



TECUMSEH PUBLIC SCHOOL 2023

287 McNaughton Ave West, Chatham ON
519-354-2480

Principal: Mr. K. Rakuc Vice Principal: Mrs. K. Murray
Office staff: Mrs. Caron & Mrs. Weedon

From the Office

We are so happy to welcome back all our returning Timberwolves and would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new students. September is always an exciting time of the year as we reconnect with old friends and make new ones.

Thank you custodial team

A huge thank-you is extended to our custodial staff who worked diligently this summer to welcome us back to a clean, shiny, and safe environment. Thank-you also to our staff for their work in setting up bright and inviting classrooms. Our school is beaming!

Staff Updates

We are so happy to welcome a new staff member to the Tecumseh family this year. Mrs. Panagiotopoulos will be with us each morning and will be teaching a wide variety of classes within the school.

Tecumseh Daily Schedule

The instructional day begins at 9:15 am and runs until 3:35 pm. We will continue with a traditional balanced day with breaks between 11:15-11:55 and 1:15-1:55. All students will have a 20-minute nutrition break and a 20-minute outdoor break each morning and each afternoon. Supervision on the yard begins at 9:00am, students are reminded not to arrive before then.

Student Absence

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. The Safe School Policy of the LKDSB requires our office staff to call the contact numbers of any student who is absent in order to ensure the safety of that student. If your child is going to be absent from school, please call the school at 519- 354-2480. When you leave a message, include the first and last name of your child, his/her teacher, and the reason for your child's absence and when he/she will return to school. Thank-you in advance for your assistance with reporting any absences. Notes and phone messages are of great assistance to the office staff. Families are also encouraged to use the

School Messenger app to report a student absence.

<https://asp.schoolmessenger.ca/lkdsb/samllogin.php> These phone calls do not have to be made if we know in advance why the student is not at school. Therefore, it is very important that you call the school (519-354-2480) if your child is going to be away for any reason. Messages can be left on the school's voicemail at any hour. By doing this, it frees up the number of phone calls that the office must make in the morning.

Registration and Verification Forms

A Registration Verification form will soon be sent home with each child, and we ask that you review this form and note any necessary changes. If no changes are necessary, please confirm your consent at the bottom of the form for your child regarding LKDSB media. Please return these signed forms to the school as soon as possible.

Throughout the school year, many school activities occur and may be the subject of photographing, audiotaping, videotaping and filming. In accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, a signed release is required for the photographing or filming of student participation in these activities. In addition, the public media organization, upon notification, may be present to cover events by videotaping and filming students involved in activities which are outside of the jurisdiction of the School and/or Board.

FDK Staggered Entry Plan

We are looking forward to welcoming our youngest Timberwolves at Tecumseh Public School next week. To help facilitate a successful transition to the new school year, we will be following a staggered entry for our kindergarten students.

All Senior Kindergarten (SK) students will begin full-time attendance on the first day of school. Junior Kindergarten (JK) students will begin in two groupings outlined below.

The groups of JK students will be introduced as follows:

Tuesday, September 5 - All SK students attend.

Wednesday, September 6 - All SK students and half JK students (A group) attend. The remaining JK students (B group) do not attend.

Thursday, September 7 - All SK students and the other half of the JK students (B group) attend. The initial JK students (A group) do not attend.

All Kindergarten students will be in full-time attendance on Friday, September 8.

All families of JK students have been contacted regarding what group they are in, if you have not been informed, please feel free to give the office a call.

Morning Entry and Dismissal

Students should not arrive before 9:00 am (15 minutes before the morning bell). From 9-9:15am all students will proceed to the back of the school to be outside with staff supervision. If a student takes the bus, they will be unloaded and will walk to the back of the school. All students who do not take a bus will also be dismissed out the back of the building onto the school yard at 3:15pm.

At 9:15 the bell will ring and students will line up with their homeroom classes at the following numbered doors:

Door 6 (back of the school): Mrs. Haskell, Mrs. Sims, Mrs. Rountree, Mrs. Walker, Mr. Brennan and Ms. Markovich

Door 3 (back of the school): Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Kennedy, Ms. Mandeno, Mrs. Hackett, Mrs. Caetano, Mrs. Pieta, Mrs. Allen, Mr. Hope

Door 2 (side of the school near daycare): Mr. Anderson, Mr. Burnett, Mr. Millar and Mrs. Hunter

Door 10 (inside FDK yard) – Mrs. Archer – please don't enter FDK yard until the bell

Door 9 (inside FDK yard) – Mrs. Newcombe - please don't enter FDK yard until the bell

Door 5 (FDK) –Mrs. Broadwood and Mrs. Cofell

Door 4 (FDK) – Mrs. Mariconda

There is a parking lot on the west side of the school that is for parent/visitor use before and after school. All parents are asked to meet their children at their designated pick-up door as mentioned above. **Please do not idle along the side of the building as that space is designated for school buses.** When dropping off and picking up students please be respectful to our neighbours.

