

Errol Village Newsletter SEPTEMBER 2022



Principal: Mr. Chris Coyle Secretary: Ms. Carolin Boersma

https://www.lkdsb.net/school/errolvillage/Pages/default.aspx#/=

Welcome Back and Construction Update

September is always an exciting time at Errol Village and this new school year brings us a renewed energy to our school community. In the June newsletter, I shared that our school has a goal to reconnect with family and community members. To that point, we encourage you to drop into the school for a visit or just to say hello. We are excited to rebuild these connections. It's part of what makes Errol Village such a great school! On September 29th, we are planning to host our Meet the Staff event which will coincide with a Book Fair here at the school. You will hear more details shortly about these events.

As you are all aware, construction continues at our school. The focus of this stage of construction is to revitalize our parking situation, improve drainage around our school, and create a 'kiss and drop' lane on the west side of the school. We have also received a new portable which will be the classroom for Mrs. Newman-Campbell and her students. Architects are still in the design stages for our other project which will include the creation of 46 student spaces and 49 licensed childcare spaces. We will continue to update everyone on the construction process through newsletters and emails.

We are pleased to be joined by a couple new staff members this year. Mrs. Carruthers is joining our team as a Prep. Teacher to various classes. We're also happy to welcome back Mrs. Burnley to Errol Village. She was an important part of our team a few years ago. Welcome to both fine educators!

Regards,

Mr. Coyle, Principal

Handbook for School Success

Staff, students and families are encouraged to read the <u>LKDSB Handbook for School Success</u>, which outlines important information for the upcoming school year, including details about support services, transportation, school programming and operating our schools. On page 7, this document also shares COVID-19 Pre-Screening and Etiquette. That said, families are always welcome to contact the school directly with any specific questions about school.

Staff

Mrs. Giles	FDK Teacher
Mrs. Vergunst	Early Childhood Educator
Mrs. Kinney	FDK Teacher
Mrs. Kreeft	Early Childhood Educator
Mrs. Armitage	Gr. 1 Teacher
Mrs. Jeffrey	Gr. 1/2 Teacher
Mrs. Paisley	Gr. 2 Teacher
Mrs. Burnley	Gr. 2/3 Teacher
Mr. Maddock	Gr. 3/4 Teacher
Ms. Feniak	Gr. 4/5 Teacher
Mrs. Newman-Campbell	Gr. 5/6 Teacher
Mrs. Kerwin	Gr. 6/7 Teacher
Mr. Woolridge	Gr. 8 Teacher and Guidance
Mrs. Bedard	Resource
Mrs. Carruthers	Prep.
Mrs. Cressman	Arts Prep
Mr. Coqu	Core French
Ms. Theriault	Educational Assistant
T.B.D.	Elementary Supervision Support
Ms. Boersma	Secretary
Mr. Ross	Custodian
Ms. Wylie	Custodian
Mr. Coyle	Principal

^{**} Student placements and classroom organizations are tentative at this time. Additional changes could occur over the next few weeks and throughout the school year. Thank you for your understanding. **

Daily Schedule

8:50 - 9:05	Bus Morning Supervision (in class)
9:05 - 11:05	Instructional Time
11:05- 11:25	First Nutritional Break & Recess
11:25 -11:45	First Nutritional Break & Recess
11:45 - 1:45	Instructional Time
1:25 - 1:45	Second Nutritional Break & Recess
1:45 - 2:05	Second Nutritional Break & Recess
2:05 - 3:25	Instructional Time (80 minutes)
3:25	Dismissal

Safe Arrival/Dismissal Procedure

Arrival (during parking lot construction)

Since student safety is our number one priority, we please ask that everyone exercise caution and drive slowly when driving near the school. There is often traffic congestion in front of the school during arrival and dismissal times.

To help with congestion, we encourage families who can walk or ride their bikes to school to do so. The bike rack will be located near the portable at the front of the school.

Supervision on our yard begins at 8:50. If arriving from the front of the school, we are asking students to enter through the east gate. There will be several staff on duty to supervise. It is important that students don't arrive prior to 8:50 as supervision is not available until that time.

