

Errol Road Public School



January 2019

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Note from the office:

Happy New Year! We hope that everyone enjoyed the Holiday Break and that students are as excited as we are to be back at school. Best wishes to everyone in 2019!

Parking Changes:



The City of Sarnia has designated the area in front of the school along Errol Road to be a no stopping/parking zone, effective immediately.



The school buses previously in the North parking lot, will be moved to the circle driveway in front of the school in the New Year. This will open a number of parking spaces in the North parking lot for parents/guardians to use. If you have any questions, please let me know.

PD DAY

Friday, February 1st is a professional development day and the school will be closed.

Family Day

The school will be closed on Monday, February 18th for the Family Day Holiday.

Report Cards

Term 1 report cards will be sent home on Friday, February 15th.

Staffing Changes

Please join me in saying farewell to Barb Walker, our school secretary as she has accepted a job at Gregory Drive Public School in Chatham.

Congratulations to Shannon Neuber, our Grade 1/2 F.I. teacher who received a permanent teaching position at Mooretown Public School. We wish Ms. Neuber all the best as she moves forward in her teaching career with LKDSB.

We must say a sad farewell to Mme Mercer, our Grade 7/8 F.I. teacher who is moving to Calgary and her last day at Errol Road is January 25th. We will miss Mme Mercer and wish she did not have to go.

Mayor's Honour List:

Congratulations to Liam Henderson and Wendy Hooghiem from Errol Road Public School who were placed on the Mayor's Honour list this year.

Liam Henderson is an 11-year-old student at Errol Road Public School, who was in the cast of the CBC TV show Canada's Smartest Person Junior. Way to go Liam!

Wendy Hooghiem runs the Science Education Partnership located at Errol Road Public School. Wendy is the co-ordinator of the local Adopt-a-Scientist and Bridge Building programs, helping to encourage an interest in science and engineering among students in the region

Growth Mindset in Math

In general, a growth mindset is the belief that intelligence and 'smartness' can also be learned and that the brain grows from experience and effort. The opposite, a fixed mindset, is the idea that you are smart, or you are not. In math, that translates into "some people are good at math, and some are not." Did you know that praising efforts rather than intelligence or results can impact your child's ability to persevere in challenges?! The goal is to have children thrive on challenges and see failures, not as a sign of low intelligence, but as a learning opportunity. Brain research tells us that making mistakes actually wires more connections into the brain! When a person has a growth mindset, they accept challenges, see their efforts as worthwhile, and are open to learning from mistakes. Students with a growth mindset achieve at higher levels than those with fixed mindsets. How can you help? Some simple ways:

- Adding "yet" when they claim they are "not good at this" (Respond: "You are not good at this yet.")
- Ask questions that focus on their effort and choices and get them to reflect on satisfaction of that effort (e.g. *What did you learn today? What mistake did you make that taught you something? What did you try hard at today?*)
- Model this yourself as you share about your day

January Focus

Our January Focus for PBS is Participation. Participation is not only about raising your hand in class or joining school extracurricular activities, it is about being an active participant in your own learning and demonstrating a "can-do" attitude or what is called a growth mindset.

School Council

Our next School Council Meeting is Tuesday, January 15th at 6:30 p.m.

Super Hero and Cold Lunch Day!

Parent Council is organizing a Subway Lunch for students to purchase on Friday, January 25th. We will let you know once this lunch day is set up in Cash on Line for you to order. Our theme is superhero day and we are asking students to dress up as their favourite superhero. Be creative and have some fun with this spirit day.

Parent Involvement

Thank you to the many parents who volunteer their time at the school. When parents are involved in their children's education, everyone benefits. You can be involved by:

- Reading with your child every day
- Helping with the snack program
- Attending parent council meetings
- Volunteering for hot food lunches
- Making sure there is a quiet place, at home, set aside to do homework
- Helping with homework
- Meeting with teachers
- Talking to your child about their day
- Staying in close contact with your child(ren)'s teacher

Safe Arrival Procedures

If your child is ill or is going to be absent, please call the office to let us know. If your child arrives to school after the bell has rung, he/she will report to the office to receive a late slip. Safe arrival procedures are followed unless the school is closed which is a very rare event.

Outside Supervision begins at 8:50 am to 9:05 am; please do not drop students prior to this time.

Dismissal Procedures

Students are dismissed at 3:25 and parents are asked to pick up students on time. If you have made arrangements for your child to be picked up by someone other than yourself at the end of the day, please write a note to the classroom teacher.

EQAO – Save the Date

Students in Grades 3 and 6 will be participating in the standardized assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics, administered by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO). The dates for the Grade 3 & 6 EQAO testing will be Tuesday, May 21, to Monday, June 3, 2019. Please avoid booking appointments during school hours during the weeks of EQAO testing so your child is present to participate. Please check out <http://www.eqao.com> for more information and for sample questions from previous years.

JK/SK Registration for September 2018-2019

This year, we are encouraging families in our area to register their child for JK/SK during our special KinderSTART event on:

Thursday, February 28th - 9:00-5:30 p.m.

We are encouraging families (new JK/SK students only) to **pre-register** online at www.lkdsb.net/kindergarten **and** to attend on Thursday, February 28th.

KinderSTART is a special one-day event for parents and guardians to register their child(ren) for Kindergarten. Through KinderSTART children and parents/guardians have an early opportunity to visit the school, meet some of our FDK staff and learn more about FDK in preparation for school in the fall of 2019. Hope to see you there!

