

February 2024

Mrs. Erin Gower, Principal Mrs. Angela Côté, Vice Principal



@SJMKnights

Mrs. Jennifer Jarrett, Secretary Ms. Chelsea Kukura, Clerk

Office Update

It is hard to believe that Term 1 is coming to an end this week, which marks the halfway point in the school year. All students have shown growth, flexibility and resiliency and we are looking forward to even more great learning in the remaining half of the year. If at any point you have questions, comments, or concerns, please reach out to your child's classroom teacher or to the office. We want to ensure that students are feeling safe, comfortable, and welcome.

February Character Trait-Collaboration

A collaborative learning approach involves students working together on activities or learning tasks in a group small enough to ensure that everyone participates. Students in the group may work on separate tasks contributing to a common overall outcome or work together on a shared task.

Research has shown that educational experiences that are active, social, contextual, engaging, and student-owned lead to deeper learning. The benefits of collaborative learning include development of higher-level thinking, oral communication, self-management, and leadership skills.



Staffing Updates

We have had a few staffing updates since the holiday break. Ms. Ford will be teaching in the Ojibwe Language classrooms as well as teaching as a curriculum provider for the next couple of months, Ms. Donohue will be teaching in the afternoon in the Gr 7/8 FI classroom, and Ms. Barber will continue to teach in the Gr 6/7 FI and 7/8 FI classrooms. If you need assistance during this time and are unable to contact your child's homeroom teacher, please contact the main office for help.

Black History Month

This month Black History and African Heritage is being celebrated in the Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB). In recognition of Black History/African Heritage during the month of February, the LKDSB is committed to recognizing the historically erased role of Black Canadians in our history and society. Students at Sir John Moore will continue their learning not only in February, but throughout the rest of the year in a variety of contexts.



Term 1 Report Cards

Report cards will be sent home with students on Friday, February 16th. Please review the reports with your child and look at their goals for the remainder of the year. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's report, please connect with their classroom teacher. After reviewing the report, please send the envelopes back to school as they will be reused for Term 2 Reports.

Valentine's Day

On Monday, February 14th, students are encouraged to dress in red and pink to help celebrate Valentine's Day. Students may bring in items to share with their classmates if they wish. If bringing in treats, please ensure that they are peanut free as we have several students in the building with allergies. \heartsuit \checkmark \checkmark \checkmark \checkmark \checkmark \checkmark \checkmark \checkmark

As a Muskoka Woods fundraiser, the grade 8s will be hosting a Valentine's Day Dance/ Party for the school. There will be various items available for purchase. More details to follow soon.

Focusing on Kindness

While students are always encouraged to be kind and respectful towards one another, we will be placing a specific emphasis on the importance of kindness this month. A new club, The Kindness Club, will begin next week where students will begin multiple initiatives of kindness, both within the school as well as in the broader community. Students are encouraged to wear pink shirts on Wednesday, February 28th, which is Pink Shirt Day, to take a stand against bullying. For further information about Pink Shirt Day, please click the following link: <u>Pink Shirt Day- CBC Kids</u>



Family Game Night

Please join us for a fun night filled with pizza, games, and performances on Thursday, February 15th between 4:00-6:30. Pizza is available for purchase on School Cash Online. If you have your own favourite game, please be sure to bring it, otherwise, we will have plenty of games available to play at the school. We hope to see you there!



2024 FDK Registration

Do you, or someone you know, have a child that is born in 2020? If so, it is time to register for Kindergarten for the 2024/2025 year! We can't wait to welcome our newest Knights to our SJM Community!



<u>School Council</u>

We have a very caring and dedicated group of family members that meets a few times throughout the year to help make the school a better place for learning for our students. If you are interested in being part of this team, we would love to hear from you. All are welcome. Our next meeting is being held in the Learning Commons on Tuesday, February 6th at 6:00.

Inclement Weather

Sir John Moore is in ZONE 3 - In the event of inclement weather, listen to the local radio station or check your mySBI App for information regarding bus cancellations and school closures. Please keep the following in mind: In the event of fog, buses that are cancelled in the morning will run in the afternoon. When buses are cancelled in the morning due to snow, buses will not run in the afternoon.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Feb 1/2 – Kindergarten Registration

Feb 2- PD Dy

Feb 6- Career Dress Up Day

Feb 6- School Council Meeting

Feb 8- LCCVI Gr 8 Info Night

Feb 14- Valentine's Day- Red/ Pink/ White Day

Feb 15- Family Game Night- 4:00-6:30

Feb 15- GLSS Gr 8 Info Night

Feb 16- Term 1 Report Cards sent home

Feb 19- Family Day- No School

Feb 20- Grade 8 Grad Photos