

Lexington's April Newsletter



April 2022

Hello Lexington Families,

Spring has arrived and students have enjoyed the lifting of some of our COVID protocols. They are interacting with new and old friends and exploring the entire yard during recesses. There is a buzz inside and outside of the school of excitement as students are able to reconnect and enjoy others. Here are a few updates and news from Lexington P.S.:

April's Hero Gem Trait: OPTIMISM

Students will be learning about the importance of optimism in their classrooms this month. We will celebrate when we notice students showing that they are seeing the best in themselves, in others and in their surroundings. Be sure to ask your students about their Optimism challenge mentioned on the announcements each day!

Kindergarten Registration:

If you have a child or a neighbour that has a child that was born in 2018, they are eligible to register for Junior Kindergarten for the 2022-23 school year. Here is the link to register:

<https://www.wrdsb.ca/register/>

Lexington P.S. also has an extended day program. If families are interested, please register on our website at <https://lex.wrdsb.ca/> If you have any further questions, feel free to contact the school at 519-747-3314 or email at lex@wrdsb.ca. We look forward to seeing many new little ones at Lexington soon for their Junior Kindergarten Visit.

Lexington P.S. Vaccination Clinic:

Lexington P.S. is holding a vaccination clinic on April 21st from 3-7 pm. If you, your child, or other family members are wanting to receive a first, second or booster vaccination, feel free to pop in to our vaccination clinic that will be held in our Library. More detailed information is posted on our website at <https://lex.wrdsb.ca/2022/03/30/lexington-ps-is-holding-a-vaccination-clinic-on-april-21st/>. Please remember that the bus loop and parking lot is not available for parking during dismissal and bus times (3:15-3:45).

Days of Significance for April:

Each day on the announcements, we try to recognize days of significance to promote equity, inclusion and acceptance. If your family celebrates or recognizes any of the following days, we wish you well on these days and encourage all families to read and understand more about these days.

April's Days of Significance

Date	Holiday	Description
1	Ugadi	Hinduism: An important New Year festival in southern India to mark devotion to Lord Brahma, the principle creative deity among the Hindu trinity.
April 2-May 2	Ramadan	Islam: The ninth month in the Islamic calendar. It is a month-long period of prayer, fasting, charity giving and self-accountability for Muslims.
6	International Asexual Visibility Day	On 6 April, people across the world will be raising awareness for International Asexuality Day. This day aims to celebrate the full asexual spectrum, focusing on four key themes: advocacy, celebration, education and solidarity.
14	International Day of Pink	National: This is a day of action for communities across the world to remain united in celebrating equity, diversity and inclusion while raising greater awareness of the need to stop homophobic, transphobic and all forms of bullying. The Day of Pink is an annual event celebrated on every second Wednesday in April. Day of Pink began in Nova Scotia when two high school students intervened after witnessing a gay student in their school being bullied for wearing pink. Wanting to do more, they purchased pink shirts and distributed them throughout the school to show solidarity against homophobic and transphobic bullying.
14	Vaisakhi	Sikhism: New Year Festival. Also a commemoration of the founding of the Khalsa by Guru Gobind Singh (the tenth Sikh Guru).
15	Good Friday	Christianity(W): This day commemorates the passion and death by crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Called <i>Stelle Friedach</i> (Quiet Friday) in Low German
15-23	Pesach/Passover	Judaism: Jewish people recall the liberation of their ancestors from slavery in ancient Egypt. It begins with a ritual meal, "Seder", where no leavened bread is consumed and is celebrated with prayers and symbolic foods. Observance begins at sunset of the previous day.
17	Easter Sunday	Christianity(W): This day celebrates the resurrection of Jesus from his grave. Called <i>Oostren</i> in Low German. Easter Sunday, Monday and Tuesday may be observed
18	Easter Monday	Christianity(W): Easter Monday commemorates the meeting of the women at Jesus' tomb with an angel who assured them that Jesus had been resurrected from death.
20	First Day of Ridvan	Baha'i: Ridvan commemorates the twelve days that Baha'u'llah spent in the garden of Ridvan.
21	Grounation Day	Rastafarian: Celebrated in honour of Emperor Haile Selassie 1 first and only visit to Jamaica in 1966. A Nyabingi session, inclusive of music, chanting and prayer is held to mark the occasion. The "Abu Ye! Abu ye! Abu ye!" chant is an element of Grounation Day festivities
22	Earth Day	United Nations: First celebrated in 1970, Earth Day is now celebrated around the world in more than 193 countries to demonstrate support for environmental protection.
22	Holy Friday	Christianity(E-Orthodox): First celebrated in 1970, Earth Day is now

