



News from the Dog Pound

H. W. Burgess Public School

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We acknowledge that the land on which our school sits and on which we gather each day is a part of the traditional territory of the Chippewa, Odawa, Potawatomi and Delaware Nations.

These Indigenous Nations, known as the Anishinaabeg and Lunaapeew, agreed through their ancestral languages to the mutual sharing of the land, with obligations and responsibilities to the environment.

Today, these obligations and responsibilities extend to all people.

May 2022

Covid Screening

As we continue with our Covid protocols to keep our school safe for learning, we ask that families continue to utilize the online Covid screener to determine if their child is healthy enough to attend school. Please follow the prompts on the screener and the directions that are offered on the final screen (the green check/red X page). The screener can be found at [Online Covid Screener](#)

Playground Equipment

Even though the temperature is rising and spring is in the air, the playground equipment is not yet safe enough to go on. The pea gravel underneath the equipment has been pressed down and compacted over the winter months, reducing its ability to protect children who fall into it. The LKDSB grounds crews will be travelling around through the months of April and May and rototilling the pea gravel to loosen it and make it safe to play on once again. Please encourage your children to stay off the equipment before and after school until this maintenance work has been completed.

EQAO

Once again, the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) will be conducting an assessment of grade 3 and 6 students in Ontario. The dates for the assessment are May 9-13 (Grade 6) and May 16-20 (Grade 3).

The assessment has changed considerably and will now be conducted in an online format. It has also been significantly shortened from previous assessments.

We know that due to the pandemic and the movement between in-person and online learning, there will be gaps in student's knowledge and skills. Completion of this assessment will allow us to identify where these gaps are, so that we can make plans to address them in the upcoming years.

If you have any questions about the assessment or how it is run within the school, please contact the office.

Track and Field

We will be returning to a full Track and Field meet this year, with all students participating. The Meet has been scheduled for Thursday, May 26, with a rain date of Friday, May 27. All students are encouraged to participate to the best of their ability and have been doing a lot of practicing in their Phys Ed classes.

Parents, Guardians and family members are welcome to come to the school and watch their children participate. Feel free to bring a lawn chair as there is almost no seating outside.

There will be no food sales for the Meet this year, so please be sure to pack a healthy lunch and lots of drinks.

Field Trips

Staff and Home and School are currently making plans to host a school wide field trip to celebrate the learning we've done this year and our perseverance everyone has displayed with our ever-changing environment. As

we finalize plans for the day, we'll communicate them out to all families (who will be encouraged to join in, if able).

A.L.L. for Kids Program

A.L.L. for Kids is a program run by the Municipality of Chatham-Kent that provides financial assistance, paid directly to the activity provider, to cover the costs associated with enrolling a child in a recreational activity. This may also include paying for the equipment needed to participate in the activity. The funding covers sports activities, arts activities and summer camps.

If you would like to access A.L.L. for Kids funding, please let the office know and we'll provide you with the necessary paperwork.

Office Calls

The office appreciates knowing when students need to leave early for appointments and families have been terrific about placing these notes in the planners or contacting teachers through Seesaw. We would like to remind families that between 3:00-3:30 is the busiest time of the day. Calls made during this time often are regarding end of day instructions and our fear is that we may miss a message or the opportunity to deliver one, which could place students in an unsafe position. We ask that you avoid calling the school after 3:00, unless it is an emergency.

Also, as we have buses that arrive early for pick up, we are unable to dismiss any students after 3:15. If you need to pick up your child for an afternoon appointment, please do so before 3:15 or wait until dismissal at 3:30.

School Council and Home and School Association

Our next meetings will be on Monday, May 30th, and will be held in the Learning Commons. An online option will be made available to members who aren't able to attend in person. All parents are welcome to attend this meeting, so please feel free to join us if you'd like to learn more about how you can contribute to the governance of the school.

DATES TO REMEMBER IN MAY

8 – Mother's Day

17 – International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia

23 – Victoria Day (no school)

30 – School Council/Home and School