



King George VI Public School

227 Delaware Ave.

Chatham, ON N7L 2W5

519.354.2440

September 2023

<http://kinggeorgec.lkdsb.net>

Welcome back:

Welcome back to all returning students and staff and a warm welcome to all new students to King George. We are very excited and pleased that you are joining our school community! We hope that you and your families have remained safe and well during our time apart and have had an enjoyable summer!

Enrollment Update:

As with previous years, the Ministry of Education has implemented caps for primary class sizes. We must adhere to these class caps. There is a possibility that we may need to re-organize and some students might need to be moved to different classrooms depending on any new registrations or students moving out of our school area.

Thank you in advance for your understanding.

Thank-you custodial team!

A huge thank-you is extended to our custodial staff who worked diligently this summer to welcome us back to a clean, shiny, and safe environment. Thank-you to our staff for their work in setting up bright and inviting classrooms. Our school is beaming!

Staff Updates

We are so happy to welcome new staff members to the King George family this year. Mr. Balkwill will be Acting Principal until further notice, Mrs. Druer is our new Vice Principal and Mrs. Oxford is our new grade 1 teacher. Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Fryer are returning this fall. Ms. McAllister is joining us until Mrs. Mikel returns from maternity leave. Welcome to King George!

A Reminder....

Students should bring labelled refillable water bottles. We also ask that you are mindful of the varying weather this time of year, please remind your student to dress accordingly. Students are also encouraged to bring indoor shoes.

School Pictures

School pictures are scheduled for Friday September 22nd with retakes on Friday October 27th.

FDK Staggered Entry Plan

We are looking forward to welcoming our youngest Kings at King George next week. To help facilitate a successful transition to the new school year, we will be following a staggered entry for our kindergarten students.

- All Senior Kindergarten (SK) students will begin full-time attendance on the first day of school.
- Junior Kindergarten (JK) students will begin in two groupings as outlined below.
- **The groups of JK students will be introduced as follows:**
 - Tuesday, September 5 - All SK students attend.
 - Wednesday, September 6 - All SK students and half JK students (A group) attend. The remaining JK students (B group) do not attend.
 - Thursday, September 7 - All SK students and the other half of the JK students (B group) attend. The initial JK students (A group) do not attend.
- **All Kindergarten students will be in full-time attendance on Friday, September 8.**

All families of JK students have been contacted regarding what group they are in, if you have not been informed, please feel free to give the office a call.

Meet the Staff and Families Night

Come and join us on Wednesday September 20th from 4-7pm here at King George for dinner and visit your students' classrooms. The Optimist Club of Chatham food truck will be here serving hotdogs, French fries, and drinks. The gymnasium will be open for families to sit and eat together. *Debit available

Orange Shirt Day

Orange Shirt Day is on September 30th. On this day, we honour the survivors of residential schools as well as those children and young people who never returned home. This year, the LKDSB will commemorate this day on Friday, September 29th by encouraging students to wear orange and by using this day as a catalyst to encourage learning and understanding about the residential school system and the impacts that system has had on First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. Please take the opportunity to learn more about Orange Shirt Day and its origins by visiting and sharing the following link: <http://www.orangeshirtday.org>

Absences:

During the year, should your child be ill, have an appointment or for other reasons not be attending school, parents/guardians are able to enter absences on our School Messenger Safe Arrival program or call the school at 519-354-2440.

Should your son/daughter show up late for school we ask that they please report to the office first, so they may be admitted by Mrs. Goodall. We sincerely appreciate your assistance in this area.

Pediculosis – Head Lice

During the course of the year, we will be checking students for head lice in an attempt to reduce the potential spreading within the school. We kindly ask that should you detect lice in your child's hair that you notify the office. We appreciate your support in working to reduce the instance of head lice. All incidents are kept confidential.

Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol:

The Lambton Kent District School Board is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students, staff, school visitors, and community members. When a student behaves inappropriately, principals will most often employ progressive discipline strategies to help a student take responsibility for their actions, learn from their mistakes, and make better choices in the future. In more extreme cases however, when a student's behaviour poses a potential threat to their own or others' well-being, the Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol (VTRA) supports principals in taking further steps to safeguard everyone. The VTRA protocol outlines how a school responds immediately to threatening incidents including but not limited to: possession of a weapon or replica weapon, bomb threat or plan, verbal or written (including electronic) threats to harm oneself or others, other threats of violence, and fire setting. The initial response team is likely to include the Principal / Vice-Principal, police, and board staff. Should conditions warrant, a Community Threat Assessment Team will be convened. This community team includes representatives of community agencies who work with schools and boards to keep our students and staff safe, such as local police and children's mental health organizations. Parents and guardians will be notified if their child will be discussed through the Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol. If parents/guardians cannot be reached, or if they choose not to provide consent, but a concern for safety still exists due to threatening behaviour, the threat assessment may still proceed.

