

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.

January 2023

From Mrs. Byatt-Millington

Welcome to 2023! I have a feeling that great things are going to happen this year.

Our school community worked hard before the December break – learning new routines, meeting new friends, settling into new and returning activities. Now that we're settled in, it's a great time to look at how we are doing and where we need to go next.

The Student Leadership team is actively working within the school to ensure that Student Voice is heard, loud and clear. The staff have been busy creating a variety of activities to engage students in. So many families were here to see their child(ren) up on stage in December and we appreciate everyone who made time to come to the school.

January is a time of great beginnings and the best one is the beginning of school! We are excited to welcome our newest Falcons to the nest at Kindergarten Registration. If you have a child born in 2019 (or born in 2018 and not yet attending school) or know of one, please see below for Registration times/dates.

Kindergarten Registration

Registering your child for Kindergarten is as easy as 1, 2, 3.

1. Find your school.
2. Complete the online registration form at [LKDSB Kindergarten Registration](#) in advance.
3. Come and meet our caring staff on:
Thursday, Feb. 2, 2023, from 4:00pm – 7:00pm
or Friday, Feb. 3, 2023, from 9:00am – 3:00pm.

Remember to bring:

- Birth certificate or proof of Canadian Citizenship or Residency Status (if appropriate)
- Proof of residency (e.g., utility or tax bill, lease/rental agreement, etc.)
- Your child

School Immunizations

Unless they have a valid exemption on file with CK Public Health, all children who attend school in Ontario must be vaccinated against diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, meningitis, whooping cough and chickenpox.

Families are asked to provide proof of vaccination to the CK Public Health Unit. Reporting can be done online ([Chatham-Kent Public Health Immunization Reporting](#)), phone (519-355-1071 Ext. 5900), or by fax (519-436-3214).

Note that doctor's offices do not forward immunization information to Public Health and if you have moved from another Public Health Unit, they will not forward information to CKPH. Families are responsible for updating CKPH themselves.

Winter Dress

With the ever-changing weather, please ensure that your children are dressed appropriately for the conditions. Hats, boots, mittens and warm coats are needed this time of year. This is also a great time of year to wear layers so that children can adjust their clothing as the temperature warms throughout the day.

We have a limited amount of spare clothing and coats here at school for students to access if they've forgotten something at home.

Students are outside multiple times during the day and we'd like them to be as comfortable as possible.

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 now
- 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, contribute to Grade 8 Graduation 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, January 23rd at 6:30 pm in the Learning Commons.

Sports Update

Volleyball – Sr. Volleyball has finished with both teams seeing a place in the Quarter Finals. Unfortunately, their journey ended there. Coaches would like to thank team members for their dedication to practicing and for showing positive sportsmanship on the court. Both teams participated in the annual Staff/Student Volleyball game and while they kept the score close, were defeated by the staff. Many thanks to Mrs. Bolohan, Mr. Cobb and Mr. Munroe for coaching.

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

Basketball – Tryouts for Senior Girls' and Boys' Basketball have taken place and teams are being formed. League play will begin in a few weeks' time. Thank you to Mrs. Burns, Mr. Cobb, Mrs. Martinho, Mrs. Laforest and Mr. Orr for volunteering to coach.

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 Leadership Team worked hard in December – organizing a canned food drive, selling Candy Grams and preparing for the annual Carol Sing. They are busy this month redesigning some of the school's common areas to ensure that all students are seen within our halls.

Drop Off and Pick Up

Students should not be dropped off before 9:00 in the morning, as the yard is unsupervised until that time. As well, please encourage your children to head straight home after school instead of playing at the school or park.

If you need to pick your child up early, please let the office know. Our attendance phone line is active 24 hours a day and you are welcome to leave a message on it at any time. We ask that parents avoid picking up their

children between 3:15-3:35 as the school is very busy at that time and to ensure the safety of every student, we need to be able to account for everyone.

Playground Equipment

A reminder that all playground equipment (climbers, monkey bars, GaGa Ball pit) is closed for the season. We ask families to 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.

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

January 9 – First Day of Classes

January 13 – Subway Orders Due to Office

January 19 – Subway Lunch

January 20 – Grade 8 Grad Photos

February 2/3 – Kindergarten Registration

February 3 – PA Day (No Classes)