



King George VI Public School

227 Delaware Ave.
Chatham, ON N7L 2W5
519.354.2440

September 2020 Newsletter

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<http://kinggeorgec.lkdsb.net>

Welcome back:

Welcome back to all returning students and staff and a warm welcome to all new students to King George. We are very excited and pleased that you are joining our school community! We hope that you and your families have remained safe and well during our time apart, and had an enjoyable summer!

We have certainly missed our students and look forward to working and learning alongside them!

We understand that this school year will look and feel very different from previous school years, however our staff is very committed to making your child feel safe, happy, and welcome. We will work with our students to help them understand any necessary changes and protocols as a result of Covid-19. It's a learning curve for all of us but together we will successfully embrace these changes.

Included in this newsletter are many details regarding the school's re-opening and procedures. Please read through this information carefully as it may help to answer any wonderings you might have. For additional information about the LKDSB's Reopening Our Schools Plan, please visit the [LKDSB website](#). Please communicate any relevant information with your child's emergency contacts.

Newsletter:

In the interest of making an effort to reduce the amount of paper used and in keeping with our School and Board wide movement towards increased use of technology to engage and connect, King George will be moving away from the use of paper newsletters. We'd like to propose three methods of accessing our newsletter beginning in October.

The first is by accessing them through a monthly email. Should you wish to receive an electronic copy and monthly email reminder *kindly sign up below and return the form to the school.*

Second you may access the newsletter posted on our website each month. If you wish to receive the newsletter this way there is no action required on your part. You may continue to access the newsletter on our website:

<http://kinggeorgec.lkdsb.net/>

Last, should you wish to continue to receive paper copies *please fill in the form below and return.*

My child's(ren's) name (s): _____

I _____ wish to receive the newsletter by way of:

- Paper copy to be sent home with my youngest child's teacher, _____.
(Child's teacher)
- Email sent to _____ (Email address)

We Welcome the following to the King George Staff!

Miss Adair French Grade 1-8 covering for Mrs. Mallette's maternity leave.

Miss. Flook FDK-6 Prep provider

Mrs. Ashley FDK Early Childhood Educator working with Mr. Haley's class

Mrs. Landon Educational Assistant covering for Mrs. Mikel's maternity leave.

Mrs. Draper Educational Assistant covering for Mrs. Watson's maternity leave.

Mr. Balkwill Supply Administrator assisting with startup and occasional coverage for Mrs. Johnston Vice-Principal's leave.

King George Staff:

FDK (JK/SK) Mr. Haley & Mrs. Ashley

FDK (JK/SK) Mrs. Dunn & Mrs. Bray

1 Mrs. Wilton

1/2 Mrs. Gagner

2/3 Ms. Benn

3/4 Mrs. Fryer

4/5 Mrs. Pereira

5/6 Mrs. Woodrow

6 Mrs. Comiskey

7/8 Mr. Stacey

7/8 Mr. Trinca

7/8 Mr. Carleton

Covering various subjects in different rooms we have the following teachers:

French Miss Adair

Learning Resource Mr. Smolders

Primary Phys ed/Music Miss Flook

Music/Dance/Drama Mrs. Perini

Our Educational Assistants:

Mrs. Ostler

Mrs. Tsirimbis

Mr. Haskell

Mr. Fernandes

Mrs. Terry

Mrs. Landon

Mr. Krouse

Ms. Draper

Our custodial staff:

Ms. Jenny Muszalska

Mr. Crow

Mrs. Bechard

Our secretary:

Mrs. Goodall

Our Principal:

Mr. Elson

Supply Administrator

Mr. Balkwill

NO DOGS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY:

A reminder that at no time are dogs allowed on school property. Thank you for your understanding.

Waterbottles: Please send students with full water bottles to school. The water fountains are not in use but the 2 water filling stations are allowed to be used.

Our School:

A very big thank you to Ms. Jenny, Mr. Crow and Mrs. Bechard for their tremendous efforts over the course of the summer. The school looks wonderful for our first day back. Our floors are shining, desks are clean and the school is so very tidy! Thanks to their work the learning experience at King George has been made that much brighter. Thanks!

Absences:

During the course of the year, should your child be ill, have an appointment or for other reasons not be attending school, we kindly ask that you notify the school by calling 519.354.2440. Please feel free to speak directly to the office staff or leave a message on the absence reporting line after regular school hours. Should your son/daughter show up late for school we ask that they please report to the office first, so they may be admitted by Mrs. Goodall. By taking the time to do this you help support the safe arrival program at the school. We sincerely appreciate your assistance in this area. Also, by making every effort to have your child here on time we can ensure blocks of instructional time are disrupted as little as possible.

Inclement Weather:

In the instance of inclement weather (fog at this stage of the year), buses may be cancelled for safety reasons. We kindly ask that on mornings where you may be uncertain to listen to local radio or check www.schoolbusinfo.com for inclement weather. King George is located in Bus Zone 8.

Should there be a cancellation due to fog, buses will return students home in the afternoon, unlike bus cancellation due to snow where the buses will not run all day.

