



P. E. McGibbon Public School

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

Mrs. Kate Brown, Secretary

OCTOBER 2019

A WONDERFUL START

Thanks to the efforts of our students, teachers, parents and guardians we experienced an excellent start up to the 2019-2020 school year. As always, our focus continues to be on student achievement and student safety. The Lambton Kent District School Board and P.E. McGibbon School Community are committed to the care, welfare, safety and security of all students and staff.

You may be aware that negotiations between our CUPE staff and the Ministry of Education are ongoing. We encourage families to regularly check the school board's website for up-to-date information about negotiations (www.lkdsb.net) or ask to speak to Mr. Smit or Mr. Gordon should you have any questions or concerns.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

We are very excited to be welcoming in another year at P.E. McGibbon Public School. Our next Parent Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday October 22, 2019. The meeting will take place in the Learning Commons and will begin at 5:30 p.m. Thank you to our Parent Council members for their continued efforts to enhance the Home of the Grizzlies.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

All visitors must report to the office at all times. Please do not proceed down to the classrooms. If you need to speak with your child, we will gladly call them down to the office for you. While we certainly welcome all parents to become actively involved with school activities, the safety of students is of the upmost importance. In the interest of safety and so that classes can work free from distractions, anyone visiting during school hours for any reason is asked to first report to the school office to receive a visitor badge and sign in. Anyone in the school without an ID badge will be asked for identification. The visitor badges will be issued by the Board and limited in number. Upon leaving the building, we require the badge returned to the office when you sign out.

EQAO

We have received our EQAO results for the 2018-2019 school year. Our staff will be further analyzing the results this month and putting a new school improvement plan in place as we continue to work towards higher levels of achievement and stronger EQAO results for all students. The individual student reports for Grade 3 and 6 students will be sent home in the coming weeks with all students who participated in the testing last year. The full public report can be found on the EQAO website at www.eqao.com

SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY

The Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) has released board-wide results from the School Climate Survey conducted April 1-12, 2019. The survey gathered input from students in Grades 4-12, staff and parents/guardians to assist with planning programs and decision-making related to supporting safe and inclusive school environments.

A total of 8,356 students in Grades 4-12 participated in the online surveys, along with 1,674 parents/guardians and 693 staff. The surveys included a variety of questions on topics such as eating and sleeping habits to mental health, well-being and bullying. The surveys were developed with input from students, parents/guardians; school and Board administration, including Mental Health, Safe Schools and Indigenous Education representatives, and Chatham-Kent Public Health and Lambton Public Health.

Visit the LKDSB website for more information about the board-wide data: www.lkdsb.net/survey

MEDICAL INFORMATION

It is important that our school has up to date information on your child's medical condition. Please be sure to notify the school as soon as possible of any changes.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY & THANKSGIVING

Monday, October 14th is Thanksgiving and Friday, October 25th is a P.D. Day. As a result, there will be no school on these days.

BLACK & ORANGE DAY & PEANUT FREE

With Hallowe'en coming up at the end of this month, we need to be extra vigilant about what foods are being sent to school in lunches. We have some students with severe allergies to nuts and nut products, so reading the labels is crucial. Look for items that are made in nut-free facilities. On Thursday, October 31st, we are encouraging everyone to wear something black and/or orange.

ALERT! DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Please be advised that dog owner/walker are not allowed to bring dogs 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.

STUDENT VOTE 2019

Our Grade 4-8's will be participating in Student Vote 2019. This is something that is recognized nationally with over 1 million students taking part. P.E. McGibbon's Student Vote 2019 will take place Wednesday, October 16 throughout the morning in the Learning Commons.

To help students prepare for this vote, please see <https://studentvote.ca/canada/classroom-resources/>.

EXTRACURRICULAR SPORTS

A HUGE Grizzly shout-out to all our student athletes who did an excellent job representing Grizzly Nation at the annual Sarnia South Conference Intermediate Soccer Tournaments. We would like to extend a special thank you to Mrs. Dickson, Mr. VanBunderen and Mr. Hogan who have given of their time to coach the girls' and boys' soccer teams.

CROSS COUNTRY

We have many enthusiastic cross-country runners this year. The team will attend the Canatara Cross Country meet on Tuesday, Oct. 15th and the rain date is Thursday, Oct. 17th. The District meet will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 23th with a rain date of Thursday Oct. 24th . Thanks to our coaches Mr. Steadman and Mr. VanBunderen.

TERRY FOX

We THANK everyone who donated online to the Terry Fox Foundation and to the intermediate staff and students for organizing the campaign and event.

WELCOME

Please join me in welcoming Mrs. Melissa Ginn who will be working as an Early Childhood Educator in our SK/1 class, and Mrs. Jessica Percival who will be the teacher for our new Grade 4/5 classroom as well. We look forward to working with you in the Grizzlies' Den this year!

IN CLOSING.... On behalf of all the P.E. McGibbon staff, we would like to wish every family a very Happy Thanksgiving. Just a reminder that the school is closed on Monday, October 14 to observe this holiday.

