

L'EXPRESS

NOVEMBER 2015



Lexington P.S.

**PRINCIPAL
MRS. K. BILESKI**

**OFFICE MANAGER
MRS. ELLIOTT**

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

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WATERLOO, ONT.
N2K 2J5**

**SCHOOL WEBSITE:
lex.wrdsb.ca**

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

Principal's Message

This November weather has taken us all by surprise! What an amazing treat. We have been taking advantage of the sunshine by getting outside as much as possible!! Lexington students continually impress us with the respect that is demonstrated each and every day. They consistently work toward excellent behaviour and task commitment both in class as well as during outside activities.

Lexington continues to be a busy place! Our junior students are showing great leadership as lunch helpers, LSRS announcers, bus safety patrols, kindergarten helpers, office helpers, door monitors, and pizza and milk helpers. It is amazing to watch them treat their jobs with responsibility and diligence. During outdoor play, students have enjoyed our new playground as well as intramural soccer, and primary students are looking forward to bench ball.

I am forever thankful that we have such a supportive group of School Council members. Our Treasures Fundraiser is complete and our QSP fundraiser has begun. Please scroll down to read the letter from council regarding fundraising plans.

If you are curious about what school council does, or how the group decides on fundraising and where funds are directed, please come on out to a meeting! We always have a great time. If you are unable to attend, be sure to check out School Council news on our school website; lex.wrdsb.ca. You will find the monthly agenda posted as well as the annual report, indicating the work that council accomplishes in a year. Thank you to this dedicated group for making a difference for our students.

SAVE THE DATE!! Friday, November 20th. In celebration of all the work that has gone into our playground, School Council is hosting a Movie Night! Come on out on **November 20th** to enjoy a movie and time to visit and come together as a community. This is NOT a fundraiser, therefore there will not be a cost associated with the movie. Pizza and snacks will be available for the lowest possible cost. More information will be sent home soon.

Please stay tuned to School Day as well as the school website for information regarding a new timeline for the Fall Progress reports! Lexington teachers are dedicated to providing your students with the best program possible. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher for information on progress.

Thank you for making Lexington such a great place!

Kindly,

Karin Bileski

Initiative

Character development continues to be an important focus at Lexington! The character attribute in the spotlight for November is INITIATIVE.

Throughout the month we will be using the following quote to demonstrate what we believe initiative stands for: "At Lexington we show Initiative by acting responsibly without being asked".

The picture below is of three students who demonstrated initiative with a lemonade stand to raise money for cancer research. The three boys, Micah, Holden, and Evan brought a \$50 donation for the Terry Fox Foundation! Thank you, boys!



If Your Child Is Going To Be Absent

Please call our **attendance line: 519-570-8100 ext. 3450#**) if your child will be absent. **Please do not call the main office line.**

As many children are at home sick at this time of the year, your call can save us a lot of time and worry.



If your child will be away for 5 or more consecutive school days (i.e. for a family vacation), please complete a "Temporary Student Withdrawal on Short-Term Basis Parent Request" form. This form can be picked up from the Main Office.

If your child becomes ill through the day, the teacher will send him/her down to the office. While at the office, we will do our best to assess the situation and call home for further instructions!

A Special Request

Each school day at Lexington is planned around 300 instructional minutes. These minutes are important to the teaching and learning that happens within our school. Curriculum set out by the Province of Ontario is both demanding and rigorous. Our staff makes every attempt to fill each of the 300 minutes with quality instruction and programming opportunities.

There are interruptions and distractions to the school day and we're asking our Lexington parents and families to help us minimize interruptions so that we can maximize and capitalize on our 300 minutes. We recognize that emergencies arise, and parents may need to call or do a pick up during the day. Parents, please send a note in your child's planner if there are special arrangements for a mid-day pick up or a change in the end of the day routines.



PUNCTUALITY

Punctuality and regular attendance are important life skills that contribute to success. Students are expected to arrive promptly at school. Late students interrupt classes, distract others and often miss the morning opening exercises and important instructions for the day.

If a student arrives after the bell rings he/she must go directly to the office, before entry to the classroom, to pick up a "Late Slip" and to notify the office of his/her arrival.

