



INDIAN CREEK ROAD PUBLIC SCHOOL

April 2023 Newsletter

Principal: *Mr. J. Alward* Vice-Principal: *Mrs. S. Louzon*

Office Admin: *Mrs. K. Molengraaf, Mrs. L. Orr*

511 Indian Creek Rd W, Chatham, ON 519-352-3137 www.lkdsb.net/school/indiancreek

A message from the Principal:

Families of Indian Creek Road PS,

I am truly honoured and excited to be joining the Indian Creek team beginning this week!

Saying goodbye and best wishes to Mrs. Penney and the change it brings, can bring feelings of uncertainty. The time that Mrs. Penney has kindly spent supporting this transition is very much appreciated.

The hard work and heart invested by your students to date is certainly evident and we, Mrs. De Naeyer-Louzon and I, look to keep this positive momentum moving forward.

I look forward to meeting your students and you, the families of ICRPS. My door is open should you wish to drop by to say hello.

With Gratitude,
Josh Alward

Autism Awareness Day:

Autism Awareness Day this year falls on April 2, but since April is also marked as World Autism Awareness Month, we have decided to show our support this Tuesday April 4th. Wear blue to show your support for those with autism and the ones who love and support them!



Kinderstart:

Our first two days of Kinderstart were simply phenomenal. It was a pleasure to meet so many new KinderCreeker families! If you have a child that will be joining us in September as new to kindergarten, please [watch this video](#), register online **now** at <http://www.lkdsb.net/kindergarten> and then come on over Wednesday April 12 between 9:00 and 3:00 to verify your registration. For all those who have registered, please join us Wednesday May 31 between 4:00 and 7:00 for a little social in our Kindergarten play yard. There will be goodie bags to take home for our new little KinderCreekers. Please see [this attached Kinderstart page](#) for more information. We look forward to welcoming all of our new little #kindercreekers.



School Sports and Extracurriculars:

With such a large school body, and so many wonderful opportunities, students are highly encouraged to listen closely to morning announcements for how and when to sign-up, practice/meeting times, etc. Our Junior basketball season is just wrapping up. Chess, Uno, and Colouring Clubs are currently running. Senior soccer will start in late spring, along with our Grade 4 to 8 track and field meet.

Volunteering at ICRPS:

There are a variety of events that happen each year here at ICRPS, and many as a result of the tremendous help and dedication of parent and community volunteers. Over the last several years, we have had a very robust and energetic Booster Club, and Home and School Association. As our students grow and move on to secondary school, often our parents move on as well. These two groups have recently combined to form our new **ICRPS Parent Group**, and they are now looking to invite new parents in to continue with planning, and helping to make our school a better place. We are grateful to have such an amazing ICRPS family! Are you willing and interested in volunteering this year? If so, [please complete this linked form](#). If you express interest in volunteering with the Booster Club or Home and School Association (the newly formed ICRPS Parent Group), watch your email for an invitation to the next general meeting.

Harvest Fresh:

As previously shared, the *NEW* **ICRPS Parent Group** (formerly Booster and Home & School) is once again offering Harvest Fresh as a food day option for our students! Students have been enjoying these amazing meals Wednesdays since March 1st, and they continue to be delivered to classrooms during 2nd Nutrition Break (1:15-1:55 PM).



Accounts may be set up and orders placed through <https://www.harvestfresh.ca/index.php>. Orders must be placed 5 days prior to delivery. You may choose to place orders in advance each week, or you may select/pay for all available weeks at once. Once you have created an account with Harvest Fresh, ordering is easy and flexible. Credit, Debit, and etransfer options are available for payment.

Pizza Days:

We continue to order pizza from Konstantino's Pizza for our Thursday Pizza Days. To reduce the collection of, and handling of money, as well as any worry of students losing or misplacing money, all orders will be collected through Student Cash Online. Orders will be placed monthly with reminders being shared to parents through email and classroom platforms. May orders will be open today. **There will not be extra pizza sold in the office. Please do not send cash to school.**



Hot Dog Days:

As a fundraising effort for grades 7 and 8 field trips and graduation, the intermediate division will be selling hot dogs for lunches on the following days: April 14, 21, May 12, 19, 26, and June 2. Please note there will be no hot dog days on April 28 (PA day) or May 5 (track and field day). Hot dogs can be ordered through School Cash Online starting later today.

School Cash Online:

In order to minimize the handling of cash, families are encouraged to use [SchoolCash Online](#) when submitting money to the school (special food day, class trips, etc.). SchoolCash Online provides multiple payment options, and allows you to view and print payments and receipts.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Important Dates for March:

April 4	Autism Awareness Day at ICRPS ~ Wear blue
April 7	Holiday ~ No school
April 10	Holiday ~ No school
April 28	P.A. Day ~ No school for students

Other Upcoming Important Dates:

May 1-5	Education Week ~ More information coming soon
May 1-5	Scholastic Book Fair open to students
May 3	Spring Talent Show ~ More information coming soon
May 3	Scholastic Book Fair open to parents/families
May 5	Track and Field CKSS Grades 4-8
May 22	Holiday ~ No school
June 9	P.A. Day ~ No school for students
June 21	National Indigenous Peoples Day
June 22	Grade 8 Graduation
June 29	Reports Go Home
June 30	P.A. Day ~ No school for students

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

ICRPS Daily Schedule:

Start Time: 8:55 a.m.

