



Plympton-Wyoming Public School SEPTEMBER 2019



Principal: Mr. Andy Parnham
Secretary: Ms. Mary Wood
Website: <http://plymptonwyoming.lkdsb.net>
Zone 1
(519) 845-3241 (Phone)
(519) 845-0031 (Fax)

Welcome to Plympton-Wyoming P.S.!!!

The staff at Plympton-Wyoming Public School would like to welcome everyone! After a relaxing and enjoyable summer, our staff are looking forward to working with you and your child(ren) as we work together to make our school a safe and inspirational place to learn. Teachers, secretary, support staff and custodians have all been busy getting everything ready for another great start to the year. We thank the custodial staff for their hard work over the summer getting the building ready. We also welcome all of our new students and their families to the Plympton-Wyoming P.S. community. On a personal note, I am particularly excited to be the returning Principal of the Plympton-Wyoming school community, and look forward to seeing you and to working with you!

Staffing Changes

Ms. Bansey joins us as an ECE and will be working with Ms. Monk. Ms. Lynch has returned resulting in the departure of Mrs. Morton. Ms. Enns is one of our new prep teachers and will be replacing Mrs. West. Mrs. Sheppard has joined our EA staff and will be replacing Mrs. Dew. We also welcome EAs Mrs. Vandersluis and Mrs. DeJeu to our staff. Mlle Nickles will be filling in for Mme Wolf. We welcome our new staff and wish those who have left best of luck in their new endeavours.

Tentative Staff List and Tentative Current Class Organization

Mr. Andy Parnham	Principal
Ms. Mary Wood	Secretary
Mrs. Tressa Brown	FDK
Ms. Lianne Monk	FDK
Mrs. Melissa Shain	Grade 1/Library/Sysop
Mrs. Heather Janzen	Grade 2/LLI
Mrs. Sheila Wilcox	Grade 3
Mrs. Vicki Cran	Grade 3/4
Mrs. Debra Winder	Grade 4/5
Mrs. Jane Allen	Grade 5/6
Ms. Margret Lynch	Grade 6/7
Mr. Richard Brydges	Grade 8
Ms. Carol Gordon	ALLP
Mr. Steve Parker	Prep
Ms. Jessica Enns	Prep
Mme Robyn Wolf	French/Prep - LTO replacement is Mlle Alli Nickles
Mrs. Amy MacLachlan	Resource/Guidance
Mrs. Molley Hendra	ECE
Ms. Amy Bansey	ECE
Mrs. Julie Morianity	EA
Ms. Margaret Lapier	EA
Mrs. Heather Sheppard	EA
Mrs. Stephanie Vandersluis	EA
Mrs. Nancy DeJeu	EA
Mrs. Tara Legere	Supervision Support
Ms. Marcy Vye	Custodian
Mrs. Claudine Krale	Night Custodian

Daily Schedule

Please note, Nutrition break times and beginning and dismissal times are listed below. Grades 4-8 Plympton-Wyoming P.S. students with parental permission to go home/uptown for lunch will be permitted to do so only at the 1st Nutrition Break and **are required to sign in and out at the office each time they leave the school and return.**

Start 9:00

- 9:00 - 11:00 Classes
- 11:00 - 11:20 1st Nutrition Break
- 11:20 - 11:40 Outside Break
- 11:40 - 1:20 Classes
- 1:20 - 1:40 2nd Nutrition Break

1:40 – 2:00 Outside Break

2:00 – 3:20 Classes

Dismissal 3:20

All students are to be in class prepared for their school day at start times. If late, they are to report to the school office to receive a late slip from the secretary. Attendance, lates and absences, are documented daily in the school's computer records.

Supervision Times

Plympton-Wyoming P.S.'s supervision starts at 8:45 a.m.

Students are NOT to arrive at school before these times as there is no supervision. We thank you for your cooperation in supporting this plan to help ensure the safety of our students.

