

NEWS FROM THE NEST



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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.

March 2024

From Mrs. Byatt-Millington

Welcome to March – I'm not sure if it came in like a Lion or a Lamb – but the temperatures this week have been pretty lamb-y! As we move through this month, I would encourage everyone to look at the weather each day as we can experience dynamic swings throughout each day. This is a great season for lots of layers! The last few weeks have been a flurry of activity at the front of the school – Pancake Day was a huge success, due to the overwhelming support we had from families. Valentine's Day showed a lot of love and appreciation as our Junior Kindness Council and Senior Student Council both arranged for messages of kindness and support to be sent out. And currently, classes are participating in their own version of March Madness (ask your child about this!) – with a class pizza party on the line!

Kindergarten Registration

We were very excited to open our school for Kindergarten Registration in February – we were able to meet the many new Falcons joining the nest in the fall.

The fun doesn't stop there though! We are inviting everyone who registered back on Wednesday, April 3 for a fun-filled Puzzle Party in one of our Kindergarten rooms. This will be a second opportunity to see the school, meet some staff and engage in play while getting prepared to enter Kindergarten.

We are also encouraging any families who missed the February registration to come out and complete their registration that evening. If you know of anyone born in 2020 (or in 2019 and not yet attending school) that has not yet registered for school, please invite them to join us.

Big Box of Cards Fundraiser

After March Break, the school will be hosting the Big Box of Cards fundraiser. Boxes will be sent home with families who give their permission for their child to sell. You can use the box that is sent home as your demo box – highlighting the great cards that are offered – in the company's words "High quality cards at dollar store prices".

Boxes will be sent home on Friday, March 22nd and are due back to the school on Monday, April 8th.

All monies raised will be used to subsidize field trips for students and to purchase outdoor play equipment for student use.

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 – next order is early April
- Harvest Fresh (Tuesdays) – also sent out 2 months at a time – next order is out now
- 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.

Awesome Awards Assembly

This month, we will continue 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 next Awesome Awards Assembly will take place, in the Big Gym, on Thursday, March 28th at 9:30.

Sports Update

Basketball – The season is just wrapping up, with semi-finals happening this week. Good luck to both teams as they enter the playoffs. Thanks to Mr. Cobb, Mrs. Burk and Mr. Munroe for coaching.

Intramurals – Mr. Munroe is busy organizing the next version of Staff/Student Olympics. The staff took the gold medal in the volleyball match up and so far, the students are leading in the Super Jenga competition. Students are asked to watch the announcements for more information.

eSports – eSports continues each day with student preparing for some upcoming events at both Lambton and St. Clair College.

Staff vs. Student Hockey Game

We are excited for the return of the Staff vs. Student hockey game. The whole school will be walking over to the Tilbury Arena on Thursday, March 21st to watch the game and cheer on their favourite team. Family members are welcome to come and watch and join in the cheering!

Any student not attending will be offered a staff supervised room at the school.

Student Leadership

Our Student Leadership Team has been working hard lately – preparing candy grams at Valentines Day and organizing and setting up the Awesome Award Assemblies.

The Junior Kindness Club has been making bracelets to sell and organizing Appreciation notes for students to send to people in the school that they appreciate.

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.

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 11-15 – March Break (No Classes)

March 21 – Staff/Student Hockey Game

March 22 – Big Box of Cards Sent Home

March 28 – Awesome Awards Assembly

March 29/April 1 – Easter Break

April 3 – Puzzle Party (new to Kindergarten families)

April 8 – PA Day (No Classes)

April 9 – Big Box of Cards due back to school

June 7 – PA Day (No Classes)

June 19 – Grade 8 Graduation

June 27 – Last Day of School

June 28 – PA Day (No Classes)