



**King George VI Public School**  
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## A Few Words from the Principal

**April 1, 2022**

Our return to school from March Break was met with significant changes in COVID-19 measures, most notably that we're no longer required to wear masks at school. For some, this created a sense of jubilation, for others, a sense of anxiety. Regardless of where your family stands, the message we have very deliberately given at school has been to respect differing perspectives and opinions. Please know that if your family continues to wear masks, that is absolutely okay; if you choose not to, that is fine as well. Regardless of what COVID-19 measures are in place, *respect for one another* will always be a required measure at King George VI.

Learning together *from* and *with* one another is not only important for social and academic growth, but also an important way to build school community and a sense of belonging - collaboration amongst staff and students is always encouraged. This month, our school has been brimming with collaboration as our entire school recently read and discussed the book, Go Show the World: A Celebration of Indigenous Heroes written by musician, reporter, and politician, Wab Kinew. Culmination of this project resulted in the entire foyer of the school being transformed into an incredible display of EVERY student's individual contribution to this collective learning experience. Please come by the school and check it out for yourself!

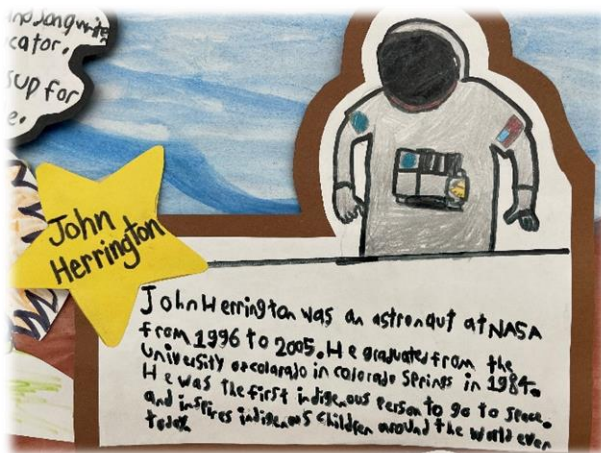


Please visit [King George VI on Facebook](#) – you'll find it's a great way to get a sneak-peek into our terrific little school. Please call, email, or pop by if you have questions, concerns, or to just say, 'Hi!' – my door is always open. ([adam.carswell@lkdsb.net](mailto:adam.carswell@lkdsb.net))

Warmest regards,

Dr. Adam Carswell, Principal





**A whole-school collaboration - Go Show the World: A Celebration of Indigenous Heroes**



**Boys' Basketball Team**



**Girls' Basketball Team**



**Learning About Bald Eagles in FDK**



**Coding in the Learning Commons**



**Make Your Mark Lacrosse Instruction**



**Inaugural Math Enrichment Club**

## School Council

King George VI School Council did not meet in March due to Spring Break. Our next meeting takes place in-person at the school on **Wednesday, April 13, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.** – if you would like to attend, please reach out so that I can share the agenda when it's ready.

## Count Me In! Census Information Gathering



*EXTENDED until April 8<sup>th</sup>* - the Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) has launched its Count Me In LKDSB Student Census to collect information to better understand students and school communities in support of equity, inclusion, student achievement and well-being. The *Count Me In LKDSB Student Census* will reflect information about student populations and school communities to help identify systemic barriers and bias within the education system. It will help to ensure that the LKDSB is providing effective programming to support student success and well-being, as well as allocate resources to where they are needed most. This voluntary student census will gather demographic information such as race, ethnicity, language, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, and home supports. Questionnaires for students will be sent to parent/guardian emails to complete with or on behalf of your child.

## Character @ King George VI

Throughout the month of April, students and staff will discuss **empathy**, what it means, why it's important, and how it can lead to a more safe and caring school community. Interestingly, kids and adults alike often use the words *sympathy*, *empathy*, and *compassion* interchangeably, so I felt compelled to explore their differences. When you are compassionate, you feel the pain of others (empathy) or recognize that a person is in pain (sympathy) and then you do what you can to alleviate that person's suffering. One strategy to help develop thoughtful children with a keen sense of social awareness is to speak with your child(ren) about compassion – to talk about what it's like to walk in other people's shoes. Share a prompt or short story, then ask: "How might they feel?" and then "How would you feel?" Here's an example to begin the dialogue at home:



*When Abigail saw Lilly passing out invitations to her friends at school, she got excited – Lilly had been talking about her birthday party for weeks! But Abigail didn't get an invitation even though most of the other girls in her class did.*

Another way to teach compassion is to find a way to give back in your community through social action, service projects, or volunteering. It can be hard to fit into our busy lives, but starting small often leads to big outcomes. How can your family help in our community?



## Outdoor Classroom & Kindergarten Playground

Upon my arrival at King George VI, I quickly learned about the school community's need for an improved outdoor playground for our littlest Knights – our kindergarten students. An outdoor classroom for all our students would significantly improve our school's learning environment. Of course, this will require a significant amount of funding; a team effort. The wheels of progress often turn much slower than we'd like, but rest assured, they are turning! Keep your eyes and ears open as plans develop... we'll need all the help we can get! In the meantime, if you are aware of any grants or funding opportunities, I would be delighted to hear from you.

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to our *Knight Award* and *Character Award* recipients; we hope you display your certificates at home with pride!

## Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration for September 2022 is here. If you know anyone interested in registering their child, please let them know that registrations will be accepted online. Eligible students must be 4 or 5 years of age by December 31st, 2022.

Registration is as easy as 1, 2, 3

1. Find your school.
2. Complete the simple, safe, and secure online registration form.
3. Meet with our caring staff.

More information to follow on April and June dates where we will host incoming kindergarten students and their families.

## A Few Important Reminders

If your child is **absent**, please **call the school office** and let us know or use **School Messenger** so we can report the absence appropriately in our system.

If you have **moved** or **changed phone numbers or email address**, please let the school know.

## Dates to Remember

Wednesday, April 13, 2022	School Council Meeting
Friday, April 15, 2022	Good Friday – No School
Monday, April 18, 2022	Easter Monday – No School
Monday, May 23, 2022	Victoria Day – No School
Friday, June 10, 2022	PA Day – No School
Wednesday, June 29, 2022	PA Day – No School
Thursday, June 30, 2022	Summer Begins