Pick Up Pass

Based on a review of the pick up pass process including communication with our families and community partners we have decided pair down the amount of pick up passes. Pick up pass was designed to support families who were unable to access their students at the back of the school. If you feel your family requires a pick up pass for the 2023-2024 school year please email Mrs. Murray (Kristin.murray@lkdsb.net) to pre-register. Pick up pass will start again on the 2nd week of school **Monday Sept 11th, 2023.**

In order to maximize Mrs. Caron's time in the office and for safe dismissal procedures, we ask that parents and guardians refrain from picking up students between 3:00 - 3:35 pm. If you will need to pick up your child(ren) early, please arrange for pick up prior to 3:00. Please allow a minimum of 30 minutes when calling the office to arrange for early dismissal. **During end of day pick up please refrain from parking/iddling in front of the school unless you have registered for a pick up pass through the office.**

A Reminder....

Students should bring labelled refillable water bottles. We also ask that you are mindful of the varying weather this time of year, please remind your student to dress accordingly. Students are also encouraged to bring indoor shoes.

Allergies

Please be aware that some members of our school community have serious allergies to nuts and to shellfish which includes shrimp, peanuts, peanut butter, peanut oils, peanut bi-products, sesame seeds and other tree nuts. Exposure to these kinds of nut products – even trace amounts - could result in a life-threatening reaction. Shellfish and nut products are not to be sent to school, as our goal is to provide a “peanut and nut aware environment”.

Medication and Medical Needs

Specific criteria must be met for staff to administer prescription medication when it cannot be administered at home. An “Authorization for the Administration of Oral Medication” form, (available from the office), must be completed by the parent/guardian and physician, then forwarded to the principal for each school year. This includes the administration of occasional use medications as well.

Should your child have a medical need (such as diabetes, asthma, epilepsy etc.,) that requires special emergency attention please inform the school and an “Individual Medical Emergency Plan” will be put in place. Please notify the office by phone or email if you require a form. You can also send a note with your child, and we can send a copy home.

Bus Information

During the fall we might experience some heavy fog in which there could be the potential for bus cancellations. When there are bus cancellations due to fog, buses will not run in the morning but will run in the afternoon. **Tecumseh is in BUS ZONE 7 and BUS ZONE 8.**

To check for any bus cancellations during the school year, please tune into the local radio stations or the following website: <https://schoolbusinfo.busstatus.ca/>

School Cash Online

School Cash Online is a convenient, web-based solution that gives parents/guardians the ability to pay for student items online. Parents/guardians can make payments, print or view their receipts, and their current account history all in real-time. 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).

In order 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 sheet sent home, or please call the office at anytime for this information. For more information, please visit our school website at www.lkdsb.net/school/tecumseh

Meet the Staff and Families Night

Come and join us on Wednesday September 27th from 5-7pm here at Tecumseh for dinner and visit your students’ classrooms. The optimist food truck will be here serving hotdogs, French fries and drinks. The gymnasium will be open for families to sit and eat together as well as check out some of the community supports for kids that Chatham has to offer. *Debit available

Price List:

Hotdogs \$4.00 (Halal hotdogs available and prepared on a dedicated grill)

French Fries \$4.00 Drinks/Pop \$1.00

*SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR will also be open for your purchases

MARK your CALENDARS

Friday Sept 15th – no school (PA DAY)

Wednesday Sept 27th – Meet the Staff and Families BBQ night

Friday Sept 29th – Orange Shirt Day

Tuesday Oct 3rd – Home and School Meeting 6pm at Tecumseh

Thursday Oct 5th – Terry Fox Run Day

Friday Oct 6th - no school (PA DAY)

Monday Oct 9th – Thanksgiving Holiday (no school)

Home and School Opportunity

Are you interested in joining the Tecumseh Home and School Council? This is a great opportunity for parents, caregivers, and families to work together with the school to support our students. Our first meeting is **Tuesday October 3rd at 6pm** here at the school. Last year the Home and School conducted several successful fundraisers, one of which supplied our Sr Teams with brand new Under Armor jerseys. Please email the principal at Krzysztof.rakuc@lkdsb.net for more information. Everyone is welcome to attend.



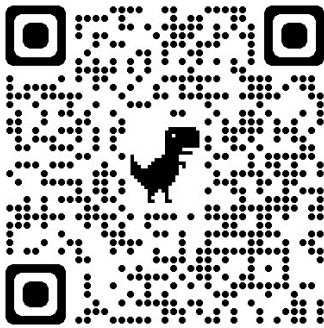
Community VTRA- Violent Threat Risk Assessment Protocol

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.

SOCIALS

Get up to date information and exciting school events by following us on Facebook and Instagram!



Orange Shirt Day

Orange Shirt Day is on September 30th. On this day, we honour the survivors of residential schools as well as those children and young people who never returned home. This year, the LKDSB will commemorate this day on Monday October 2nd by encouraging students to wear orange and by using 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. 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>