

L'EXPRESS

SPRING 2015

**PRINCIPAL
MRS. K. BILESKI**

**OFFICE MANAGER
MRS. Y. ELLIOTT**

**OFFICE PHONE:
519-747-3314**

**ATTENDANCE LINE:
519-570-8100
EXT. 3450**

**SCHOOL ADDRESS:
431 FORESTLAWN RD.
WATERLOO, ONT.
N2K 2J5**

**SCHOOL WEBSITE:
<http://lex.wrdsb.on.ca>**

**FOLLOW US ON TWITTER:
[@LexingtonWRDSB](https://twitter.com/LexingtonWRDSB)**

Principal's Message

It has been an exciting spring, full of learning and wonderful activities here at Lexington. One of the highlights has been our very successful 'Tuesdays at Morty's Pub!' Families and staff have been enjoying a night out to have dinner, meet, greet and have fun. We can't thank owners Jay and Lia Taylor, enough for their support and generosity to our playground fund. Keep an eye on our website, as pic collages of each Tuesday are being posted. Our playground fund has been supported in so many wonderful ways. Dee Bingleman, owner of ActOut Theatre is donating a portion of ticket sales for two shows, Oliver and Aladdin. Students are excited to see their friends, Seth V., Ashley L. and Lincoln B., performing in the show! Thank you for your generosity Dee.



We are so very proud of our 'Me to We Club' for leading the Food Bank Drive and collecting change for Nepal. Our students care and react in a socially responsible way to world events. Students were so moved by the tragedy in Nepal that they turned their focus from purchasing goats to helping the Red Cross for Nepal. Thank you to our community for supporting 'Me to We' initiatives.

On May 4th we celebrated 'Music Monday' with a wonderful assembly. We joined students across Canada, singing 'We Are One' by Connor Ross. Students in Room 9 reminded us how important music is to our lives. We were treated to performances by our own students; Carson C. on piano and Ally M. on the Chinese flute, as well as Jess B. singing!

We continue to promote a safe, caring and inclusive environment through character attributes. May's focus is on Cooperation. Our students are incredibly cooperative in so many ways. We are proud of the daily efforts they make when they arrive at school ready to learn.

Students have been busy learning as well as playing. There are many school events and class trips happening in the next few weeks. Teachers are planning each event and will connect with families through School Day.

I'd like to say a special thank you to our community of Lexington volunteers. I have been so impressed with your willingness to lend a hand in whatever way possible. Lexington volunteers have actively supported us in a variety of ways including School Council, classroom support, movie nights, book fairs, the Strong Start Literacy program, the milk program, pizza lunches, class trips, fundraising throughout the year and much more. The regular daily assistance of volunteers in our classrooms and around the school has provided countless hours of support to our students and staff. We hope our volunteers will be able to join us for our Volunteer Breakfast and assembly on **June 12 starting at 9:00am.**

Warmest Regards,

Mrs. K. Bileski

Class Placement 2015-2016

It is hard to believe that the 2015/2016 school year is just around the corner! The office will be sitting down to make up classes, based upon our best estimate of the enrollment projections for the coming year. At this point we will begin the next school year with the same number of students as this year. Our Kindergarten numbers are up, but our numbers in grades 1-6 are down, meaning that we will organize with 8 classes instead of 9.

When classes are assembled, the focus is to make them heterogeneous. The major factors we consider are:

- The academic level of each student, creating a balance of needs in each class
- The learning skills of each student
- The social/emotional levels of each student
- The relationships among students
- How the child's leadership potential will have an opportunity to develop in the class
- A balance of girls and boys

While attempts are made to place children with at least one or two of his/her current friends, we find that children are adaptable and will make friends wherever they are placed. The guiding principle is to group children for instructional purposes. We do our best to ensure that your child's placement will best serve his/her learning needs.

As part of this planning, parents may choose to submit, in writing, characteristics of their child(ren) and any observations that they would like the school to keep in mind when developing the classes. Sometimes parents offer information about friendships and learning styles, which help us with social groupings.

If you wish for the office to consider specific information about your child's placement for September, we ask that you submit this in writing to Mrs. Bileski by Monday, June 1st. This information will be taken into account; however, in organizing for the learning needs of all the students in the school we cannot promise that individual requests will be granted. Also, please understand that this is not an opportunity to request a specific teacher for your child. Since the organizational process occurs in June, with staff possibly choosing to transfer, we cannot guarantee that specific teachers will be here in September or that they will be teaching the same grade level as this year.

This is a process that is taken very seriously. We do our best to ensure that your child's placement will best serve his/her learning needs. Considering that we are a small school, please remember that our choices of placement are quite limited and will most likely involve blended classes.

If you are aware of neighbours with children moving into our area, please send them to register ASAP.

Update on Administration of EQAO Grade 3 and 6 Assessment

The [Education Quality and Accountability Office](#) (EQAO) notified the WRDSB that it will not be sending the Grade 3 and 6 Reading, Writing and Mathematics assessment materials to any boards currently affected by labour action.

As a result, no WRDSB students in Grades 3 and 6 will participate in the EQAO assessment this year, until further notice.

Should the labour situation change prior to the planned administration, EQAO has assured Boards of Education that they will update us immediately with any proposed changes to this plan.

Please continue to monitor our website at www.wrdsb.ca/labour for updated information as it becomes available.