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24	Easter/Pascha	Christianity(E-Orthodox): This day celebrates the resurrection of Jesus from his grave.
26	Lesbian Day of Visibility	Egale Canada, International: Beginning in 2008, this day provides a platform for lesbian role models to speak out on the issues facing female-identified sexual minorities. Alongside other queer celebration days, this day is an integral part of moving forward to create an intersectional society where all are treated equally and fairly.
27-28	Yom HaShoah	Judaism: Holocaust Memorial Day is observed as Israel's day of commemoration for the death of 6 million Jews at the hands of the Nazi regime. Observance begins at sunset of the previous day.
29	Ninth Day of Ridvan	Baha'i: Commemorates the arrival of Baha'u'llah's family at the Ridvan garden and is celebrated as the ninth day of Ridvan.
29	Laylat-al-Qadr	Islam: Laylat al Qadr is Arabic for "The Night of Power". It falls on one of the last ten odd nights of Ramadan and is considered the holiest night of the year as it is the night in which the Qur'an was first revealed.

Roland Bibeau: Virtual French Music Concert:

On Thursday, April 28, students at Lexington will participate in a virtual concert that promotes a fun French experience for all grades. Leading up to the concert, students will learn some of Roland's songs so they can sing along. Thank you to Mme. Pasel for organizing this event.

Director Jeewan Chanicka Visits Lexington P.S.:

On Thursday, Mar. 24th, WRDSB's Director Jeewan Chanicka came to visit Lexington P.S. to thank staff for their dedication and resilience throughout the past couple years. He was impressed with the dedication of our staff and the polite, happy students that were arriving at school on this day.





Class Placement:

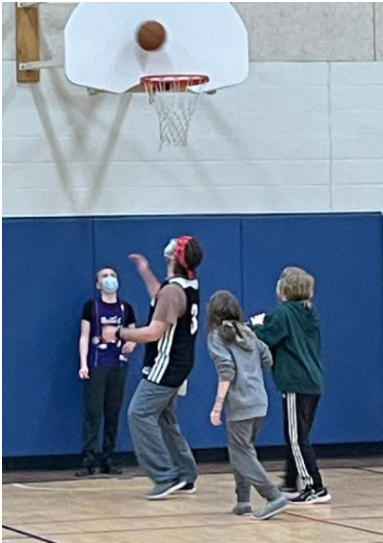
I know that class placement for the 2022-23 School Year is beginning to come to everyone's minds. Please understand that teachers, educators and staff members work closely together to make decisions for students that best support their academic, social, and emotional needs. While many parents are concerned for their own children and want to advocate, please also understand that we have to consider what is best for all students at Lexington P.S. Decisions about teacher assignments is will not be shared as these assignments are tentative and can change up to the end of September 2022. When placing students, we also work hard to ensure students have at least one familiar person in their class as a friend. Therefore, we ask families to trust our educators and staff to use their best judgment when placing their child for next year. That being said, sometimes there are situations that have occurred in the past that the teachers/educators and/or principal are not aware of. If this is the case, I ask that you send me a personal email to let me know of the situation at barb_tomkins@wrdsb.ca. Please understand that this information will remain private and will only be considered, not guaranteed, as there are many factors that we have to take into account for all students and since Lexington is a smaller school, this often provides fewer options for students. Thank you for your trust in our professionalism and dedication to do what is best for all during this process.

Friendly Reminders for parents and guardians of Lexington P.S.

Parking:

Please remember that the parking lot is only available to staff members during pick up and drop off times. If you are needing to park during these times, please park on the side of the street closest to the school so that cars and buses can get by. It is important that you have a pick up and drop off plan with your child(ren) to ensure they are arriving and being picked up in a safe manner. Walking through the parking lot or bus loop area is unsafe, so please avoid these areas as a meeting place. It is preferred that students meet at the side or back of the school during the pick up and drop off times. Thank you for working together to ensure the safety of all children at Lexington PS.

