



East Lambton Elementary School

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

Principal's Message: Welcome back! I hope everyone had a fantastic summer. As a staff, we are excited to be back in the building and learning face to face with the children. Things will look different and operate differently than normal as we navigate COVID within the school system, but we will strive each day to make things as comfortable and welcoming as possible within the guidelines of the required safety measures. We as a staff have been hard at work making plans for the coming year and developing the routines and procedures that will guide our work together this year. At East Lambton, we strive to make things a team effort between the school staff, students and parents. It is our goal to maintain an open relationship between families and the school. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's teacher and when necessary with me so that problems can be solved when they are still small issues. I look forward to a wonderful year working with you and your children!

This year we will continue to put a focus on character education. Each month we will learn about a new character trait. At the end of the month, teachers will recognize Star Students within their classroom and celebrate them with the whole school virtually. In the month of September, we will be working on the trait of **optimism**. Optimism is about hopefulness and confidence about the future or the successful outcome of something. Given the circumstances that we are all operating under, we think optimism will be a very important trait to focus on to start our year.

We warmly welcome our new families and staff members to East Lambton!

East Lambton Staff 2020-2021

Ms. Carla Wilson	Principal
Ms. Suzanne Thorne	Secretary
Ms. Krystie Whitlaw	FDK
Ms. Michelle Wouters	ECE
Ms. Lyndsey Sitlington	SK/1
Ms. Debbie Ellwood-Latif	Gr. 1/2
Ms. Ann Marie Rops	Gr. 2/3
Ms. Jeananne Thomas	Gr. 3/4
Ms. Carol Dumais	Gr. 4/5
Ms. Kelsey Purves	Gr. 5/6
Mr. Brandon Owen	Gr. 6/7
Ms. Stephanie McCallum	Gr. 8
Mme. Melissa VanEngelen	Core French/Prep
Ms. Alysia Wyville	Prep/Learning Commons
Ms. Beth Thompson	Resource/Guidance
Tasha Ferguson	Educational Assistant
Riley Hill	Educational Assistant
Christina Young	Educational Assistant
Mr. Rob Hoskin and Mr. Tanner Moyer	Custodial Staff

Bell Times

Classes Begin	9:05 a.m.
First Nutrition and Activity Break	11:05-11:45 a.m.
Second Nutrition and Activity Break	1:25-2:05 p.m.
Dismissal	3:25 p.m.

The school calendar of events can be accessed through our website. Please visit our website often, as updates will be added to the site on a regular basis. A copy of the newsletter will also be posted on the website. To access the website, please visit <https://www.lkdsb.net/school/eastlambton/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

Upcoming Events:

Smile Cookie Campaign: The East Lambton Snack Program is once again the lucky recipient of The Watford Tim Horton's Smile Cookie Campaign. The campaign will run from September 14-20. The full \$1.00 from every freshly baked chocolate chunk Smile Cookie will be donated to our snack program. Due to COVID restrictions, we will not be accepting boxes of Smile Cookies into the school to be handed out to students, as in past practice, but please consider still supporting this campaign! Smile Cookies freeze nicely to be used as treats over time.

School Council Meeting: Our first School Council Meeting of the year will take place virtually through Zoom on Monday, September 28th @ 6:30 p.m. If you would like to attend, please let me know and we will add you to the invite.

Orange Shirt Day: On September 30th, staff and students across the Lambton-Kent District School Board will be encouraged to wear an orange shirt. Orange Shirt Day is held to educate people and promote awareness about the Indian residential school system and the impact this system had and continues to have on Indigenous communities in Canada. On this day, classes will participate in learning activities that will continue to build an understanding of residential schools and our Indigenous communities.

Reminders/Information for Parents:

Parents/Visitors to the School: During COVID restrictions, parents and visitors to the school are prohibited unless a pre-arranged appointment has been scheduled. Despite this restriction, it is very important to us that open lines of communication continue. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher or myself through SeeSaw, Google Classroom, the telephone or email.

COVID Symptoms: Parents are required to complete a COVID screening check with their child each morning before sending their child to school. If your child is showing **any** of the symptoms, it is essential to keep them home from school to prevent the possible spread of COVID. If your child develops symptoms during the school day, they will be supervised in a separate room until a parent is able to pick them up from school. Parents will then be directed to consult their health care provider, including getting tested at a COVID-19 testing centre. Parents should immediately inform the school if their child has tested positive and will not be attending school. Keeping East Lambton COVID free will be a team effort to follow this procedure. Thank you for your help and understanding. If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call.

Milk: At this time, milk will not be sold during the school day.

Snack Program: Our snack program will continue to operate. A breakfast/snack bowl will be delivered to classrooms each morning at the start of the day. Snacks will be “grab and go” items, such as whole pieces of fruit, granola bars and cheese sticks, so that little handling and preparation of food is required. Limited items will be available within classrooms during the second break for those students who require them. It may be necessary this year to send students to school with a couple more food items each day, as limited items will be available during the second break. Our Snack Program will likely not begin until later in September. I would like to thank Ms. Thorne for coordinating this valuable and well utilized program, as well as our awesome parent volunteers, Marsha Blain and Susan Lundy.

Water Bottles: Students are encouraged to bring a reusable water bottle to school each day and bring it home to be washed at the end of each day. Water fountains are closed this year but our water bottle filling stations remain open.

Mask Container: Parents are encouraged to send a container of some kind to school with students for the purpose of storing their mask when going outdoors for learning or break time. Some examples of a container could be a Ziploc bag or Tupperware.

Labelling Student Items: This year, more than ever, it will be very important to label all student items so that it is easy to identify whom the item belongs to. Your assistance with this task is greatly appreciated.

Student Registration Verification Form: Please take a moment to look over the Student Registration Verification Forms being sent home. Please make any necessary changes on the form and have your child *return it back to his/her teacher by Monday, September 14th, 2020 with or without corrections.* It is requested that you sign the form to show that you have looked at it. The office will update your child’s information in the student database accordingly. Please note that it is your responsibility to contact us throughout the school year when any changes occur with regards to any pertinent information regarding your child’s status: address, phone numbers, contacts, etc. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Anti-Spam Legislation Form and Consent for Imaging or Audio Recording of Students: A media consent form is coming home with this newsletter. The media consent form gives permission for your child’s picture to appear in **routine** school, board and outside media (e.g., the local paper) forums. An anti-spam legislation form (CASL) is also coming home. This form gives permission for Lambton-Kent District School Board and East Lambton to send you information via email and text. If you are okay with this happening, please fill these out and return them to school as soon as possible.

Safe Arrival Policy: We have a process in place to ensure the safe arrival of all students. Please call the school if your child is absent in the morning or the afternoon (unless a note has already been sent). Ms. Thorne is available from 8:30 a.m. on to take your calls. We also have a 24 hour answering machine so you may call any time, day or night. Calls home are made for all unexplained absences. If there is no answer, calls will be made to a parent’s/guardian’s workplace or emergency numbers. Please help us by contacting the school. A note sent to your child’s teacher informing of any changes in your child’s regular routine also helps avoid any problems. If students are arriving late or need to be picked up, Mrs. Thorne will meet or walk students to the door and a visual wave will be communicated with parents. Thank you for your cooperation to maintain COVID protocols and help us keep all students safe while at school.