

Lexington's May Newsletter

Friends Forever



May 2022

Hello Lexington Families,

Students are enjoying the outdoors now that the weather is getting warmer. All climbers are open and our swings have had new chains and seats put on for extra safety. Thank you to all families who continue to follow your regular meeting routines with your children and are parking on the street on the side closest to the school to ensure our buses are able to get through and our students remain safe during drop off and pick up times. Many more students are riding their bikes or bringing scooters to school. Please take some time to review bike safety rules with your children to ensure their safe arrival to school and home at the end of the day. Those of you driving in the area at this time of year, please understand that there will be more students on bikes, scooters and walking and drive extra cautiously for this reason. Thank you for helping to keep our students safe on and off school property.

Here are some updates and news from Lexington P.S.:

Mental Health Week-May 2-6

This week is Mental Health week. Students will be learning about Mental Health and strategies to support their own well-being. CMHA is an excellent resource for families. Click [here](#) for more information about Mental Health week. The slogan this year is #GetReal about how to help and this year's focus is on Empathy. Empathy is the capacity we share as human beings to step into each other's shoes. To understand where they're coming from and what they're feeling. To listen hard and refuse to judge. It's also one way to reduce and resolve conflict. Regular check ins and discussions with your children are important to keep communication open and honest.

Lexington Scholastic Book Fair-May 16-20

We are having a Scholastic Book Fair during the week of May 16-20. There will be an opportunity on Mon., May 16 from 3:35 to 7 pm and Wed., May 18 from 3:35-6 pm for families to come browse and purchase books and other items. Families may also purchase books and other items virtually using the following Lexington Book Fair link:

<https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5183250>

Orders placed on line are shipped directly to the school without any shipping charges. The more books we sell, the more books we are able to purchase for our school to support an equity library for teachers to use. Students will visit the book fair during the week and write a "wish list" for parents. There will also be times for students to shop throughout the school day during Nutrition Breaks. We are in need of parent

volunteers who may be interested in helping us during this week at both nutrition breaks so that students can purchase items if they want. Please email jane_pasel@wrdsb.ca for more information if you are interested in this volunteer opportunity.

Early Pick Up:

If you need to pick up your child(ren) early, please contact the office by leaving a message on the attendance line or sending an email to lex@wrdsb.ca. When you arrive early to pick up, ring the office bell to let Yvonne know you have arrived, and your child(ren) will be sent out to meet you as soon as possible.

Class Placement:

This is a friendly reminder that we are asking 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 students during this process.

COVID Updates:

This is a friendly reminder that due to the rising number of cases in our schools among students and staff, the WRDSB is **strongly recommending that all staff, students and visitors wear a mask when indoors at school**. If staff, students or visitors do not have a mask available to them, their school can provide one. Also, if you are in need of more Rapid Antigen Tests for your child(ren), please contact your classroom teacher so that more can be sent home for your use when your child(ren) have symptoms. Thank you to all the parents who have been extra cautious and have continued to screen their child(ren) each day prior to arriving to school. When completing the [School Screening](#), make sure you read it carefully and thoroughly as the protocols can change and are updated regularly. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us anytime by calling the office.

Big Yellow Bag School Council Fundraiser:

This is a friendly reminder of our Fundraising opportunity for Lexington P.S. We're partnering with BigYellowBag®, a local company that delivers high quality garden products in a neat, clean bag straight to your door. As we are all getting into the planning for our spring/summer gardens, BigYellowBag has offered to donate \$10 to us for each bag purchased using our unique code below (this code is only valid for donations to come to our group) AND as an added bonus, YOU save \$5 on your BigYellowBag purchase!

So, if you're planning on purchasing soil or mulch to get your lawn ready for the season anyway, here's a way for you to save a bit of cash PLUS help your school too!

To purchase visit: <https://bigyellowbag.com/> and use the code LEXINGTON22

Thanks for continuing to support Lexington Public School.

Kindergarten Registration:

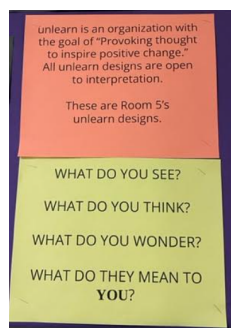
We are still accepting registrations for children who were born in 2018, to register for Junior Kindergarten for the 2022-23 school year. Here is the link to register:

<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/>.

Pizza Days:

Pizza Days will be every Friday beginning on Friday May 13, 2022 and will continue until the end of June. Please order through School Day.



UNLEARN Virtual Parent Event-June 2

Our school council at Lexington Public School is hosting an evening of deep thinking and inspiration by bringing on speakers from unlearn.

UNLEARN is a social enterprise with a passion for inspiring critical thinking by design. We believe design has the ability to inspire and make the world a better place. unlearn uses clothing, posters, and programming to provoke thought and dialogue around human rights, equity, and social justice issues.