Grade 6 Celebration

Every year we celebrate our grade six students by hosting an assembly where we recognize the years they have spent at Lexington. We strive to keep this celebration low key, as we know all students will enjoy a grand graduation celebration in grade eight. We invite families of grade six students to join us at this assembly, **Wednesday, June 24 at 2:40-3:15 pm**. Our School Council sponsors this event by providing a snack and drink, as well as purchasing combination locks in anticipation of grade seven.

Attention Volunteers: You Are Invited to our Assembly Friday, June 12, 9:00 AM

The staff and students of Lexington Public School will be recognizing parents and friends who have graciously volunteered their time and assistance throughout the school year.

A light breakfast will be served at 9:00am followed by the student assembly at 9:30am

Please join us so we can show you our appreciation.



Kindergarten Open House for New JK Students June 17th 5:30-6:30 PM

Parents of JK and new SK students are invited to our Kindergarten information night. During this evening, parents will receive information to prepare for their child's arrival to Lexington in September and to get a better understanding of the new Full Day Kindergarten Program and Extended Day program as well as bus information.

Staff Changes for 2015-2016

As part of our staffing organization for 2015-2016 we would like to inform you of the following staff changes:



Ms. McMillan has accepted a Grade 8 position at Conestogo Public School. We are so sad to see her go, as her leaving was a result of our reduced numbers in grades 1-6 and School Board seniority rules. We wish Ms. McMillan all the best as she makes this change. We will miss her very much. Please watch School Day for further staff changes over the next few weeks.

New Creative Playground

We are all looking forward to our new Playground!. Our playground will be installed once it is dry enough to handle large equipment. Installation will take a few days, possibly three! We will keep you posted when we receive news.

Once the new playground is installed, we would like to invite the community out to celebrate. We're not sure what this will look like, but can assure you that it will be fun!



Dress Code

Spring has truly arrived and we are very happy to be enjoying the nice weather. All students have been reminded of all the important things that come along with the nice weather. They also have been reminded to dress in an appropriate manner, as if they are heading to their job! The code can also be found online when you click on the 'About Us' tab.

- Safe, proper footwear for outdoor play; leave flip-flops for the beach
- Straps on sleeveless tops need to be two fingers wide
- Backless, strapless or low-cut tops are not permitted
- Shorts should be mid-thigh (knuckle test) and not cut off
- Focus on looking decent!

If an outfit is deemed inappropriate, we will first ask students to change into their gym clothes, or call home for a change of clothing. We thank parents for taking a moment to review your child's wardrobe for the warmer school days. We also ask that you dig out hats, sunscreen and water bottles, as we would like to be prepared for the very warm days that are sure to come.

Moving at or before the end of the year?

If you know for sure that your child (ren) will not be attending Lexington P.S. next year due to an address change, please inform us as soon as possible. We are in the process of collecting and submitting data to the board for next year's organization. If you know of a family moving into the Lexington area, please encourage them to register their children sooner rather than later! Doing this will help us organize our classes for the fall in a timely fashion, and potentially avoid reorganizing in September.



Ice Rink

Once again we would like to express our appreciation for the incredible skating season we had this year! We could not have done this without the support of the Fryer family and the group of volunteers who faithfully flooded the rink each week! Thanks to:

Paul Fryer	Howard Jones
Dave Jutzi	Alex Jutzi
Dave Dougall	Jason Trotter
Craig Haney	Allan Starr

School Council News

School Council has been working hard on behalf of our Lexington community! The June meeting will focus on plans for next year.

School Council works hard to support our little school. Here are a few highlights of Council's efforts and generosity:

Fundraising Efforts

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|---------------|--|
| ➤ \$2,205.00 | raised through the Treasures coupon book |
| ➤ \$ 1,253.80 | raised through QSP Magazine sales |
| ➤ \$1,588.56 | raised at Movie Night and Book Fair |
| ➤ \$2,338.00 | Pretzel Sales |
| ➤ \$ 876.90 | raised through our lunch programs ENSS |
| ➤ \$ 743.21 | Poinsettia sales |



Expenditures

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|---------------|--|
| ✓ \$ 97.19 | Turkeys for Turkey Trot |
| ✓ \$ 123.00 | Pancake Tuesday |
| ✓ \$ 610.41 | Bus to St. Jacob's Theatre to see Snow White |
| ✓ \$ 792.00 | Bus to RIM for two skating events |
| ✓ \$ 1,165.00 | Special supplies for classrooms |
| ✓ \$ TBD | Locks for Gr. 6 Graduation |

Our last School Council meeting for 2014-2015 school year is **Wednesday, June 17th at 7:00 PM** in the school library. We are looking to build our membership, as many of our council parents are 'graduating'. Please consider being part of this amazing group of parents. We are always seeking a community representative. If you know of a neighbour who is interested, please let us know.



Attendance Line: Please call 519-570-8100 X 3450

if your child will be absent. You can call this line anytime, day or night!

We appreciate you calling this line instead of the main office Attendance items. For other calls, our office opens at 8:30 AM; our direct line will be answered at that time.

Thank you!

Important Dates to Remember

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| May 29 | PA Day, no school for students |
| June 4 | 9:30-2:30 Junior Personal Best Day (June 8 rain date) |
| June 10 | 6:00-7:00 pm Gr. 6 Orientation for families at Margaret Ave. |
| June 12 | 9:00am Volunteer Breakfast and Assembly |
| June 15 | 9:15am Junior Track Meet University Stadium |
| June 17 | 5:30-6:30 Kindergarten Information Night |
| June 17 | 7pm School Council meets |
| June 18 | Primary Splash Day |
| June 24 | 2:40-3:15 Gr. 6 Graduation Celebration |