Frequent, unexcused lates will result in home contact to inform parents or guardians about the situation and to request cooperation in resolving the problem. Thank you for your support as we want all our students to feel a part of their class and of the learning from the moment they arrive at school.

QSP Magazine Campaign November 2 - November 30, 2015



Our QSP Magazine fundraiser has begun; however, magazines can be ordered all year long while still earning money for our school. Thank you to School Council member Emily Schmuck for coordinating our QSP fundraiser this year. We LOVE this fundraiser, as the magazines provide excellent home reading material for our students.

Your child has brought home a letter and flyer for ordering magazines from QSP. Please check out the letter from School Council on the back of the QSP letter! This letter explains that QSP is our final fundraiser for the 2015-2016 school year. We thank you for supporting our students. Please note that all ordering is online.

VISIT www.QSP.ca AND RENEW OR BUY MAGAZINES ONLINE ALL YEAR LONG!!

SIMPLY ENTER OUR SCHOOL'S GROUP ID NUMBER **3712981**
TO GIVE US CREDIT FOR YOUR ORDER

Welcome Baby William Roots of Empathy in JK/SK Room 1

This Fall, Mrs. Sugg became trained to lead the Roots of Empathy program in rm. 1. Last week, students were delighted to meet baby William during his first visit. Roots of Empathy's mission statement is, "to build caring, peaceful and civil societies through the development of empathy in children and adults." William will help students build the capacity of the next generation for responsible citizenship and responsive parenting, as well as focus on raising levels of empathy, resulting in more respectful and caring relationships and reduced levels of bullying and aggression. Our Baby William will help Mrs. Sugg teach these concepts to our kindergarten students. Baby William will visit 9 times throughout the school year. Each lesson is about 40 minutes in length. Mrs. Sugg will guide the students' observations of William's feelings, intentions, and his attachment relationship with his mother. Thank you, Mrs. Sugg, for your enthusiasm for this project.



Read for the Stars

Congratulations to our readers who have read for 50 nights! Oct. 27th marks the 50 night point for earning a 50 night ribbon and sticker! Primary students track their nightly reading in their home reading log, Junior students record their reading in their planners, verified by a parent signature. Check out who got their pictures on the board for 50 nights of reading:



Rm. 4

Kendra J.
Tessa G.
Leia B.
Sara M.
Mika S.
Kristen H.
Tanishka R.
Suneru P.
Noah H.
Violet R.
Ava L.
Andreas G.
Emily F.
Holden G.
Joey C.
Rm. 11
Emery B.
Savanah S.
Tim H.
Noah M.

Rm. 5

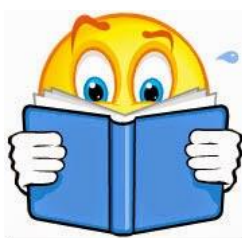
Colbey E.
Noah H.
Ashley L.
Ally M.
Thatcher L.
Noel J.

Rm. 6

Allison N.
Katie T.
Sammy R.
Ema V.
Drew E.

Rm. 12

Aurora A.
Abby H.



Drumfit November 27th

We are over the moon about our up-coming Drumfit day! An anonymous donor has generously donated a Drumfit day for Lexington P.S. ALL of our students will be treated to this amazing experience!



Hot Lunch, Milk and Pizza

We are excited to say that our Wednesday Hot Lunch and Milk and Friday Pizza and Milk routines have been working out really well ☺ Thank you to Julie McCombe for setting up the parent schedule for pizza delivery support and the student schedule for sorting and delivering milk. Thank you parents for arriving each Friday to ensure pizza delivery and handout goes smoothly. We appreciate your help. Our hot lunches and milk are ordered through:
Elementary School Nutrition Services
ESNS www.ESNS.ca.
Thank you for ordering.

Fun on Black and Orange Day



A Fundraising Message From Our School Council

November 2, 2015 - Lexington Public School

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to our amazing school community for the personal & corporate donations, and the sales that poured in last year. Since our school did the unimaginable and raised all the funds needed to pay for our new playground in one year, we're taking a big fundraising breather! **There will only be our two traditional fundraising programs this school year, Treasures (coupon books) and QSP (magazine subscriptions).**

MOVIE NIGHT

In honour of all that was accomplished, council is hosting a movie night for our community on Fri, Nov 20. Admission is free. Pizza and snacks will be available for purchase. We need your help to make the event run smoothly, so please consider volunteering for a shift at one of the various stations. More info to come.

