

# Bright's Grove Public School

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## Message from the Principal

The month of March promises extended daylight, warmer weather, and March Break! Black History Month is celebrated each year in February as well. Our classrooms took part in several opportunities to learn about historical Black figures in Canada and took part in a school-wide classroom challenge to make nominations for the "Greatest Black Canadian of All-time." We also celebrated as an entire school board as divisions took part in Board-wide presentations to celebrate the culmination of our learning throughout the month of February. This learning leads to next month's challenge...

Our March characteristic award is kindness. In a world filled with challenges and uncertainties, kindness serves to guide us through each day with warmth and compassion. When students treat each other with empathy and compassion, it creates a sense of belonging and togetherness, fostering a supportive community where everyone feels valued and respected.

Encouraging acts of kindness helps children develop meaningful relationships with their peers, teachers, and staff. These positive connections not only enhance their social skills but also contribute to a positive school experience, leading to greater academic success and emotional well-being.

Kindness nurtures emotional intelligence by encouraging students to recognize and manage their own emotions while also considering the feelings of those around them. This vital skill equips children with the tools to navigate the complexities of interpersonal relationships both inside and outside the classroom. When kindness is celebrated and prioritized in schools, it sets a powerful example for students to emulate. By witnessing acts of kindness from teachers, staff, and fellow classmates, children are inspired to be kinder, more compassionate individuals, shaping them into future leaders who prioritize empathy and understanding. We continue to ask our intermediate students how they want to be remembered here at Bright's Grove Public School once they graduate and enter secondary school.

I wish all our families a safe and wonderful March Break!

Nick

**March 6**  
Science Fair

**March 8**  
Pajama Day!

**March 11**  
MARCH BREAK BEGINS!

**March 18**  
First Day Back from Break

**March 22**  
World Water Day

**March 28**  
House Colours Day

**March 29**  
Good Friday – No School

**April 1**  
Easter Monday – No School

**April 3**  
KINDERSTART registration

**April 3**  
Caribou Math Contest

**April 4**  
Caribou Math Contest



## Award Winners

I'd like to take the opportunity to congratulate our February award winners. This month's focus was on co-operation and collaboration. Our students are recognized for having the ability to work collectively with peers, respect the opinions of others, and appreciate the value of turn taking. Many of these opportunities take place during unstructured times of the day, so we are even more impressed by these students! We are a competitive group here at the school and it is amazing to have great role models that can play hard, but also play fair.



## Parent Information Guide

The Ministry of Education has launched the [Parent's Guide to Ontario's Education System](#).

This new resource will provide parents with helpful information that allows them to have a stronger role and actively participate in their children's education. The guide covers a number of subjects such as knowing how their child is doing in school, learning about suspension and expulsion processes, attending a school council meeting or parent involvement committee meeting, and knowing about specialized supports to help all children succeed. This initiative is part of the government's recent efforts to increase transparency and accountability in our school system.

The full guide, translated into 10 different languages, can be found on our Parent/Guardian Resource page: [Parent/Guardian Resources - Lambton Kent District School Board \(lkdsb.net\)](#). This information has also been shared to our board website and synced to each school website, as well.

## Important Announcements

### COMMUNICATION

#### A message for drivers

Our busses arrive at the school from 8:40-8:55 AM and 2:50-3:25 PM. I have been asked to remind parents and guardians to help keep the circular driveway clear during these peak times. If you are picking up or dropping off students during these times, we kindly ask that you not use the bus lane so that they can navigate through and ensure our route times remain accurate.

#### Groovin' In The Grove!

Our date has been set! Groovin' in the Grove will take place on Thursday, April 11. Our Student Council Team decided on Neon Glow for the theme!



## Science Fair

At the beginning of March, several of our students presented Science Fair projects to the school. The staff and students were so impressed with the creativity and knowledge presented. We wish the students going on to present at the Lambton County Science Fair good luck in April!



## E-Sport League

With tryouts concluding, we have our first official LKDSB Intermediate e-sports team pairing off against Bridgeview in a pre-season exhibition match! The boys won convincingly!



