

Dear Parents/Guardians,

April 2, 2023

**Tuesday, April 2nd – Wear Blue and/or Red for Autism Month**

**Monday, April 8th – PA Day and Solar Eclipse**

**Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup> – Grad photo retakes**

**Kindergarten Registration continues.**

If you have a child who will be 4 years old before December 31, 2024, who you are planning to have start school in September, please complete the registration forms through this link: [Kindergarten Registration](#). Our next kinderSTARt visit will be Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 4-7PM. Come in to complete the registration, meet the principal and half of our teaching staff and see the classrooms. Parents/Guardians must provide valid proof of address such as a utility bill or bill of sale and citizenship (i.e., birth certificate or passport) are required.

**School Council**

Being involved in your children's school is a great way to stay connected. This year our meetings are held in the learning commons with an option to login virtually. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the Learning Commons. If you require childcare or little ones, a babysitter will be available at the meeting!

**School Climate Survey**

The Ontario Ministry of Education asks all school boards in Ontario to conduct an anonymous school climate survey on a regular basis so boards of education can help schools:

Assess perceptions of safety, mental health, and well-being – from students, parents, and school staff.

- Make informed planning decisions about programs to help prevent bullying and promote safe and inclusive schools.
- Determine the effectiveness of their programs on an ongoing basis; and
- Build and sustain a positive school climate.
- Continue to build parent voice/participation in survey.

The Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) is required to conduct a school climate survey of **students, school staff and parents/guardians** at least once every two years as each of these groups play a key role in contributing to a positive school climate. We will be launching our next survey on **Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup> and it will close on Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**. The results of these surveys will be used by our Safe Schools team, as well as by the Board.

Students in grade 4-8 will be completing the survey in class this week.

The parent survey can be found here: [parent survey](#)



**Opportunity for grade 8 graduates to earn high school credit this summer:**

Summer reach-ahead credit opportunities are available this summer for grade eight students.

Online learning: Grade eight students may take grade ten careers/civics or any grade nine course (geography, English, mathematics, science). Since grade eight students will have already selected their grade nine courses for 2023-24, grade ten careers/civics is the recommended option.

- Grade eight students who would like to take the Summer Travel for Credit Careers/Civics program in 2025 should not take careers/civics in the summer of 2024.
- Grade eight students who wish to take summer online learning will register through the **guidance department at the high school they are planning to attend in the fall**. The registration deadline is Friday, June 28. However, early registration is encouraged to ensure acceptance into the requested program/course.

Please see the website, <https://www.lkdsb.net/summer>, for specific program information and for ongoing updates.

**Parent's Guide to Ontario's Education System**

The Ministry of Education has launched the [Parent's Guide to Ontario's Education System](#).

This new resource will provide parents with helpful information that allows them to have a stronger role and actively participate in their children's education. The guide covers a number of subjects such as knowing how their child is doing in school, learning about suspension and expulsion processes, attending a school council meeting or parent involvement committee meeting, and knowing about specialized supports to help all children succeed.

This initiative is part of the government's recent efforts to increase transparency and accountability in our school system.

The full guide, translated into 10 different languages, can be found on our Parent/Guardian Resource page: [Parent/Guardian Resources - Lambton Kent District School Board \(lkdsb.net\)](#) This information has also been shared to our board website and synced to each school website, as well.

**Junior basketball**

Our junior basketball season is well underway! Check the calendar for game times and come out to PE McGibbon to support our Panthers!!

