

NEWS FROM THE NEST



Tilbury Area Public School
(519) 682-2260
www.lkdsb.net/school/tilbury
Twitter: @TilburyArea
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We acknowledge that the land on which our school sits and on which we gather each day is a part of the traditional territory of the Chippewa, Odawa, Potawatomi and Delaware Nations. These Indigenous Nations, known as the Anishinaabeg and Lunaapeew, agreed through their ancestral languages to the mutual sharing of the land, with obligations and responsibilities to the environment.

January 2024

From Mrs. Byatt-Millington

Welcome to 2024!

January is a time of great beginnings and the best one is the beginning of school! We are excited to welcome our newest Falcons to the nest at Kindergarten Registration. If you have a child born in 2020 (or born in 2019 and not yet attending school) or know of one, please see below for Registration times/dates.

Kindergarten Registration

Registering your child for Kindergarten is as easy as 1, 2, 3.

1. Find your school.
2. Complete the online registration form at [LKDSB Kindergarten Registration](#) in advance.
3. Come and meet our caring staff on:
Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024, from 4:00pm – 7:00pm
or Friday, Feb. 2, 2024, from 9:00am – 3:00pm.

Remember to bring:

- Birth certificate or proof of Canadian Citizenship or Residency Status (if appropriate)
- Proof of residency (e.g., utility or tax bill, lease/rental agreement, etc.)
- Your child

School Immunizations

Unless they have a valid exemption on file with CK Public Health, all children who attend school in Ontario must be vaccinated against diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, meningitis, whooping cough and chickenpox.

Families are asked to provide proof of vaccination to the CK Public Health Unit. Reporting can be done online ([Chatham-Kent Public Health Immunization Reporting](#)), phone (519-355-1071 Ext. 5900), or by fax (519-436-3214).

Note that doctor's offices do not forward immunization information to Public Health and if you have moved from another Public Health Unit, they will not forward information to CKPH. Families are responsible for updating CKPH themselves.

Students who have not provided CKPH with either proof of vaccination or a valid exemption by March 5th, will be suspended from attending school by the CKPH.

Winter Dress

With the ever-changing weather, please ensure that your children are dressed appropriately for the conditions. Hats, boots, mittens and warm coats are needed this time of year. This is also a great time of year to wear layers so that children can adjust their clothing as the temperature warms throughout the day.

We have a limited amount of spare clothing and coats here at school for students to access if they've forgotten something at home.

Students are outside multiple times during the day and we'd like them to be as comfortable as possible.

Hot Lunches

Hot lunches continue to be a great success and a time saver for many families. As we move forward through the year, the plan is to offer the following:

- Pizza (Fridays)– orders sent out for 2-3 months at a time
- Harvest Fresh (Tuesdays) – also sent out 2 months at a time
- Subway – each month we'll offer an opportunity to purchase sandwiches from Subway

Money raised through hot lunch sales goes into the Student Trust Fund, which is used to subsidize field trips, contribute to Grade 8 Graduation and purchase equipment for student use.

Volunteers Needed

This year, the School Council and Staff are looking to host a Pancake Day lunch for all the students in the school. The purpose is to come together as a school community and share a meal together.

We will require about 10-12 adults to volunteer to cook, serve and set up our meal on Tuesday, February 13th, from about 9:00-12:00.

If you can help, please let the office know by calling 519-682-2260 or by messaging your child's teacher.

Awesome Awards Assembly

This month, we will begin our monthly celebration of all the things that are awesome about being a TAPS Falcon. Teachers will be able to nominate students for an Awesome Award when they have been observed doing something Awesome within the school/playground. We'll honour these students at the assembly and families will be notified in advance so they may come and celebrate with us. We are also hoping to showcase the many talents of our students by having a variety of student performances each month.

Our first Awesome Awards Assembly will take place, in the Big Gym, on Wednesday, January 31st at 9:30.

School Council

While we meet in person, several parents have asked to have a virtual option as well. For all future meetings, this will be made available. If you would like to join virtually, please contact the office and your email address will be added to the list of members.

