

May 31, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians & Students:

With the close of another school year, we will be saying goodbye to some wonderful staff members and friends. Mr. Van Humbeck, Mme Day and Mme Chantal each are retiring at the end of this school year. They have dedicated their professional lives to the betterment of the lives of their students. Their talents and friendship will be missed. We wish them the very best of luck in this next chapter of their lives. If you see them around campus prior to the last day of school, please take a moment to thank them and let them know what their service has meant to your child.

We will also be saying a temporary goodbye to Mme Soetemans, who will be away on a parental leave during the 2019-2020 school year. We look forward to seeing her back at Errol Road in 2020. Mme. Brandi and Mrs. Hewitt will be ending their L.T.O.'s here at Errol Road this year. Their kind, flexible, professional manner will be missed.

Also, sadly, we are saying goodbye to Mme Montpellier who will be starting the next chapter of her teaching career, as she heads to Queen Elizabeth Public School in Sarnia. Mme Montpellier's passion for teaching French and desire to volunteer in countless ways around the school will be impossible to replace. We wish her the very best in her teaching career and look forward to crossing paths with her in the future.

We also will be saying goodbye to Mr. Newcombe who will be heading to Victor Lauriston Public School in Chatham for the 2019-2020 school year. Although we are happy for Mr. Newcombe that he will be working closer to his home, students and staff will miss him. Thank you, Mr. Newcombe for all the fun you brought to our school, for your dedication, your compassion and most of all thank you for your big heart. You will always be part of the Errol Road Community and you will be missed.

Welcome to Mr. Adam Townsend who will be our new Vice Principal, effective September 2019. Mr. Townsend is currently working at Northern High School as a physics and math teacher. Please give Mr. Townsend a warm, Errol Road, welcome.

The school year is quickly coming to an end and the last day of school is Thursday, June 27th. Students return to school on Tuesday, September 3, 2019. We hope you all have a safe and happy summer.

Class Assignments/Organization for 2019-2020

Please note that we are actively planning for next year. We are continuously trying to determine class assignments for our students. Please note that this is not a decision that is taken lightly. We are constantly trying to consider learning styles, student needs, social circles, personality conflicts, teacher/student placement (perhaps a student has already had a teacher twice, perhaps they would benefit from gleaning wisdom from another amazing educator), among other items. Please note that we do not stream students. For example, if there is a 2/3 class and a 3/4 class, and your child in grade 3 is placed in the 2/3 room, this does not at all suggest that they will be exposed to a lesser curriculum or receive less challenges to promote their learning. Curriculum is prescribed for each grade and there are many needs that are taken into consideration. Every classroom has a variety of learners for whom instruction is differentiated and tailored

to individual needs. All students receive what they need, and all students are challenged academically. Members of our staff work tirelessly to ensure proper placement. Please have confidence in our professional placement decisions, created from many deliberations based on what we see daily.

Office Hours

Our school secretary, Mrs. Layne, is out of the office from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. each day. If you phone or visit the school during this time, there may be some delay in answering the door and phones. Should your call go to the answering service, it will be retrieved when Mrs. Layne returns from lunch break at 1:00 p.m. If you need to pick up your child for early an appointment or for any other reason, please communicate this in writing to your child's classroom teacher so your child is ready and waiting at the office so there is no delay.

School Cash Online

As you are aware, Errol Road Public School has been using School Cash Online for the past year. School Cash Online is a convenient, web-based solution that gives parents/guardians the ability to pay for student items online. Parents/guardians can make payments, print or view their receipts and their current account history all in real-time. Currently 87% of Errol Road families are registered with School Cash Online. **Starting in September, 2019, all extracurricular purchases (Hot Lunches, field trips, spirit wear etc.), will be advertised through School Cash Online.** If your family needs assistance registering with School Cash Online, please visit with office personnel. **Thanks for your support of this initiative.**

Pride Flag

The month of June is nationally recognized as Pride Month in Canada. In accordance with the Ministry of Education's commitment to student achievement and well-being, the Lambton Kent District School Board is joining school boards throughout the province in supporting the LGBTQ+ community with the display of the Pride flag from June 3-7. Moving forward, LKDSB schools and education centres will display the rainbow flag for the first week during the month of June.

Math Supports

Help advance your child's math skills with TVO mPower's free online K-6 math games. Start now at tvo.org/mpower. Also, for students in grades 7-10, TVO offers free math tutoring, from Sundays to Thursdays. Please visit tvomathify.com for details.

School Council Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 4th at 6:30 p.m. in the Learning Commons. All are welcome. We will be setting fundraising dates for next year and discussing the Open House Fun Fair in September. Hope to see you there.

Track and Field

The LKESAA Sarnia Track and Field meet will be held at the Central Track (behind Hanna Memorial Public School) on Tuesday, June 4, 2019 with a rain date of Wednesday, June 5. Good luck to all those competing and a thank-you to Mrs. Meyer, and Mr. Hazzard for coaching

Snack Program

Thanks again to the Ontario Student Nutrition Program for helping fund the Nutrition Program as well as all of you who supported our fundraising efforts to offset the cost. The snack program will be winding down during the month of June. It will be less scheduled in the coming month. Teachers will select times and dates of when certain nutritional items are served, based on classroom needs. The program wouldn't

happen without our faithful parent volunteers who are here bright and early, three days a week, to prepare the snacks.

