lee.

Why does Octagon Club have a membership fee?

- Membership fee is sent to Optimist International which has operational costs (promotional materials, publicity, organizational costs, and insurance)
- Fee covers individual membership fee, club registration fee and U.S. exchange rate
- If your family has financial difficulties, please speak with Mrs. Yun-Lee. The club will fundraise to cover your fee.



Before you leave...

- If you have any questions, please ask.
- Pick up an application form.

