



P. E. McGibbon Public School

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Mr. Eryn Smit, Principal Mr. Cam Gordon, Vice-Principal

Mrs. Kate Brown, Secretary

May 2019

PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

April has been a very busy month with an abundance of valuable learning opportunities for our P.E. McGibbon students, staff and families. Judging by the long list of important upcoming dates, May and June will continue to be very busy. We still have much teaching and learning to do this school year. That's our priority! Students and staff will be working hard to ensure that we give all subject areas our best attention and effort, straight through to the end of June!

What stands out as we reflect upon things happening at P.E. McGibbon, is what a wonderful school community we have! Thank you to everyone for making P.E. McGibbon such a special place to learn and grow!

EDUCATION WEEK ACTIVITIES MAY 6 –10

The Ministry of Education has declared the week of May 6 to May 10 as Education Week across Ontario. The Lambton Kent District School Board's theme for this year's celebration is: Community Connections. During the week of May 6 – 10, there are many celebrations of learning happening at P.E. McGibbon!

JUMP ROPE & HOOPS FOR HEART

Our Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart events will take place on Wednesday May 8th and Thursday May 9th. All fundraising packages are due on Wednesday May 9th.

SCHOOL SAFETY - PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT IS NOW OPEN

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

As we continue to work with students on appropriate behaviour and character development, our focus is based on the four agreements of TRIBES and the LKDSB Character Attributes. May is "Cooperation" month at P.E. McGibbon. Our Terrific Kids assemblies will be held on Friday May 31, 2019.

FDK-Gr. 3 @ 11:45PM

Gr. 4 - Gr. 8 @ 12:30PM

ALERT! DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Please be advised that dog owners/walkers are not allowed to bring their pets into the school yard area when picking up or dropping off your children at school. We have many students who are allergic to these animals.

LOST AND FOUND

With the warmer weather upon us, many of our students who have arrived with sweaters, hoodies and jackets in the morning and have left the clothing behind in the afternoon. Our Lost and Found is overflowing at the moment. Please look for lost articles. Any items remaining in the building by Friday May 31st, will be donated to a local charity.

DRESS CODE

With the arrival of warmer weather, each family is asked to review the Student Dress Code which is printed in the student school planner. Parents' cooperation on this important matter is greatly appreciated.

VOLUNTEER TEA

Wednesday, May 15th in the Learning Commons - Invitations will be sent the first week of May. If you do not receive an invite please know this is an oversight, and you are most welcome to join us! Thank you to Anne and Miss Churchill for organizing this event for our tremendous volunteers.

VICTORIA DAY HOLIDAY: There will be no school on Monday, May 20th.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY: There will be no school on Friday, June 7th.

EQAO

Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics, Primary and Junior Divisions:

Grade 3: Wednesday May 22nd, Thursday May 23rd, Friday May 24th - 9:00 a.m.

Grade 3: Tuesday May 28th, Wednesday May 29th, Thursday May 30th - 9:00 a.m.

Grade 6: Wednesday May 22nd, Thursday May 23rd, Friday May 24th - 11:30 a.m.

Grade 6: Tuesday May 28th, Wednesday May 29th, Thursday May 30th - 11:30 a.m.

If your child is in Grades 3 or 6, please do not plan any appointments or vacations for this week as these students will be writing the EQAO assessment. It is very important for all children to be in attendance for this assessment.

GRADE 8 RECOGNITION Celebration

on Tuesday June 25, 2018

6:00 Arrival @ GLSS

6:30 Recognition Ceremony begins

8:00 – 10:00 p.m. Student festivities in P.E. McGibbon gym, chaperoned by P.E. McGibbon Staff

CLASSROOM ORGANIZATION FOR 2019-2020

In the remaining months of the school year, a significant amount of time and energy will be exerted in order to organize classes for next year. Several important factors maximize each student's school success will be considered.

1) **BALANCE:** Each class needs to be balanced in terms of strengths, needs and gender. No classes are "streamed" with only strong or only weak students in any of the grades. Research has demonstrated that heterogeneous groupings, where strong, average and weak students working together, provides the best learning opportunities for all involved.

2) **LEARNING & TEACHING STYLES:** Children learn in a variety of ways compatible with the way they make sense of their work. Teachers teach students using a multiple of teaching approaches and classroom management styles. It is our belief that a variety of teachers is beneficial to students as they proceed through their elementary years.

3) **PEER RELATIONSHIPS & GROUP DYNAMICS:** While feeling included in peer relationships is important, sometimes being with friends is not a productive experience that enhances learning. Who gets along with whom? Who should be separated? What kind of individuals could best come together as a group and develop? Who needs a new situation to extend and grow themselves in social relationships? We attempt to answer these questions as we construct a particular class.

4) **STRAIGHT vs. COMBINED CLASSES:** As usual, combined or split grades will be part of the McGibbon organization for next year. Sometimes parents feel that straight grades are better than split grades. However,

in actual fact, all classes are in effect “blended” because the teacher will be addressing the needs of the students in each class at varying instructional levels.

Please note that P.E. McGibbon School Community is proudly accepting students who live in our area. Government issued proof of residence is mandatory (Driver’s License not accepted) and must be presented when a student registers at P.E. McGibbon Public School.

Yours in Education,

Mr. E. Smit
Principal

Mr. C. Gordon
Vice-Principal