On these days, schools will remain open. The following are local radio stations that will share bus cancellations and potential school closures:

[CBC Chatham \[88.1 FM\]](#)

[CFCO \[630 AM and 92.9 FM\]](#)

[The Rock \[95.1 FM\]](#)

[CKSY \[94.3 FM\]](#)

Pediculosis – Head Lice

During the course of the year we will be checking students for head lice in an attempt to reduce the potential spreading within the school. We kindly ask that should you detect lice in your child's hair that you notify the office. We appreciate your support in working to reduce the instance of head lice. All incidents are kept confidential.

Administration of Medication at School

Should your child require medication to be given at school we'd like to share a gentle reminder that in order for the office to do so a doctor signed form is required. We have forms available in the office and are happy to help with getting this set up for you should you need it. Each year a new form must be filled out.

Peanut/ Nut Allergies

As a reminder, we have students attending our school who are allergic to peanuts/nuts. We thank you in advance for your support by not sending nut products to the school. If your child has medical concerns or has medical updates please make us aware so we can ensure that the school staff is aware.

School Bell Times

8:30-8:40 Students Arrive and go to their assigned entry doors and go to their classrooms

8:40 Classes Begin – Block #1

10:40 Nutrition Break Cohort A Outside Recess Break Cohort B

11:00 Outside Recess Break Cohort A Nutrition Break Cohort B

11:20 Classes Continue – Block #2

1:00 Nutrition Break Cohort A Outside Recess Break Cohort B

1:20 Outside Recess Break Cohort A Nutrition Break Cohort B

1:40 Classes Continue – Block #3

3:00 End of School Day

In the interest of student safety we greatly appreciate your help by **dropping off and picking your child up outside of the school each day**. This helps to keep our school a safer place for all students. Thank you for your contributions to making King George a safe place.

Transition Back to School

We understand that many of the school procedures will be new to students beginning Junior Kindergarten in September; however, we are committed to supporting safe and welcoming transitions to school for our students and families. In addition to supporting student learning, staff will help students become familiar with school and health and safety routines to reduce the opportunities for transmission of COVID-19.

The plan is a multi-layered approach with various safety measures to mitigate opportunities for the transmission of COVID-19. The implementation is a shared responsibility between Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) staff, local Public Health, family households, students and Chatham-Kent Lambton Administrative School Services (CLASS). By collectively implementing the plan, our schools will be safe for our students and staff.

Refer to the *School Safety Protocols and the Daily Screening Questionnaire for Parents/Guardians/Students Before Attending School* for more information.

Please note: Parents/guardians will have limited opportunities within the school year to switch their child's school experience between face-to-face instruction and Learn at Home instruction (or vice versa). Families must notify the school in advance and there may be a waiting period prior to their child's admission to school, depending on scheduling and availability of classroom space.

Families wishing to transfer between face-to-face learning to Learn at Home or transfer from Learn at Home to face-to-face instruction must contact their principal according to the following timelines:

- **Fall date: Families notify school by October 22. Student begins new program type on November 16.**
- **Winter date: Families notify school by January 12. Student begins new program type on February 3.**
- **Spring date: Families notify school by March 30. Student begins new program type on April 20.**

Students moving between program delivery choice (i.e. face-to-face learning or Learn at Home) should anticipate changes in teacher(s). If space is available, the LKDSB will attempt to accommodate all requests sooner than the dates above; however, this will vary from school-to-school and grade-by-grade and may not be possible. Transportation delays may also occur.

Please note: Parents/guardians will have limited opportunities within the school year to switch their child's school experience between face-to-face instruction and Learn at Home instruction (or vice versa).

School Arrival Procedures

Students should not arrive before 8:30 am (10 minutes before the morning bell) and students will proceed to their entrance door directly and enter their classroom. Students will move to their entrance door regardless of transportation, bus, drop-off, before-school programming, or walking. **As students are expected to proceed directly to their classroom, staff supervision will not be available on the playground.**

Screening

Parents/guardians are required to assess their children daily and report whether they are experiencing any signs of illness and are expected to keep them home if they are. **Parents/guardians should refer to the *Daily Screening Questionnaire for Parents/Guardians/Students Before Attending School* to perform daily screening of their children before arriving at school.**

All students who are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 must not attend school and should seek appropriate medical attention as required, including getting tested at a COVID-19 testing centre. The closest testing centre to our school is **47 Emma Street, Chatham, On.**

Note: Refer to the School Safety Protocols and the Daily Screening Questionnaire for Parents/Guardians/Students Before Attending School for more information.

Students and Masks

Students in Grades 4 to 12 will be required to wear non-medical or cloth masks indoors in school, including in hallways and during classes. Outdoor times like recess can be used as opportunities to provide students with breaks from wearing masks as long as the students are organized to remain within their cohorts. Students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 will be encouraged but not required to wear masks in indoor spaces. Masks are also mandatory in bus lines and on the bus for Grade 4-8 students.

Students are encouraged to practice wearing masks and learn what type of mask is most comfortable for them. Parents/guardians should provide non-medical masks or cloth masks for their children to wear to school. The LKDSB will provide backup non-medical masks for students who do not have their own. Face coverings that provide a tight seal at the chin and nose and cover the mouth are permitted (a gaiter for example), whereas face coverings that do not provide a tight seal at the chin and nose and cover the mouth are not permitted (a bandanna for example).

For some students with special needs, or significant medical conditions, wearing a mask may be problematic. Families should work with the school to determine if your child may be exempt from wearing a mask. Parents/guardians can expect that there will be time spent in class during the first days of school reviewing the proper use of masks, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.