Volunteer Appreciation

We held our annual Volunteer Appreciation Tea on Friday, May 17th. It was so nice to take a moment to thank all those individuals who have helped around the school, whether it be getting the snack ready every morning, helping on Hot Lunch days, assisting with fundraisers, serving on School Council, running a club in the school, volunteering in a classroom or any other volunteerism. We appreciate all that you do.

Olympic Day

Students will participate in a fun, action-packed Olympic Day on June 13th. Mrs. Hillier and Mr. Hazzard are tirelessly preparing for this event. Students in grades 1-8 will participate with activities and teams led by our intermediate students. Please remember that your child needs to wear sun screen, hat, sunglasses, proper footwear and an extra water should be packed and used on these fun days. Proper self-care is the key to success on this type of day. Please consider these suggestions as provided by Lambton-Public Health regarding sun safety:

- Use a wide-brimmed hat to shade the ears, face, and neck
- Generously apply at least SPF 30 sunscreen to areas of exposed skin, except near lips/eyes. Ensure sunscreen protects against both UVA and UVB rays (may be labelled 'broad spectrum')
- Use lip balm with SPF 30 to protect lips
- Children should have their own labelled bottle of sunscreen at school on fieldtrips and playdays (please do not send sunscreen spray but a cream instead)
- Use sunglasses with 100% UVA and UVB protection

Grade 7/8 TELP iPads

In accordance with Board policy, grades 7 and 8 students will be turning in their iPads to the school near the middle of June. Please note that the iPad must come back with a cord and charging block and a cost will be charged to any students who do not return the charging cord and block. The iPads of students in grade 8 will be redistributed to students in September when they enter a LKDSB High School. Students in grade 7, will return their iPads where they will be repurposed in the school the following year, as shared in previous communication with families of students in grade 7 and 8.

New to FDK students – Staggered Entry

The school startup schedule for our returning SK students will begin on Tuesday, September 3, 2019 with students attending a full day. To assist with an easier transition to school, we will follow a staggered entry for new incoming JK students. All new JK students' parents/guardians who gave us permission to e-mail, will receive notification through e-mail informing them of their child(ren)'s school start date and tentative classroom assignment. If you did not give us permission to e-mail you, we will send you a letter in the mail. Please note that new JK students will either begin school on September 3, 4, or 5, 2019 depending upon where they have been placed on our staggered entry schedule. They will also attend school full days beginning on their assigned staggered entry date.

Year end class trips

As we near the end of our current school year, several classes will be involved in outdoor education excursions. We are asking parents/guardians to check their child(ren) for ticks and to read the attached fact sheet on Lyme Disease and to monitor them for signs of infection after attending any outdoor class

excursion due to possible exposure. Note: That “not all ticks carry Lyme Disease. The American dog tick, which is the most common tick found in Lambton County, does not carry Lyme Disease.” We also ask that students wear hats and have sunscreen applied. Students, once again, are also reminded to drink water to stay hydrated during these warm days.

Grade 8 Graduation

This year’s Grade 8 graduation will be held at the Holiday Inn on Tuesday, June 25th at 6:00 p.m. A letter will be sent home on Thursday June 6th providing more details. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Van Humbeck or Mme Stewart for further information. Congratulations, Graduates!

Library Books

All borrowed books from our school libraries need to be returned by June 11th. This will leave us with enough time to track down missing books and to make sure that everything is in place for the upcoming school year. Students will still be able to explore books in the library, but not sign them out. Thank you for your understanding and assistance in this matter.

Report Cards

Please sign page 4 of the report card and return it to the school when you are in the area or drop it off during the last week of August.

Bussing

Please keep in mind that for student safety, we take attendance on our buses each day. If your child is eligible to ride the bus but you have made alternate transportation arrangements, please opt out of busing at www.schoolbusinfo.com. If your child is assigned a bus seat, we expect them to be on the bus each day unless you have provided the classroom teacher with a written a note of alternate transportation.

Courtesy seats, for students outside of our school zone, are not guaranteed and need to be arranged annually by the parent through www.schoolbusinfo.com. This year requests are being accepted as of July 1, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. You will require your child(ren)’s Student Number which is being provided to you in the School Cash Online informational letter.

Lyme Disease

What is Lyme disease?

Lyme disease is an infection caused by the bacteria *Borrelia burgdorferi*. In Ontario, these bacteria are spread to humans by the bite of blacklegged ticks, also called the deer tick.

Risk of exposure to Lyme disease

The risk of exposure to Lyme disease is highest in places where blacklegged ticks are established. In Ontario, ticks carrying the bacteria have been collected in Point Pelee National Park, Rondeau and Turkey Point provincial parks, Long Point peninsula, including Long Point Provincial Park and the national wildlife area, Wainfleet bog near Welland on the Niagara peninsula, Prince Edward Point, parts of Thousand Islands National Park.