Items required: Please bring a printed copy of the completed registration form, original documentation showing proof of age for the child(ren) being registered and current address (utility or tax bill). Note: These items must be presented at the time of registration.

Junior Kindergarten – Children, four years of age on or before December 31, 2019 may be registered for classes beginning September, 2019.

It is important that parents register their children at this time to allow schools to plan class sizes. It is not necessary to re-register for Senior Kindergarten if your child is presently attending JK at Errol Road Public School.

Secondary School Visits – Gr 7/8 Students and Parents Grade 9 Options Sheets Open House/Information Nights

The start of the year is an excellent time to assess and set new academic goals. This is especially true for Grade 8 students as they make plans for Grade 9 and the transition to Secondary School. Errol Road students, depending on where they live, may attend either Northern Collegiate Institute and Vocational School or Great Lakes Secondary School or Alexander Mackenzie Secondary School.

On Tuesday, January 15th, Grade 8 students will listen to a presentation at Errol Road Public School from Student Services staff from both N.C.I.V.S. At that time, students will be given an option sheet to take home and fill out in consultation with their parent/guardians for their upcoming September 2018, Grade 9 courses.

Parent and Grade 7/8 Information Night Open Houses

Northern High School, Thursday, January 17th 2019

Open House Format 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

French Immersion Presentation - 6:30-7:00 & 7:30-8:00

There will be an opportunity to speak with Northern staff and students from each of the subject areas, as well as clubs and activities. The guidance department will offer presentations for parents on a rotating basis. Topics will include Northern Collegiate, the transition process, course selections and supports for students.

Great Lakes Secondary School - Thursday, January 17th, 2019 - Presentation in Auditorium: 7:00 p.m.

Questions and Answers, Diploma requirements and expectations. Applied versus Academic, Student Success and Academic Supports, Extra-curricular activities, Displays and Highlights by Departments, Demonstrations by staff and students. Door prizes and Guided tours and small group tours

Alexander Mackenzie Secondary School – parent information night took place in December. Tours available upon request

Cold, Snowy Winter Weather

Please make sure that your children come dressed warmly for the cold weather as they go outside for fresh air and play at all recesses, unless the wind chill is greater than -18 at which time they remain inside for recess. It is important for students to wear a hat, mitts, boots and snow pants to school. Please do not send your child to school wearing a scarf as they can be a safety hazard on the school yard. Students who wish to play in the snow need to be dressed appropriately. It is also a good idea to keep a spare pair of mitts and socks in the backpack in case one set gets wet while playing.

Play Ground – Safety

Due to winter conditions, school playground equipment is “off limits” during the winter season. Students are not to play on the equipment at any time, including before and after school.

Bus Students

Please be aware that the **bus zone for Errol Road is Zone 2**. Some students may also be picked up from other zones in close proximity to Zone 2. To stay up to date with any changes in bussing, download the MySBI mobile app. It will send you instant notifications of school bus delays, and cancellations. Just download the free app from Android/Apple app stores, and subscribe to Weather Notifications, as well as to your child's school bus name. Please visit www.mysbi.ca for additional details. You may also choose to listen to your local radio station to learn of any inclement weather cancellations and school bus delays. For more information go to: <https://www.schoolbusinfo.com/>

Please remember that if **buses are cancelled in the morning due to snow, or ice and you drive your child to school, you are responsible for providing transportation for your child at our 3:25 dismissal since buses do not pick up at dismissal on these bus cancellation days**. The only exception is when buses are cancelled in the morning because of **fog**, they will pick students up at dismissal. **Please join our Facebook**

Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/ErrolRoadRunners/#>

Candy Cane for a Cause and Adopt a Family

We would like to extend our appreciation to the parent community for their continued support of our *Candy Cane for a Cause* **charity fundraiser**. The proceeds were used to support the Inn of the Good Shepherd. The staff at the Inn of the Good Shepherd were so very grateful and astonished at the continued generosity and support from Errol Road. Your generosity with the adopt-a-family program is truly appreciated! We wish to extend a huge thank you too for helping to make the holidays a little brighter for local kids this year. We are very proud of everyone who helped organize and donate to this great cause. Thank you to the large group of grade seven/eight student volunteers of Errol Road School who gave up many recesses to package up the Candy Canes. We also wish to thank everyone for understanding that while not every student received the same number of candy canes, but every student should feel excited to know that someone's life was blessed as a result of the fundraiser, reinforcing a we vs. me mindset.

Student Immunizations

In December, notices were mailed to parents as a reminder to report their child's immunization record. This is the first notification step in the process for Lambton Public Health to have all recorded immunizations and exemptions for children in school. A final suspension notice will be issued in February with a suspension date set for students on March 4, 2019

Please note: immunizations are to be reported to Lambton Public Health by the parent in the following ways:

1. Website: lambtonhealth.on.ca (web button: Report Immunizations)
2. Mail or bring records to: 160 Exmouth St., Point Edward, ON N7T 7Z6
3. Call: 519-383-8331 ext. 3589 or 3554, toll free 1-800-667-1839

Vaccines are fundamental to keeping children protected from disease and the outbreaks that can happen in schools. Thank you for your support throughout this process. If you have any questions, contact Lambton Public Health at 519-383-8331 ext. 3589 or 3554