

Zone Township Central School

Principal ~ Mrs. C. Anderson
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December Update 2021

Automated Safe Arrival Calls

Zone School's automated attendance messaging system notifies parents/guardians when your child has been marked absent and the school has not been notified of the reason for the absence. To follow-up, we will contact the parent/guardian phone numbers and email addresses that we have on file and ask that you call the school to confirm the absence and provide the reason. You can help by ensuring that the school has your most updated contact information and by notifying the school office in advance if your child will be late or absent.

Please note: To avoid calls and emails regarding attendance, kindly contact that school in advance to let us know your child will be absent. School voicemail messages are checked regularly.

Daily COVID-19 Screening Tool

Thank you for assessing your child(ren) daily and reporting whether they are experiencing any signs of illness. Please refer to the Ontario screening tool <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>. The screening tool will advise you whether you should send your child(ren) to school or not and will also advise you of next steps. All students who are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 must not attend school and should seek appropriate medical attention as directed by the screener.

School Playground

Please be advised that our playground equipment is now closed and will not re-open until the Spring. The Ontario School Board Insurance Exchange advises the closure of school playgrounds due to the following reasons:

Freezing temperatures - At temperatures below 0 deg. C, very few types of protective ground surfacing remain resilient enough to offer any degree of protection to a falling child - regardless of depth. If the ground cover is frozen, the play equipment is NOT safe for use.

Snow build-up - Snow can cause two problems on a play structure - first, it can make play surfaces very slippery; secondly, it can create suffocation hazards if the openings at the end of tube slides or similar structures become closed in by drifting snow.

Ice or freezing rain - As noted above, ice or freezing rain can make play surfaces, hand grips and stairways very slippery, increasing the risk of slip and fall injuries.

Clothing - Winter clothing is much different than normal clothing. Synthetic materials, such as nylon, reduce sliding resistance, particularly on plastic slide beds. This can increase the travel speed on this equipment to a dangerous level, and if combined with frozen ground cover can increase the chance of injury. Winter clothing is also very bulky and is more likely to have drawstrings or hooks and clips which can become entangled in components of the equipment. Please remind your child to not use the school equipment outside of school hours during the winter months.

Pediculosis Check

Sometimes students arrive at school infected with pediculosis. Spring and fall are the seasons when head lice are most prevalent in school children. Your assistance in early detection is greatly appreciated. Please check your child for head lice weekly. Infestation by head lice is an unpleasant nuisance, but not a health problem. Head lice do not carry or spread disease. If we detect head lice on your child, you may be notified and asked to come to the school to pick up your child. We then ask that you use the necessary treatment

Zone Township Central School is in **Zone 6**. Listen to the radio for bus delays and cancellations or check <http://www.schoolbusinfo.com> for regular updates. If buses are cancelled in the morning due to fog, they **will** run in the afternoon. If buses are cancelled in the morning due to snow and icy road conditions, they **will not** run in the afternoon and parents and guardians must make arrangements for picking up students at the end of the day.

on his/her hair. Your child(ren) are welcome to return to school when the pediculosis is no longer evident. Hopefully by working together we can control the spread of head lice.

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Thank you to our families who were available to connect with their child(ren)'s teacher(s) for Parent-Teacher Interviews. We enjoyed having the opportunity to share your child's progress to date. Please feel free to connect with your child's teacher if you have any concerns about your child's progress throughout the year.

Bus Zone 6 - Inclement Weather

The Lambton Kent District School Board has administrative procedures in place to assist parents and guardians on mornings when dangerous weather conditions exist. Parents should listen to their local radio station or check the transportation website at www.schoolbusinfo.com or download the MySBI app by CLASS. If buses are cancelled in the morning due to fog, they **will** run in the afternoon. If buses are cancelled in the morning due to snow and icy road conditions, they **will not** run in the afternoon and parents and guardians must make arrangements for picking up students at the end of the day.

Parent Council/School Advisory Council

Our next meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday, February 9 at 4:00 p.m. All are welcome. Please email Colleen.Anderson@lkdsb.net if you would like an invitation to join the virtual meeting.

Holiday Activities – December 13-17

With Christmas just around the corner, many classrooms will be doing holiday themed activities. We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that we are unable to share treat items at this time. Please do not send in any food to share with classmates. We appreciate your understanding during these uncertain times.

Zone School is Giving Back to our Community

Beginning today, each classroom is accepting donations of new socks (any size) and toiletries. Donations will be collected until Monday, December 13th and then will be used for the hamper program in Bothwell.

Holiday Break

The last day before the Holiday Break is Friday, December 17th and classes will resume on Monday, January 3rd, 2022. On behalf of the entire Zone Township Central School staff, we wish our students and their families a wonderful and healthy holiday. Continue to stay safe and see you in 2022!

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