



# King George VI Public School

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## November 2020 Newsletter

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### Principal's Message:

Wow hard to believe we are already into November! Leaves are changing colours, making for the beauty of fall. The more we learn about King George the more impressed we are with students, staff, parents, guardians that display a real sense of community in the school and commitment to the enriching environment. Thank-you to our parents/guardians, staff and students for a successful two months. It's wonderful to see our students smiling and connecting with their classmates during class and recess, as well as their engagement in a variety of learning experiences. A huge thanks is extended to our custodial team for all they do each day to keep our school clean. We are appreciative of everyone's efforts with Covid 19 protocols, and your ongoing commitment to keeping our school community safe and well!

### Progress Reports & Student Led Conferences

Progress Reports for students in Grade 1-8 and FDK Communication of Learning Reports will be sent home on **November 13<sup>th</sup>**.

As we are not able to facilitate student led conferences, Parent/Teacher interviews will be offered.

Parent /Teacher Interviews will occur via a scheduled Google Meet for the parent that the teacher will schedule, or with a phone call at a scheduled time. The interviews will take place over two weeks between Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup> to Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup>.

Please let your homeroom teacher and/or your child's rotary teacher know if you are interested in connecting with them. We look forward to sharing information about your child's progress to date with you.

### Treaties Recognition Week

Treaties Recognition Week is November 2-6<sup>th</sup>. Treaties Recognition Week was introduced in 2016 to honour the importance of treaties and to help Ontarians learn more about treaty rights and treaty relationships. Our students will be learning more about the importance of Treaties during this timeframe and this learning will also continue throughout the year.

### Remembrance Day-Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>

On November 11<sup>th</sup>, we will be recognizing Remembrance Day with our students through a virtual presentation. Special thanks to Mr. Carleton's Class for co-ordinating this presentation on behalf of the school.

### PA Day-November 20<sup>th</sup>

Our next professional activity day is Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. There will be no classes for students on this day.

## School Council:

Our last meeting saw our elections held for our executive. Congratulations and thank you to Chair: Alicia Blonde, Nadia Owen Treasurer and Secretary Nancy Fisher Our next school council meeting is a virtual one Dec 8th at 6pm hope to see you there.

## Thank You Riverview Bingo:

Special thanks to Riverview Bingo for continuing to support King George with various fundraising opportunities.

## Playground Equipment

Please be advised that our **playground equipment will be closed until the Spring once the ground is frozen and/or if there is a build-up of snow**. The Ontario School Board Insurance Exchange advises the closure of school playgrounds due to the following reasons:

**Freezing temperatures** - At temperatures below 0 deg. C, very few types of protective ground surfacing remain resilient enough to offer any degree of protection to a falling child - regardless of depth. If the ground cover is frozen, the play equipment is NOT safe for use.

**Snow build-up** - Snow can cause two problems on a play structure - first, it can make play surfaces very slippery; secondly, it can create suffocation hazards if the openings at the end of tube slides or similar structures become closed in by drifting snow.

**Ice or freezing rain** - As noted above, ice or freezing rain can make play surfaces, hand grips and stairways very slippery, increasing the risk of slip and fall injuries.

**Clothing** - Winter clothing is much different than normal clothing. Synthetic materials, such as nylon, reduce sliding resistance, particularly on plastic slide beds. This can increase the travel speed on this equipment to a dangerous level, and if combined with frozen ground cover, as described under Item (1), can increase the chance of injury.

Winter clothing is also very bulky and is more likely to have drawstrings or hooks and clips which can become entangled in components of the equipment. **All scarves should be kept inside of the child's coat**. Please consider advising your child not to use the school playground equipment during non-school hours during these type of conditions.

## Numeracy Tip: Math as Play

Encourage your child to tell or show you how he or she uses mathematics. Include your child in everyday activities that involve mathematics—making purchases, measuring ingredients, counting out plates and utensils for dinner, measuring and calculating the area of a room. Play games and do puzzles with your child that involve mathematics. These activities may focus on direction or time, logic, reasoning, sorting, classifying and estimating.

## **Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol**

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.

Link to Fair Notice Communication Regarding Violent Threat Risk Assessment Protocol:

[https://www.lkdsb.net/Pages/newsitem.aspx?ItemID=366&ListID=1cb83139-1d39-452b-8ab2-b6cfab6c2ba7&TemplateID=Announcement\\_Item](https://www.lkdsb.net/Pages/newsitem.aspx?ItemID=366&ListID=1cb83139-1d39-452b-8ab2-b6cfab6c2ba7&TemplateID=Announcement_Item)

## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE**

The Lambton Kent District School Board's Parent Involvement Committee is hosting an upcoming virtual event for parents/guardians featuring leadership and relationship expert and author Dr. Karyn Gordon. The presentation titled, "Building Confidence," will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 17 at 7-8:30 p.m. Pre-registration for the online event is not required.