Staff vs. Student Indiana Basketball Game



Student Learning Updates



Lexington Students Came together to make their hand prints with the construction paper colour that best matched their own skin colour and then made their own class Unity Wreath. Then we brought our Class Unity Wreaths together as one!

Primary French Learning the French Names for parts of a Monster Body with Mme. Pasel



Students Learning to be Social with other Cohorts at Recess-Yay! Finally!





K2 Volcano Inquiry



K3 Learning:

Rainbow Stem Challenge: How much gold can your rainbow hold?

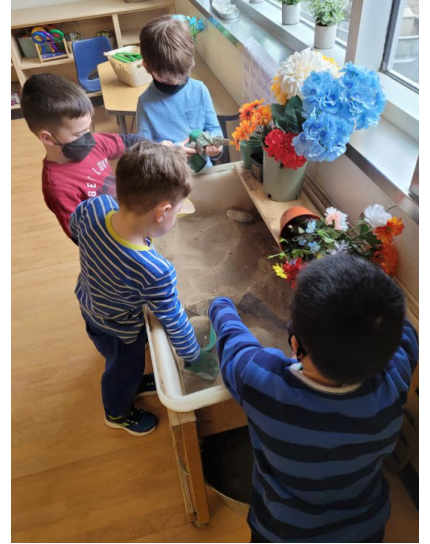
Symmetry Drawing

What will happen to the white flowers if we add blue food colouring to the water?

Playing in our garden is so much fun!

How far can our paper airplanes fly?





K1 Learning:

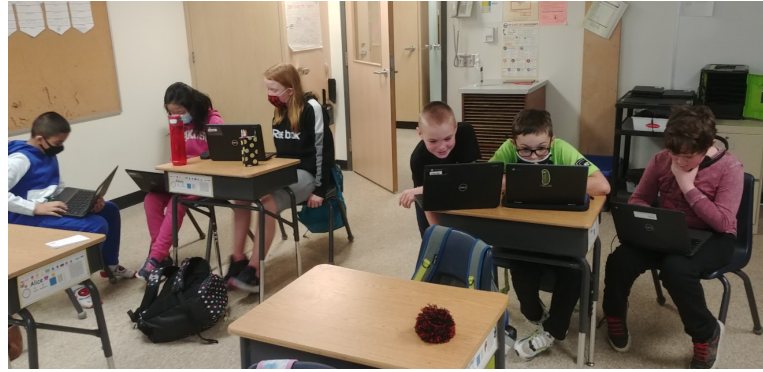
K1 is learning about living and non living things, we found a BIG worm on our Friday walk and decided it was a living thing. Our worm rescue team put it back in the dirt so it can make a new home.



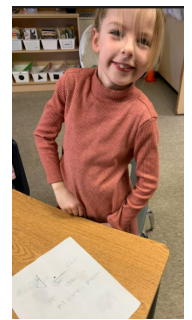
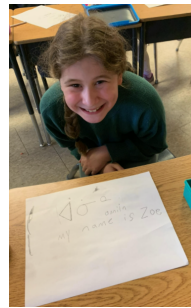
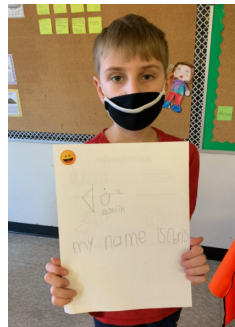
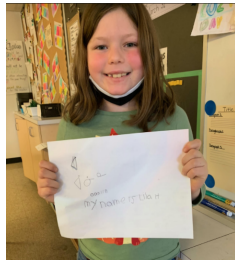
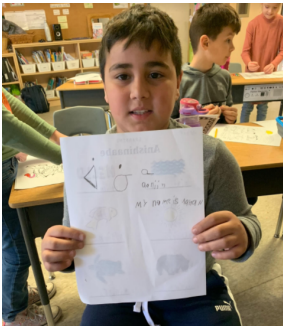
K1 is on trash patrol, using our garbage grabber to keep the outdoor learning environment trash free.



3/4A Working in Groups to Learn About Early Settlers



2/3A celebrates Transgender Visibility and Indigenous Peoples Language Day on Mar. 31. They learned some words in Anishinaabe and practiced writing syllabics, then had some read aloud time exploring some books written by transgender children.



Have a Wonderful Month!
B. Tomkins, Principal