

Dear Parents/Guardians,

October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

**PD Day: Friday, October 6, 2023 – no school**

**Thanksgiving Holiday: Monday, October 9, 2023**

**Terry Fox Run – Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>**

This Thursday during third block, students will be participating in our annual Terry Fox Run. The Terry Fox Foundation supports cancer research in Canada. Students are encouraged to bring a “toonie for Terry” any time this week or you can share the link to have friends and family donate online:

[Terry Fox High Park School Page](#) We have set the goal of raising \$1000 this year for this amazing cause.

**Parent Council Fundraisers**

Order forms for apples from Zekveld’s Orchards have gone home with students. Orders are due to the school by: **Thursday, October 19** and pick up will be at the school on **Thursday, October 26 from 4PM-6PM**.

School logo spirit wear is also available for order through Team Outfitters online store here: [High Park School Store](#) If you are unable for any reason to make purchases online, please contact the school and we can make arrangements.

Proceeds from all fundraisers this year will go towards playground improvements and technology.

**Halloween**

Students are encouraged to show school spirit by wearing black and orange on Tuesday, October 31. Students in Kindergarten will receive some communication regarding their day.

If you would like to send in treats, please check with your child’s teacher. Due to the number of allergies in the school, please ensure that anything being sent in is labelled/marked nut-free.

**Staffing changes**

As of Monday, October 2, Mrs. Gill will be on maternity leave and Ms. Dumais will be covering the classes she teaches. A big High Park welcome to Ms. Dumais.

**Great Big Crunch.**

Thanks to the Ontario Student Nutrition Program for supplying apples for this year’s Great Big Crunch. This is a time during the day when all students take synchronized ‘crunchy’ bite of an apple to help get us all thinking about the importance of making healthy food choices!

**School Messenger and Attendance Reporting**

Instructions for downloading the School Messenger app and navigating the website can be found here: [School Messenger](#). Please, use this to report any absences. There is an automatic call-out that we are unable to suspend that goes out about 9:30.



High Park Public School  
757 Kember Ave.  
Sarnia, ON N7S 2T3  
ph - 519.332.0474 fax - 519.332.8643

Principal: Mrs. Liz Townsend  
Vice Principal: Mrs. K. Allison  
Secretary: Mrs. Linda Orr  
<https://highpark.lkdsb.net>

Zone 2

If your child(ren) is going to be absent for 5+ days, please contact the office to receive a form that is required to be kept on file for auditing purposes.

### **School Cash Online**

If you are new to the school, please register for a school cash online account in order to receive notifications when payments are due for items such as field trips and hot lunch days. The link to the website can be found here: [School Cash Online](#)  
Please contact Mrs. Orr in the office if you require your child's student number or assistance.

### **Busing**

Bus information can be found in the Parent Portal here: [Parent Portal](#) If you are new to the school and have not used the portal you will have to register first. You will need your child's student number to register, and Mrs. Orr can help you with that if you call or email her (linda.orr@lkdsb.net).

**MySBI4** is an app you can download that can send you notifications of any cancellations or delays. This version must be downloaded and is different than the MySBI app that the board has been using the last couple of years (if you currently have the MySBI app, it has become obsolete and should be deleted).

### **Nut-Free (and nut substitution) free school**

**We are a nut free school.** This includes all products made with nuts and substitutions (such as WOW!butter). There are cases where an anaphylactic student has had a psychosomatic reaction to these products believing that they have been in contact with a nut product. It is also difficult for staff to have to determine what is and isn't true nut products (i.e., peanut butter vs. WowButter!) while on supervision at lunch.

### **School Council**

Being involved in your children's school is a great way to stay connected. This year our meetings are held in person in the learning commons. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 PM. New members are always welcome!

### **Appointments During the Day/Picking up Early.**

If you need to pick your child(ren) up before dismissal, please call and let Mrs. Orr or Mrs. Rockwood in the office know and they will ensure your child is ready and waiting. Once you have arrived, ring the doorbell outside the main office doors to notify the office of your arrival and your child will be dismissed. It's always a good idea to send the classroom teacher a notification as well.

### **PARENTS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED BEYOND THE FOYER FOR ANY REASON OTHER THAN A SCHEDULED MEETING WITH TEACHING STAFF OR ADMINISTRATION.**

### **VTRA (Violent Threat Risk Assessment) Fair Notice**

The Lambton Kent District School Board is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students, staff, school visitors, and community members. When a student behaves inappropriately, principals will most often employ progressive discipline strategies to help a student take responsibility for their actions, learn from their mistakes, and make better choices in the future.

In more extreme cases however, when a student's behaviour poses a potential threat to their own or others' well-being, the Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol (VTRA) supports principals in taking further steps to safeguard everyone.



The VTRA protocol outlines how a school responds immediately to threatening incidents including but not limited to: possession of a weapon or replica weapon, bomb threat or plan, verbal or written (including electronic) threats to harm oneself or others, other threats of violence, and fire setting.

The initial response team is likely to include the Principal / Vice-Principal, police, and board staff. Should conditions warrant, a Community Threat Assessment Team will be convened. This community team includes representatives of community agencies who work with schools and boards to keep our students and staff safe, such as local police and children's mental health organizations.

Parents and guardians will be notified if their child will be discussed through the Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol. If parents/guardians cannot be reached, or if they choose not to provide consent, but a concern for safety still exists due to threatening behaviour, the threat assessment may still proceed. Personal information shared throughout this process will respect and balance each individual's right to privacy with the need to ensure the safety of all.

As always, student safety is our first priority. This notification is being provided via avenues such as school newsletters, and school and board web sites as fair notice to parents and guardians of the existence of the VTRA Protocol and its application if situations warrant. If you have any questions regarding the Lambton Kent District School Board Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol, please contact your school principal as the first step.

