



INDIAN CREEK ROAD PUBLIC SCHOOL

September 2023 Newsletter

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

Office Admin: *Mrs. K. Molengraaf*

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

Welcome Back:

We hope you have all had an enjoyable and relaxing summer break. We are so excited to welcome our returning Sun Devils back to ICRPS for the 2023-2024 school year. We also wish to extend a very special welcome to families that are new to ICRPS. We are so happy that you are joining our school community.

Along with our grade one to eight students, all Senior Kindergarten students will begin full-time attendance on Tuesday, September 5, 2023. ***Junior Kindergarten students will not attend school on Tuesday September 5.*** Junior Kindergarten students will have a staggered entry, with half of our students (group A), starting on Wednesday, September 6, and the other half (group B), starting on Thursday, September 7. Group A will not attend on Thursday, September 7, and Group B will not attend Wednesday, September 6. All students will attend school on Friday, September 8, 2023.

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.

Safe Arrival and Dismissal:

First Day Arrival: For the first day of school, Tuesday September 5, 2023, students will resume our regular morning routine, enjoying a little time outdoors, before lining up to enter the school at their appropriate doors when the morning bell rings. Fostering independence and being cognizant of freeing congestion in our parking lot, families dropping off Kindergarten students are asked to bring students to the Kindergarten gate (next to the YMCA daycare), where one of our FDK staff will be very excited to greet them and bring them into the playground after a quick goodbye from their loved one.

Regular Arrival and Dismissal: 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 on the school yard. To ensure safety, please ensure students are not dropped off prior to 8:40 a.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.

***There is now a new upgraded version of the MySBI app for weather cancellations and bus delays. The new app has improved speed and reliability but will look and function the same as our current app. Unfortunately, the app currently installed on your phone will NOT automatically update to the new version, so all users must download the new app from the App/Google Play Store before September 29th to continue receiving school bus delay and cancellation notices. The current 'old' version of the app will no longer function after this date. [Click this link for more information on downloading the new app.](#)

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.



School Verification and Plan of Care Forms:

Students will be bringing home School Verification forms, and where needed Plan of Care forms, the first week of school. We kindly ask that these forms be reviewed, edited where necessary, and returned to school as soon as possible, as these forms collect information that will help to ensure that we have the most up to date contact and medical information for the safety of your child. Having forms returned by September 15, would be greatly appreciated.

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, etc.).

School/Office Communication:



*****NEW:** ICRPS is in the process of migrating from using REMIND, to a brand new communication tool.

More information will be sent to families shortly. Please stay tuned!



Facebook: Search, like and follow us on Facebook ~ [ICRPS Sundevils](#)



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

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.

Medical Emergency Plans and Administration of Medication:

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. Please refrain from sending any peanut or nut items to school due to anaphylactic allergic reactions experienced by some of our staff and students.

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.

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. Are you willing and interested in volunteering this year as part of our ICRPS Parent Group, or in another capacity? If so, [please complete this linked form](#).

Important Dates for September:

September 4	Labour Day Holiday
September 5	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
September 15	P.A. Day ~ No School for Students
September 21	Meet the Teacher BBQ
September 30	National Truth and Reconciliation Day

Other Important Upcoming Dates:

October 3	Picture Day 😊
October 6	P.A. Day ~ No School for Students
October 9	Holiday ~ No School
November 6	Picture Retake Day
November 17	P.A. Day ~ No School for Students
December 11-15	Scholastic Book Fair (more information to come)
December 25-29	Holidays ~ No School
January 1-5	Holidays ~ No School

[***2023-2024 LKDSB School Year Calendar](#)

ICRPS 2022-2023 Staff:

FDK	Mrs. Dibbley	Grade 7/8	Mr. Pattison
FDK ECE	Mrs. Leach	Grade 7/8	Mrs. Kennedy
FDK	Mrs. Case	ALLP	Mrs. Smyth
FDK ECE	Mrs. O'Donohue	ALLP	Mrs. VanHooste
FDK	Mrs. Garrow	Rotary	Mrs. Sparks
FDK ECE	Mrs. Denomy	Rotary	Mrs. Stratton
FDK	Mrs. Stokes	Rotary	Mrs. White
FDK ECE	Mrs. Dulong	Rotary	Mrs. Daniel
Grade 1	Mrs. Butcher	Rotary	Mrs. Childs
Grade 1	Ms. Johnston	LRC	Mrs. Chopra
Grade 1/2	Mrs. Konecny	LRC	Ms. Scott
Grade 2	Ms. Simpson	EA	Mrs. Gotelaer
Grade 2	Mrs. Coates	EA	Mrs. Lambkin
Grade 2/3	Mrs. Stonefish	EA	Mrs. Kloostra
Grade 3/4	Mrs. Kelly (Mrs. Wayvon)	EA	Ms. Vlasman
Grade 3/4	Mrs. Roelofsen	EA	Mr. Myers
Grade 3/4	Mrs. Coatsworth	EA	Mrs. Watson (Ms. Demers)
Grade 4	Mrs. Goldsmith	EA	Mrs. Ostler
Grade 4/5	Mrs. Boswell	EA	Ms. Peco
Grade 5	Mr. MacDonald	Custodian	Mr. Tanner
Grade 5	Mr. McCormack	Custodian	Mr. Metcalfe
Grade 5/6	Mrs. Jessome	Custodian	Mr. McKinley
Grade 6	Ms. Butzer	Custodian	Mr. Sarabia
Grade 6/7	Mrs. Houston	Office Admin	Mrs. Molengraaf
Grade 7/8	Ms. Robbins	Office Admin	TBD
Grade 7/8	Mr. McEwan	Principal	Mr. Alward
Grade 7/8	Mrs. Brecevic	Vice-Principal	Mrs. De Naeyer-Louzon