



September 2023

Winston Churchill Public School

Telephone: 519.352.8680

<http://winstonchurchill.lkdsb.net>

Weather Zone: 8

Mr. C. Lambkin, Principal

Ms. C. Jansseune, Secretary

A Message from the Office

Welcome back! It is so good to be back with our Bulldog family. We hope that everyone is ready to begin a new school year. On behalf of the entire Winston Churchill Bulldog family, we would like to extend the warmest of welcomes to you and your child(ren) for our 2023-2024 school year! Our staff are so excited and are looking forward to working with you and your child(ren) once again. Please feel free to contact the school whenever you wish to discuss anything pertinent to the education and well-being of your child(ren). Our staff list can be found on our website—on the Staff tab.

Thank-you!

Special thanks to our custodial crew for doing such an excellent job cleaning in preparation for the first day of school! Our school looks amazing! As well, thank-you to our staff for creating warm and inviting learning spaces for our students. Thanks to Mrs. Jansseune for all her organizational work in the office.

Dress Code

While at school, students are expected to be dressed in a tasteful, age-appropriate clothing. Clothing shall be of a style and fit appropriate for school as determined by school staff. Students are expected to wear tops that cover the abdomen, and the back and shoulders. Summer tops should be the width of three fingers across the shoulders. When the arms and hands are extended down the sides of the body, the bottom of the skirt, shorts or dresses should be at least the length of the extended fingertips. No exposure of undergarments is permitted. Tops and clothing that bear offensive language, pictures or messages promoting drugs or alcoholic beverages are not permitted.

Note: School administration, teaching and support staff have the responsibility to request a change of clothing if the Dress Code is not being followed.

Cell Phones & Electronic Devices:

All electronic devices, such as cell phones/cameras, iPads, gaming devices, and computers are not to be used while the student is on school property before, during, or after school without the permission of school personnel and only for educational purposes. **Cell phones are to be kept in backpacks while at school unless the student has permission from the teacher for educational use.** When carrying a personal electronic device, it is the student's responsibility if lost, stolen or damaged. At no time will students use electronic devices for digital, audio or video recording without permission from the teacher. When students need to contact home/parent, it is important that they notify school staff rather than use an electronic option, to ensure staff are aware. During nutrition breaks students are not to be using electronic devices, they are to be stored in backpacks. The focus is always responsible use of technology.

Technology

Students and parents should review the Responsible Use of Technology guidelines to ensure that students are aware of their responsibilities when using the internet and LKDSB devices.

<https://www.lkdsb.net/Board/PoliciesRegulations/Policies/Responsible%20Use%20of%20Technology.pdf#search=responsible%20use%20technology>

School Bus Expectations

Please reinforce these bus procedures and expectations with your child:

- ✓ Wait in a safe place, away from traffic, at your pickup site.
- ✓ Stay away from the bus until it has come to a complete stop and the door opens.
- ✓ Stay in your designated seat from the beginning until the bus stops completely.
- ✓ Keep yourself and all items inside the bus.
- ✓ Be sure you are visible to the driver and the driver is visible to you when approaching the bus.
- ✓ Always obey the directions of the bus driver

Please be aware that busing is a privilege that will be withdrawn if your child's behaviour is unsafe, disorderly or outside the behavior that is expected.

End of the Day Procedure & Parking Lot

We continue to work to keep our parking lot safe. We need your help! We would ask that you arrange ahead of time how students are getting home. ***If you are picking your child up, please ask them to stay in the school yard until you have parked your car, so that you can meet them in the yard.*** This ensures safety for everyone. Also, please remember that we do not want students crossing the road on King Street unless they are at the Merritt/King intersection, or the lights at Crystal and King. Parents are important role models for all students, and we hope you will work with us to instill this practice. We

have a staff member on King Street to remind all students and families about this expectation. ***Walkers are reminded to use the path on the west side of the parking lot (the pathway closest to the field). Students should not cut through the parking lot to access King Street.*** All scooters and bikes should be walked while on school property. Please park in the spaces provided, and not along the fence (***no parking zone***).

Phone Numbers and Email Addresses

It is essential that we are made aware of any contact information changes in case there is an emergency at school. As phone numbers and email addresses may change over the course of the year, please remember to contact office staff so we can update our records. Changes to items such as child custody information should also be reported promptly to the school as well. Student Information Verification Pages are coming home next week (the first full week of school) for every student. Everyone must return these forms to the school.

Registration Verification Forms

Registration Verification Forms will be sent home with students shortly. It is critical for the office to have updated contact information in case of an emergency, so your assistance in the speedy return of these forms is greatly appreciated.

Attendance

All children are expected to attend school every day unless they are sick or off with parent approval. A parent can make a request, in writing, to remove their child from school for short term periods-under 15 consecutive school days (family reasons or vacations). An alternative program of study will not be provided for these absences. Students are required to complete regular program activities and assessments. Requests for absences over 15 days, in writing, will require that a program of study be provided and must be completed by the student. If a student is absent for more than 15 days without a written request or a program of study, the student will be removed from the school register.

