



## Lincoln Alexander Elementary School

50 RAVENBURY DRIVE  
HAMILTON, ON L8W 2B5  
TEL: 905.574.4044  
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<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/lincolnalexander/>  
PRINCIPAL: Mr. M. Hopkins  
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR : Ms. L. Wright

Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Dear Parent/Guardian,

### **Celebrations:**

It was nice to have a member of parliament, the Honourable, Jason Kenney visit our school on Lincoln Alexander Day. This is now a nationally recognized day on Lincoln's birthday (Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>), to celebrate and remember Mr. Alexander's impact. We had a memorable LINC assembly last month, led by the students and staff in room 10. Their message focused on positive self-talk to promote feeling pride in yourself and to help you start your day in a positive frame of mind. The energy in the gymnasium was fantastic and I know personally, the new learning helped me to be more relaxed in order to deal with the remaining events of the day. Our Grade 6's are travelling to Brantford for an overnight excursion to experience some of the First Nations' traditions. Mrs. Brandon-Rooth's persistence and creativity have allowed our students this great learning experience at no cost. I also had the pleasure of reading your child's first term report card over the past week. I am proud of our students' progress and the communication and next steps for improvement from our staff. Report Cards will be sent home on Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

### **School Improvement Planning:**

As a staff, we are continuing to learn how to best support student achievement as well as look at innovative ways to positively impact the school climate. Each teacher is developing their own inquiry, based on student need in their respective classrooms. The aim is to intentionally try a new approach to learning in order to see if this approach will have an impact on student learning. The emphasis for all is to reflect on our work and focus on the learning. Additionally, we value student engagement/voice in the learning process and we will be exploring ways of ensuring that our students are active participants in their learning. We will also be looking to incorporate the 'Habits of Mind' (from the book by Costa & Kallick) to help us improve both academically and socially. Some examples of these habits are: persisting, striving for accuracy, thinking and communicating with clarity and precision, finding humour, remaining open to continuous learning. School Improvement Planning will be the focus of our PA Day on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.



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### Registration:

Kindergarten registration has begun and will continue each year on the first Monday in February. If you have children who will be attending Lincoln Alexander School next year, please come in and register anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. We are looking forward to meeting our new customers. Please be advised that applications for Out of Catchment schools are due to the receiving principals during the week of Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup>. Any applications submitted after this will be put on a waiting list and not considered until the end of the third week in September. Please know that some schools are not accepting out of catchment applications due to enrollment. If you have any questions or concerns about this process, please call the school for clarification. We are happy to help.

### Year Books:

There was an error in the photos that were taken in the fall. The pictures did not include the full body picture as we expected for our year books. Lifetouch will be coming back to our school on Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup> to take 'proofs' for the year book in order to maintain the quality of the year book. Also, they will be here on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> for any students who happen to be away on February 27<sup>th</sup>.

### Concussion Protocol:

As per ministry standards we (HWDSB) are mandated to have a protocol in place for both suspected concussions and confirmed concussions. We will continue to connect with parents during the day if a student is injured, especially when the injury is to the head. We have a list of 'signs of suspected concussion'; and if we do believe there is a chance that your child has sustained a concussion, we will immediately call you. The requirement is that the student must stay home for 24 hours in order to be closely observed. If you feel, that your child is fit to return to school after the 24 hours, then parents must sign and return the form before your child returns to school. If there is a confirmed concussion by a doctor then another form must be completed and signed by the doctor. Our staff will be trained on this protocol during our February staff meeting. Also, if your child has been diagnosed with a concussion outside of school time, please let us know. **The most important thing we will focus on is good communication between home and school to ensure your son or daughter is safe.**



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### **H.W.D.S.B. Days of Significance for February:**

Please click on the following link to see all the days of significance for February and their associated meanings:

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/schools/calendar/dos/>

If you are having trouble opening the link, right click and select open or copy and paste the link into your browser.

### **Upcoming Dates for March, 2015:**

- Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> Picture re-takes (for students away on Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>)
- March Break 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>-LINC Assembly @ 11 a.m.

Thank you for your continued support with our Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart campaign. We will be having this event on Thursday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>.

Take care and have a great month,

Mr. M. Hopkins