School Council

Parents/guardians are encouraged to attend the meetings. It is a wonderful way to be engaged in the education of your child(ren) and to stay informed. A nomination form is attached to this newsletter for those interested in seeking an Executive position on Council this year. **Elections will take place at our first meeting, if necessary. Our first School Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 24 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 130 (Breakout Room).**

School Visitors

We remind everyone that it is necessary to enter through the front doors and report to the school office immediately upon your arrival. Our building has a secure entrance requiring visitors to buzz the office and identify themselves before being allowed access. This helps us to ensure the safety of our students at all times and also eliminates class disruptions as we attempt to maximize the amount of instructional time for each of our students. This procedure also enables the office to locate students easily when necessary. **We also ask that all parents/guardians wait for their child(ren) at a pre-arranged meeting spot outside of the school, if possible, and not in hallways prior to the dismissal bell to help avoid unnecessary congestion and confusion. Thank you.**

Terry Fox Run/Walk

Our annual Terry Fox Run/Walk will be held this year on Thursday, September 26 at 2:10 p.m. Parents/guardians are invited to come and join us. If possible, a donation of \$2.00 is being suggested for our FDK-Grade 3 students. Pledge sheets will be sent home for our Grades 4-8 students or a donation of \$2.00 is also welcomed. All students will be participating in the run/walk. Your support of the Terry Fox Run/Walk is very much valued and appreciated.

Daily Student Absences and Telephone Usage

We have a telephone answering service, therefore if your child(ren) is/are or will be absent, please call the school and leave a message. This assists us as we need to make contact with the parents/guardians of all absent students as part of our Safe Arrival Policy each day. The answering service can be accessed 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

To decrease the amount of office/class interruptions and phone calls home from students, we request that students take time at home to ensure they have what they need to be adequately prepared for classes. Lunches, school books, projects, supplies, etc. should accompany the students when they leave for school each day. Also, transportation arrangements should be made for extracurricular events prior to game day or practices. We do appreciate your cooperation and support in preparing them to become responsible citizens.

Parent/Guardian Volunteers

Many activities or school events are planned for your child(ren) this year. The role of a parent/guardian volunteer is an important one at Plympton-Wyoming Public School. School is successful when staff, students and school community work together. A variety of activities occur when we welcome parents'/guardians' participation and involvement at the invitation of the teacher. Aside from these events, we welcome and need parents/guardians and others to help us provide successful learning experiences for our students. Please consider joining our team of volunteers. Volunteer forms are available at the office. **Note: Some volunteers require a current Criminal Background Check.** Please check with the office regarding the specific requirements.

Medication

Please let the office know if your child(ren) has/have a special health problem such as asthma, anaphylaxis, diabetes, epilepsy/seizure disorder, allergies, etc. It is important that we be informed of any changes in your child(ren)'s medical status. All student medications must be kept in the school office and administered by a designated member of the school staff. A completed "Consent to Administer Medication" form must be on file in the office before any medication can be authorized or administered at school. Please see the office if you require one of these forms. **Note: A physician signature is required on this form prior to school staff being able to administer any medication. This form must be updated annually. If your child(ren) require(s) an epipen to be kept at school, the LKDSB Policy states that the parent/guardian must provide two of them – 1 for the classroom and 1 to be kept in the office.** Medication is to be transported to the school by the parent/guardian to ensure the safety of children. Medication is to be provided in the pharmacy bottle with the pharmacy directions attached. **Please do not send over the counter medication for dispensing at school as it does not meet the above criteria.** If medical urgencies occur during the school day, parents/guardians will be contacted. Thank you for your help.

Pediculosis (Head Lice)

Fall is one of the seasons when cases of head lice (pediculosis) are most prevalent. Your assistance in early detection is greatly appreciated. Please check your child(ren) for head lice and nits weekly. If you find evidence of head lice and/or nits, please contact the school immediately. This will allow us to confidentially notify other parents/guardians in the classroom(s) affected so that they may check their child(ren) and help to limit the spread. Children suspected of having head lice and/or nits will be excused until appropriate treatment has been administered. Infestation of head lice and/or nits is an unpleasant nuisance, but not a health problem. Head lice do not carry or spread disease. By working together we can help control the spread of head lice in our community.

Ticks and Outdoor Activities

We are asking parents/guardians to check their child(ren) for ticks and to monitor them for signs of infection after attending any outdoor activity due to possible exposure. Note: That "not all ticks carry Lyme disease. The American dog tick, which is the most common tick found in Lambton County, does not carry Lyme disease."

Bus Students/Inclement Weather

The Board's Transportation Department has placed schools in geographic zones for radio announcements. **Our school is in ZONE "1"**. Wight's buses run through Zone 1 and 4; Hull's buses run through Zones 1 and 4. When listening for cancellation of buses for fog/snow the zones will be announced for our students. Listen to: CHOK - 1070 AM, FOX FM 99.9 or CHKS - 106.7 FM, CKSY 95.1 FM and CFCO 630 AM. If you choose to transport your child to school on snow days when buses are cancelled, please make arrangements to have them picked up at dismissal time.

