



Earl Kitchener Elementary School

Earl Kitchener Families!

May 2022

Hello everyone,

Once again, hoping this finds you well. Please note the following for your information and consideration and we encourage you to continue checking in with our EK website for ongoing updates (if you **subscribe** to our website, *you will receive email notifications regarding updates*);

An upcoming holiday this month to be aware of (no school);

- ✓ **Victoria Day Holiday** ... Monday, May 23rd.

Storytime Trail ... during the week of May 2nd to 6th (Education Week), families are invited to visit the playground (after school hours please) to visit our 'Storytime Trail'. You will find that there are placards/posters to follow along as you read the book, 'The Thing Lou Couldn't Do' by Ashley Spires. Have fun and we hope you enjoy reading it together with your child

Upcoming events ... in conjunction with EK School Council, we have the following events that interested families may choose to participate in;

- **MCYU (McMaster Child and Youth University) Family Engagement Event for Grade 5 students** (and a caregiver) will be held the evening of Thursday, May 5th at the school.
- **Telling Tales** (author/illustrator Debbie Redpath Ohi) ... VIRTUAL presentation on MS Teams the evening of Thursday, May 19th (additional details will be shared separately soon).

Playground access after school ... many families will recall from pre-COVID times that after school dismissal looked quite different. FDK students were the first to come out and after 'handing off' to caregivers, those families here to pick up older students would be invited onto the playground to receive students at the end of the day. We will once again be returning to this model at the end of the month (as of Monday, May 30th) and more information will be shared the week prior.

Junior Track and Field ... club practices will begin the week of May 9th for interested students in Grades 3, 4 and 5. Participating students will also have the opportunity to 'try out' in order to be considered for the EK Track and Field Team. The Board wide meet is scheduled for Friday, June 17th and additional information will be shared in the coming weeks.

Grade 3 EQAO ... as you likely know, EQAO (Education Quality and Accountability Office) assessments have returned and will happen over the course of several weeks from (roughly) May 24th to June 9th. Families of Grade 3 students will receive additional details in the coming days.

Kindergarten orientation ... we will be offering an orientation program for families new to FDK (and EK!) on Thursday, June 2nd. If you are aware of families intending to register children into our Kindergarten program for the fall, please encourage them to do so and more information will be shared out directly to those families registered.

Parking Lot reminder ... unfortunately we continue to receive 'complaints' based on the congestion that occurs in our rather small parking lot off of Stanley Street. While it has always been intended to be used as a circular 'kiss and drop' (as well as for pick up at dismissal) zone, please be mindful to be as quick as is possible as a courtesy to others and remember also that one of our smaller school buses also must use this area for drop-off and pick-up (please do not block).

Our LAST School Council and Home and School meetings for this school year will be held the evening of Tuesday, May 17th beginning at 7:00 pm in our Learning Commons (library). Please consider joining us to learn more about what's happening here at EK and there is also the possibility for a 'hybrid model' whereby virtual attendance could be an option (on MS Teams). Please consider reaching out for details if you are interested to either of the following;

EK School Council: earlkitchenerSC@hwdsb.on.ca

EK Home and School Association: ekhomeandschool@gmail.com

Please continue to check the EK website (calendar) from time to time for additional events/dates to remember and as always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out ... thank you for the continued help and support in making Earl Kitchener School a safe and great place to be!

Mr. Thorne, Mrs. Macnab and the staff of Earl Kitchener School.

