

ERROL ROAD PUBLIC SCHOOL



989 Errol Road East
Sarnia, Ontario
N7S 2E6

Phone: 519-542-9341 Fax: 519-542-5451

Principal: Ms. Joy McLean. Joy.McLean@lkdsb.net
Vice Principal: Mr. Adam Townsend. Adam.Townsend@lkdsb.net

School Website: <http://errolroad.lkdsb.net/>
<https://www.facebook.com/ErrolRoadRunners/>

September 2020

First Week Back to School!

It has been so good to have students and staff back at school after such a long time away. We missed all of our students and it has been wonderful to see each other again. Students have been resilient and are adapting well to the new procedures and routines put in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A huge thank you to all of our parents and guardians as you have been so patient in adapting to the new procedures as well.

Although school looks different this year as we follow all the guidelines from the Ministry of Health and Public Health, staff are excited to welcome back your child(ren). It is our goal to make your child feel welcome, safe and supported as we transition back to school. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us through phone or e-mail.

Visitors/Volunteers/Parents

Parents/guardians will not be allowed to enter schools at this time, except in the case of an emergency or a pre-arranged appointment time. This includes entry and dismissal.

Communication between parents/guardians and teaching staff or administration will be through phone calls or email.

Please be sure to be on time for school and that your child(ren) has all necessary items to school.

If your child forgets their lunch or water bottle, we will have some items on hand for your child(ren)..

New provincial daily COVID-19 school screening assessment tool

The provincial government has released a COVID-19 school screening daily assessment tool, which is available here: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

All students (or parents/guardians on behalf of students), staff and visitors **must** complete the screening before attending Errol Road Public School..

If you do not have access to the online screening tool, please contact us and we will send home a printed copy of the Daily Screening Questionnaire.

All students who are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 **must not attend school** and should seek appropriate medical attention as required, including getting tested at a COVID-19 testing centre. Together, we will continue to support safe and healthy schools.

Cohorts

Classes are 'paired' with another class of similar age on the yard (i.e. Mr. Hazard and Mr. McDonald are a cohorted group). Students are still expected to maintain a level of social distancing therefore no contact sports will be permitted. Climbers will be open and good hand hygiene on the way out and the way in to the school will be practiced.

If your child suffers from seasonal allergies, a doctor's note detailing their symptoms would be helpful. Please direct these notes to the attention of Joy McLean, Principal.

If your child is sent home with symptoms, there are 3 paths to returning:

1. You seek medical attention and acquire a doctor's note stating the symptoms are not indicative of Covid-19
2. They receive a negative Covid-19 test
3. You keep your child home for 14 days with schoolwork provided by the school

At this point, it is not necessary for the entire class to isolate or even for siblings to stay home. If that becomes necessary, it will be directed by Lambton Public Health. It is this contact tracing piece that makes cohorts and our entry and dismissal procedures imperative.

Principals are required to log possible cases and any symptomatic students on a secure government website at the end of every day so Public Health Officials can access what is happening in schools and make decisions to take any necessary measures to ensure safety for all.

Calling Home for Students Who are Unwell at School

If a student is feeling unwell throughout the day, parents will be phoned and be asked to pick up their child from school. It is important parents have a plan in place with contact numbers for the school to call. When parents arrive at the school, ring the doorbell and your child will be escorted out to you. Students who exhibit signs of being unwell will be removed from class until their parent picks them up. We need you to have a plan in place for quick pick up of your child from school when ill.

Masks

Masks are mandatory for students in grades 4-8 (including grade 4s in the 3/4 split classes). Students should have their masks on before entering the building. There will be a paper bag on their desk to place the mask during recess (for all students grade 4-8 and any students in younger grade who are wearing them at school).

We do have a handful of students who require an exemption from wearing a mask for medical reasons, please let your children know to not question a student not wearing a mask in the halls. They can ask a teacher if they are unsure as the staff are aware of which students are exempted.

Appointments During the Day/Picking up Early

If you need to pick your child(ren) before dismissal, please call and let Mrs. Layne in the office know. Once you have arrived, ring the doorbell outside the main office doors to notify Mrs. Layne of your arrival and office staff will walk your child outside to meet you and ensure their safety.