Busing Information

We appreciate your support in following these guidelines to help avoid confusion and potential problems.

Bus students will not be permitted to ride home on another bus, and non-bus students are never permitted to ride the bus to and from school.

For the younger students, please ensure you are at the bus stop to get your child(ren) as the bus driver will NOT let them off if you are not there. Your child(ren) will be returned to the school. This can be very traumatic for your child(ren) if this is to happen.

If your child(ren) will not be riding the bus, please send a note or make a phone call for that day prior to dismissal time. If a note/phone call is/are not received the child(ren) will be sent home on the bus.

Busing is provided for students attending Plympton-Wyoming P.S. who live at least 1.6 km from the school, but within the school catchment area. All students who live south of the railway tracks in the town of Wyoming also have busing provided. Parents/guardians of students who are not bus eligible may apply for a courtesy seat for the 2019-2020 school year at www.schoolbusinfo.com. You will require your child(ren)'s Student Number which can be provided to you by the school office upon individual request. When courtesy seats are issued it is for all 5 days of the week and students are expected to use the bus. It is very difficult for staff and the students to keep track of students only riding the bus on certain days.

Safety Tips

Observe and obey school zone speeds. Every time you see a stopped bus with flashing red lights, you must stop - regardless of the direction you are travelling. As a parent/guardian lead by example when it comes to safely crossing the street, parking in school zones and using caution when driving along school routes. Be prepared to stop at any time. Young children do not always obey the rules of the road or notice oncoming traffic. When getting to the bus stop, students should walk along the sidewalk, and, if crossing the street, stay well in front of the bus while maintaining eye contact with the driver. When leaving, they should always keep a safe distance from the bus. When students are ready to walk to school by themselves, they should embrace the buddy system, know the safest route(s) to take, keep their electronic devices stashed in their backpacks and dress appropriately for the weather. A safe bike ride to school starts with a properly fitted helmet. Make sure they have a lock to secure their bike, scooter, etc. to the fence or the bike racks. Also remember to talk to your child about strangers, spotting unusual occurrences, general safety practices, etc. in order to help keep them safe. **Source: Borrowed and adapted from CAA.**

Student Planners/Agendas

Teachers who elect to use student planners with their respective classes will be distributing the new planners to their students this week. The use of planners as an organizational tool meets the expectations of the Ministry of Education curriculum. Students will be made aware of their responsibilities and daily use of their planners during classes. Please check your child(ren)'s planner(s) daily for teacher's notes and/or homework assignments. There is a lot of Board and School information found in the planner as well. There is no cost as these are paid for through our Parental Involvement funds. If it becomes lost or damaged, replacement costs will be the responsibility of the student. Please note that a copy of our planner/agenda is also posted on our school website for your reference.

Parent/Guardian Newsletters

Parent/guardian newsletters and monthly calendars highlighting school events will be provided regularly to keep you updated on school activities/events and important dates. They can also be found on the school website at <http://plymptonwyoming.lkdsb.net>.

Communication

It is essential that communication between home and school be ongoing. Should you have questions, or concerns please feel free to contact your child's teacher or Mr. Parnham, Principal. Appointments for parent-teacher conferences can be arranged by contacting the office or the teacher directly.

Daycare Program

We are very pleased to have a Daycare Program at our school. The Lambton Kent District School Board has a partnership with Generations Day Care, Inc. Through Generations Day Care there is a "Before and After School Daycare Program" for our students at the school. They also offer daycare for Pre-school children. Please call the Program at 519-882-3012 for details. Note: Daycare parking is located in the lot located off of Thames Street. There are spots reserved specifically for the Daycare and these are the ones located closest to the Daycare entrance.

Parking Lot

Please note that general parking is located off of Niagara Street in the paved area inside the semi-circle. There are a limited number of spaces. Note: This is also the area where parents/guardians are asked to pick up and drop off their child(ren). Only buses are permitted to load and unload students in front of the school. We appreciate your cooperation and assistance in helping to ensure the safety of everyone in our school community. Some parking also exists in the lot at the end of Thames Street adjacent to the Daycare.

