

# June 2023 Newsletter

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

**Principal's Message:** It is hard to believe that we are in the home stretch of what has been a very busy 2022-2023 school year. We as a staff, are already making plans and organizing for next year. The month of June often brings about a time of change and saying farewell. I wish our Grade 8 graduates well as they move on to high school and the next part of their learning journey.

It has been a pleasure getting to know and working with the Brooke Broncos staff and students. So many wonderful relationships have been formed and we are going to miss having them in our building. Thank you to all the Brooke staff and students for enriching our learning experience and making an impact on us and our school community!

East Lambton now has a Twitter page. Please follow us @LambtonEast

## **Upcoming Events:**

- June 1 Star Student Assembly
- June 2 Jump Rope for Heart 11:45 1:25
- June 5 Sub Day
- June 7 Last Popcorn Day
- June 8 Last Pizza Day
- June 9 PA Day
- June 14 District NLEAA Track & Field Day @ Watford Community Track
- June 15 Rain Date for District T&F
- June 16 Alvinston Rodeo whole school attending
- June 22 Play Day (whole school)
- June 23 Grade 3/4, 4/5, and 5/6 field trips
- June 27 Grade 8 Graduation
- June 28 Year-End Assembly @ 9:30 am
- June 29 Last Day of School
- June 30 PA Day

#### **Reminders/Information for Parents:**

**LKDSB celebrates Pride Month:** The month of June is nationally recognized as Pride Month in Canada. Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) joins school boards throughout the province in supporting the LGBTQ+ community with the display of the Pride Flag on flagpoles at all school and Board locations throughout the month of June.

The display of the Pride Flag will be in accordance with the appropriate display of the Pride Flag with the National Flag of Canada, as outlined on the LKDSB's *Display of Flags* Regulation.

The LKDSB is committed to supporting student achievement, well-being, and the Strategic Priority of Inclusive Diversity: Champion anti-oppressive education. The LKDSB's Strategic Priority, "Inclusive Diversity: Champion anti-oppressive education," *Safe Schools Act* and the protected grounds under the Ontario *Human Rights Code* further reinforce the importance of recognizing and affirming the rights of LGBTQ+ communities, particularly the human rights of everyone to be treated equally and with dignity and respect.

Throughout the school year, LKDSB encourages school communities to champion anti-oppressive education, and promote safe, welcoming, and inclusive learning and work environments for all students, staff, and visitors, including the 2SLGBTQ+ community.

**National Indigenous History Month:** June is National Indigenous History Month, a time for all Canadians to reflect upon and learn the history, sacrifices, cultures, contributions and strength of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people.

LKDSB will be recognizing June 21 as National Indigenous Peoples Day. On this day and throughout the year, we honour the history, heritage, and diversity of Indigenous peoples in Canada. LKDSB is committed to working with and alongside local Indigenous communities to promote learning and understanding of Indigenous rights, histories, knowledge, culture, and perspectives. Staff, students, and families are encouraged to learn more about the unique heritage, diverse cultures and outstanding contributions of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples.

LKDSB continues to work in partnership with Aamjiwnaang First Nation, Eelūnaapèewii Lahkèewiit (Delaware Nation), Kettle and Stony Point First Nation and Walpole Island (Bkejwanong) First Nation to support student success and well-being. <u>Learn more about Indigenous Education at LKDSB.</u>

**Virtual Announcements:** During the month of June, for National Indigenous History Month and Pride Month, we will be sharing read alouds and information about notable Canadians, that identify as Indigenous or 2SLGBTQ+ on our virtual announcements.

**Inclusive Activities:** At the beginning of June, classes will be participating in a school-wide read aloud with the book, "I Am Me: A Book of Authenticity" written by Susan Verde and illustrated by Peter Reynolds. This story shares the importance of embracing your individuality and being your authentic self. Students will be involved in creating a piece of art showcasing their uniqueness and will be displayed in the hallway near the gymnasium.

As part of our Play Day activities on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, students will be participating in a "Chalk the Walk" activity where students will be decorating the sidewalk in front of the school. The positive messages and pictures will showcase ELES as a welcoming and inclusive community.

**Kindergarten Registration**: If you know of any families that may have missed our Kindergarten registration, please have them contact the school. https://www.lkdsb.net/Elementary/Registration/Pages/default.aspx#/=

**PA Day:** A reminder that Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup> is a Professional Activity Day. There will be no school for students on this day.

**Yearbooks:** Orders can be placed through SchoolCashOnline. Don't miss out! Yearbooks will be delivered in September.

**Graduation:** A reminder to our Gr. 8 parents and families that Gr. 8 Graduation will be held in our gymnasium on Tuesday, June 27 @ 7:00 p.m. Additional details will be communicated via Mrs. Schram and Mr. Owen.

Report Cards: Term 2 report cards will be sent home on Thursday, June 29th.

Last Day of School: The last day of school for students Thursday, June 29th.

**Class Organization for 2023-2024:** At this time of year a significant amount of time and energy goes into creating class lists for the next school year. Several important factors to maximize each student's success will be considered:

<u>Balance:</u> Each class needs to be balanced in terms of strengths and needs. No classes are "streamed" with only strong or weak students in any of the grades. Research has demonstrated that heterogeneous grouping, where students from a range of levels work together, provide the best learning opportunities for all involved.

<u>Learning and Teaching Styles:</u> Children learn in a variety of ways compatible with the way they make sense of the work. Teachers teach students using a multitude of teaching approaches and classroom management styles. It is our belief that a variety of teachers is beneficial to students as they proceed through their elementary years.

<u>Peer relationships and Group Dynamics:</u> While feeling included in peer relationships is important, sometimes being with friends is not a productive experience that enhances learning. Who gets along with whom? Who should be separated? What kinds of individuals could best come together as a group and develop? Who needs a situation to extend themselves and grow in social relationships? We attempt to answer these questions as we construct each classroom.

<u>Straight vs Combined Grades:</u> As usual, combined, or split grades will be the norm of the East Lambton organization from next year. Sometimes parents feel that straight grades are better than split grades. However, all classes are in effect "blended" because our students have a variety of strengths and needs and learn at a variety of instructional levels.

With the involvement of classroom teachers, resource teacher, and administration, careful consideration of each child's placement will occur as we keep the best interests of all 240 students at the centre of the conversation. Classroom placement will be communicated with report cards at the end of the month.

**Construction Update:** Our school will be receiving a few more updates throughout the summer: new exterior doors, new windows, and a few upgrades to the lockers. It is likely that there will be many different construction trades on site with a variety of machinery so please try to avoid the school yard when construction vehicles are present.

#### Forest Area of Schools Naming Process:

If you are interested in submitting a suggestion for the name of the new K-12 school in Forest, please use the following link: <u>https://forms.office.com/r/zS9jbUBiic</u>. The deadline for submissions is 4:00 p.m., Monday, September 25, 2023. When choosing a name, please keep the following naming criteria in mind:

- a) A historical name which once applied to the area where the facility is located; and
- b) The name of a geographic area which the facility will serve.

Any questions about the process can be directed to: SchoolNaming@lkdsb.net

To learn more about the naming committee, please visit the LKDSB Ad Hoc Naming Committee Website: <u>https://www.lkdsb.net/Board/AccommodationReview/forest-arc/adhocnaming/Pages/default.aspx#/=</u>

### LKDSB Summer Engagement Camps, July 4 – August 25