In the interest of everyone's safety, parents and visitors to the school will not be allowed in the building unless they have a pre-arranged meeting booked with the principal.

Important Information/Newsletters and Updates

Available on our school website <http://errolroad.lkdsb.net/>

Please check the LKDSB website regularly for regular updates and information: <https://www.lkdsb.net>

School Calendar - the 2020-2021 LKDSB calendar is available at: <https://www.lkdsb.net/Elementary/Calendars/>

Holidays

Monday, October 12, 2020 Thanksgiving

March 15-19, 2021 March Break

Monday, December 21, 2020 - Winter Holiday Break Begins

Friday, April 2, 2021 Good Friday

Monday, January 4, 2021 - Return to School

Monday, April 5, 2021 Easter Monday

Monday, February 15, 2021 Family Day

Monday, May 24, 2021 Victoria Day

P. A. Days

Friday, November 20, 2020

Tuesday, February 2, 2021

Friday, June 4, 2021

Important Dates

Our Terry Fox Run/Walk will be held this year with students socially distancing in their assigned classroom cohorts during the week of September 28th. More details will follow. Your support of the Terry Fox Run/Walk is very much valued and appreciated.

Wednesday, September 30 – Orange Shirt Day: Every Child Matters. This is an event that started in 2013 and was designed to educate people and promote awareness about the residential school system and the impact this system had on Indigenous communities for more than a century in Canada. **If possible, please have your child wear an orange shirt on this day.**



Allergies and Medical Plans

To ensure that safety precautions are in place for your child, please inform the office administration if your child has a life-threatening allergy that could necessitate the use of an EpiPen or requiring other accommodations. If your child has a medical condition such as diabetes, epilepsy or asthma or any other condition requiring a plan of care, please phone the school and speak with Ms. McLean who will work with you to create a medical plan of care to be shared with staff. If you already have a plan in place, we will be contacting you to review and update the plan for this school year. If your child requires an Epi-pen to be kept at school, the LKDSB Policy states that the parent/guardian must provide two of them – 1 for the classroom and 1 to be kept in the office.



Due to life threatening allergies of some of our students, we are a peanut/nut aware school and we are requesting you read labels carefully to ensure any food sent in your child's lunch is peanut and nut free. **This year, we are unable to accept any treats or food brought in to share with the whole class to celebrate birthdays or other occasions.**

Oral Medication

In order to administer **any** over the counter medication or prescription medication at school for your child, LKDSB board policy requires your physician to **complete and sign a medical form to be** retained at the school. You can download one of these forms from our school website or phone the school and we will make sure you receive a copy of this form.

Medication must be brought to the school office in the **original** prescription container. It is the responsibility of the parent to follow these guidelines and monitor expiration dates of medications. ***Please do not send any medication with your child in their backpack or on the bus, i.e. Tylenol, cold or cough medication.*** Medication is to be transported to the school by the parent. Please phone the school in advance to arrange a time to deliver this medication.

TIME TO LEARN BEGINS AT 9:05 PLEASE BE ON TIME

Morning Drop-Off	8:50 - 9:05 (students use their designated entry/exit doors)
First Academic Block	9:05 - 11:05
1st Nutrition Break	11:05 - 11:25
Recess	11:25 - 11:45
Second Academic Block	11:45 - 1:25
2nd Nutrition Break	1:25 - 1:45
Recess	1:45 - 2:05
Third Academic Block	2:05 - 3:25
Dismissal	3:25
Bus departure	3:25 - 3:40

Please do your best to schedule music lessons, sporting activities and family holidays at a time that does not have an impact on your child's learning.



Nutrition Breaks

In order to give students a larger area to run in, nutrition breaks have been staggered so that half the school eats while the other half is outside and vice versa. A warning bell will ring approximately 5 minutes before the end of recess to signal to students outside to line-up and students inside to get ready to exit. This allows enough time for students outside to enter the building and get settled in their classroom so it is safe for the students inside to exit one class at a time for recess. Although this is a change in routine, the purpose is to minimize exposure to students outside of cohorts.