Class Organization

As with previous years, the Ministry of Education has implemented caps for primary classes. As a result, we must adhere to these class caps. *There is always a possibility that some classes might be subject to change.*

School Council Meeting

Our first school council meeting of the year is scheduled for Thursday, September 28th, at 3:45pm. All parents or guardians are welcome. This is a wonderful opportunity to stay up to date on events at the school, and to share ideas and input.

Snack Program

We are excited to announce that the Nutrition Program is returning. We recognize that this is an essential program for students; If you are looking for ways to contribute to sustain this program this year, donations are always welcome and can be arranged through the office.

Allergy Alert

Winston Churchill Public School is a Nut Aware School.

As a reminder, we have students attending our school who are allergic to peanuts. We thank you in advance for your support by not sending nut products to the school.

If your child has medical concerns or has medical updates, please make us aware so we can ensure that the school staff is aware in the interest of best supporting your son/daughter.

Medication

Please let the office know if your child has a special health problem such as asthma, diabetes, allergies, etc. It is important that we be informed of any changes in your child'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 no changes to your child's medication are required from the last school year, then parents/guardians may simply initial and date the bottom of the existing form indicating that there have been no changes. **If your child requires 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 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.

Terry Fox

Our Terry Fox Run/Walk will be held on Thursday, September 28th. We will be selling popsicles for \$1 with the profits going to the Terry Fox Foundation. The sale of popsicles will go until Wednesday, September 27th. Donations are welcome.

Meet the Teacher Night

Our meet the teacher night is scheduled for Sept. 21st from 4:00 to 6:00. Families are invited to come out and meet our staff.

Picture Day

Our Fall Picture Day will be held on Friday, September 22, 2023. Class pictures will also be taken at this time. Forms will be sent home.

School Planners

With the use of SeeSaw, Google Classroom, School Facebook Page and School Website, we will not be using student planners for this school year. If you feel that a planner is a tool that your child and you will use, please contact the office and we can agree on a solution.

Orange Shirt Day – September 30th

The Lambton Kent District School Board will commemorate the impact of residential schools on Friday, September 29, 2023 – Orange Shirt Day. Students and staff are encouraged to wear orange shirts and use this day as a catalyst to encourage learning and understanding about the residential school system and the impacts that system has had on First Nations, Metis and Inuit people. This is a meaningful way as school communities to come together in a spirit of reconciliation and hope because “Every Child Matters”. Please take the opportunity to learn more about Orange Shirt Day and its origins by visiting and sharing the following link: <http://www.orangeshirtday.org>

Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol

The Lambton Kent District School Board is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students, staff, school visitors, and community members. When a student behaves inappropriately, principals will most often employ progressive discipline strategies to help a student take responsibility for their actions, learn from their mistakes, and make better choices in the future.

In more extreme cases however, when a student's behaviour poses a potential threat to their own or others' well-being, the Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol (VTRA) supports principals in taking further steps to safeguard everyone.

The VTRA protocol outlines how a school responds immediately to threatening incidents including but not limited to possession of a weapon or replica weapon, bomb threat or plan, verbal or written (including electronic) threats to harm oneself or others, other threats of violence, and fire setting.

The initial response team is likely to include the Principal / Vice-Principal, police, and board staff. Should conditions warrant, a Community Threat Assessment Team will be convened. This community team includes representatives of community agencies who work with schools and boards to keep our students and staff safe, such as local police and children's mental health organizations. Parents and guardians will be notified if their child will be discussed through the Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol.

If parents/guardians cannot be reached, or if they choose not to provide consent, but a concern for safety still exists due to threatening behaviour, the threat assessment may still proceed.

Link to Fair Notice Communication Regarding Violent Threat Risk Assessment Protocol:
[https://www.lkdsb.net/Pages/newsitem.aspx?ItemID=460&ListID=1cb83139-1d39-452b-8ab2-b6cfab6c2ba7&TemplateID=Announcement_Item#/=](https://www.lkdsb.net/Pages/newsitem.aspx?ItemID=460&ListID=1cb83139-1d39-452b-8ab2-b6cfab6c2ba7&TemplateID=Announcement_Item#/)

School Cash Online

School Cash Online is a convenient, web-based solution that gives parents/guardians the ability to pay for student items online. School Cash Online provides multiple payment options, including eCheck (direct withdrawal from your bank account) or “MyWallet” (virtually add funds and reload like a gift card). Please note, banking information is not saved in School Cash Online and must be re-entered for every transaction. Unused funds in “MyWallet” will be carried over to the next year for back-to-school purchases unless a refund is requested (more information about refunds will be available on the School Cash Online website once launched). To sign-up, parents/guardians must provide your child’s last name, birth date and student number. Your child’s student number will be on the student information profile sheet sent home, or please call the office.

Further information about School Cash Online is available at
<http://www.lkdsb.net/Board/BudgetFinance/SchoolCashOnline/Pages/default.aspx>

Follow Winston Churchill on Twitter

Check out our Twitter account and keep up to date on what’s happening at the school. Go to @WCPSBulldogs.

Important Upcoming Dates

Date

Event

Sept. 15 th	PA Day – No School
Sept. 18 th	Book Fair Begins! (More info will be sent home by classroom teachers)
Sept. 21 st	Meet the Staff & Families
Sept. 22 nd	Picture Day
Sept. 28 th	Terry Fox Run
Sept. 29 th	Orange Shirt Day