



February Newsletter

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

Black History/African Heritage Month

Black History is annually celebrated during the month of February, but the role of African Canadians in our history and society is embedded in Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) curriculum throughout the year.

In recognition of Black History/African Heritage Month in February, the LKDSB is committed to recognizing the historically erased role of Black Canadians in our history and society. This year, the focus for Black History/African Heritage Month will be **“Celebrating Black History Here.”**

As there are significant Black historical sites located within the LKDSB’s geographic area, we encourage students, staff, and families to learn more about our local history and its connection to the Underground Railroad and other historical events, and the ongoing contributions of local Black communities to the development and prosperity of Ontario and Canada.

In addition to activities promoted during the month of February, LKDSB students, families and staff members are invited to explore the rich history in the surrounding area and learn more about how African Canadian history can be incorporated into the curriculum. The LKDSB is committed to supporting [Ontario's Anti-Black Racism Strategy](#). Visit the [Government of Canada Black History Month website](#) for additional information and resources.

Upcoming Events:

February 2: Kindergarten Registration 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

February 3: PA Day (no classes)

February 3: Kindergarten Registration Open House 9 am – 3 pm

February 8: Parent Council meeting @ 6:30 pm in Learning Commons

February 17: Term one report cards go home

February 20: A reminder that Monday February 20th is Family Day (no classes). We wish everyone a wonderful Family Day.

Kindergarten Registration

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

1. Find your school.
2. Complete the online registration form @ www.lkdsb.net/kindergarten in advance.
3. Come and meet our caring staff on February 2nd from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm and February 3rd from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Remember to bring:

- 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

Reminders/Information for Parents

Broasted Chicken Dinner: The grade 8's have been busily fundraising to offset the cost of their Muskoka Woods field trip and are offering a Broasted Chicken Dinner on Wednesday March 1st. The dinner includes 3 pcs of chicken, potato, coleslaw, roll, cheesecake, and water for \$20.00. Tickets must be purchased in advance and can be purchased from any grade 8 student, Mrs. McCallum, or the office. This is a drive thru event and orders can be picked up at the front doors of the school between 4:30 pm and 6:00 pm. Thanks to Burns Catering in Dresden for preparing the food for this fundraiser. Please share this event with your family and friends!

Parent Council Meeting: Our next Parent Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 8th @ 6:30 p.m. in the Learning Commons. All parents are encouraged to join us, to learn about school operations, and assist in planning for school fundraising events, etc.

Popcorn Sales: Popcorn will be available through School Cash Online for \$2.00 and will be handed out to students at first nutrition breaks on Wednesdays. All profits from popcorn sales will help supplement costs associated with year end field trips for all classes.

Dressing for Winter: Just a reminder that students go outside at least three times each day when in the building, provided the wind chill is above -18C, so please ensure that your child has appropriate hats, mittens or gloves, coat, and snow pants to keep them comfortable for at least 20 minutes at a time in the cold temperatures. If you need help with providing these items, please contact the school and we would be happy to help with getting these items.

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.

Labelling of Clothing: Each year countless items end up in our Lost and Found - ultimately many of these items are never claimed. Any unclaimed items will be donated to various community agencies in need. Labelling your child's clothing is the BEST way to ensure that "found" items can be returned to the rightful owner.

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, 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.***

Playground Equipment:

Please be advised that our playground equipment will be closed 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 from 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, as described under Item (1), 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. All scarves should be kept inside of the child's coat.

Please remind your child to not use the playground equipment during non-school hours for these safety reasons.