Hand washing and Sanitizing

Wall-mounted hand sanitizing stations will be placed outside of all classrooms and by all entry doors. Students will use the sanitizer before entering their classroom. Good hand washing hygiene will be encouraged throughout the day as students use shared resources and centres (FDK). Students can share resources such as markers, but if you would like to send your child with their own items, please do so. **If you send your child with their own travel size sanitizer, please make sure it is scent free.**

Washroom Capacity

Please talk to your child about the sign outside washrooms indicating capacity number. The rule is number of sinks, minus 1 = occupancy number for washroom (if there are 4 sinks, 3 students are allowed in the washroom). Social distancing markers have been placed outside all washrooms, so if they enter and someone else is in the washroom, they can step outside and wait their turn. Students will be signed in and out of the washroom within their classrooms. Please review these expectations with your child(ren).

Entry and Exit Procedures

As students arrive, they will enter through the door indicated on the map and go directly into their classrooms. For the time being, they will take off outdoor shoes in the hallway and then keep all other items at their desk. Doors will be left unlocked in the mornings to facilitate this style of entry and hallways will be supervised by staff. Students may begin to enter at 8:50 a.m. Please do not send your child to school before this time as we do not have supervision.

Late Procedures

In compliance with the Ministry of Education regulations, Errol Road Public School will continue to secure all doors and entrances into the school at 9:05 am. **Students who are late to school must ring the intercom/ buzzer to gain entrance to the school.** Parents are not permitted to enter the building with your child. Feel free to wait outside until they are in the building, but it is imperative that you do not enter with them.

Dismissal Procedures

Bus students will be called down as their bus arrives. We take attendance daily on the bus and are asking that you notify your child's teacher electronically if your child will not be riding the bus.

Students who walk or are getting picked-up at the end of the day should be met at a pre-appointed spot on the yard. For security reasons, we ask that you discuss with your child(ren) where you will meet them. Students will be dismissed from class by their teachers to the tarmac, for safety reasons and to ensure social distancing, we are asking parents to wait for their child on the grass, not the tarmac.

Older students will not be permitted to collect younger siblings from other classrooms, so it is important that you practice this meeting spot ahead of time.

Parents with students in FDK will be dismissed from the FDK fenced area.

Arrival to School: **Please do not send your child to school before 8:50 a.m. as supervision is not available.**

At 3:25 pm dismissal, students are expected to proceed home from the school yard promptly.

YMCA Before and After School Program

The YMCA Before and After School Program continues to operate in our building this year. **This is a separate program offered from 7:00 a.m. to 8:50 a.m. and 3:25 to 6:00 p.m. Any students attending this program need to be registered through the YMCA at 519-384-2657. The entry door for the YMCA program is the South door off Indian Road.**

Safe Arrivals

Thank you to all those parents who remember to call the school office when your child will be late or absent from school. We have a 24 hour answering machine for you to leave a message if your child is going to be absent. If we don't hear from you when your child is absent, our secretary, Mrs. Layne is required to contact you using all emergency numbers to ensure the safe arrival of your child. If your child is going to be picked up by someone other than yourself at the end of the day, please write a note to the classroom teacher. **Please do not leave a phone message or send an e-mail with this information as it could be missed.**

Students are not permitted to leave the building during lunch break.



Crossing Guard:

The crossing guard will be on duty:

Before school – 8:30 a.m. to 9:10 a.m.

During 2nd Nutrition Break – 12:50 to 1:55 p.m.

Dismissal – 3:25 p.m.

Crosswalks

Students are reminded that they must wait on the sidewalk until the crossing guard has stopped traffic. Students should walk on the crosswalk, walk their bikes and obey the crossing guard at all times. Students are reminded the guard is there to escort them across the street safely and quickly. Any interference with the guard could cause a serious accident.

Student Verification - Emergency Contact Numbers

Your child will be bringing home an emergency contact form today for you to update the emergency contact numbers for your child. It is extremely important that we are able to contact you if your child is unwell or injured. Please have a plan in place to pick up your child from school should they become unwell. Since all of our communication is electronic, please make sure your e-mail address is correct.

