

East Lambton is Bus Zone 1 Principal: Kari Aubertin Secretary: Suzanne Thorne Phone: 519-876-2610

### **November 2021 Newsletter**

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

**Principal's Message:** This is a month when we put focus on remembering and paying respect to the men and women who have and continue to fight to maintain the rights and freedoms that we enjoy as Canadians. Each day, as staff of East Lambton, we coach our students on how to do our part to respect these rights and freedoms by interacting with each other in a respectful and kind manner, resolving conflicts in a peaceful and appropriate way. In connection to Remembrance Day, our character trait focus this month is Respect. Respect means you care enough to think about how you impact others. Throughout the month, classes will put focus on this trait, engaging in various lessons and activities. At the end of the month, teachers will recognize Star Students within their classroom and celebrate them with the whole school virtually.

Our School Improvement Team met recently to develop our School Improvement Plan for the year. The board requires each school to set a goal for the five areas below. These goals and the identified success criteria for each have been discussed with School Council and will be a continued focus of learning and discussion with staff throughout the year.

**Student Achievement Goal (including literacy, numeracy and graduation):** Use assessment feedback to provide targeted instruction that improves student's numeracy and literacy skills

Student Wellbeing Goal (including Feeling of Belonging, Caring & Trusting Adult, and Sense of Welcoming): Based on survey data, we will help students to feel a greater sense of belonging and pride in sense of self by engaging students and strengthening relationships.

**Indigenous Goal (including Truth and Reconciliation Commitments):** Continue to develop staff and student understanding of the truth in our Canadian history and develop an appreciation of indigenous culture.

**Inclusive Diversity Goal (including actions to Champion Anti-oppressive Education):** Build in discussions that include marginalized voices and recognizes systemic obstacles and/or celebrates differences.

**Re-engagement Goal:** Work as a team to build relationships with students.

# **Upcoming Events:**

### Treaties Recognition Week:

The Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) commemorates Treaties Recognition Week on November 1-5, joining school boards across the province in promoting education and awareness about treaty rights and treaty relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in Ontario.

The LKDSB recognizes the traditional land of Aamjiwnaang First Nation; Eelŭnaapéewi Lahkéewiit (Delaware Nation), Kettle & Stony Point First Nation; and Walpole Island (Bkejwanong) First Nation. The LKDSB appreciates the ongoing support and partnership of the four First Nations to collectively promote education and mutual understanding of Indigenous histories and perspectives.

Schools are working towards greater understanding of treaties, treaty relationships, and the responsibilities we have to raise awareness about Indigenous histories, cultures, contributions and perspectives. Treaties Recognition Week is one of the many steps in Ontario's journey to healing and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. As staff and students, we will be building our understanding of treaties during the first week of November by connecting to virtual events and participating in various learning activities.

#### Did you know...

- Treaties Recognition Week was introduced to honour the importance of treaties and to help Ontarians learn more about treaty rights and treaty relationships
- Every Ontarian is a treaty person
- Most of Ontario is covered by 46 treaties and other agreements, such as land purchases by the Crown signed between 1781 and 1930
- First Nations had their own process of Treaty-making that had existed for thousands of years
- Treaties are legal agreements between two or more nations

Remembrance Day Assembly: Due to COVID, staff and students will not be permitted to gather together for an assembly in the gym on Remembrance Day this year. Therefore, we will be recognizing Remembrance Day with our students through a virtual presentation. Classes will also participate in additional classroom learning and readings in honour of the courageous men and women that have served and continue to serve our great country. As per usual, students will each be given a poppy on this day. Donations to the Legion poppy fund are greatly appreciated. A loonie or two sent in with students on this day are warmly welcomed.

Progress Reports and Interviews: Progress Reports will be going home with students on Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. Interviews will be scheduled virtually this fall from November 15<sup>th</sup> to November 19<sup>th</sup>. Classroom teachers will reach out to parents to set up an interview time through either a google meet or phone call at a mutually convenient time during this range of dates. In some cases, teachers will be scheduling calls with parents back-to-back in 10-minute intervals, as per normal interview scheduling and will try hard to stay on track with this timing. We ask that if you feel you need a longer interview time, that you communicate this with your child's teacher ahead of time in order to respect the time frame given.

Wreath Fundraiser: Again, this fall, we have embarked on our popular Wreath fundraiser. Wreath Orders are available now on School Cash Online and <u>due November 8th</u>. Payment is also required via School Cash Online. Wreaths will be available for pick up will be on Wednesday November 24<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm. If you require assistance with School Cash On-line, please do not hesitate to contact the office for help.

World Diabetes Day: Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup> is World Diabetes Day. To show our support, staff and students are encouraged to wear blue to support Diabetes Awareness on Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.

Anti-Bullying Week: November 15th – 19th has been designated as Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week to help promote safe schools and a positive learning environment. We will wear PINK on Monday, November 15th to kick off Anti-Bullying Week. Activities and discussions will happen throughout the week in our classes. Bullying is defined as a form of repeated, persistent, and aggressive behaviour directed at an individual or individuals that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear and distress and/or harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem, or reputation. Bullying occurs in a context where there is a real or perceived power imbalance.

The different forms of bullying include:

- Physical hitting, shoving, stealing, or damaging property
- Verbal name calling, mocking, or making sexist, racist, or homophobic comments
- Social excluding others from a group or spreading gossip or rumours about them
- Electronic (commonly known as cyberbullying) spreading rumours and hurtful comments through cellphones, e-mail, text messaging, and social networking sites.

A great article explaining bullying can be found here.

PA Day: November 19<sup>th</sup> is a PA Day. There is no school for students on this day.

Sub Day: Sub Day is November 26<sup>th</sup>. Money and order forms are due <u>Nov 21st.</u> If you require assistance with School Cash On-line, please do not hesitate to contact the office for help.

School Spirit Clothing: An online store has been created through Team Outfitters for East Lambton Lions clothing. Purchases are made directly through this site, which is open until November 21. Orders will be delivered to the school the week of December 13. Once they arrive, Mrs. Thorne will contact those who ordered to arrange pick up. https://eastlambtonlions2021.itemorder.com/sale

DONATIONS to ELES: Thank you to all the community members and organizations who have made generous donations to our school over the past few months. The Watford Rotary Club has made a donation providing enormous support for literacy in our school. An announcement will be made in the coming weeks of the final amount being donated by Tim Hortons from the Smile Cookie campaign. We are very fortunate and grateful to be a part of this generous community!

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

https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/: Thank you for your diligence in completing the school screening each morning for your child. This screening is continuously updated. Please read directions and suggestions carefully.

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.

Inclement Weather: <a href="mailto:cklass.ca">cklass.ca</a> and local radio stations will communicate information regarding bus cancellations. If you have a concern regarding bussing, please do not hesitate to contact Sandy at Lang's @ 519-383-1221. EAST LAMBTON IS IN SCHOOL BUS ZONE 1.

## **November Dates to Remember**

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- 8: Wreath Orders due through SchoolCashOnline
- 11: Remembrance Day
- 12: Wear Blue for Diabetes Awareness
- 12: Progress Reports go home
- 15: Wear Pink to kick-off Bullying Awareness Week
- 15:19: Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week
- 15-19: Parent-Teacher Interviews (telephone and virtual)
- 17: Picture Retake Day
- 19: PA Day no school for students
- 21: Sub orders due through <u>SchoolCashOnline</u>
- 21: School Clothing Online Store closes https://eastlambtonlions2021.itemorder.com/sale
- 24: Wreath PickUp at North End of School 3:30pm 6:00 pm
- 26: Sub Day
- 26: Mustache Day for Men's Health Awareness