



Weekly Update November 22-26, 2021



Earl Kitchener / Board Updates

Please ensure that you are checking the EK, along with the Board websites on a regular basis for updates. There is often important information that gets posted throughout the week.

Picture Retake Day

Monday, December 13 will be school picture retake day for students that missed the original picture day. Please put a note in your student's agenda for that day if you would like their picture taken. A general announcement will also be made that morning as a reminder for students.

After School Protocols

Just a friendly reminder that once school has been released, students and parents are asked to quickly disperse and not gather on school property. Due to safety concerns, students are not allowed to be climbing the trees on school property.



Upcoming Spirit Day

Our first Spirit Day will be on **Thursday November 25th**, and our theme will be '**EK Wellness**'. We are hoping that students/staff will come to school in 'something cozy' (could be pajamas, jogging pants, something they simply 'like', or whatever they find comfortable) and be prepared to practice some mindfulness activities and take part in a 'virtual' assembly.

P.A. Day

Friday, November 26, 2021 is a P.A. Day. There will be no school for students.

Open Gym

Next week some of our classes at Earl Kitchener will have the opportunity to participate in Open Gym during Nutrition Breaks once a week. This will run for a total of 6 weeks and then we will offer the opportunity to other classes at the school to participate.

Classes will participate with their class cohort in activities such as shooting a basketball, soccer skills, scoops and balls, hula hoops, skipping etc. Running shoes are required. Open gym will be supervised by your child's classroom teacher or another volunteer teacher on staff. (Classes participating this session are; Mrs. Smith, Mme Hanna, Mme Ditomasso, Mme Sliwinska, Mme Komazec ,Mme McCluskey, Mme Blais, Mme Chapman).

French Immersion Applications (SK students)

Please visit the HWDSB website, or the EK website for information on the application process for SK students planning on enrolling in French Immersion for Grade 1. Important information and deadline dates are posted.

Dress for the Weather



The weather is changing! Please ensure students arrive with all they will need to keep them warm for the day (hats, coats, mitts etc). It is better to have these items, and not need them, as we never know how the weather will change during the day.

Parent Portal Forms

Please ensure that you have gone on the Parent Portal and completed all forms. These need to be up-to-date so that we have accurate information in case of emergency.

Should you be updating the verification form, please note that your preferred contact number MUST be listed as "Daytime" number, whether it is a home number or cell number, as this is how the system pulls numbers for students. Should you be changing your preferred number, please ensure it is listed as the daytime number. Please also understand that any changes on this form are not automatic. The changes are reviewed by the school prior to the final change, so may take some time to show.

If you have any questions, or are unsure as to what is required, please feel free to contact the school, and we will be happy to assist you.

Masking



All students are required to wear non-medical or cloth masks indoors in school, including in hallways and during classes, as well as on school vehicles. Where physical distancing cannot be maintained, students are required to wear masks outdoors unless within their own cohort. Masks must cover the nose, mouth and chin without gaping. Bandanas, gators and face shields are not a replacement for masks.

Dropping Items Off

At this time, we are unable to accept items being dropped off late. Please ensure that your child has everything they need prior to dropping them off at school (water bottle, lunch, backpack etc). A check list for the student is a great way to help them learn to gather their items up. Any items dropped off would result in multiple people touching the item, which increases exposure. We thank you for your assistance and understanding with this.

Illness at School

We take illness very seriously at the school, so if a student says they are not feeling well, we will call for them to be picked up, and all Covid protocols must be followed. Please encourage your child to speak up if they are not feeling well. With this in mind, we are also asking parents to talk to their children about the ramifications for saying they are sick when they are not. These instances must be treated like all other illnesses, however, it puts unnecessary burden on the school if they are not really ill, and just want to go home.



Parking During Drop-Off/Pick-Up

Please ensure that you are **NOT** blocking **ANY** driveways during pick-up and drop-off. Many residents have called the school complaining that they cannot get in and out of their own driveways. Several neighbours have called the city, and parking enforcement will be monitoring and ticketing as needed. Please be respectful, and if necessary, park further away, and walk to the school.