

# Brooke Central Public School

September 2023 Newsletter



Principal: Mr. Adam Townsend

Secretary: Mrs. Jane Fraser

<https://www.lkdsb.net/school/brooke/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

Bus Zones 1 & 4

Phone: (519) 346-2757

Fax: (519) 847-5035

## Welcome from the Principal

Whether you're a returning family or new to the school or community, I'd like to wish you a warm welcome to the Bronco family! September always brings excitement and anticipation and more than any start-up in recent memory this one feels special. Between pandemics and school closures, the students at Brooke have learned to be strong and resilient. No one deserves a special, exciting year more than they do! There are lots of exciting things in the works for your Bronco this year and we can't wait to hit the ground running.

As I begin my time as a Bronco, I feel incredibly fortunate to be here with your kids. There's nothing better than a school with strong ties to its community and I can't wait to be a part of the special connection Brooke has with the Alvinston area. I started my education career teaching at LCCVI and I always knew who the Alvinston kids were. They were the ones that would go out of their way to tell you that they're from Alvinston! I've never met kids more proud of their hometown and their families. I'm glad to be back working in this community and I look forward to meeting all of you, (and catching up with those of you who I taught or coached at LCCVI!)

## 2023-2024 Brooke Central Staff

FDK ENG	Mrs. Fowler Mrs. Wilcocks
FDK FI	Mme. Hinz Mme. Kerr
SK/1 FI	Mme. Meyskens
Grade 1/2 ENG	Mrs. McFadden
Grade 2/3 FI	Mme. Barrette
Grade 3/4 ENG	Mrs. Chapman
Grade 3/4 FI	Mrs. Martin / Mrs. Burnley
Grade 4/5 ENG	Mrs. Unsworth
Grade 5/6 FI	Mr. Hewett
Grade 6/7 ENG	Miss McKelvie
Grade 7/8 ENG	Mrs. Lenover
Grade 7/8 FI	Mrs. McLean / Mme. Pearson
Resource	Mrs. VanBilsen Mme. Pearson
French	Mme. Leitch
Prep	Mrs. Martin
Prep	Mrs. McLean
Prep	Mme. Burnley
Educational Assistant	Mrs. Arthur
Educational Assistant	Miss. Westgate
Educational Assistant	Mrs. Manders
Custodian	Mr. Wietzel
Secretary	Mrs. Fraser
Principal	Mr. Townsend

## Bell Schedule

Arrival	9:05
First Block	9:20
First Nutrition Break	11:20
Second Block	12:00
Second Nutrition Break	1:40
Third Block	2:20
Dismissal	3:40

## Important Dates

PA Day	Sept 15
School Council Meeting	Sept 20
Fall Open House	Sept 26
Orange Shirt Day	Sept 29
Terry Fox Run	TBA
Picture Day	Oct 26

## School Arrival Procedures

Students will arrive at school and have a chance to start the day by playing outside. If you happen to be dropping your kids off, please make sure that they arrive at school between 9:05 and 9:20. There are no staff members available to supervise prior to 9:05.

## **Nutrition Breaks**

Each day we have two nutrition breaks that last 40 minutes. Students will have 20 minutes to eat and 20 minutes to play outside. For the time-being, we are still using a “flipped recess.” This means that some classes will eat first then play outside. Others will start with recess and then go inside to eat.

## **Student Absences**

Please remember that if your child will be absent from school we must be notified. Our preferred method is for families to use School Messenger. This program is fairly straight-forward and allows us to receive instant notification that your child will be away. Information about School Messenger can be found on the LKDSB website here:

<https://www.lkdsb.net/Pages/school-messenger.aspx#/=>

A second option would be to call the school directly and speak to Mrs. Fraser, (or leave a message). While teachers always appreciate advance notice via SeeSaw, email etc. this is not sufficient notification for the office.

## **Student Transportation**

CLASS Shared School Services organizes transportation for LKDSB students. Go to the Parent Portal at <https://cklass.ca/parent-portal/> to find your child’s transportation information. MySBI app is a useful notification tool for bus delays and cancellations. Please note that if you have already used this app in the past, please download the newer version. (It will not automatically update).

## **Inclement Weather**

Brooke Central Public School has buses that travel in Zones 1 and 4. If buses are canceled due to inclement weather, the school will usually remain open. If a bus is canceled in the morning due to snow, ice or freezing rain, they will be canceled for the entire day and will NOT transport students home at the end of that day. If a bus is canceled in the morning due to fog, it will operate at the end of the day to transport students home.

