



L'EXPRESS

DECEMBER 2013

**PRINCIPAL
MRS. K. BILESKI**

**OFFICE MANAGER
MRS. ELLIOTT**

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Principal's Message

It is incredible to think that the holidays are just around the corner. We are now well into the school year and everyone seems to be settled into routines. We are very pleased with the excellent behaviour and task commitment shown by our students both inside and out of class. It is really exciting to walk through the school and see the wealth and diversity of talent and knowledge that our students have. In class, students are focused and intent on learning. When watching the outdoor play, children are engaged in creative play, sports and spending time catching up with friends. It has already been a terrific first term.

Students have been busy with many extra-curricular activities that are up and running. Intramural Four Corner Soccer had the Grade 1 & 2 students active at nutrition breaks, while the rest of our students enjoyed intramural soccer. The Volleyball Club had our junior students developing their volleyball skills in the morning and games during intramurals at nutrition break. We truly appreciated our parent volunteer, Mr. Morell who came out on Tuesday and Thursday mornings to help Mrs. Dunbar with volleyball skills. The Primary and Junior choirs have been working hard to prepare for the December 11 performances. The Me to We Club had a fantastic time at WE Day. You will hear more from this group as they are planning some awesome initiatives for the New Year.

Thank you to all parents who were able to meet with teachers regarding Progress Reports given that there was not a PD Day. Please remember that if you have any questions or concerns, you are always welcome to call your child's teacher for further clarification. The best way to reach your child's teacher is to call 519-570-8100 and then enter their extension. Phone extensions can be found on the website under the staff tab as well in the front pages of the School Planner.

Lexington is an absolutely amazing place to come to work every day. You need to know that your children are so respectful, polite and intent on learning every single day. Our teachers are involved in a professional development activity that involves visiting classes in each other's schools. The teachers, administration and board staff who are part of this PD have remarked each time they are here that Lexington has the kindest most respectful children! What a wonderful compliment for a great bunch of students. Thank you for all that you do to support our little gem of a school.

Warmly,

Mrs. K. Bileski
Principal



Initiative and Hope

Character Development continues to be an important focus at Lexington! The character attribute in the spotlight for November was Initiative. Thank you to our amazing grade one students and Ms. Heideman for an inspiring assembly. For those of you who joined us, you saw how talented our young leaders are!



In December our attribute of focus is Hope. "At LEXINGTON we show HOPE by acting with the belief that things can be better and that what we say and do matters." A HUGE Thank you goes out to Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Gregory and their talented grade 2/3 students who lead

this assembly. We encourage you to talk with your child about each of these attributes and how he/she can demonstrate these attributes at home, school and within the community. Also at this assembly, the We Day Team under the leadership of Ms. Hattle and Ms. McLean and the Safe, Caring and Inclusive School Team who had support from Mme. Sollows, shared fantastic messages about kindness, hope and anti-bullying. We owe much of our creativity to our regular volunteer dance teacher, Mrs. Bingleman! Thank you to Dee for the time and energy you share with our students to support their performances!!

Hot Lunch and Milk Programs On-Line Ordering

All of our lunch options (milk, hot lunches and pizza) will continue to be offered in the New Year by "Remember Me Catering Inc.". Beginning in January, all families will be asked to place their orders on-line. On-line orders can be placed up to 48 hours in advance of delivery so you can order for as many or as few weeks as you like. Payment can be made by American Express, Visa, MasterCard or Interac and the menu is extensive—over 40 hot lunch items to choose from and four pizza choices. Families who do not have access to a computer/Internet, will still have the option to submit orders using an order form at the school level, but children will need to come to the office to pick up order forms. Thank you to Mrs. Dahms, who does an amazing job keeping our food situation so organized!



Lexington's Ice Rink

The boards for our ice rink are now up and ready!! We are really hoping for a good stretch of cold weather for our Ice Rink to be a success. We are so fortunate to have so many neighbours who are willing to volunteer their time to flood and maintain our rink. Special thanks go out to Liz Fryer and Julie Cairns for heading up the volunteer recruitment, and a huge "advance" thank you goes out to our volunteers:

Kevin He Mike Flood
Howard Jones Dave Dougall
Curtis Sherbo Paul Fryer

We are in need of a few more volunteers. Please contact the school if you are able to help out this winter. We look forward to many exciting and fun opportunities to skate on our very own Lexington Rink!!



Gr. 4 Programming Club

Programming club started with 12 very energetic grade 4 students here at Lexington PS. We began with an introduction to the basics of a computer, and are starting to learn the programming language "Scratch". It is a kid friendly programming language founded at MIT, and is used by students around the world. It introduces the basic concepts of programming, and uses a visual structure to help the learners understand what the different commands do. When we have mastered the basics, the club will be moving onto creating and programming our own robot using the Lego Mindstorm NXT kit. Look to the school website in the New Year as we share what we have accomplished in the club.

Submitted by Mr. Smith

Holiday Concert

We can't wait to share our creativity with you! **Please join us December 11 at either 12:00 or 6:30 pm in the gym.** Our choirs and classes have prepared songs, dances and more for your enjoyment. Our students are so creative and artistic and are looking forward to sharing their talents with you. We are expecting a large crowd, so be prepared with the possibility of standing room only! This event should not exceed an hour.