Inclement Weather

In the instance of inclement weather (fog at this stage of the year), buses may be cancelled for safety reasons. We kindly ask that on mornings where you may be uncertain to listen to local radio or check www.schoolbusinfo.com for inclement weather. **King George is located in Bus Zone 8.**

Should there be a cancellation due to fog, buses will return students home in the afternoon, unlike bus cancellation due to snow where the buses will not run all day.

On days when buses are cancelled, schools will remain open. The following are local radio stations that will share bus cancellations and potential school closures:

[CBC Chatham \[88.1 FM\]](#)

[CFCO \[630 AM and 92.9 FM\]](#)

[The Rock \[95.1 FM\]](#)

[CKSY \[94.3 FM\]](#)

Administration of Medication at School

Specific criteria must be met for staff to administer prescription medication when it cannot be administered at home. An "Authorization for the Administration of Oral Medication" form, (available from the office), must be completed by the parent/guardian and physician, then forwarded to the principal for each school year. This includes the administration of occasional use medications as well.

Should your child have a medical need (such as diabetes, asthma, epilepsy etc.,) that requires special emergency attention please inform the school and an "Individual Medical Emergency Plan" will be put in place. Please notify the office by phone or email if you require a form. You can also send a note with your child, and we can send a copy home.

Peanut/ Nut Allergies

As a reminder, we have students attending our school who are allergic to peanuts/nuts. Thank you for not sending nut products to the school. If your child has medical concerns or has medical updates, please make us aware so we can ensure all staff are aware.

School Bell Times

8:30 Yard supervision begins. **Students should not arrive prior to 8:30**

8:40 Classes Begin – Block #1

10:40 Nutrition Break

11:00 Outside Recess Break

11:20 Classes Continue – Block #2

1:00 Nutrition Break

1:20 Outside Recess Break

1:40 Classes Continue – Block #3

3:00 End of School Day

In the interest of student safety, we appreciate your help by **dropping off and picking your child up outside of the school each day**. This helps keep our school a safer place for all students.

Mark Your Calendars

Friday Sept 15th – no school (**PA DAY**)

Wednesday Sept 20th – Meet the Staff and Families Night

Friday, Sept 22nd- Picture Day

Friday Sept 29th – Orange Shirt Day

Friday Oct 6th - no school (**PA DAY**)

Monday Oct 9th – Thanksgiving Holiday (no school)

Friday Oct 27th – Picture Retakes

Registration Verification form and Permission to Photograph Students

It is essential that we have the most up-to date and correct information about your child. **Please take care in reviewing the information we are sending home to you, make the necessary changes, and return the student verification form as soon as possible.** This is the information we use to contact you for safe arrival and in emergencies.

Throughout the school year, we may photograph, audiotape or videotape students involved in activities and may recognize them in our newsletter. In addition the newspaper or local media may be present to cover certain events. Some of this information may be posted on our web site. **Please check the “Yes” or “No” box on the Permission form to indicate your preference.**

School Cash OnLine

School Cash Online is a convenient, web-based solution that gives parents/guardians the ability to pay for student items online. Parents/guardians can make payments, print or view their receipts, and their current account history all in real-time. Our goal is to have 100% participation and our preferred method of payment for food orders, field trips etc., will be School Cash OnLine.

School Cash Online provides multiple payment options, including eCheck (direct withdrawal from your bank account) or “MyWallet” (virtually add funds and reload like a gift card). Please note, banking information is not saved in School Cash Online and must be re-entered for every transaction. Unused funds in “MyWallet” will be carried over to the next year for back-to-school purchases unless a refund is requested (more information about refunds will be available on the School Cash Online website once launched).

In order to sign-up, parents/guardians must provide your child’s last name, birth date and student number. Your child’s student number will be on the student information profile sheet sent home, or please call the office. Further information about School Cash Online is available at

<http://www.lkdsb.net/Board/BudgetFinance/SchoolCashOnline/Pages/default.aspx>

Please sign up for School Cash Online so you will be all set with this system for the entire school year. It’s an easy way for school payments right at your fingertips!
