



King George VI Public School

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A Few Words from the Principal

What a pleasure it is to introduce myself as the new principal of King George VI – I cannot begin to tell you how thrilled I am to be here! Our new (and fantastic!) secretary, Heather Colman, and I have been overwhelmed with the warm welcome we've received from staff, students, and families – thank you so much! It's been a little like taking a drink from a firehose; there's a lot to learn, observe, and take in, but we're thirsty for more.

Our family is relatively new to Sarnia – April will mark two years for us. But despite not having lived in Sarnia before (our families are in Windsor & London), 3 of 4 of our parents grew up here. In fact, my father's childhood home is on Cathcart near Canatara Park, and he attended King George VI in the 1950s, from kindergarten through grade 8. At some point, I look forward to digging through school archives to see if I can find his grad photo!

As you get to know me, you'll learn how important I believe the school-home partnership to be. Through 23-years working in schools, and as a principal since 2006, I've witnessed firsthand how influential the school-home relationship can be – for good or otherwise. In order for our King George VI students to find success at school, it's critical for home and school to support one another – to work in tandem. If you have questions about your child's progress at school, their social-emotional wellbeing, or anything at all, please connect with school staff so we can work together to support their needs. Please keep those lines of communication flowing!

My focus these coming weeks and months before summer will be to observe and digest all the wonderful things that happen each day at King George VI. I look forward to continuing to meet our community, and to learning and growing alongside our school's staff and students. In the meantime, please call, email, or pop by if you have questions or concerns, or just to say, 'Hi!' – my door is always open.

Warmest regards,

Dr. Adam Carswell, Principal

February is **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**



Black History is celebrated annually during the month of February, but the role of African Canadians in our history and society is embedded in Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) curriculum throughout the year.

The LKDSB acknowledges the ongoing impacts of anti-Black racism in our communities, which cause harm, trauma, violence and the loss of Black lives. We know that the intersections of racism and other social and institutional inequalities result in the ongoing oppression and marginalization of the Black community. As an education system, we are [committed to change and championing anti-oppressive education](#).

In recognition of Black History/African Heritage Month in February, the LKDSB is committed to recognizing the historically erased role of Black Canadians in our history and society. This year, the focus for Black History/African Heritage Month will be "[Celebrating Black History Here](#)."

As there are significant Black historical sites located within the LKDSB's geographic area, we encourage students, staff and families to learn more about our local history and its connection to the Underground Railroad and other historical events, and the ongoing contributions of local Black communities to the development and prosperity of Ontario and Canada.

In addition to activities promoted during the month of February, LKDSB students, families and staff members are invited to explore the rich history in the surrounding area and learn more about how African Canadian history can be incorporated into the curriculum. The LKDSB is committed to supporting [Ontario's Anti-Black Racism Strategy](#). Visit the [Government of Canada Black History Month website](#) for additional information and resources.

School Council

First, [thank you](#) to our school council for their commitment to King George VI – it was such a pleasure meeting you all (virtually) on January 12, 2022. Our next meeting takes place (virtually) on [Wednesday, February 9, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.](#) – if you would like to attend, please reach out (adam.carswell@lkdsb.net) so I can send you the link and agenda when it's ready.

Kindergarten Playground

Upon my arrival at King George VI, I quickly learned about the school community's need for an improved outdoor play space for our littlest Knights – our kindergarten students. Of course, this will require a significant amount of funding; a team effort. Please keep your eyes and ears open as plans develop...we'll need all the help we can get! In the meantime, if you become aware of any grants or funding opportunities, I would be delighted to hear from you.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to recent January Knight Award and Character Award recipients; we hope you display your certificates at home with pride! Congratulations also go out to participants of the Caribou Mathematics Competition:



Mahi (Gr. 8)



Alex (Gr. 5)



Jaxon (Gr. 7)



Carmen (Gr. 5)



Matt (Gr. 6)



Manav (Gr. 6)



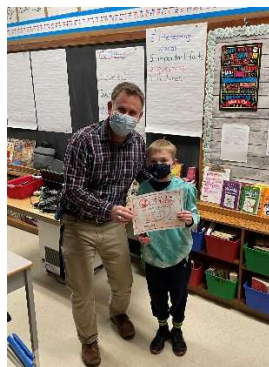
Om (Gr. 7)



Sidney (Gr. 7)



Taqi (Gr. 7)



Mason (Gr. 5)



James (Gr. 4)

Character @ King George VI

This month's character trait is COURAGE...

- ✓ courage to make a mistake, learn from it, and move on with pride;
- ✓ courage to try new things;
- ✓ courage to stand up for others;
- ✓ courage to be true to oneself;
- ✓ courage to persevere when things get tough;

**Courage is the
power of the mind
to overcome fear.**

— Martin Luther King, Jr.



Throughout the month, students and staff will discuss 'courage,' what it means, why it's important, and how a courageous stance can lead to joy and success in school and in life. I encourage you to join in the conversation at home – ask your child(ren) about courage, read books showcasing courage as a theme, share stories of courageous moments in your own lives, and highlight how they themselves are courageous.

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 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.

Please complete the [Ontario COVID-19 School Screening](#) before your child comes to school. Parents of students in kindergarten through grade 3 must also confirm via Messenger email or through your child's teacher, until further notice.

Dates to Remember

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Monday, February 14, 2022

Friday, February 18, 2022

Monday, February 21, 2022

School Council Meeting

Happy Valentine's Day

Term One Reports Go Home

Family Day – Enjoy!