

NEWS FROM THE NEST



Tilbury Area Public School
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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.

May 2024

From Mrs. Byatt-Millington

With the amount of rain that April brought us, May should be overflowing with flowers!

We have a lot of exciting things happening around the school – field trips are being planned and organized, the yearbook is being edited, sports are ongoing, EQAO is coming up and the Family BBQ is approaching. We are a busy place and are happy to make our students the recipients of all of these great opportunities.

I am very excited to introduce all of you to our newest Falcon – Ms. Christina, our custodian. The LKDSB has recently altered the way custodial services are provided at the school and we are looking forward to this change. If you happen to be in the building, please feel free to say hi.

Family BBQ

We are excited to be hosting the Family BBQ again this year – with festivities taking place on Thursday, May 9th from 4:30-6:30 pm. There will be activities and events occurring throughout the school, so please set aside some time to walk through and experience all the activities.

Be on the lookout for:

Art Show (on classroom bulletin boards throughout the school)

Family Pictures by Edge Imaging

Basket Raffle

Yearbook Sales

Skate Exchange (see below)

Interactive Games

BBQ

Skating Program Launch

We are very excited to be partnering with former Falcon and current Florida Panther, Brandon Montour, in starting up a skating program for our students. The long-term goal is to be able to bring the entire school to the Tilbury Arena throughout the year to participate in ice skating as a part of their Phys Ed program. Brandon has generously provided funding to purchase helmets and we are extremely grateful for his support.

We are asking for families to consider donating their gently used skates to the school for shared use by our students – currently we are looking for skates that will fit Grade 2-6 students. We are aware that many families do not have skates and in order to be able to offer this program to everyone in a barrier-free manner, the school will provide all students in need with a pair of skates and/or helmet to wear.



As an added incentive, Brandon has provided us with a signed Florida Panthers hat to be raffled off. In addition, we also have a signed Windsor Spitfire stick as a second raffle prize. For every pair of skates donated, families will receive a ballot for these great prizes! The draw will be held at the May Awesome Awards Assembly!

Kindergarten Yard

The Kindergarten team have joined up with the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority to create a mud kitchen and a pollinator garden. Students will be able to play in the mud kitchen, exploring and mucking about as they learn about the textures of our world. As well, they have been doing some learning about pollinators and their importance to our planet.

In order to preserve the garden, we have made the decision to chain the fence during non-school hours. We ask for your cooperation that if coming to play at the school after hours, that you make use of our play equipment and field and leave the Kindergarten area alone, so that the garden can take hold.

Smile Cookie Campaign

Once again, Tim Horton's has launched their Smile Cookie campaign. The owners of the Tilbury Tim Horton's have generously allotted 100% of their sales to go to the Ontario Student Nutrition Program (Tilbury) – which funds our Snack and Emergency Lunch Box Program here at the school.

We are grateful for their support as it helps to keep our students feeling supported through healthy nutrition.

Talent Show

We are very excited to bring back the Fabulous Falcons Talent Show this spring. Auditions will soon be underway and we are inviting all of our talented students to come and showcase their abilities. The final performances will be held on June 14th!

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 – all orders are finished for the year
- Harvest Fresh (Tuesdays) – also sent out 2 months at a time – all orders are finished for the year
- 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

We are continuing 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 Monday, May 27th at 9:30.

Sports Update

Track and Field – Mr. Munroe is currently organizing a Track and Field Team. Once the team is selected, students will practice in advance of the District Meet, to be held at Chatham Kent Secondary School. This is an exciting addition to our athletic roster – thanks to Mr. Munroe for making this happen.

Intramurals – Mr. Munroe is busy organizing the next event in the Staff/Student Olympics. Badminton matches are currently underway. Students are asked to watch the announcements for more information.

School Registration

If you know of any families that have moved into the Tilbury area and are looking to register for school, registration for next year is currently open on the website ([LKDSB Homepage](#)) or families can also register in person at the school office.

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

Our playground equipment has been inspected and has been reopened for use. If using the equipment after hours, we ask that you do so safely and with caution.

The GaGa Ball pit has not yet been reopened as we await a shipment of chip filler. Once this has arrived, we'll be able to reopen it as well. We would ask that everyone refrains from using the GaGa Ball area outside of school hours as it is not deemed safe for operation.

Bus Cancellations – Zone 7

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

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

May 9 – Twin Day

May 9 – Family BBQ

May 27 – Awesome Awards

May 29 – Primary Track and Field Day (Rain date May 31)

June 6 – Beach Day

June 7 – PA Day (No Classes)

June 14 – Talent Show

June 19 – Grade 8 Graduation

June 21 – National Indigenous Peoples Day

June 27 – Red and White Day

June 27 – Last Day of School

June 28 – PA Day (No Classes)