Here's what Countryside Village Public School had to say: "What I loved about this session: The open dialogue and relaxed atmosphere of sharing experiences in a conversational way. I loved the storytelling and the completely respectful and caring way the presenters engaged with staff members and each other. What I found most useful in this session: The fact that it was thought provoking. We were led to our own deep thinking without being presented with information in a sterile way."

You can find out more at www.unlearn.com

The evening event will be open to all parents and caregivers and is scheduled for June 1st from 7 pm-8pm. If you are interested in attending, please complete this [Google Form](#) to pre-register. Feel free to invite other adult friends, family, and/or community members to attend and pre-register. Please note that this event is geared toward adults and it is recommended that children not be part of the discussions.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- Thursday, May 19 Junior Track and Field, May 20 Rain Date
- Thursday, May 26 Jump Rope for Heart
- Friday, June 3, PD Day
- Thursday, June 2-UNLEARN Virtual Parent Event-Need to register

Lexington Hero Gem:

As a school, we have completed all Traits from our Hero Gem program. Students will be reviewing their learning about HOPE, EFFICACY, RESILIENCE, OPTIMISM, GRATITUDE, EMPATHY, and MINDFULNESS. During the months of May and June, we will be noticing students demonstrating these traits and celebrating them on the announcements. We are very lucky to have the kind, thoughtful and empathetic students that we do. I know our announcements will be full of celebrations these next two months.

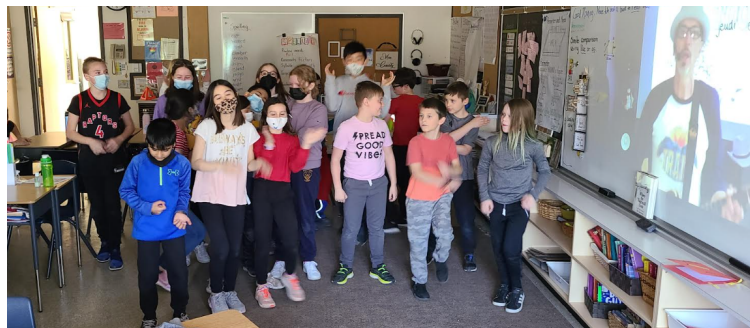
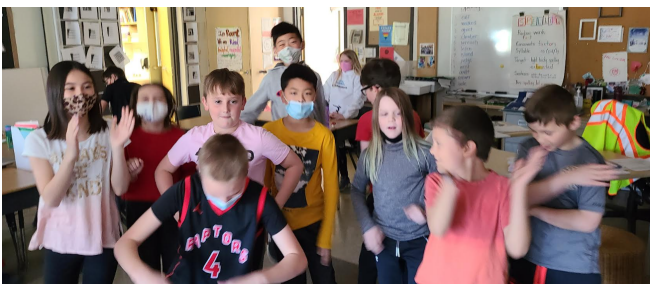
Days of Significance for May:

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.

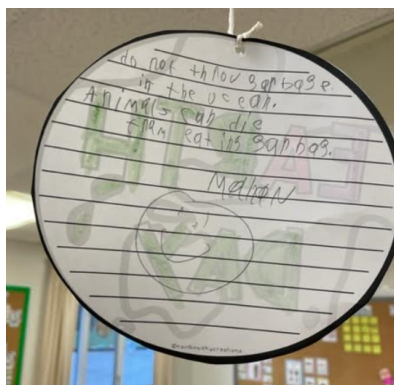
May 2022 Asian and South Asian Heritage Jewish Heritage Month			
<i>Days</i>	<i>Days of Significance</i>	<i>Community</i>	<i>Description</i>
May 1	Beltane	Wiccan/Neo pagan	This is one of the four ancient Celtic Fire festivals and marks the beginning of summer. It celebrates the conjoining of the infinite potential of the Goddess with the life-sparking energy of the God in a sacred marriage, the basis of all creation. Observance begins at sunset of the previous day.
May 3	12th Day of Ridvan*	Baha'i	The 12th Day of Ridvan concludes this important Baha'i festival. Celebrations begin the evening before.
May 3-4	Eid-al-Fitr*	Islam	Eid al Fitr is a Muslim holiday that marks the end of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month of Fasting. Eid is an Arabic word meaning "festivity," while Fitr means "breaking the fast". The holiday celebrates the conclusion of the 29 or 30 days of dawn-to-sunset fasting during the entire month of Ramadan. Observance begins at sunset of the previous day.
May 4-6	Declaration of the Bab*	Baha'i	Declaration of the Bab commemorates the day in 1844 on which he announced his identity as the Bab, or Gate, the herald of the new age. Observance begins at sunset of the previous day.
May 5	National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit People (MMIWG2S)	First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and non-Indigenous Peoples living in Canada	A day to honour and remember all missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people. May 5th is also known as Red Dress Day, to draw attention to missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and two spirit people and as a call for all Canadians to remember and to take action.
May 6	Wesak/Vesak*	Buddhism	A Buddhist holiday that commemorates the Birth, Enlightenment, and Final Nirvana of the Buddha. This is the most important day for Theravada Buddhists. Some traditions mark the date for May 26th while others, predominantly Southeast Asian Countries, celebrate on April 8th. We have indicated both dates in this calendar.

