



## April Newsletter

**School Motto: Work Hard. Be Respectful. That's our Lion Pride.**

### From the Office

The season of Spring may have already arrived but the weather we have been experiencing lately has not been very spring like. We are certainly looking forward to the warm and sunny weather ahead!

Since March 21, we have seen the removal of several COVID-19 mandates and have returned to many pre-COVID-19 routines at school. Students have begun to take advantage of extra-curriculars, multi-class projects, reading buddies, outdoor morning recess, and the removal of recess cohorts. More opportunities and experiences will continue to unfold as the school year continues.

### Monthly Character Traits

This month's character trait is Honesty. We demonstrate honesty when we speak and act truthfully. Throughout the month, students will learn about honesty and teachers will recognize Star Students for this character trait by celebrating at the end of April in our first assembly in over two years.

### Upcoming Events:

Friday, April 1: Wear Blue to support World Autism Awareness Day

Monday, April 11: School Council Meeting at 6:30 pm in the Learning Commons. These meetings are open to any parent or guardian who is interested in attending.

Grade 8 Parent Graduation Meeting: Grade 8 parents interested in being part of the Graduation committee are invited to join us in the Learning Commons after the School Council Meeting (approx. 7:30 pm) on Monday April 11th.

Friday, April 15: Good Friday (no classes)

Monday April 18: Easter Monday (no classes)

Wednesday April 20: New to FDK open house from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm



## **Count Me In LKDSB Student Demographic Data Census**

The Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) has extended the *Count Me In LKDSB Student Census* until April 8<sup>th</sup>. The intent of this survey is to collect information to better understand our students and school communities in support of equity, inclusion, student achievement and well-being. This initiative is part of the LKDSB's commitment within its [Strategic Priority of "Inclusive Diversity: Championing anti-oppressive education."](#)

The LKDSB, as directed by the Ontario Ministry of Education and with support, is conducting a **voluntary and confidential** student census to gather demographic information (such as race, ethnicity, language, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, etc.).

[Click here](#) to download a copy of the *Count Me In LKDSB* informational document.

The *Count Me In LKDSB Student Census* will reflect information about student populations and school communities to help identify systemic barriers and bias within the education system. It will help to ensure LKDSB is providing effective programming to support student success and well-being, as well as allocate resources to where they are needed most.

The Ministry of Education requires that the census questionnaires for students in Kindergarten to Grade 8 be sent to parents/guardians to complete with or on behalf of their child. Students in Grades 9-12 will be provided the link to the census directly and will be provided with classroom time to complete. See the list of census questions [here](#) (note: additional questions may be added based on Board and community consultation). Further instructions on how to complete the questions will be provided to assist with the administration of the census.

The data will be securely stored once it has been collected and results will be kept confidential. The data will be collected in accordance with the authority of the Education Act and the guidance of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA), [Anti-Racism Act](#), [the Ontario Data Standards for the Identification and Monitoring of Systemic Racism](#), and the [Ontario Human Rights Code](#). Also refer to the [LKDSB Protection of Student Personal Information Administrative Procedure](#).

As this is a new initiative, we recognize you may have some questions. You are encouraged to review the *Count Me In* [LKDSB Student Census website](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information.

If you have specific questions about your child's voluntary participation, please contact our school for follow-up.

**Kindergarten Registration:** If you know of any families that may have missed our Kindergarten registration, please have them contact the school.

### Reminders/Information for Parents

**Yard Supervision:** For the safety of all, students must not arrive before 8:50 a.m. when yard supervision begins.

**Playground Equipment:** The Ontario School Board Insurance Exchange advises the closure of school playgrounds throughout the winter months. All playground equipment remains closed until it has been inspected and the base surfacing below the equipment has been properly prepared from winter settling. If your children are visiting the school property during the evenings, on weekends or during holidays, kindly remind them to stay off the equipment until we receive notification that it is safe to use.

**End of Day Dismissal Routines:** Thank you for always keeping the classroom teacher informed of changes to end of day dismissals. Please also be sure to keep the office informed of these changes as sometimes homeroom teachers are away, and messages do not get communicated to the office.

**Cell Phones and Electronic Devices:** All electronic devices, such as cell phones, media players, digital game devices, computers and cameras are not to be used while the student is on school property before, during, or after school without the permission of school personnel and only for educational purposes. If a student carries a cell phone, he/she is responsible for the cell phone at all times. At no time will students use electronic devices for digital, audio or video recording without permission from the teacher. The school is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen property.

**Inclement Weather:** East Lambton School is in Zone 1. Please listen to local radio stations, visit [www.schoolbusinfo.com](http://www.schoolbusinfo.com), or download the My SBI Mobile App to receive updates on bus delays or cancellations due to inclement weather or other. Busses in the morning that have been cancelled in the morning due to inclement weather **will not** return students to school in the afternoon. If parents drive students to school in the morning, they are responsible to pick their children up and take them home in the afternoon. Busses that have been cancelled in the morning due to fog **will** operate in the afternoon and to return students to their homes. ***Please remember to call the school if your child will be absent due to bus cancellations.***