Student Entry and Exit

Students will enter the yard only at the far south end of the school on the sidewalk closest to Niagara Street. Buses will also drop students off there in the morning before school. After school, all bus students will exit the building out of the doorways located at the front of the school. Walkers, bikers, etc. will exit the building out their assigned south and west entry/exit doors. **Parents/guardians picking up their child(ren) are asked to establish a "Meeting Spot" outside of the building, if possible, so that both parties are aware of where they are going to meet one another after school. Students who are crossing Broadway Street in central Wyoming are strongly urged and cautioned to cross Broadway Street only at the stop light crosswalk at the corner of Niagara Street and Broadway Street. These same students are asked, encouraged and reminded to use Niagara Street only when entering and exiting the school so that they can safely cross Broadway Street using the crosswalk mentioned above. This is especially important for those students who live on the east side of Broadway Street.** Please also remember that our school doors will remain locked for safety reasons and students arriving late will be required to use the buzzer located at the main entrance doors and check in at the office.

LKDSB Information

For Lambton Kent District School Board information, please visit the website at: www.lkdsb.net.

Going Home/Out for Lunch

Grades 4-8 Students Only: Attached to the newsletter is the permission form for Grades 4-8 students only. Please complete and return. All students will stay at school during second nutrition break. During first nutrition break Grades 4-8 students with parental/guardian permission only may leave the school grounds for lunch and are required to sign in and out at the office each time they leave the school and return. Please see the attached permission form for further explanation.

Nut Aware

A reminder that Plympton-Wyoming P.S. is a Nut Aware school as we have a few students who have severe allergies. Your cooperation in providing your child(ren) with nut free lunches and snacks is very much appreciated.

Medic Alert's "No Child Without" Program

The **No Child Without** program offers a free Medic Alert membership to students who attend our school and are between the ages of 4 up to their 14th birthday. If your child has a medical condition, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis then you should consider a Medic Alert membership through this program. Medic Alert identification can alert school staff, friends, coaches and others about your child's medical condition should an emergency occur. A brochure with bar code is available at our school office. Then go to www.nochildwithout.ca to register.

Meet the Teacher Night/Book Fair and BBQ

We are looking forward to meeting all of our parents/guardians and community members at our annual Meet the Teacher Night/Book Fair and BBQ. An invitation and order form are included with this newsletter. The date is set for Thursday, September 19 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Hope to see you there! Come and see our beautiful school! We would also like to thank the Plympton-Wyoming Fire and Emergency Services Department for barbecuing for us, and our School Council for hosting this wonderful event! Please note that School Council will also be selling Spirit wear during the month of September. Sample sizes will be available to try on on this night. Spirit wear order forms will be sent home later this month.

Technology/Electronic Devices/Cell Phones

Your child(ren) will have many opportunities to access technology. They will be made aware of the Lambton Kent District School Board's Acceptable Use of Computers policy during the first week of school. This information can also be found in our student planner and on our school website. It is our expectation each time they use their technology that they adhere to the rules, or their privileges will be revoked. This includes personal devices and the use of technology at home. All electronic devices, such as iPads, laptops, cell phones, media players, digital game devices, cameras, etc. are not to be used while students are on school property or at a school sanctioned event before, during, or after school without the direct permission and supervision of school personnel, and are only to be used for educational purposes. If a student carries one of these devices, they are responsible for it at all times. At no time will students use electronic devices for digital, audio or video recording without permission from school personnel. Privacy must be respected at all times. The school is not responsible for any lost, damaged or stolen property.

Character Education Character Trait = Inclusiveness

Our character education character trait for the month of September is "Inclusiveness". Inclusiveness means "We work to build a community where everyone feels included, and where differences and diversity are honored."

Library Books

If you found any missing library books over the summer, please bring them back to school. We'd love to welcome them back into our collection. The library will begin circulating books shortly.

Remind

Parents/guardians are asked to please sign up to receive notifications and reminders about general school events, activities, etc. happening at Plympton-Wyoming P.S. If you have a smartphone, get push notifications on your iPhone or Android phone by opening your web browser and going to the following link: rmd.at/plympton. Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app. If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications by texting the message @plympton to the number (902) 701-9607. Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/plympton on a computer to sign up for email notifications.

Forms to Be Returned

In addition to any forms requested from your child's classroom teacher(s), you are asked to please return the following forms to the school as soon as possible - 1) Appendix B: Notification and Permission For The Use of Student Personal Information 2) the Registration Verification Report 3) the Lunch Arrangements Form (Grades 4-8 students only) 4) the School Council Nomination Form (if interested). Note: Some of these forms will be coming home at a later date.

I look forward to an educationally rewarding, productive and fun filled year! Should you have any questions or concerns, please call the school.

Sincerely,

Mr. A. Parnham
Principal