May 17	International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia	Egale Canada, International	The Day represents an annual landmark to draw the attention of decision makers, the media, the public, opinion leaders and local authorities to the alarming situation faced by lesbian, gay, bisexuals, transgender and intersex people and all those who do not conform to majority sexual and gender norms.
May 17-18	Shavuot*	Judaism	The celebration of the beginning of the barley harvest in ancient Israel. It also marks the giving of the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai. Traditionally observant Jewish people do not work or attend school. Observance begins at sunset of the previous day.
May 26	Ascension Day	Christianity (E)	Ascension Day is the 40th day of Easter. It occurs 39 days after Easter Sunday. It is a Christian holiday that commemorates Jesus Christ's ascension into heaven. Ascension Day marks the 40th day after Jesus Christ's resurrection according to Christian belief. Called Himmelfahrt in Low German.
May 28-29	Ascension of Baha'u'llah*	Baha'i	Ascension of Baha'u'llah marks the anniversary of the death of the founder of the Baha'i faith. Baha'is suspend work on this day. Observance begins at sunset of the previous day.
May 30- June 5	National Accessibility Week	National	A week to promote accessibility and inclusion across communities and workplaces and a time to celebrate the contributions of Canadians with disabilities.

French Virtual Concert with Roland Bibeau



**Earth Day Fun!
K1**



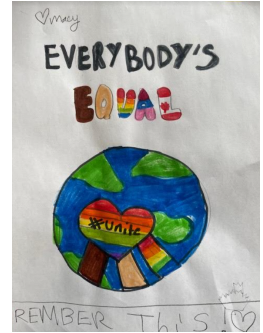
5/6B read "The Lorax" and were learning about personification in Language, so the next day, which was Earth Day, students wrote a message to humans from the voice of Mother Nature/Earth, the trees or the oceans.

I am the ocean. I am beautiful and powerful, and provide life for all the little and big sea creatures. I blow the ships on the cold sea, and I eat up shipwrecks. I am also sad but no one can see. I am sad that no one is paying attention to all the pollution you guys are polluting in my sea. I eat the trash, and the toxic oil spills, and my animals all die. My beautiful baby blue sea is now turned to a greyish brown color. My cousins and family have all been at least polluted once, and now I am *crying*. I am becoming unhealthier by the minute. On behalf of everything living in the deep ocean, I want all of you to stop polluting in my ocean, and treat it better. It is a beauty and if you don't stop it will be gone.

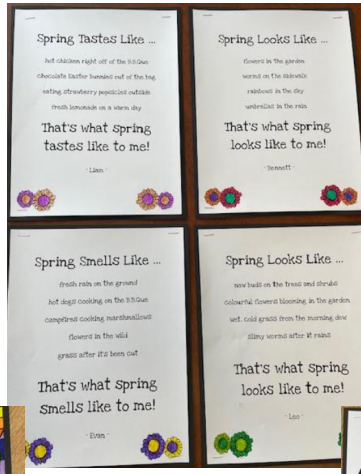
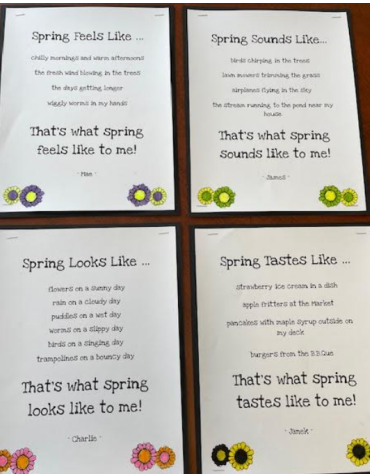
I am the ocean. I speak for the hundreds of thousands of creatures living in me. Everyday I watch as more and more creatures die or lose their habitat. Everyday I get polluted and I'm here to give you one last warning. If you keep doing these terrible things to me there won't be any more oceans. There won't be all these beautiful creatures that live within me. People take me for granted. They think "Oh one piece of trash won't do anything" but if everyone thinks that then yes, it will do something. So please I speak for me, the animals that rely on me, and for the world. Please step up and do something while you still have the chance to.

Recess Fun

Come to our Recess Museum!



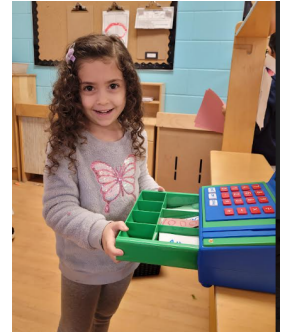
Grade 1A-Poem Writing and Mosaic Art



Thanks Mr. V. Teaching us about Water and Bubbles



K3 Learning-Marble Painting, Gardening, Working in the Store, Enjoying the Weather



Have a Wonderful Month!
B. Tomkins, Principal