

King George VI Public School 585 O'Dell Avenue Sarnia, ON N7V 4H7 Office: 519.344.2942 Fax: 519.344.4429 Website: http://kinggeorges.lkdsb.net/

A Few Words from the Principal

October 2023

Thank you so much to all the families who joined us for our Open House and Family BBQ – we hope that you enjoyed the hot dogs...but more importantly, the opportunity to meet with teachers, see the school, visit your child's classroom, and stop in at the Book Fair!

We need your help! In order to maximize students' language learning, it's critical for your home to be rich with literacy in order to complement the work being done at school. Practising letters and their sounds, learning sight words, practising handwriting, reading <u>to</u> and <u>with</u> your children...anything that engages them in reading and writing will help children tremendously!

We also need your help with numeracy: practising number facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division) - there's no easy button; it just takes practice to achieve automaticity required for fluent thinking when tackling complex math problems. Talk about math with your children; talk about money, order pizza and discuss fractions, engage kiddos in home projects involving measurement...any real-life math that crosses your path, talk about it! And play math games - again, anything that gets your child(ren) thinking about math in a fun and engaging way.

There are plenty of great resources available online and locally in stores, but if you would like ideas on how to help and support your child at home this year, please reach out to your child's teacher – they will be happy to help! Thank you in advance for supporting your children's literacy and numeracy goals!

Check out our Online Spirit Store through Team Outfitters! Orders are due October 7. Remember to buy items in your child('s) team colour: <u>Team RED</u> or <u>Team BLACK</u>. If you're not sure which team they're on, please reach out to their teacher. https://kinggeorgefall2023.itemorder.com/shop/home/

Please visit King George VI on Facebook – it's a great way to get a sneak-peek into our terrific little school. Call, email, or pop by if you have questions or concerns – my door is always open. (adam.carswell@lkdsb.net)

Warmest regards,

Alauswell



Our incredible King George VI Staff gathered for a great day of learning – September 15 PA Day



Dates to Remember in October & November:

October 5	Spirit Day – Wear your favourite PLAID apparel!
October 6	PA Day
October 7	ORDERS DUE: Online Spirit Store (Team Outfitters)
October 9	Thanksgiving Holiday – School Closed
October 11	School Council Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
October 13	Spirit Day – Wear your House Team colours (Red OR Black)
	Fire Prevention Week – Fire Truck Visit for FDK to Grade 2
October 16	Cross Country Meet
October 20	Spirit Day – Wear your House Team colours (Red OR Black)
October 17	Spirit Day – Wear your House Team colours (Red OR Black)
October 24	Cross Country District Meet
October 31	Wear BLACK & ORANGE for MONSTER MASH! (more info coming soon)
November 2	Pizza Lunch (Dominos, 1 st Break)
November 3	Spirit Day – Wear your House Team colours (Red OR Black)
November 4	King George VI Bazaar – holiday shopping!
November 7	Fall Photo Re-Takes
November 8	School Council Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
November 10	Remembrance Day Assembly – 10:00 a.m.
November 16	Parent Teacher Interviews
November 17	PA Day – Parent Teacher Interviews
November 20	ORDERS DUE: MacMillan's School Council Fundraiser
November 24	Spirit Day – Wear your House Team colours (Red OR Black)
December 1	Spirit Day – Wear your favourite Country & Western apparel!

School Council

School Council is an integral part of our King George VI community and has a track record of being a dynamic, positive, and productive team. Among other things, School Council's objective is to ensure accountability, make recommendations to the school, and engage in fundraising activities. Parents and guardians are encouraged to consider joining School Council in 2023-24; to participate in monthly meetings (2nd Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 p.m.) and engage in special events and projects. Our next meeting will be held on <u>October 11, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.</u>

A Few Important Reminders

If your child will be absent, please call the school (519-344-2942) or use School Messenger so we can report the absence appropriately in our system. When leaving a message, leave your child's name, grade, teacher, and the reason for their absence. School begins at 9:10 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m.

If <u>end-of-day plans change</u>, please contact the school <u>before 2:30 p.m.</u>

<u>Student attendance</u> - each day at King George VI offers valuable learning experiences, so maintaining regular attendance is critical for student success. Although it's nearly impossible to attend every day of school, excessive absences can create learning gaps. Developing consistent morning routines helps to ensure that students arrive on time and begin their day without the stress often that often accompanies a rushed morning.



King George VI is a <u>nut aware</u> school. Please <u>do not send nut products</u> to school. In addition to nut products, please do not send substitute nut spreads as it is difficult for lunch monitors to distinguish the nut products from the substitutes. Thank you for your diligence and support in ensuring a safe and healthy environment for all students and staff.

<u>Student cell phone use is not permitted at school</u> without permission from a teacher. The office phone is available for student use, also with permission from a teacher. If students choose to bring a phone to school to use on their way to and from school, the phone should be stored in their backpacks. If you need to reach your child during school hours, please call: 519-344-2942. If students use cell phones during the school day, the phone will be held at the office for the parent to pick up at the end of the day.

Character @ King George VI

Throughout the month of October, 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, children 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 – discuss 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?"

Knight's Corner

Our school has a weekly segment on our announcements called *Knight's Corner*. It's a chance for students to show off their skills in singing, sports, dance, artwork, and more. We're always in awe of their talent, and we look forward to seeing what they have in store for us! Sometimes we film these talents at school, however, if you have clips of your child's talent from events outside of school, we welcome those as well. Recently, we featured a remarkable dance solo by one of our students at her recital. We invite you to submit a brief clip (+/- one minute long) to Mrs. Van Wolde (amanda.vanwolde@lkdsb.com).

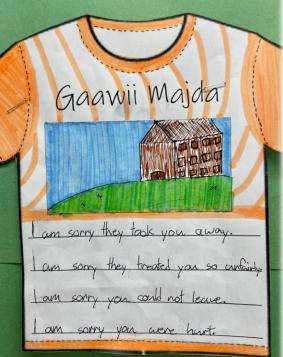
Orange Shirt Day and National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

King George VI students and staff honoured Indigenous survivors and their families for *National Day of Truth and Reconciliation* by learning the history and wearing orange.









Congratulations to our September **Knight Award** recipients, Olivia, Savannah, Bella, and Ellie:

Congratulations, as well, to our **Character Award** recipients who demonstrated *Courage*:





Students did a terrific job running to honour the memory of **Terry Fox** and raise funds to advance cancer research – King George VI raised an astonishing <u>\$5,536.25</u>! Go Knights!