It is important that you notify the office if your child has any contagious illness. Some of our children and adults in the building have compromised immune systems and need to be kept informed if there is strep throat or any other contagious illness in the building. Please help us keep others healthy.

Bus Transportation Information, Inclement Weather and the MySBI App

Now it is easier than ever to get up to date information about school bus cancellations and delays. All you need to do is sign up for a mobile app that provides subscribers with real-time notifications whenever buses are delayed by 10 minutes or more. The notifications will come in the form of an alert and will also include cancellations due to inclement weather conditions. This app allows subscribers to easily select the morning and afternoon buses for which they wish to subscribe. For additional information about this mobile app, please visit: <http://www.mysbi.ca>

All inclement weather notifications for CLASS operated school bus routes are sent exclusively through the MySBI app. For information and instructions on obtaining the free MySBI app please visit: <http://www.mysbi.ca>

Our school is in Zone 2.

If bus routes are cancelled, the school will remain open unless otherwise indicated.

If buses are cancelled in the morning due to fog, they will run in the afternoon for dismissal.

When buses are cancelled for snow and ice, they do not run in the afternoon and if you drive your child to school in the morning, you are responsible for picking them up at dismissal.

In the event of a school closure, which would rarely happen, this would be announced by the local radio station.

Parents are reminded that bus transportation is provided only for students who are eligible to ride the bus. We cannot issue one time bus passes to ride a bus to another student's home for any reason. Eligible students must ride only the bus they are assigned to. Due to insurance and safety issues, permission to ride is extended only to those students who are listed on the bus lists.

Bus Attendance

We take attendance on the bus each evening. **If your child qualifies to ride the bus and has been given a bus pass to ride the bus, we expect them to be on the bus. Otherwise, we need to be notified if they are not riding the bus.** Please keep us well informed to help us avoid unnecessary delays. We will not release the buses until we have verified there were alternate arrangements for your child. Please help us with this!

Student Planners

Some teachers have decided to use school planners and students have these planners now. The Student Planner contains important information for you to read about the school code of conduct, dress code, school policies, procedures and routines. If your child did not receive a school planner, please check on the school website for the information pages that are in the planner.

School Council

This year, School Council meetings will be held virtually. Our first school council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 28th at 7:00 p.m. **If you would like to attend this meeting, please contact Mr. Townsend at adam.townsend@lkdsb.net and he will send you the link to the virtual Google Meet.**

Parents are encouraged to attend the meetings since this is a wonderful way to be engaged in the education of your child and to stay informed. A nomination form is attached to this newsletter for those interested in

seeking an Executive position on Council this year.

Please return any nomination forms to our Vice-Principal, Mr. Townsend at Adam.Townsend@lkdsb.net by Friday, September 25th.

If necessary, elections will take place at our first meeting. Thank you to Mrs. Sarah Levitt and Mrs. Lindsay Fortney for serving as our School Council Chair and Vice-Chair this past year and to all the other parents for attending.

Pediculosis/Head Lice

Please check your child for head lice and nits weekly. If you find evidence of head lice and/or nits, please contact the school immediately. This will allow us to confidentially notify other parents/guardians in the classroom(s) affected so that they may check their child and help to limit the spread. Children suspected of having head lice and/or nits will be excused until appropriate treatment has been administered.

Cell Phone Policy

Staff understand that for many families, landlines are no longer in use. This makes cell phones necessary for communication with your children before and after school. However, the use of cell phones during the school day can be a distraction for some students and is extremely difficult for teachers to monitor. Errol Road's policy regarding cell phone use in the school is as follows:

- The use of cell phones (and all personal devices) in the classroom is for learning purposes and only used as directed by a teacher.
- Students who require their devices for their commute to and from school are asked to ensure the device remains in their backpack during the day.
- **Students will not be allowed to use cell phones or personal devices at lunch times, in the yard or while waiting to board the bus.**
- Devices must not be used to take pictures or record video of teachers or other students unless under the direct supervision of a teacher.
- Students are fully responsible for their own devices, whether lost, stolen or damaged.

