



Earl Kitchener Elementary School

Earl Kitchener Families.

April 2025

Hello everyone, hope this finds you well!

As always, please consider subscribing to our school website for regular updates and please note the following for your information:

Free Family Movie Nights in March ... thanks to the efforts of our dedicated caregivers involved with School Council and our Home and School Association, we were able to once again hold two free movie nights (on March 26th and 27th). Always packed ('sold out') and always fun!

Mark your calendars! On Tuesday, April 8th we have TWO presentations happening here at the school for caregivers:

- **Parent Reading Support** ... our Reading Specialist Krystal Gailing has facilitated a few sessions already this year and this will be the LAST one. The focus is on helping caregivers best support their children at home and the final session is '**Building Fluency and Comprehension Skills**'. Please consider joining us in the library on April 8th from 4:30 to 5:30.
- **PRO Grant ('Parents Reaching Out Grant') event** ... each year, in conjunction with School Council members, schools can access funding to help facilitate organizing events that engage families. These are typically high interest topics and this year we have Dr. Sheri Nsamenang joining us to share a presentation on '**Balancing Family Values and Digital Media**'. This will run on the 8th from 6:00 to 7:00 (location in the school TBD).

Our next School Council and Home and School Association meetings will be held on the evening of Tuesday, April 15th beginning at 6:30 pm in our Learning Commons. Please consider joining us to learn more about what's happening here at EK. 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

Community Engagement ('bEKind' Assemblies) ... we continue to invite caregivers into the school to see and/or be part of these assemblies 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. Three have occurred already and two are still to come (see below).

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

Our next 'bEKind' assembly is on:

- Wednesday, April 9th @ 9:15 (hosted by Ms. Howarth and Ms. Murrell-Wright, Mrs. Hammond, Mme Cantagalli, Mrs. Hall and Ms. Wahoush)

Caregivers of students in these classes receive 'invites' the week prior. Sorry, despite the fact that we often have students involved with our choirs perform, we simply do not have enough room to invite caregivers of these children.

Fundraising plan adjustment ... schools are required to get approval for fundraising initiatives as well as communicate to families what any money raised will be used for. In 2019 the school performed the musical 'Annie' and a portion of proceeds was set aside to possibly add components to our A/V equipment in the gym. Unfortunately we have since learned that the cost to do so FAR exceeds what was raised and so we will be diverting this money to student support resources and to purchase the licencing rights for a future musical. Please reach out to me directly with any questions or concerns regarding this.

Spring Open House and Book Fair (heads up) ... our 'Spring Open House' (combined with Scholastic Book Fair and Art Auction) will take place on **Tuesday, May 6th**. We will share additional information regarding this event closer to the date and once again we can all look forward to having the folks from the Greenville Optimists with their Food Truck/Trailer on site.

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, Ms. Ricci and the staff of Earl Kitchener School.