We know that many families walk or may ride their bikes through the back gate off Creekside Drive and we welcome them to continue that practice. Vehicles that use that roadway are asked to respect our neighbours by adhering to signage and by not infringing on driveways, community mailboxes, or fire hydrants.

The typical bus drop off area will be available for buses to use. School staff will be there to meet students directly off the bus and walk them to the east side of the school to enter like everyone else to the back yard.

Students will proceed to their classrooms once the bell rings at 9:05. Anyone who arrives after the 9:05 bell are pleased asked to enter through the front door to report your arrival to Ms. Boersma.

As an FYI, on the east side of the school there will be temporary parking lot for staff vehicles only.

<u>Dismissal</u> (during parking lot construction)

Bus students will be called over the announcements and dismissed as each bus arrives.

Students who walk or ride bikes to school will leave the school property the same way they arrived.

<u>Please remember that, currently, students will have no access to leaving the school grounds from the west side of the school.</u>

Students who are being collected by parents from our Kindergartens, and the classes of Mrs. Armitage's, Mrs. Jeffrey's, Mrs. Burnley's, Mrs. Paisley's and Mr. Maddock's will be dismissed directly from their exterior classroom door (pictures attached). Staff will stay with the students until they are collected by family or designated babysitter.

Remember, our yard can only be accessed from the east and rear of the school so families will need to walk around the back of the school to collect their child(ren).

Students from the classes of Ms. Feniak, Mrs. Newman-Campbell, Mrs. Kerwin, and Mr. Woolridge will be dismissed from their classroom at the 3:25 bell. If necessary, families with students in these classes who plan to pick their students up using a vehicle are please asked to formulate a plan with their child(ren) regarding what location they plan to meet them.

Upcoming Dates

Sep.	15	School Council (6 p.m.)
Sep.	16	PD Day
Sep.	26	School Photo Day
Sep.	28	Book Fair Arrives
Sep.	29	Meet the Staff Event
Sep.	30	Orange Shirt Day
Oct.	7	PD Day

Our Newest Eagles

A great big welcome goes to our youngest Eagles who will be starting school for the first time!

To support a positive transition to Kindergarten, Junior Kindergarten students will have a staggered entry, with half the students attending Wednesday, September 6, and the remaining half attending on Thursday, September 7. All Senior Kindergarten students will begin full-time attendance on Tuesday, September 6. Schools will reach out to the families of Kindergarten students with more information about school start dates.

Orange Shirt Day

The Lambton Kent District School Board will commemorate the impact of residential schools on Friday, September 30, 2022 – 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.

Orange shirts are available for order by interested staff and students from Screenart, a company in Wallaceburg. Screenart has created an online store for LKDSB orders, therefore staff and families can submit payment online directly to Screenart. You can click here to go to the website.

School Council

Our first meeting for the 2022-23 school year is scheduled for **Thursday, September 15th at 6 p.m** in our Learning Commons. All parent/guardians are always welcome to attend!

Playground Equipment

Due to the construction, both sets of our playground equipment on the west side of the school had to be dismantled. The school is working with the Building Services Department to ensure that this important apparatus is reinstalled for students use as quickly as possible. We were happy to see that some of our swings returned over the past weekend!

Picture Day

The fall school picture day is scheduled for September 26th.

PD Day

September 16th and October 7th has been set aside as a Professional Development Day. Therefore, there will be no school for students that day.

School Fountains and Filling Station

All our drinking fountains and filling stations are in working order. These devices continue to be flushed as per normal water flushing procedures.

Students are encouraged to bring refillable bottles to school.

Daily Student Absences and Telephone Usage

We have a telephone answering service, therefore if your child is or will be absent, please call the school and leave a message. This assists us as we need to contact the parents of all absent students as part of our Safe Arrival Policy each day. The answering service can be accessed 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

To decrease the amount of office/class interruptions and phone calls home from students, we request that students take time at home to ensure they have what they need to be

adequately prepared for classes. Lunches, books, projects, supplies, etc. should accompany the students when they leave for school each day.

