



Plympton-Wyoming Public School SEPTEMBER 2020



Principal: Mr. Andy Parnham
Secretary: Ms. Mary Wood
Website: www.lkdsb.net/school/plymptonwyoming
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 safe, 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. Crooks joins us as an ECE and will be working with Ms. Monk. We also welcome Mrs. Morreau who will be replacing Mr. Parker. We welcome them to our 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	SK/Grade 1/Library/Sysop
Mrs. Heather Janzen	Grade 1/2/LLI
Mrs. Sheila Wilcox	Grade 2/3
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 7/8
Ms. Carol Gordon	ALLP
Mrs. Caitlyn Morreau	Prep
Ms. Jessica Enns	Prep
Mme Robyn Wolf	French/Prep
Mrs. Amy MacLachlan	Resource/Guidance
Mrs. Molley Hendra	ECE
Ms. Katelyn Crooks	ECE
Mrs. Julie Moriarity	EA
Ms. Margaret Lapier	EA
Mrs. Stephanie Vandersluis	EA
Mrs. Nancy DeJeu	EA
Mrs. Tara Legere	Supervision Support
Ms. Marcy Vye	Custodian
Ms. Sheri McAstocker	Night Custodian

Daily Schedule

Please note, Nutrition break times and beginning and dismissal times are listed below. Plympton-Wyoming P.S. students will NOT be permitted to leave the school property at lunch/recess times this school year due to COVID-19 and our current health and safety protocols. As such, ALL students will need to bring a nut free lunch/snack with them each day.

Start 9:00

- 9:00 - 11:00 Classes
- 11:00 - 11:20 1st Nutrition Break (FDK-Gr. 3/4)
- 11:00 - 11:20 Outside Break (Gr. 4/5-Gr. 7/8 & ALLP)
- 11:20 - 11:40 Outside Break (FDK-Gr. 3/4)
- 11:20 - 11:40 1st Nutrition Break (Gr. 4/5-Gr. 7/8 & ALLP)
- 11:40 - 1:20 Classes
- 1:20 - 1:40 2nd Nutrition Break (FDK-Gr. 3/4)

1:20 – 1:40 Outside Break (Gr. 4/5-Gr. 7/8 & ALLP)
1:40 – 2:00 Outside Break (FDK-Gr. 3/4)
1:40 – 2:00 2nd Nutrition Break (Gr. 4/5-Gr. 7/8 & ALLP)
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.

All students are required to enter through their normal entry/exit doors as soon as they arrive at the school each day between 8:45-9:00 a.m. and proceed directly to their homeroom where they are expected and required to sit in their assigned chair and desk/table. This process will be in place every school day until further notice and is intended to help keep everyone safe. Students are also asked and reminded to follow proper physical distancing measures.

Safety Measures and the LKDSB Reopening Our Schools Plan

The reopening of our schools incorporates the most current information from the Ontario Ministry of Education, Public Health, and consultation with the LKDSB educators and education workers, as well as our local communities. The plan is a multi-layered approach with various safety measures to mitigate opportunities for the transmission of COVID-19. The implementation is a shared responsibility between LKDSB staff, local Public Health, family households, students and Chatham-Kent Lambton Administrative School Services (CLASS). The following safety measures have been put in place: Physical Distancing, Hand Hygiene, Masking, Cohorting, Screening, Isolation and Enhanced Cleaning. We are also asking that only essential personal student items be brought to school at this time. Note: No personal sports equipment, toys, stuffed animals, etc. should be sent to school as per our current health and safety protocols. **Please ensure that ALL of your child(ren)'s items are fully labelled with their first and last name in case they are misplaced.** Should you have specific questions, please contact the school. Please refer to the LKDSB Reopening Our Schools Plan which can be found at www.lkdsb.net.

Some helpful videos have been created and you are encouraged to share them with your child(ren). They are on the topics of how to properly mask/unmask, how to safely enter and exit a bus, and how to prepare your child for wearing a mask.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N4ZRdxYdBWw&feature=youtu.be>

and

<https://cklass.ca/covid19/student-transportation> under the "Learn How" section.

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 29 at 7:00 p.m.** At this point meetings will be held virtually via Google Meet. If you would like to attend the meeting please call the school so that we can add you to our invitation list and send you the virtual Google Meet meeting link or call in number, if applicable.

School Visitors

At this time, only essential visitors will be allowed to enter the school and must do so by making pre-arranged appointments. Any visitors to school will be required to self-screen and to wear a mask while on school premises. Parents/guardians will not be allowed to enter schools at this time, except in the case of emergency or a pre-arranged appointment time. Parents/guardians of students requiring extra support to help get to class once safely at school should contact the Principal. Communication between parents/guardians and teaching staff or administration will be through phone calls or email. We remind everyone that it is necessary to enter through the front doors and report to the school office immediately upon your arrival. You must sign in and out of the building and include all applicable contact information for contact tracing purposes. 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 this year.

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 if and when they resume prior to game day or practices. We do appreciate your cooperation and support in preparing them to become responsible citizens.

Parent/Guardian Volunteers

Unfortunately at this point, volunteers will not be permitted access to our building due to our current health and safety measures and protocols.

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 auto-injector 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."

Student Transportation/Busing Information/Bus Students and Inclement Weather

Parents/guardians can access their child(ren)'s transportation specifics and information by going to the Parent Portal section of the transportation website at <https://cklass.ca/services/student-transportation/>. Here you can find bus times, routes, safety measures, cohort information if we have to move into the adaptive school model due to a COVID-19 outbreak, etc.

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 2020-2021 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.

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 days when buses are cancelled, please make arrangements to have them picked up at dismissal time.

If you have questions or concerns about bus transportation, please contact CLASS, our transportation consortium at 1-877-330-4287.

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 www.lkdsb.net/school/plymptonwyoming.

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. Communication between parents/guardians and teaching staff or administration will be through phone calls or email.

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 and in front of the school on the left hand side only between the speed bumps.

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

Plympton-Wyoming P.S. students will NOT be permitted to leave the school property at lunch/recess times this school year due to COVID-19 and our current health and safety protocols. As such, ALL students will need to bring a nut free lunch/snack with them each day.

Nut Aware

A reminder that Plympton-Wyoming P.S. is a Nut Aware school as we have a number of students who have severe allergies. Your cooperation in providing your child(ren) with nut free lunches and snacks is very much appreciated. Please note that Wow butter is also not permitted.

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.

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 to homerooms shortly, but they will not be able to be brought home at this time due to COVID-19.

Remind 101

ALL 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.

Student Accident Insurance

The LKDSB does not provide accident insurance coverage for student injuries that occur on school property or during school activities, including extracurricular sports.

If a student is injured, parent(s)/guardian(s) are responsible for any costs not covered by their Government Health Insurance Plan or their employer's health care plan. The Board encourages all parents/guardians to review this or other available Student Accident Insurance plans, especially those with a child(ren) participating in medium to high-impact physical activities (both during school and outside school hours).

The insuremykids student accident insurance program offers three plans with a variety of benefits and affordable rates. Their most affordable plan is available for as little as \$17 per year. All plans provide 24/7 coverage. For more information or to purchase insurance, please visit www.insuremykids.com or call 1-800-463-5437.

The 2020-2021 Student Accident Insurance Program is available for purchase now and expires September 30, 2021 no matter when it is purchased. For example: if someone purchases a new plan on October 2, 2020, it still expires on September 30, 2021.

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 3) the School Council Nomination Form (if interested). Note: Some of these forms were mailed out to you earlier via Canada Post.

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

Sincerely,

Mr. A. Parnham
Principal