## Learning Commons

We are very fortunate at Bright Grove to have a wonderful Learning Commons. As we finish these last few cold months of winter, I had to share a photo of this space being used to maximize student engagement. In the photo includes e-sports tryouts, chess club, card club, Salmon squad, and some students from sewing club finishing up a project. We are getting some great use out of the space before the warm winds blow in.



## February Happenings!



## Little Caesars Pizza Kits Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this fundraiser! We really appreciate the support and hope you enjoy!



## Chess Club Competition

After March Break we are looking to hold our own school-wide chess competition. Many of our students have been working hard on studying their openings and putting the theory into practice. Best of luck to our chess players.

**Monday - Grade 6-8**

**Tuesday - Grade 4-5**

**Wednesday - Grade 3**

**Thursday - Grade 6-8**



## Kindergarten Registration

Registering your child for Kindergarten is as easy as 1, 2, 3.

1. Find your school.
2. Complete the online registration.

**Additional Dates: April 3 (4:00-7:00) and May 29 (4:00-7:00)**

In order to register you will require:

- Birth certificate or proof of Canadian Citizenship or Residency Status (if appropriate)
- Proof of residency (e.g., utility or tax bill, lease/rental agreement, etc.)
- Your child



## Communication

Communication between home and school is key to your child's success. Primary communication from administration will be through phone or email. **If you had previously declined receiving email notifications from the school, we ask that you consider allowing for email communication from the school so that you can receive newsletters, forms, and any pertinent information to the school year.**

## Safe Arrival and Dismissal

**School Arrival:** Students are expected to arrive at school **no earlier than 8:40 am**, as their safety on the yard cannot be monitored without a staff member present. Classes will begin at 8:55 am. **Parents are asked to remain off the yard. Students in JK and SK may be brought to their ECE by the parent for 'hand-off' but are asked to leave the yard.** Parents can help their child find their line-up on the first day but are asked to then wait outside the fence. Pylons with teachers' names will be on the primary yard to help students find their bags.

**Dismissal Procedures:** Students who walk or are getting picked-up should be met at a pre-appointed spot on the yard. Older students will be dismissed at the bell to collect younger siblings/students. It is important that you practice this meeting spot ahead of time. Parents are asked to wait outside school property until the bell rings as classes are often outside to play at the end of the day.

**Early Pick Up:** Should there be a need to arrange an earlier pick-up time, please call the school office and ask that the message be given to the teacher and your child through the office. To avoid this, we ask that parents please call the school before 2:50 pm to make alternate pick-up arrangements.

## Attendance Reporting

Instructions for downloading the School Messenger app and navigating the website can be found attached to this email or on the school website. Please, use this to report any absences. There is an automatic call-out that we are unable to suspend that goes out about 9:30 am. If your child(ren) is going to be absent for 5+ days, please contact the office to receive a form that is required to be kept on file for auditing purposes.

## School Council

The Bright's Grove School Council is made up of parents, staff representatives, community members and the principal. Input from the various council members shapes school policies and priorities. **Our first meeting will be scheduled for September 13 – 6:30-7:30 PM.** If you are interested in participating, please call or email Nick Nienhuis.

## BGPS is "Nut and Other Allergy Aware"



Please be aware that we are a "Nut and Milk Aware" school and as a result, we ask that parents not send foods containing nuts (including peanuts and tree nuts), to school to protect the safety of all members of our school community. This includes any peanut substitution products, as once the product leaves your home, it is impossible to tell the difference. For great suggestions on nut free lunches, visit [www.eatrightontario.ca](http://www.eatrightontario.ca).

## COVID-19 Pre-Screening and Etiquette

Prior to attending school, it is still recommended that all students, staff and visitors complete the [daily COVID-19 School Screening assessment tool](#) and follow directions. **Following Public Health guidance, individuals should stay home if they are feeling ill to prevent the spread of illness.**

## Electronic Newsletter

In an effort to reduce the amount of paper and copying, we are asking that parents please access the monthly newsletter and calendar through the BGPS website or via our Facebook page (BGPS The newsletter will also be emailed out to the primary and secondary emails provided by parents/guardians. There will be no paper copies sent home this school year

### School Hours

8:40-8:55	Student arrival at school
10:35-11:15	First Break
1:15-1:55	Second Break
3:15	Dismissal