Ice Skating at Rim Park Feb. 4 and Feb. 25

We have two dates booked for Ice Skating at Rim Park. We encourage all students to participate and to dress appropriately—gloves for all and snow pants for our more novice skaters. We **STRONGLY** encourage that CSA helmets be worn by everyone! If your child does not have a helmet, perhaps you can start asking now if he/she can borrow one from a friend or family member. Volunteers will be greatly appreciated on February 4th and February 25th. We look forward to having many parents come out and join us for some physical activity/exercise and skate tying skills!

More information will be coming home in the New Year.



Inclement Weather



With winter just around the corner, please remember that when you wake up in the morning and the weather conditions appear to be severe, listen to one of our local radio stations, local television station or check the Waterloo Region

District School Board's Website (www.wrdsb.ca) to find out if school and/or busses have been cancelled for the day.

570 News - AM
Oldies 1090 - AM
KOOL 105.3 - FM
CHYM 96.7 - FM
DAVE 107.5 - FM
CJOY "Magic" 106.1 - FM
CKWR 98.5 - FM
KICX 106.7 - FM
CKBT "The Beat" 91.5 - FM
CTV - Southwestern Ontario

Parents, please remember that you always have the option of keeping children home or picking them up early when concerned about weather conditions.

This is also a good time for parents to be reviewing the arrangements they have made in case of an Emergency School Closing (during the school day) with their child(ren).

ITS Fair Feb. 11, 2014

It is tradition that every few years we have an Information, Technology and Science Fair. This year we will be sharing our projects on **February 11, 2014**. The ITS Fair is non-competitive, and participation is voluntary. The Fair will introduce children to the art of inquiry. The goal is to inspire kids to be curious, and help them realize that research projects are fun and creative! Keep your eye out for further information in the New Year.



Library and Book Fair

We have been working hard to spruce up our library with the purpose of creating an even warmer, friendly and highly organized environment where our students LOVE to come! Our Library has been re-organized, books that haven't been signed out for more than 5 years have been culled, and new shelving has been added to our current shelves. We are thrilled to report that the **Scholastic Book Fair raised \$900** to purchase new books for our library. A HUGE thank you goes out to Mrs. Sherbo and her crew of volunteers. We could not have had such a successful sale without this amazing team.



Photos and Privacy

Our students and staff enjoy opportunities to share some of their activities with parents and the school community through teams, clubs and special events. Many of these are "memory making" for families and as such, photographs are often taken. We ask that families exercise their discretion when taking photographs and /or videos at school events and consider the privacy of other students who may also be present in those pictures. We would appreciate if families not upload images of students other than their own to the Internet (e.g. YouTube or Facebook). Your co-operation is appreciated.

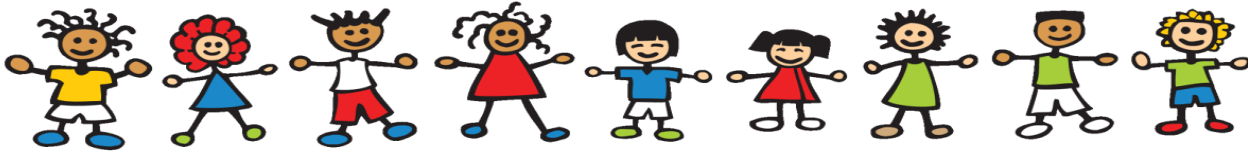


News from School Council

School council has been working hard on behalf of all the students at Lexington! Here are a few highlights:

- Our QSP Magazine campaign was a success, **we raised \$ 1,410.35!** Thank you Lexington.
- Our Kindergarten families supported a Purdy's chocolate fundraiser, we will let you know how we did!
- Another WEFI donation was made toward our Kindergarten Play Area! Thank you to Invesco for another \$150. We are excited to plan for a few new features in our outdoor play area.
- Our outdoor classroom and grove area was created with trees and armor stone rocks. Students have been enjoying creative play around the rocks. Fundraising funds were accessed to create this wonderful natural area.
- Looking ahead to fundraising for the New Year: save your old clothing! School Council is looking to run a "Bag to School" campaign. This fundraiser is awesome, all you need to do is clean out your drawers and closets of clothing that you do not need and send it into school. The bags are picked up, weighed and we receive \$ for our used clothing!

Our next School council meeting is January 15, 2014 in the library.



Girls on the Run

Shannon McTaggart, program coordinator for a program called "Girls on the Run" came to our November meeting. This is an afterschool program for girls in grades 3-6. The mission of the program is: "to educate and prepare girls for a lifetime of self-respect and healthy living. We inspire girls to be joyful, healthy and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum, which creatively integrates running". We are supporting this 20 week program at Lexington for Spring 2014 (April-June) and already have a parent volunteer willing to coach. We would still require one or more assistant coaches based on the number of girls who sign up. If you think you would like to be a coach, please contact the school. The cost is \$139 per student. If you think your daughter is interested, check out the website for more information: girlsontherun.ca. We are so excited to host this wonderful opportunity for our students.



Important Dates to Remember

December 11	Holiday Concert 12:00 and 6:30 PM
December 19	Last day of school for 2012
January 6	First day of school for 2014
January 15	1 st School Council Meeting of 2014
January 17	PA Day, no school for students
February 4	Skating at RIM Park
February 10	Term 1 Progress Report Card goes home
February 11	ITS Fair
February 17	Family Day Holiday
February 25	Skating at RIM Park