

# Errol Village Newsletter May 2023



Principal: Mr. Chris Coyle Secretary: Ms. Carolin Boersma Errol Village P.S. Website

# **Education Week**

Each year, the LKDSB sets aside the first week of May as Education Week. This year's theme is "Reconnecting With Communities". With all that has happened over the past few years, it really is wonderful to see families and community partners back into the school! We love welcoming visitors into the school so please don't hesitate to drop in anytime. Although there is certainly a time and place for emails and phone calls, nothing can replace the value of in person connections.

Throughout this year we have been able to bring back some Errol Village traditions like the Meet the Staff, Book Fair, Halloween Dance, and other opportunities for families to come into the school. Our School Council is always looking for more ways to promote this important part of our school community and we look forward to future events that are in the works!

Regards, Mr. C. Coyle

# The Umbrella Project

As a school, we have embarked on a journey of learning about various skills to give us a focus and strong foundation for the future. This month, our school will be learning about integrity. Each month, our staff and students will gather in an assembly to establish each new umbrella skill.

A wonderful aspect of this program is that the learning isn't just for our students. As staff members, parents, and community members we can also do our part to learn about ways we can improve our skills so we can guide our students and children into the future. Here is a link with some suggestion activities and 'talking points that can be used at home to reinforce the work happening at the school. For instance, there is a powerful quote at the bottom of this document that could make for a great dinner time discussion.

#### **Upcoming Dates**

May	18	School Council Meeting (6 p.m.)
May	22	Victoria Day (No School)
May	29	Errol Village Track and Field (grades 4-8)
May	31	Errol Village Track and Field (grades 4-8)
May	31	Kindergarten Open House (4 – 7 p.m.)
June	9	PD Day (no school for students)

# **Telephone Communication at the School**

Over the past several months, it has been shared with the school that there are times when messages that were left on the school's answering machine were not returned. Please know that our school's practice is to reply to messages within 24 hours of receiving them. Therefore, if there is a time when you haven't heard back from the school, please give us another call, or send an email and we'd be happy to help.

Occasionally, some messages left on our machine simply consist of digitized buzzing sounds or scrambled voices, or no sound at all. The school has been working with our Information Technology Department to see what more we can do at the school level to help rectify this problem, In the meantime, we appreciate your patience.

## Rainbow Crosswalk

Student leaders from Errol Village brought forth the idea of creating a rainbow crosswalk at our school. The motivation of the students, which align with the LKDSB's strategic priority of Inclusive Diversity – Champion Anti-Oppressive Education, is to promote our school as a safe place for all. Subsequently, this group has been working with school and board level staff to learn more about the logistics of working through the process of implementation. Our school is proud of the hard work, maturity, and dedication that these students have shown.

## Kindergarten Registration

Anyone wishing to register for next year can continue to contact the school. Families who are looking to register their child can find more information at the <u>following link</u>. Our school will be holding events for families to visit the school with their children, tour the school, and meet some of our staff. A final event will be held here at the school on Wednesday, May  $31^{st}$  from 4-7 p.m.

# **School Council**

Our next School Council meeting will be held on Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. in our Learning Commons. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend. Here is a link for anyone wishing to attend virtually.

# **Yard Update**

We are pleased to share that our playground equipment has been inspected and is now ready for student use again. As well, the school received word that work will commence soon to plant grass seed and plant trees to beautify the areas that were affected by the parking lot construction.

# Safety: Drop Offs and Pickups

The newly constructed parking lot and 'kiss and drop' have certainly helped during drop-off and pick up times. We please ask that families avoid the bus area during those times. When it is raining and students gather inside before school, the doors at the back of the school are open for that purpose so the 'kiss and drop' is to be used in those times too. Please be sure not to drop off students prior to 8:50 as there is no adult supervision available until that time.

You are welcome to use the front of the school when picking up or dropping off students throughout the school day (i.e., after 9:05 and before 3:00 p.m.). If leaving your vehicle at that time, we please ask that you turn your car off.

# Noelle's Gift - "Children Count Your K's in May"

Get ready, Get set...Go! Noelle's Gift "Count Your Ks in May" is a fun fitness month for every age group. Grab a family member, friend, co-worker, partner and get your body moving for the month of May! You can click here to learn more and to find out how to register.

## **Junior Basketball**

A junior basketball league will be wrapping up during the first week of May. Our student athletes had fun and were able to get some valuable experience. We would also like to thank all of our families for their ongoing support of the teams! Finally, a big Eagle appreciation to Mrs. Bedard, Mr. Coqu, Ms. Feniak, Mr. Woolridge for coaching.

## Soccer

Soccer practices are currently underway for our Eagles soccer teams. The boys' team coached by Mr. Maddock and the girls' team coached by Mrs. Newman-Campbell will represent our school at a tournament in the middle of May.

## Track and Field

Mr. Maddock is currently organizing a Errol Village Track and Field Meet for students in grades 4-8. Hopefully the weather will cooperate so the events can be held on May 29<sup>th</sup> and May 31<sup>st</sup>. Students who qualify will be invited to attend a regional meet on June 5<sup>th</sup> (rain date of June 12<sup>th</sup>).

As well, plans are underway for our students in kindergarten to grade 3 to participate in some track and field events on June  $21^{\rm st}$ .

# Camp Franco Fun

Camp Franco Fun will be running again in July at LKDSB. Students who are currently in Grades 2-5 (who take Core French and/or French Immersion) can participate in the summer camp. Registration is open from May 1st, 2023 until May 19, 2023 and can be accessed using this link.

## **Daily Student Absences and Telephone Usage**

We have a telephone answering service, therefore if your child is or will be absent, please call the school and leave a message. This assists us as we need to contact the parents of all absent students as part of our Safe Arrival Policy each day. The answering service can be accessed 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

To decrease the amount of office/class interruptions and phone calls home from students, we request that students take time at home to ensure they have what they need to be adequately prepared for classes.

## Do You Have a Concern?

# Share Your Concerns

The Lambton Kent District School Board is committed to providing the best quality learning opportunities for all students. From time to time there may be a misunderstanding, a lack of communication, or a serious situation that needs to be addressed. When this happens everyone must work together to resolve the issue. If a parent/guardian has a concern about a school matter, the following steps should be followed to resolve the issue.

#### Concerns at School

1	Speak with your child's teacher
2	Speak with your child's Principal
3	Speak with the Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of your school
4	Speak with your school Superintendent
5	Speak with the Director of Education

#### Concerns with the Board of Trustees

Concerns about a Trustee: Speak with the Chair of the Board Concerns about the Chair of the Board Speak with the Director of Education

Not sure who to contact? Call 519-336-1500 or email info@lkdsb.net. Learn more at www.lkdsb.net

If an individual has followed the steps outlined above and still does not feel the matter has been resolved at the local level, the individual may contact the office of the Ontario Ombudsman at www.ombudsman.on.ca

