



Earl Kitchener Elementary School

Earl Kitchener Families!

January 2023

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We hope that everyone was able to enjoy some time relaxing with friends and family over this holiday season. Please note the following and consider checking our website for additional events and dates.

Welcome Mrs. Johnson! As was shared back in December, the return to school in January marks the start of Mrs. Stacey Johnson as (half time) VP at Earl Kitchener. Mrs. Johnson is shared with Mary Hopkins School in Waterdown and she will be at EK on Mondays, Fridays, and Wednesday afternoons (generally).

Parking / stopping (drop off and pick up) ... stopping or parking in areas outside of schools each day is always a challenge. *PLEASE remember that if/where possible, walking is always your best option and if you are having to drive, be mindful of not blocking our neighbours' driveways and/or the staff parking lot.* Thank you in advance for your courtesy, respect and support.

Gym shoes ... with the arrival of winter, it is important to remind students and families that wet shoes and boots cannot be worn in the gym (safety concern). Please remember to send your child to school with running shoes to ensure that they are able to actively participate in Phys-Ed class and/or DPA each day. If possible, students are also welcome to leave an 'extra pair' at school.

LOST AND FOUND ... it is incredible how many items are added to our 'lost and found' daily! If you are able to add your child's name to garments, we will always do our best to make sure that items found are returned.

Spring musical ... as you have likely heard, and thanks largely to Mme Prevec and Mr. Popek, Earl Kitchener is once again preparing for a Spring musical performance. Rehearsals for the Wizard of Oz have been taking place for weeks and the link below will lead you to a blog that provides information and updates ... please have a look!

<https://cpopek.commonshwdsb.on.ca>

Encourage Your Children to Use Active Travel to Get to School! Walking and wheeling are healthy ways to get to and from school. Replacing car travel with more ACTIVE travel such as walking or biking can help children meet the recommended minimum of 60 minutes of daily physical activity. Trips powered by ACTIVE TRAVEL, rather than vehicles, can help to improve air quality, reduce your carbon footprint, and make neighbourhoods friendlier places. Commit to walking or wheeling to or from school even once, then build from there. In the coming weeks and months we hope to share more information around two initiatives that we are participating in at EK, 'Daily School Route' and 'Fresh Air for Kids' ... please stay tuned!

January School Council and Home and School meetings ... Tuesday, January 24th beginning at 7:00 pm in our Learning Commons (library). Please consider joining us to learn more about what's happening here at EK. There is also the possibility to join virtually (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

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call the school directly or make arrangements to come in and talk ... thank you for the continued help and support in making Earl Kitchener School a safe and great place to be!

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