First Nutrition Break: 10:55-11:35 a.m.

Second Nutrition Break: 1:15-1:55 p.m.

Dismissal: 3:15 p.m.

School Bus Information:

Parents of bussed students are encouraged to [visit the CKlass website](#) and sign-up to the Parent Portal. Using the portal allows parents to view bus delays, notifications, etc. [The MySBI](#) bus status app also provides up-to-date bus service information.



*To ensure the safety of all students, parents must inform the school office if bus students have made alternate arrangements (for example, not taking the bus to stay after school to watch a game).

COVID Screening:

Please complete the [COVID School and Child Care Screening](#) each day, before sending your child(ren) to school.

Safe Arrival and Dismissal:

Just a friendly reminder that our parking lot is a busy place during drop off and pick-up times, and as such you may need to drive around the loop more than once. Please do not stop in the loop, blocking traffic. Many parents found parking in the church parking lot across the road, and walking to the front of the school to meet their child worked best to avoid the busy school parking lot. Please remember that the bus lane is for buses only, and the Child Care driveway and parking is for Child Care staff and families only. Staff will help to direct traffic and keep children safe during these busy before and after school times. Staff are also on duty to supervise children from 8:40-8:55. To ensure safety, please ensure students are not dropped off prior to 8:40 a.m.

School Attendance:

Regular school attendance is extremely important to the success of all learners. As hard as it can be some days, starting the school day on time is equally important. We ask that you use School Messenger ~ the LKDSB automated attendance messaging system, to inform the school of absences. The system will notify parents/guardians if your child has been marked absent and the school has not been notified of the reason for the absence. To follow-up, we will contact the parent/guardian phone numbers and email addresses that we have on file. You can help by ensuring that the school has your most updated contact information.

Please use SchoolMessenger in one of the following three ways to report your child's absence or late arrival: Option 1: Set up an online [SchoolMessenger account and login](#) to schedule and report absences or a late arrival. Option 2: Download the free [SchoolMessenger app](#) (blue) to your smart phone or tablet to schedule and report absences or late arrival. Option 3: Call the LKDSB toll-free Attendance Reporting number at 1 (844) 487-3695 and follow the prompts to report your child's absence or late arrival. For your security it is recommended that you set a PIN. Your PIN must be private and not shared with your child.



Communication:

Classroom Teacher Communication:

Communication between you and your child's teacher is extremely important. Teachers use electronic communication to keep parents up-to-date on pertinent classroom information (assignments, picture days, class trips, special classroom events, etc.). Please stay tuned for more information about the preferred communication method from your child's teacher (SeeSaw, Google Classroom, Remind, etc.).

School/Office Communication:



Remind: Sign up for our Office Remind to stay informed, and up to date regarding ICRPS school news. ICRPS uses Remind to send communications from the office. It is an outgoing system only. Updates regarding newsletters and school events will be sent to parents from the office using this app. Please contact your child's teacher or the office for instructions on how to sign up.



Facebook: Search, like and follow us on Facebook ~ <https://www.facebook.com/indiancreekroadps>



Twitter: Search and follow us on Twitter ~ @ICRPS-Sundevils

Website: Visit our website for ICRPS and LKDSB important information and announcements ~ www.lkdsb.net/school/indiancreek

LKDSB Handbook for School Success:

You can also find important information for the upcoming school year, including details about support services, transportation, school programming and operating our schools in the [LKDSB Handbook for School Success](#).

Medical Emergency Plans and Administration of Medication:

A friendly reminder to please return any Student Verification forms, Medical Emergency Plan forms, or Authorization for Administration of Medication forms (even if there are no changes). If your child needs prescription medication administered during school hours, please contact the office for an “Authorization for the Administration of Oral Medication” form. It must be completed by the parent/guardian and signed by a pharmacist or physician and forwarded to the principal for each school year. Updates to the school are required whenever the physician directs a modification of the prescribed medication. We cannot administer any medications without this completed form. If your child is required to carry their medication with them (EPI-Pen, inhaler), please contact the office so we can ensure that their Individual Medical Plan is up to date and accurate.

Allergy Alert:

Please note that in accordance with existing policies, our school is **peanut and nut safe**. Just a reminder that we also have staff or students allergic to **shellfish**, and **kiwi** fruit. Please refrain from sending any of these items to school due to anaphylactic allergic reactions experienced by some of our staff and students.

*As staff are unable to tell the difference from peanut butter, we ask that Wow Butter also not be sent.

Technology (Devices and Cell Phones):

Students and parents should review the [Responsible Use of Technology](#) guidelines to ensure that students are aware of their responsibilities when using the internet and devices.

All electronic devices, such as cell phones, media players, digital game devices, walkie talkies, computers and cameras are not to be used while the student is on school property before, during, or after school without the permission of school personnel and only for educational purposes. Cell phones are to be kept in backpacks while at school unless the student has permission from the teacher for educational use. When carrying a personal electronic device, it is the student’s responsibility if lost, stolen or damaged. **At no time will students use electronic devices for digital, audio or video recording without permission from the teacher.** When students need to contact home/parent, it is important that he/she notify school staff rather than use an electronic option, to ensure staff are aware. During nutrition breaks students are not to be using electronic devices, they are to be stored in backpacks. The focus is always responsible use of technology, and to encourage student physical activity and socialization opportunities during nutrition breaks.