Registration Verification Forms

Registration Verification Forms will be sent home with students at the beginning of the school year. 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.

Communication through email will be ongoing and having the most up-to-date email address will ensure that you are receiving the most recent school updates.

A very important aspect of the verification form is the medical information and allergies section that the school needs to know about your child(ren). Please inform us of any changes to medical/allergy information, especially food allergies.

Please let the office know if your child has a special health

Medication

concern such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, 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 contact the school 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. 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.

Plans of Care

To promote the safety and well-being of students, the Ministry of Education requires all school boards in Ontario to develop and maintain a policy or policies to support students in schools who have asthma, diabetes, and/or epilepsy, and/or are at risk for anaphylaxis. Parents/guardians are expected to inform the school of their child's medical condition(s) and, in turn, we will co-create a Plan of Care including emergency response for their child.

Parent Volunteers

Parent volunteers are an important part of the Errol Village school community, and we look forward to welcoming

volunteers into our school. If you are interested in volunteering at the school, please contact the office. The school will be able to provide more information about the process of volunteering.

Pediculosis (Head Lice)

Fall is one of the seasons when cases of head lice (pediculosis) are most prevalent. Your assistance in early detection is greatly appreciated. Please check your child for head lice and nits weekly. If you find evidence of head lice and/or nits, please contact the school immediately. This will allow us to confidentially notify other parents/guardians in the classroom(s) affected so that they may check their child and help to limit the spread. Children suspected of having head lice and/or nits will be excused until appropriate treatment has been administered. Infestation of head lice and/or nits is an unpleasant nuisance, but not a health problem. By working together, we can help control the spread of head lice in our community.

Ticks

This <u>link</u> from Lambton Public Health is a great resource to learn more about ticks in the community.

Bus Students/Inclement Weather

The Board's Transportation Department has placed schools in geographic zones. Errol Village Public School is located in ZONE 1. However, we do have buses running in Zones 1 & 4. Please visit www.cklass.ca/services/student-transportation/ for updated information. When listening for cancellation of buses for fog/snow the zones will be announced for our students.



If your child will not be riding the bus, please send a note or make a phone call for that day prior to dismissal time. If a note/phone call is/are not received the child will be sent home on the bus. Each student will be assigned a seat on the bus for the morning and afternoon bus rides. Please log into the Parent Portal to view the bus information specific to your child, including pick-up and drop-off times. You will require your child's student number to log into the Parent Portal. This can be found on your child's report card or by contacting Ms. Boersma.

Violent Threat Risk 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.

<u>Link to Fair Notice Communication Regarding Violent Threat</u> Risk Assessment Protocol

Terry Fox Run

Our school plans to participate in the Terry Fox Run. More information will be shared once we organize the details.

Do you have a concern?

Share Your Concerns

The Lambton Kent District School Board is committed to providing the best quality learning opportunities for all students. From time to time there may be a misunderstanding, a lack of communication, or a serious situation that needs to be addressed. When this happens everyone must work together to resolve the issue. If a parent/guardian has a concern about a school matter, the following steps should be followed to resolve the issue.

Concerns at School



Concerns with the Board of Trustees

Concerns about a Trustee: Speak with the Chair of the Board Concerns about the Chair of the Board: Speak with the Director of Education

Not sure who to contact? Call 519-336-1500 or email info@lkdsb.net. Learn more at www.lkdsb.net

If an individual has followed the steps outlined above and still does not feel the matter has been resolved at the local level, the individual may contact the office of the Ontario Ombudsman at www.ombudsman.on.ca.



School Cash Online

School Cash Online is a convenient, web-based solution that gives parents the ability to pay for student items online.

Parents/guardians can connect multiple students to their account; multiple parents/guardians can be connected to individual students. School staff will add items for your child for payment and indicate whether the item is optional or required. Parents will receive a notification when a new item has been added.

To set up an account and learn more, please contact Ms. Boersma. Additional information can be found at https://lkdsb.schoolcashonline.com/