



W.J. Baird Public School

182 King Street, Blenheim, ON 519-676-5407

December 2023 Newsletter

Visit our website @ <https://www.lkdsb.net/school/wjbaird>

Follow us on Facebook: @WJBairdPS or <https://www.facebook.com/WJBairdPS>

From the Principal's Desk

As we approach the winter break, we have lots of exciting things happening at WJ Baird! We hope that families will be able to join us on Thursday, December 14th for our Winter Open House event. For more information on this event, please see the flyer on page 2 of the newsletter. On December 18th we will welcome the CKSS band who will entertain us with a mini-concert.

The winter weather has arrived, and WJB wants to ensure that all students have the necessary winter outdoor wear and boots. Please contact the office if any student needs assistance getting outfitted for the winter weather.

I would like to wish the students, staff and WJB families a safe and happy holiday season! The last day of classes will be on Friday, December 22nd. We look forward to seeing all our Griffins back in the new year when classes resume on Monday, January 8th.

-Miss McFarland

Important & Up Coming Dates:

December 1-8	Food & Toy Drive
December 11-15	Book Fair
December 14	Winter Open House 4:30-6:30pm.
December 18	CKSS Band presentation
December 22	Last day of classes
December 25-	Winter Break
January 5	
January 8	Classes resume
January 18	School Council Meeting @ 6:30pm

Food & Toy Drive

We are collecting donations of non-perishable food items, personal hygiene items and new (unwrapped) toys or clothing items. These items will be distributed to families in the Blenheim community who are in need of assistance this holiday season. Items that have been suggested for donation include food, toys, children's pajamas, pajama pants for older children size S-XXL, gift cards and personal hygiene items.

Thank you for your generosity and support of this worthwhile cause. We will be accepting donations at the school until Friday, December 8th.

W.J. Baird P.S. Invites You:

Winter Open House

Thursday, December 14th

Open House: 4:30-6:30pm

Activities Planned:
Hot Chocolate Bar
Cookies
Crafts
Visit Santa
Holiday Photo Booth

Scholastic Book Fair: 4:30-6:30pm

Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be coming to WJ Baird. During the week of December 11, classes will have an opportunity to view the book fair. Purchases may be made on Thursday evening from 4:30-6:30pm during our Winter Open House, or on Friday, December 15th at recesses.

Blenheim & Merlin Area School Breakfast Program

WJB is very fortunate to be supported by the Blenheim & Merlin Area School Breakfast Program in providing students with daily healthy snack. This group purchases and delivers nutritious snacks to the school at absolutely no cost. We greatly appreciate their support of our students! Anyone wishing to make a donation to this cause is welcome to contact the group via email treasurer@bmsbp.ca or make a donation via the website BMSBP.ca.

School Council

The school council meets at different times throughout the school year. These meetings are open to any parent, guardian or community member who is interested in attending. Please watch our social media accounts and website for school council meeting dates. Our next school council meeting will be on Thursday, January 18th at 6:30pm. We hope to see you there!

Staying Connected with WJB

For the most up-to-date information, please consider following us on Facebook. Our Facebook page is intended to be an information page that gives reminders about upcoming events. This page is information only and does not take comments or messages. Should you ever need more information regarding an item posted on our Facebook page, please contact the office. In addition to this our school website can be found at <https://www.lkdsb.net/school/wjbaired>. You can find information about upcoming important dates, and our newsletters will appear on this page.

Please see the message below from Chatham-Kent Public Health. Do not reply to this email. Contact Chatham-Kent Public Health directly [at (519) 352-7270 ext. 2457] if you have any questions.



Dear Parent/Guardian:

Chatham-Kent Public Health (CKPH) will be implementing the annual suspension process again in 2024 for all students with incomplete immunization records. We'd like to give you the opportunity to **report** your child's immunizations to CKPH or **visit your health care provider** to obtain missing vaccines before our first notices are mailed in early January. First notices are followed by a Suspension Order, which is mailed to those who still have incomplete records at least 4 weeks before the suspension date of **March 5, 2024**. Those students who have not received and/or reported required immunizations by the suspension date will be suspended from school for up to 20 days or until our records are updated.

The **Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA)** requires parents/guardians to **report immunizations** (or provide appropriate exemption documents) to CKPH for the following diseases if their children attend school in Ontario: Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Meningococcal disease, Pertussis (whooping cough), Varicella (chickenpox - for children born in 2010 or later).

Even if a student has all the required vaccines, if the vaccines have not been reported to CKPH, they will receive a first notice in the mail and could be suspended. Immunizations are not automatically reported by health care providers to CKPH, and it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to ensure our records are up to date.

View your child's current record with CKPH and **REPORT IMMUNIZATIONS ONLINE** at www.ckphu.com/vaccination.

You may also mail/drop off a copy of your child's record: Immunization Records, 435 Grand Ave. W., 2nd Floor, Chatham, ON, N7M 5L8

CKPH wants children to stay in school, so we are here to support parents/guardians to ensure records are up to date. **If you have questions about submitting your records or vaccine requirements call: 519-352-7270 ext. 2457.**

Thank you,
Chatham-Kent Public Health