



INDIAN CREEK ROAD PUBLIC SCHOOL

March 2024 Newsletter

Principal: *Mr. J. Alward* Vice-Principal: *Mrs. S. Louzon*

Office Admin: *Mrs. K. Molengraaf, Mrs. D. Chauvin*

511 Indian Creek Rd W, Chatham, ON 519-352-3137 www.lkdsb.net/school/indiancreek

Happy MARCH! With us having such a mild winter, I wonder, will Spring come in like a lion or a lamb? Amazing things continue to happen here at the Creek. Please take a moment to read about them below.

*We are almost ready to roll out our new communication tool, that will replace "REMIND". Please read the communication portion of the newsletter (below) to learn more about, and prepare for the rollout of "TalkingPoints Families."

Kinderstart:

If you have a child that will be joining us in September as new to kindergarten, please register online now at <http://www.lkdsb.net/kindergarten>, take a peek at what [FDK in the LKDSB](#) looks like, and then pop into the office anytime during school hours, to verify your registration. Please [see this attached Kinderstart page](#) for more information, such as what to bring to the office when you verify your registration, and about our new to FDK social evening. We look forward to welcoming our new little #kindercreekers.



Carnaval d'hiver:

A huge thank you to Madame Stratton, Madame Daniel, and Madame White for all of their hard work organizing and running our winter carnival this year (Thursday February 15). The day was a huge success, and students had a great time.



Student Wellness Team Update:

Kindness T-Shirt Update: The ICRPS Student Wellness Team is very excited to share that the Kindness t-shirt sales were a huge success! ICRPS raised a total of \$1300 that will be donated to the Victorian Order of Nurses (VON) Kids' Circle Program! Many youth in Chatham-Kent, including students within the Lambton Kent District School Board, are regularly supported by Kids' Circle. Due to interest expressed from staff, students, families, and other community members, we are happy to announce that we will be running another Kindness t-shirt order after March Break for two weeks. Shirts will be available for sale via *School Cash Online* from Monday, March 18th to Monday, April 1st. Community members outside of ICRPS who do not have access to *School Cash Online* have also expressed an interest in purchasing a Kindness t-shirt and supporting this initiative, so we are currently looking into how we can best accommodate these orders. Stay tuned for more details about this after March Break! Thank you for supporting such a worthy cause, everyone!



PRIMARY "BE KIND" (FRONT)



PRIMARY "BE KIND" (BACK)



JUNIOR "BEE HAPPY" (FRONT)



JUNIOR "BEE HAPPY" (BACK)



INTERMEDIATE "FLY KINDNESS" (FRONT)



INTERMEDIATE "FLY KINDNESS" (BACK)

Tabs 4 Kids:

Once again, the students, families, and staff at I.C.R.P.S. have been saving pop tabs to give to the Tabs 4 Kids organization. They use the money from the pop tabs to purchase wheelchairs for children in need.

Our collection box in the front foyer is almost full. Please send your tabs to school and hopefully we can fill a second box by the end of the school year.



Basketball:

Congratulations to both of our Senior Girls and Boys Team 1 Champions! We are so very proud of both the Senior Girls and Boys Basketball Teams 1 and 2, on their development of skills and confidence of the game. They were dedicated, worked hard and showed sportsmanship at practices and games. All teams should be proud of their amazing season!

We would also like to extend our appreciation to the coaches for all of their hard work and dedication to our students!



Food Days:

We currently have three special food days running; Pasta Tuesdays, Harvest Fresh Wednesdays, and Pizza Thursdays. If interested, Harvest Fresh orders can be placed through their website: <https://www.harvestfresh.ca/order/index.jsp>. Pasta Tuesday and Pizza Thursday orders are placed through School Cash Online (<https://lkdsb.schoolcashionline.com/>) with orders open during the last two weeks of each month, for delivery the following month.



Popcorn sales have taken off, and have been a huge hit! Popcorn continues to be sold for one dollar, every Tuesday.

School Cash Online:

In order to minimize the handling of cash, families are encouraged to use [SchoolCash Online](#) when submitting money to the school (special food day, class trips, etc.). SchoolCash Online provides multiple payment options, and allows you to view and print payments and receipts.

