



# Earl Kitchener Elementary School

*Earl Kitchener Families*

March 2024

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Hello everyone,

Hope this newsletter finds you well and please note the following items for your information:

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**March PA Day (POSTPONED)** ... I'm sure folks are likely aware by now, but the PA Day originally planned for Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> has been MOVED to Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> due to concerns regarding the solar eclipse. This means that March 1<sup>st</sup> is a regular school day here.

**March Break 2024** ... the March Break is now only a week and a bit away. The last day of school prior is next Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> and we all return on Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> ... please have a safe and fantastic break!

**Ramadan** ... we have numerous families who participate in this celebration that begins on the evening of March 10<sup>th</sup>. If you have a child who may require accommodations as a result, please reach out to the school.

**FDK for September 2024** ... if you have a child born in 2019 or 2020 (OR, if you KNOW of a family where this may be the case), please register as early as you are able. FDK registrations impact our School Organization and Staffing and this information can help us avoid the need for reorganizing at the end of September. Just FYI, our FDK Orientation event is the evening of Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Music @ EK** ... a reminder to all EK families that there is an online space dedicated to sharing the various music activities that are happening around Earl Kitchener School. From classroom learning to extracurricular opportunities such as Primary Choir, Junior Choir, and Grade 5 Band. Be sure to check it out! The website is accessible through the HWDSB commons at:

<https://cpopek.commons.hwdsb.on.ca/>

**Checkers Club** ... Mr. Minich and Mme Belforte have been facilitating this club for Grades 4 and 5 students for several weeks now and our team will be taking part in the Board tournament on March 7<sup>th</sup> ... good luck!

**Readathon** ... with the help and support of numerous caregiver volunteers, School council and our Home and School Association, we recently held a 'Readathon' here at EK with proceeds going to local charitable organization Neighbour to Neighbour ('N2N'). *We are thrilled to share that \$8755.00 was raised and the folks at N2N could not be more appreciative!* Just one more example as to how generous this community is and thank you to all who participated. The final tally revealed that:

Top class (minutes read) ... Mme McCluskey's Grade 5s (Pizza Party on Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup>)!

Top readers (minutes read, one per division) ... each will each be 'Principal for a Bit' on Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>!

**Community Engagement ('bEKind' Assemblies)** ... In recent months we have shared our plans around inviting caregivers into the school to see and/or be part of 'happenings' here at EK involving their children. For several years now, we have had an initiative in place that we refer to as 'bEKind' and we organize regular assemblies to recognize, teach, and celebrate 'kindness' as it pertains to students here at EK.

Hosting these assemblies has always been shared between combinations of Grades 1-5 classes and this will continue to be the case. We now invite caregivers of students in the participating 'host classes' to join us.

*Dates for 'bEKind' assemblies:*

- Thursday, January 25th (hosted by Mr. Minich, Mme Kohler, Mme Blais, Mme Sliwinska)
- Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> (hosted by Ms. Wahoush, Mrs. Bulloch, Mme. Cantagalli, Mme Long)
- (NEW Date) Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> (hosted by Miss Sampson, Mme Hall, Mme Schuler, Mme Ogilvie, Mme McClusky)
- Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> (hosted by Mr. Daniels, Mme Jenkins, Mme Belforte, Mme DiTomasso, Mme Baker)

*Caregivers of students in these classes receive 'invites' the week prior.*

Our next **School Council and Home and School** meetings will be held the evening of Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30 pm in the library. Please consider joining us to learn more about what's happening here at EK and if you have questions, please email;

**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 if you subscribe, you will receive notifications regarding new posts. 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, Ms. Ricci and the staff of Earl Kitchener School.**