Errol Road Public School - Staff – 2020-2021

We have had a few reorganizations of the school as a result of families opting to learn from home.

Congratulations to Mme Hrvatin, on her retirement. We also had to say goodbye to Mrs. Richie Da-Silva as she relocated to Hannah Memorial Public School. Currently the organization of the school is as follows:

Secretary – Mrs. Layne
Elementary Clerk – Mrs. Bhikam

Custodian: Mr. Warburton
Night Custodian: Mr. Ardley
Night Custodian: Mrs. Adams-Hough

Educational Assistants:

Mrs. Heeringa
Mrs. Lauzon
Ms. Knight
Ms. Suboni

French Immersion Program

FDK Mme Dunlop/ Mlle Bishop

FDK Mme Marut/Mme Pereira

1 Mme Smith-Ray

1/2 Mme Soetemans

2/3 Mlle Goodman

3/4 Mme Woltz

4/5 Mrs. Meyer

5/6 Mme Deminion

7/8 Mlle Stewart

English Program

FDK Mrs. Miller/Mrs. Henderson

SK/1 Mrs. Lynas

2/3 Mrs. Ham

3/4 Mrs. Kenny

4/5 Mrs. Hillier

5/6 Mrs. Fraleigh

6/7 Mr. Hazzard

7/8 Mr. McDonald

Teachers providing French prep:

M Fernandes
M Graf – Core French & prep

Teachers providing English prep:

Ms. Slack,
Mr. Jackson
Mr. Townsend

Resource: Mrs. Solinas Moscone and Ms. Slack

Supervision Support – Mr. Watson

Science Education Partnership – Mrs. Hooghiem

Errol Road Public School – School Council Nomination Form -P lease complete this form and return it to Mr. Townsend at Adam.Townsend@lkdsb.net before the School Council meeting.

I the undersigned, do hereby nominate:

Name: _____ (print in full)

Address: _____

Telephone (home) _____ Telephone (cell) _____

E-mail: _____

For the position of _____ representative.

(Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, voting member)

Nominator:

Name: _____ (print in full)

Address: _____

Telephone (home) _____ Telephone (cell) _____

E-mail: _____

Signature: _____

=====

Candidate to Complete:

I accept the nomination and I am prepared to serve as a member of Errol Road School Council.

Signature of Nominee: _____

Date: _____



Playgrounds – Danger of strangulation

Each year in Canada, thousands of children get hurt at playgrounds playing on slides, monkey bars or swings. Some children have died when their clothing or drawstrings got caught on playground equipment or fences. Some children have died when they became entangled in ropes or skipping ropes attached to playground equipment. Loose clothing, hoods, scarves, drawstrings, mitten cords, ropes and skipping ropes can strangle a child!



Safety Tips

- ❖ Remove cords and drawstrings from children's hoods, hats and jackets.
- ❖ Tuck in all clothing that can get caught on playground equipment.
- ❖ Wear a neck warmer instead of a scarf.
- ❖ Take off bicycle helmets before using playground equipment. Bicycle helmets can get trapped on equipment and strangle a child.
- ❖ Make sure children do not tie ropes or skipping ropes to slides and other playground equipment.
- ❖ Supervise children on the playground.
- ❖ Teach children how to use playground equipment and play safely.

If you want to know more about playground safety please call toll free:

Safe Kids Canada at 1-888-723-3847 or visit their web site at: www.safekidscanada.ca.

For more information, contact Product Safety, Health Canada at:

Vancouver, British Columbia (604) 666-5003	Hamilton, Ontario (905) 572-2845	Quebec City, Quebec (418) 648-4327
Edmonton, Alberta (780) 485-2626	Toronto, Ontario (416) 973-4705	Moncton, New Brunswick (506) 851-6638
Calgary, Alberta (403) 292-4677	Ottawa, Ontario (613) 952-1014	Halifax, Nova Scotia (902) 426-8300
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan (306) 975-4502	Montreal, Quebec (514) 283-5488	St. John's, Newfoundland (709) 772-4050
Winnipeg, Manitoba (204) 983-5490	Languedil, Quebec (450) 646-1353	

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