Communication:

School/Office Communication:

Aiming to ensure privacy, reduce language barriers, and increase engagement, ICRPS is migrating from using **REMIND** to **FAMILIES-TalkingPoints** as a new means of sending out communication to parents from the office, such as general updates regarding newsletters, and reminders about various school events. ICRPS will use TalkingPoints to send communications from the office, as an outgoing system only.

Parents/Guardians, you will be able to set/choose your native language when signing up. This will allow the office to better interact with you, as the program translates messages into your chosen language.

In preparation for the roll out in late March, please download the mobile app for [Android](#) or [Apple](#), and set your preferences. When we are ready for roll out, we will send out a code via email that will be used to connect to the ICRPS office.

*****NEW:** ICRPS is in the process of migrating from using REMIND, to FAMILIES-TalkingPoints. Please download the app (see above) in preparation for the roll out.

Facebook: Search, like and follow us on Facebook ~ [ICRPS Sundevils](#)

Website: Visit our website for ICRPS and LKDSB important information and announcements ~ www.lkdsb.net/school/indiancreek

Classroom Teacher Communication:

Communication between you and your child's teacher is extremely important. Teachers use electronic communication to keep parents up-to-date on pertinent classroom information (assignments, picture days, class trips, special classroom events, etc.). Besides SeeSaw or Google Classroom, teachers may also choose to migrate to TalkingPoints Families.

We realize that there is a lot of information and communication that comes home about various special days and events. A monthly calendar is now pinned on our Facebook page for quick and easy viewing. You may also access this monthly calendar by [clicking this link](#), or scanning the QR code to the right.



ICRPS Daily Schedule:

Start Time: 8:55 a.m.

First Nutrition Break: 10:55-11:35 a.m.

Second Nutrition Break: 1:15-1:55 p.m.

Dismissal: 3:15 p.m.

Safe Arrival and Dismissal:

Regular Arrival and Dismissal: Our parking lot is a busy place during drop off and pick-up times, and as such you may need to drive around the loop more than once. Please do not stop in the loop, blocking traffic. Please remember that the bus lane is for buses only, and the Child Care driveway and parking is for Child Care staff and families only. Staff will help to direct traffic and keep children safe during these busy before and after school times. Staff are also on duty to supervise children from 8:40-8:55 on the school yard. To ensure safety, please ensure students are not dropped off prior to 8:40 a.m.

School Bus Information:

Parents of bussed students are encouraged to [visit the CKlass website](#) and sign-up to the Parent Portal. Using the portal allows parents to view bus delays, notifications, etc. [The MySBI](#) bus status app also provides up-to-date bus service information.



***There is now a new upgraded version of the MySBI app for weather cancellations and bus delays. The new app has improved speed and reliability but will look and function the same as our current app. Unfortunately, the app currently installed on your phone will NOT automatically update to the new version, so all users must download the new app from the App/Google Play Store before September 29th to continue receiving school bus delay and cancellation notices. The current 'old' version of the app will no longer function after this date. [Click this link for more information on downloading the new app.](#)

School Attendance:

Regular school attendance is extremely important to the success of all learners. As hard as it can be some days, starting the school day on time is equally important. We ask that you use School Messenger ~ the LKDSB automated attendance messaging system, to inform the school of absences. The system will notify parents/guardians if your child has been marked absent and the school has not been notified of the reason for the absence. To follow-up, we will contact the parent/guardian phone numbers and email addresses that we have on file. You can help by ensuring that the school has your most updated contact information. Please use SchoolMessenger in one of the following three ways to report your child's absence or late arrival: Option 1: Set up an online [SchoolMessenger account and login](#) to schedule and report absences or a late arrival. Option 2: Download the free [SchoolMessenger app](#) (blue) to your smart phone or tablet to schedule and report absences or late arrival. Option 3: Call the LKDSB toll-free Attendance Reporting number at 1 (844) 487-3695 and follow the prompts to report your child's absence or late arrival. For your security it is recommended that you set a PIN. Your PIN must be private and not shared with your child.