## **Registration Verification Forms**

It is critical for the office to have updated contact information in case of an emergency, so your assistance in the speedy return of these forms is greatly appreciated. Communication through email will be ongoing and having the most up-to-date email address will ensure that you are receiving the most recent school updates.

## COVID-19 School Screener / Illness

Thanks to everyone for your patience the last few years using the Ontario COVID-19 School Screener: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

While the screener is still in place, it has become significantly more straightforward. Essentially, students that are ill are able to return to school as soon as they no longer have a fever and their symptoms have improved. This even applies to those that test positive for COVID-19. Siblings that are symptom-free and living with a sick family member are able to attend school.

One significant item to note applies to students that have symptoms of vomiting or diarrhea. Students must stay home until those symptoms have completely stopped for 48 hours. We greatly appreciate your cooperation with this item, as these illnesses can spread through our younger classes very easily.

## Allergies

Please remember that Brooke Central is a **NUT FREE** school. Students **may not** bring any nuts, peanut butter, or nut products (including Wow Butter) to school. Please make sure to read all labels before packing your child's lunch. Thanks for your cooperation.

## Medical Plans

Please let the office know if your child has a special health concern such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, allergies, etc. It is important that we be informed of any changes in your child's medical status.

All student medications must be kept in the school office and administered by a designated member of the school staff. **A completed *Consent to Administer Medication* form must be on file in the office before any medication can be given at school**, (this includes puffers). Please contact the school if you require one of these forms. Note: A physician signature is required on this form prior to school staff being able to administer any medication. This form must be updated annually. If no changes to your child's medication are required from the last school year, then parents/guardians may simply initial and date the bottom of the existing form indicating that there have been no changes. Medication is to be transported to the school by the parent to ensure the safety of children. Medication is to be provided in the pharmacy bottle with the pharmacy directions attached. Please do not send over-the-counter medication for dispensing at school as it does not meet the above criteria. If medical emergencies occur during the school day, parents/guardians will be contacted.

## **Emails from the Principal**

While I try to keep my emails to families at a minimum, I will occasionally send school-wide messages to pass on important information. Please check that the correct email addresses are listed on your child's registration verification forms for anyone who you would like to have school-wide information sent to. Please also ensure that you have selected that you would like this person to "receive email."

## **Coming Soon!**

### **PD Day**

Our first PA Day of the year will be on Friday, September 15. The school will be closed to students this day.

### **Fall Open House**

We're happy to announce the date of the Fall Open House here at Brooke. Join us at the school on Tuesday, September 26th to meet your child's teacher and re-acquaint yourself with the building. More information about this night will be sent out later this month, but plan on dropping by between 4:00 and 6:00 that evening.

### **School Council**

Our first School Council meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 20 at 6:30 here at the school. No need to RSVP or call. Just show up on the 20th and join us. All are welcome.

### **Terry Fox Run**

Let's start training! We will be holding our Terry Fox run at the school later this month. More information about this, (including the date) will be sent home soon.

### **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - Orange Shirt Day**

The Lambton Kent District School Board will commemorate the impact of residential schools on Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023 - Orange Shirt Day. Students and staff are encouraged to wear orange shirts and use 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. This is a meaningful way for school communities to come together in a spirit of reconciliation and hope because "Every Child Matters". Respectfully, flags at all LKDSB schools and facilities will be lowered on this day. If you would like to order an Orange Shirt for your child, please follow the link below. Orders are to be paid for online. Shirts will be shipped to Brooke prior to September 29th.

[https://www.screenart.ca/lkdsb\\_ecm/shop/home](https://www.screenart.ca/lkdsb_ecm/shop/home)

## **Picture Day**

There's still lots of time to find the perfect outfit for Picture Day. Our day has been scheduled for Thursday, October 26th. (It's late... but at least it's not October 31st!) Re-takes will be Friday, December 1st.

## **Electronic Newsletter**

This will be the only printed copy of the Brooke Central Public School newsletter. Starting in October we will be posting the newsletter on the school website as well as sending it home via email. Newsletters from the current year will always be available at

<https://www.lkdsb.net/school/Brooke/Newsletters/Pages/default.aspx#/=>