

NEWS FROM THE NEST



Tilbury Area Public School
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We acknowledge that the land on which our school sits and on which we gather each day is a part of the traditional territory of the Chippewa, Odawa, Potawatomi and Delaware Nations. These Indigenous Nations, known as the Anishinaabeg and Lunaapeew, agreed through their ancestral languages to the mutual sharing of the land, with obligations and responsibilities to the environment.

December 2023

From Mrs. Byatt-Millington

Hello Falcon Families!

Once again, we have a busy month coming up at school – the volleyball season is ending, and the basketball season is upon us. Classes are preparing their songs, dances, skits, and poems for presenting in the gym during the school carol sing. Classes are once again visiting our seniors at the two long-term care homes in Tilbury. We are proud of the contributions our students are making to our community – decorating a tree for the park, providing a wreath for the Tilbury Cenotaph at the Legion Remembrance Day Service, volunteering for The Gift, joining the Rotary Interact Club or donating to the Goodfellows No Child Without a Christmas campaign – we know that all of these contributions help to make our community a great place to be.

Hot Lunches

Hot lunches continue to be a great success and a time saver for many families. As we move forward through the year, the plan is to offer the following:

- Pizza (Fridays)– orders sent out for 2-3 months at a time – next order form comes home mid-January
- Harvest Fresh (Tuesdays) – also sent out 2 months at a time – next order form is out in the new year
- Subway – each month we'll offer an opportunity to purchase sandwiches from Subway

Money raised through hot lunch sales goes into the Student Trust Fund, which is used to subsidize field trips and purchase equipment for student use.

School Council

While we meet in person, several parents have asked to have a virtual option as well. For all future meetings, this will be made available. If you would like to join virtually, please contact the office and your email address will be added to the list of members.

Our next meeting will be Monday, December 11th at 6:30 pm in the Learning Commons.

Sports Update

Volleyball – Sr. Volleyball has wrapped up with a great season of volleyball behind them. Both teams demonstrated a great deal of growth from where they were last year. They worked together more to get the ball over the net and are coming together as a team. Congratulations to both teams for qualifying for the quarter finals! Many thanks to Mrs. Bolohan, Mr. Cobb, and Mrs. Burk for coaching.

Intramurals – Dodgeball intramurals for Grade 4-6 is wrapping up, thanks to Mr. Munroe for organizing and supervising.

Basketball – Tryouts for Senior Girls' and Boys' Basketball will be taking place soon. Students are asked to pay attention to the announcements for more information.

eSports – This is our inaugural year of eSports, with thanks to Mrs. Bolohan and Mrs. Krzemien for organizing and for all of the staff for helping with supervision. Students have been practicing their Mario Kart-ing and their Rocket League-ing to compete in the upcoming District tournament. Our teams will be going head-to-head with teams from other LKDSB schools in this competition.

Grade 8 Graduation

We are beginning to make plans to celebrate our Grade 8 grads. Graduation pictures will be taken on Friday, January 20th. Students are asked to bring/wear a white shirt with a collar. If they don't have a shirt or tie, the photographer does have some available, but be aware these will be shared.

Students may wish to follow a traditional style of dress (shirt and tie for boys and shirt/blouse for girls) but that can be determined by each family.

Student Leadership

Our Student Council has been hard at work preparing to support the Kinsmen and Goodfellows with their food/toy/clothing drive this winter season. They have been collecting donations from each of the homerooms and are hoping that when their donations are laid out, will stretch from the Kindergarten rooms to the big gym. A movie/PJ party is the prize, and they'll even provide the popcorn! Congratulations to Ms. Bolohan's class for having the highest number of donations! They will be rewarded with a class party of their choice.

The Student Council is also organizing the Give the Grinch a Heart program. Students are being encouraged to acknowledge random acts of kindness they see in their classes and on the yard with "Heart Tickets", which will be displayed for all to see.

The Junior Kindness Club is also organizing a few events for students. They are beginning the month by creating a Light Up the Season with Kindness whole school activity. Club members have created lightbulbs for everyone in the school to decorate and we'll hang them for all to see. Each bulb will carry a message of kindness and acceptance and hopefully encourage everyone to act with kindness each day. They are also creating posters for each classroom to promote positive and inclusive words and actions.

Playground Equipment

All the playground equipment (climbers, monkey bars) is now closed for the season. Because the ground freezes, the pea gravel and wood chips are no longer able to absorb the impact of a fall, making it unsafe for play.

Please help us to enforce this by encouraging your child(ren) to stay off the equipment before and after school, until it reopens in the spring.

Christmas Holidays

Our last day of school in 2023 is Friday, December 22. The school will be closed for two weeks; phones will not be answered, and the voice mail will only be checked periodically. If you have information to share with us, please leave a message on the general voicemail and it will be returned when checked.

The school reopens on Monday, January 8th.

Bus Cancellations – Zone 7

During the fall we might experience some heavy fog in which there could be the potential for bus cancellations. During the fall season, when there are bus cancellations due to fog, busses will not run in the morning but will run in the afternoon.

TAPS is in ZONE 7.

To check for any bus cancellations during the school year, please tune into the local radio stations or check the school's social media feeds.

COVID Protocols

Currently, the LKDSB continues to take direction from and follow the advice of the CK Medical Officer of Health, the Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Education.

While many protocols and guidelines have eased up, we are still encouraging families to do the following to keep our building and our people as safe as can be:

- Stay home if feeling sick (to determine when to return to school, feel free to continue to use the School Screener for guidance - [Covid School Screener](#))
- Practice good hand hygiene – soap or sanitizer

- Practice coughing/sneezing into your elbow, not your hands
- Do not share items that touch the mouth (water bottles, lip balm for example)

As everyone has their own level of comfort with being in public, we encourage all our staff and students to respect the choices of others. What is good for one family's health, may be different from another's.

DATES TO REMEMBER IN DECEMBER

Dec 8 – Pyjama Day

Dec 11 – School Council Meeting – 6:30

Dec 18 – 22 – Caroling/Student Presentations

Dec 18 – Red and Green Day (Wear something red. Or green. Or both!)

Dec 19 – Mad About Plaid (Wear your plaidiest plaid)

Dec 20 – Winter Wonderland Whiteout (Wear something white today)

Dec 21 – Winter Holiday Head Gear (Wear your favourite holiday hat/earmuffs/headband/etc)

Dec 22 – Long Winter's Nap (Wear your coziest PJ's)

Dec 22 – Last Day of Classes