Volunteering at ICRPS:

There are a variety of events that happen each year here at ICRPS, and many as a result of the tremendous help and dedication of parent and community volunteers. Over the last several years, we have had a very robust and energetic Booster Club, and Home and School Association. As our students grow and move on to secondary school, often our parents move on as well. These two groups have recently combined to form our new **ICRPS Parent Group**, and they are now looking to invite new parents in to continue with planning, and helping to make our school a better place. Are you willing and interested in volunteering this year as part of our ICRPS Parent Group, or in another capacity? If so, [please complete this linked form](#).

Technology (Devices and Cell Phones):

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 devices.

All electronic devices, such as cell phones, media players, digital game devices, walkie talkies, computers and cameras 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 he/she 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, and to encourage student physical activity and socialization opportunities during nutrition breaks.

Medical Emergency Plans and Administration of Medication:

If your child needs prescription medication administered during school hours, please contact the office for an "Authorization for the Administration of Oral Medication" form. It must be completed by the parent/guardian and signed by a pharmacist or physician and forwarded to the principal for each school year. Updates to the school are required whenever the physician directs a modification of the prescribed medication. We cannot administer any medications without this completed form. If your child is required to carry their medication with them (EPI-Pen, inhaler), please contact the office so we can ensure that their Individual Medical Plan is up to date and accurate.

Allergy Alert:

Please note that in accordance with existing policies, our school is peanut and nut safe. Please refrain from sending any peanut or nut items to school due to anaphylactic allergic reactions experienced by some of our staff and students.

Important Dates for March:

March 4	Grade 8 Grad Picture Day
March 8	Green and Gold Day for St. Patrick's Day
March 11-15	March Break ~ No School
March 21	Funky Sock Day for Down Syndrome Awareness
March 29	Holiday ~ No School

Other Important Upcoming Dates:

April 1	Holiday ~ No School
April 2	Autism Awareness Day
April 8	P.A. Day ~ No School for Students
May 20	Holiday ~ No School
June 7	P.A. Day ~ No School for Students
June 27	Last day of the 2023-2024 school year for students
June 28	P.A. Day ~ No School for Students

[***2023-2024 LKDSB School Year Calendar](#)

ICRPS 2022-2023 Staff:

FDK	Ms. Dibbley	Grade 7/8	Mrs. Kennedy
FDK ECE	Ms. Leach	ALLP	Mrs. Smyth
FDK	Mrs. Case	ALLP	Mrs. VanHooste
FDK ECE	Mrs. O'Donohue	Rotary	Mrs. Sparks
FDK	Mrs. Garrow	Rotary	Mrs. Stratton
FDK ECE	Mrs. Denomy	Rotary	Mrs. White
FDK	Mrs. Stokes	Rotary	Mrs. Daniel
FDK ECE	Mrs. Dulong	Rotary	Mrs. Childs
Grade 1	Mrs. Butcher	LRC	Mrs. Chopra
Grade 1	Ms. Johnston	LRC	Ms. Scott
Grade 1/2	Mrs. Konecny	EA	Mrs. Gotelaer
Grade 2	Ms. Simpson	EA	Mrs. Lambkin
Grade 2	Mrs. Coates	EA	Mrs. Kloostra
Grade 2/3	Mrs. Stonefish	EA	Ms. Vlasman
Grade 3/4	Mrs. Kelly	EA	Mr. Myers
Grade 3/4	Mrs. Roelofsen	EA	Mrs. Watson
Grade 3/4	Mrs. Coatsworth	EA	Ms. Demers
Grade 4	Mrs. Goldsmith	EA	Mrs. Ostler
Grade 4/5	Mrs. Boswell	EA	Ms. Peco
Grade 5	Mr. MacDonald	Custodian	Mr. Tanner
Grade 5	Mr. McCormack	Custodian	Mr. Caron
Grade 5/6	Mrs. Jessome	Custodian	Mr. Metcalfe
Grade 6	Mrs. Butzer	Custodian	Mr. McKinley
Grade 6/7	Mrs. Houston	Custodian	Mr. Sarabia
Grade 7/8	Ms. Robbins	Office Admin	Mrs. Molengraaf
Grade 7/8	Mr. McEwan	Office Admin	Mrs. Chauvin
Grade 7/8	Mrs. Brecevic	Principal	Mr. Alward
Grade 7/8	Mr. Pattison	Vice-Principal	Mrs. De Naeyer-Louzon