



Griffin Gazette

October, 2020—<http://wjbaird.lkdsb.net>/All the Good News from W.J. Baird!

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

We have had a great start up to the school year even though it looked a little differently. I am so proud of all of our students as they follow the rules of social distancing and practise good hand hygiene- way to go Baird! We currently have 151 students as many of our friends are attending school virtually. We hope to see them back soon!

SCHOOL BUS INFORMATION

We are in Zone 7. Bussing information is available at www.schoolbusinfo.com

Busses canceled due to snow do not pick up students at the end of the day, busses cancelled due to fog in the morning will take students home in the afternoon.

Unless otherwise stated, schools will remain open during inclement weather. The Lambton Kent District School Board developed a mobile app called "My SBI" Please download this free app from iTunes Apps to check out information on news including bus cancellations. Alternatively, you can listen to local radio stations for bus updates during inclement weather or visit schoolbusinfo.com.

SAFE ARRIVAL POLICY

At W.J. Baird, we have a process in place to ensure the safe arrival of all students. Please contact the school if your child is absent in the morning or in the afternoon (unless a note has already been sent), **please provide a reason for the student's absence.** We have a 24-hour answering machine so you may call any time, day or night. Calls home are

made for all unexplained absences. If there is no answer, calls will be made to parent's/guardian's workplace or emergency numbers. Please help us by contacting the school before our morning or afternoon bell rings. Notes from home are required to excuse a child early from class.

COVID-19 SCHOOL SCREENING

All students (or parents/guardians on behalf of students), staff and visitors must complete the screening before attending a Lambton Kent District School Board school or facility. The [provincial daily COVID-19 School Screening](#) assessment tool is available online. [Click here](#) to download the print version.

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

YOUR CHILD IS SICK...

AND was told to stay home from school (by the Ontario COVID-19 Screening Tool) or has been sent home from school with symptoms... Please refer to this information page that has been sent along with this newsletter, published by Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit. For more information, please visit their website at <https://ckphu.com/covid-19> or call 519-355-1071 x1900.

Please inform the school which of the three options you plan on taking in order for your child to return to school. Work will be provided upon request while your child is waiting for his/her COVID-19 test results or quarantining.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM-Now Grab ‘N Go

Classrooms receive a basket of fruit and cereal bars that are replenished as needed throughout the week to support those students who require food to supplement their lunches or as needed.

Also linked is a resource shared by Ontario Student Nutrition program for parents on “Tips for a Healthy and Safe Lunch in School”.

<https://ckphu.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Tips-for-the-Healthy-and-Safe-School-Lunches-1.pdf>

ORANGE SHIRT DAY

Many staff and students wore orange shirts on September 30, 2020. Orange Shirt Day is an event that began in 2013. It is designed to educate and promote awareness about the residential school system and the impact this system has had on Indigenous communities for more than a century in Canada.

TERRY FOX RUN

Once again, staff and students at W.J. Baird School will honour the memory of Terry Fox by participating in our annual Terry Fox Run at the school on Friday, October 2. To everyone who will contribute to help fund cancer research, thank you very much. Your help in honouring one of Canada’s great heroes is much appreciated. Thank you to Mrs. Hough and Mrs. Tinline for all their hard work in co-ordinating the Terry Fox School Day Run!

NEW MATH CURRICULUM

The Ontario Ministry of Education updated the 2005 math curriculum for Grades 1 to 8. Teachers will use the new curriculum starting September 2020.

The new mathematics curriculum contains 5 strands: number, algebra, data, spatial sense, financial literacy and socio-emotional learning skills and mathematical processes designed to:

- improve student performance in math
- help students solve everyday math problems
- increase students’ employability to attain the jobs of the future

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/new-math-curriculum-grades-1-8>

SCHOOL COUNCIL

WJB is fortunate to have a dedicated group of parents who volunteer to be members of our School Council. In their role as an advisory council, their input is much appreciated. Our next meeting is November 18 at 6:30 p.m. done virtually. New members are welcome!

FALL PHOTOS

Currently there are no Fall photos but they are working on a safe plan to get to all the schools to take photos. More information to follow at a later date

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

- Thank you to parents for using the cross walk with your kids – it sets a great example, for waiting outside for your child(ren), for encouraging your kids to walk/ride their bikes (with helmets!) to school, and also for making pick up arrangements with your child(ren)’s teacher(s).
- Monday, October 12: Thanksgiving Monday Holiday
- Moving Between Face-to-Face Learning and Virtual Learning transfer deadline-must notify the Principal by October 22. Student begins new program type on November 16. ‘Reopening Our Schools’ Plan found at: [https://www.lkdsb.net/Pages/default.aspx#/="](https://www.lkdsb.net/Pages/default.aspx#/=)
- October 30, 2020, Students are encouraged to wear their Orange and Black. As of now, we ask that parents refrain from sending treats for the class.