Our next meeting will be Monday, January 29th at 6:30 pm in the Learning Commons.

Sports Update

Volleyball – Sr. Volleyball has finished with both teams seeing a place in the Quarter Finals. Unfortunately, their journey ended there. Coaches would like to thank team members for their dedication to practicing and for showing positive sportsmanship on the court. Many thanks to Mrs. Bolohan, Mr. Cobb and Mrs. Burk for coaching.

Intramurals – Mr. Munroe is busy organizing the next version of Staff Student Olympics. He has a variety of events being planned that will challenge all involved. Students are asked to watch the announcements for more information.

Basketball – League play will begin in a few weeks' time. Thank you to Mrs. Burk, Mr. Cobb, and Mr. Munroe for volunteering to coach.

eSports – Students were able to travel to their first eSports event before the holidays. They had a great time at Lambton College, exploring the world of technology that is available to them in post-secondary. The team continues to meet at Nutrition Breaks to practice for the next event.

Grade 8 Graduation

Save the Date: This year's graduation ceremony will take place on Wednesday, June 19th, at the school.

Graduation pictures will be taken on Friday, January 19th. Students are asked to bring/wear a white shirt with a collar. If they don't have a shirt or tie, the photographer does have some available, but be aware these will be shared.

Students may wish to follow a traditional style of dress (shirt and tie for boys and shirt/blouse for girls) but that can be determined by each family.

Student Leadership

Our Student Leadership Team worked hard in December – organizing a canned food drive, selling Candy Grams and preparing for the annual Carol Sing. They are busy this month planning our first Awesome Awards Assembly!

Drop Off and Pick Up

Students should not be dropped off before 9:00 in the morning, as the yard is unsupervised until that time. As well, please encourage your children to head straight home after school instead of playing at the school or park.

If you need to pick your child up early, please let the office know. Our attendance phone line is active 24 hours a day and you are welcome to leave a message on it at any time. We ask that parents avoid picking up their children between 3:15-3:35 as the school is very busy at that time and to ensure the safety of every student, we need to be able to account for everyone.

Playground Equipment

A reminder that all playground equipment (climbers, monkey bars, GaGa Ball pit) is closed for the season. We ask families to help us to enforce this by encouraging your child(ren) to stay off the equipment before and after school, until it reopens in the spring.

Bus Cancellations – Zone 7

During the fall we might experience some heavy fog in which there could be the potential for bus cancellations. During the fall season, when there are bus cancellations due to fog, busses will not run in the morning but will run in the afternoon.

TAPS is in ZONE 7.

To check for any bus cancellations during the school year, please tune into the local radio stations or check the school's social media feeds.

COVID Protocols

Currently, the LKDSB continues to take direction from and follow the advice of the CK Medical Officer of Health, the Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Education.

While many protocols and guidelines have eased up, we are still encouraging families to do the following to keep our building and our people as safe as can be:

- Stay home if feeling sick (to determine when to return to school, feel free to continue to use the School Screener for guidance - [Covid School Screener](#))
- Practice good hand hygiene – soap or sanitizer
- Practice coughing/sneezing into your elbow, not your hands
- Do not share items that touch the mouth (water bottles, lip balm for example)

As everyone has their own level of comfort with being in public, we encourage all our staff and students to respect the choices of others. What is good for one family's health, may be different from another's.

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 8 – First Day of Classes

January 10 – Dental Screenings – Kindergarten/Grade 2

January 18 – Subway Orders Due to Office

January 18 – TDHS Open House – 6:00 - 8:00 pm

January 19 – Grade 8 Grad Photos

January 25 – Subway Lunch

January 29 – School Council

January 31 – Awesome Awards Assembly

February 1/2 – Kindergarten Registration

February 2 – PA Day (No Classes)

February 13 – Pancake Lunch

March 11-15 – March Break (No Classes)

March 29/April 1 – Easter Break
April 26 – PA Day (No Classes)
June 7 – PA Day (No Classes)
June 19 – Grade 8 Graduation
June 27 – Last Day of School
June 28 – PA Day (No Classes)