Other risk areas included for encountering a blacklegged tick include locations around Kingston, along the St. Lawrence Valley to the border with Quebec and northeast towards Ottawa, western Ontario in the region of Lake of the Woods, Pinery Park on the shore of Lake Huron, Rouge Valley region of eastern Toronto. The risk of contact with ticks begins in early spring when the weather warms up and lasts through to the end of fall.

Symptoms of Lyme disease

Not all tick bites will result in disease and the symptoms and health effects caused by Lyme disease can vary for each person. The most common symptom is a red bull's-eye rash that appears at the site of the tick bite between 3 and 30 days after the bite (average 10 days).

Flu-like symptoms can also develop, such as:

- Skin rash
- Headache
- Fever or chills
- Fatigue (tiredness)
- Spasms or weakness
- Numbness or tingling
- Swollen lymph nodes

The later stages of Lyme disease can include:

- Dizziness
- Abnormal heart beat
- Muscle and joint pain
- Paralysis (unable to move parts of our body)
- Mental confusion or inability to think clearly

These symptoms can occur weeks, months or even years after the initial symptoms have cleared.

If you have been bitten by a tick and develop the symptoms mentioned, contact your doctor immediately.

Treatment

If detected early, Lyme disease can usually be treated with antibiotics. Lyme disease that goes undetected can develop into a serious, chronic infection that is more difficult to treat.

Ticks

Ticks are very small. They vary in size and colour depending on their age and whether they have been feeding. Ticks must feed on blood from an animal or person to live. They feed by inserting their mouth into the skin of a person or animal.

Not all ticks carry Lyme disease. The American dog tick, which is the most common tick found in Lambton County, does not carry Lyme disease. The blacklegged tick, which is not commonly found in Lambton, can spread the Lyme disease bacteria to humans.



Blacklegged Tick

American Dog Tick

(Image Courtesy of Public Health Agency of Canada)

...More



Lambton
Public Health

160 Exmouth Street
Point Edward, ON N7T 7Z6
Telephone: 519-383-8331
Toll-free: 1-800-667-1839
www.lambtonhealth.on.ca

Preventing tick bites

When entering areas with tall grass, bushes and wooded areas where ticks live, take the following precautions:

- When walking outdoors, stick to the trails and avoid direct contact with plant growth.
- Wear light-coloured clothing. It makes ticks easier to spot.
- Wear long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, socks, closed-toed shoes and a hat. Tuck your shirt in your pants and pants in your socks.
- Apply an insect repellent that contains 20%-30% DEET* to clothing or skin. Avoid your eyes and mouth area.
*Health Canada and the Canadian Paediatric Society have recommended amounts.
- Put a tick and flea collar on your pet. Check them every so often to see if they have ticks. Pets can bring ticks inside your house.
- Do a **tick check** on yourself, your family and your pets after being outdoors. Pay extra attention to scalp, groin and armpits. Infected ticks are unlikely to transmit Lyme disease to the host if removed quickly, so early detection is very important.

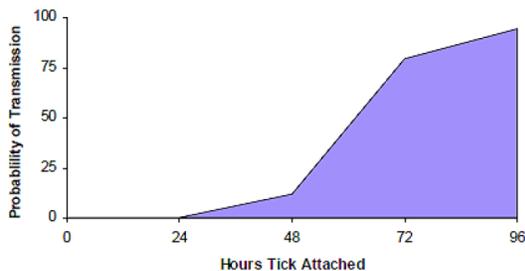


Image courtesy of Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Removing ticks

Remove any ticks that you find on the skin or clothing promptly. Ticks are most likely to spread the bacteria after being attached to your skin and feeding for more than 24 hours.

- NEVER use a match, heat or chemicals to remove a tick.
- Do not kill the tick before it is removed.

- Remove the tick using tweezers. Grab the tick's head as close to the skin as possible, pulling it straight out with steady pressure. Do not twist the tick or it may break off in the skin.
- Clean and disinfect the bite area.

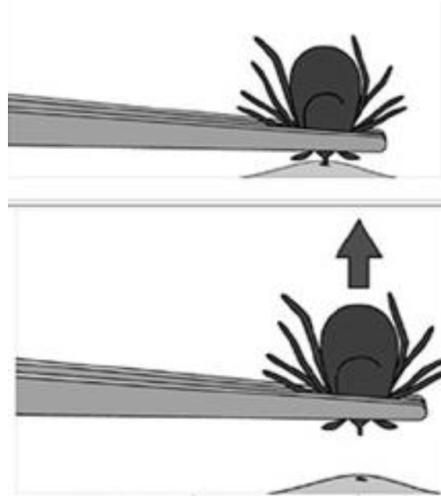


Image courtesy of Centers for Disease and Prevention

Submitting ticks for identification

Save the tick alive in a jar, screw-top bottle, or a doubled zip-lock bag. Bring it to Lambton Public Health (160 Exmouth Street, Point Edward) for identification during normal business hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Please note: only ticks found on humans or human related cases will be submitted for identification as of April 2009. For more information contact Lambton Public Health at 519-383-8331 or toll free at 1-800-667-1839.