QSP

Attached you will find information on QSP, our annual magazine subscription fundraiser. Some members of our community look for this program to renew their subscriptions, as well as for holiday gift-giving. The code can be used at any point throughout the year and is not limited to these order forms.

WEFI

If magazines are not your thing and you have room in your donation budget, please consider a tax-deductible donation to Lexington PS via WEFI (Waterloo Education Foundation Inc). This can be done by cheque or on-line at www.wrdsb.ca/wefi by clicking the Donate Online button.

TREASURES

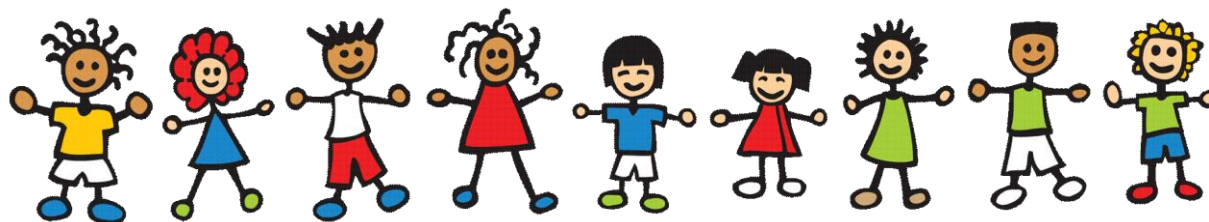
Council would like to extend a huge thank you to Dee Bingleman for once again singlehandedly taking care of all of the logistics for the Treasures fundraiser, bringing \$2,000 to our Council's budget. Thank you also to all of our purchasers and sellers for its success.

LOOKING FORWARD

We have a growing wish list, including big ticket items such as a replacement fountain/ waterbottle-filling station and a pull-down projector screen for events in the gymnasium. Over the coming months, Council will be considering types of fundraisers and contributions for the 2016-2017 school year.

NEXT MEETING

Join in on the fun at our **next meeting, Wed, Nov 18 at 7pm** in the library. All are welcome.



WRDSB Inclement Weather Policy

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. Often, Mrs. Bileski is fast enough to get an update onto SchoolDay!

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 review the arrangements they have made in case of an Emergency School Closing (during the school day) with their child(ren). Be sure your child knows who to go with and where they are to go in the event of a mid-day school closure. This information could be recorded in the planner.

WATERLOO REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SEVERE WEATHER

Bus Cancellation and School Closures

How do we make school closure and bus cancellation decisions?

- Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region (STSWR) bus operators start monitoring road and weather conditions early in the morning.
- A recommendation to make any bus cancellations or school closures is discussed with the Director of Education.
- Transportation cancellations does not automatically mean schools are closed

How do frigid temperatures affect closures?

- Frigid temperatures are temperatures at -35°C with wind chill or colder.
- We monitor Environment Canada's wind chill index by 5:30 a.m.
- If temperatures are forecasted to be -35°C or colder with the wind chill at 7:00 a.m. **buses will not operate**
- Schools may be open to students who can safely arrive at school under supervision or direction of their parents.

Important reminder

- Frost bite can happen within minutes of skin being exposed during frigid temperatures, please dress appropriately
- Crossing Guards may not be available as a result of frigid temperatures.

What time do we make decisions?

- We try to make any decisions by 6:00 a.m.

Where do I find cancellation information?

We communicate this information by:

1. Our website www.wrdsb.ca
2. School Websites
3. Our Twitter account @wrdsb
4. Local media

Parents have the option of keeping their children at home, or picking them up before the regular dismissal time when concerned about weather conditions.

Important Dates to Remember

- November 11 10:30am, Remembrance Day Assembly, all are welcome
- November 13 PA Day ~ no school for students
- November 18 School Council meets 7pm in the Library, all are welcome
- November 20 Movie Night
- December 18 Last day of school for 2015