



# Earl Kitchener Elementary School

*Earl Kitchener Families!*

May 2025

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Hi everyone,

Hoping this finds you well and please note the following for your information and consideration. We also 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 such things*);

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**Upcoming dates to be aware of:**

- ✓ **Volunteer Appreciation event** ... Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30 a.m. (library).
- ✓ **Victoria Day Holiday** ... Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup> (no school).

**Spring Open House and Book Fair** ... our 'Spring Open House' (combined with Scholastic Book Fair) will take place on Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> this year. Once again, as part of our event, the Greenville Optimists Community and Youth Foundation will be operating a **Food Trailer** out back on the tarmac from roughly **4:30 – 6:00**. The **Scholastic Book Fair** will be set up in the gym and this will be accessible for browsing/purchases as of 3:10 in the afternoon (upon dismissal). *Any proceeds/profit from the sale of items comes back to the school by way of books for classrooms as well as for our school library.*

**From 5:00 - 6:30 pm**, the doors out back will be opened for access to the school and families are welcome to come on in and tour (this time is not intended to be for student progress updates).

Food truck prices (often CASH is best however they did bring a debit machine with them in the fall);

- o drinks (water, pop, juice) ... \$1.00-\$2.00
- o fresh cut fries ... \$4.00
- o hot dogs ... \$5.00
- o hamburgers ... \$6.00
- o cheeseburgers ... \$7.00
- o veggie burgers ... \$7.00

**Jump Rope for Heart** ... Mme McColman has organized our event that takes place on Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Older students are once again helping with the various 'stations' and we always have fun while raising money for a great cause (Heart and Stroke Foundation)!

**Grade 3 EQAO** ... EK students in Grade 3 will participate in the EQAO (Education Quality and Accountability Office) assessments over the course of several weeks from (roughly) May 20<sup>th</sup> to May 30<sup>th</sup>. Families of Grade 3 students will receive additional details in the coming days.

**Kindergarten orientation** ... our orientation program for families new to FDK will be on Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 7:00 pm. If you are aware of families intending to register children into our Kindergarten program for the fall, please encourage them to do so as more information will be shared out directly to those families registered.

**THANK YOU Home and School Association (caregiver volunteers)** ... We are so happy and thankful to share that through the fundraising efforts of our caregiver volunteers who make up the Earl Kitchener Home and School Association (and the generous contributions by the Earl Kitchener caregiver community), **over \$10,000 was contributed to cover and/or subsidize the cost of numerous student experiences here (trips and presentations)**. *This also resulted in our being able to offer FOUR absolutely free 'Family Movie Nights' this year which are always a tremendous hit.* It is because of donations received through events like Fright Night, Milk days and Pizza days that this is possible. **We really can't thank these folks enough for their efforts and PLEASE consider joining us in the future (see below!).**

**Our LAST School Council and Home and School** meetings for this school year will be held the evening of Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30 pm in our Learning Commons (library). Please consider joining us to learn more about what's happening here at EK and 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](mailto: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 LAST 'bEKind' assembly this year is on:*

- **Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> @ 9:15** (hosted by Mrs. Walkinshaw, Mme Bulloch, Mme Belforte, Mr. Daniels and Mme Garcia)

*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.*

**Choir Fest 2025** ... on Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup> Mr. Popek will be taking choir students to the annual *HWDSB Choirfest*, which takes place Churchill Secondary School.

**Junior Track and Field** ... club practices began today (May 1<sup>st</sup>) for all interested students in Grades 3, 4 and 5. During these practices, students are also 'trying out' to be considered for the EK Track and Field Team. The Board wide meet is scheduled for Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup> and additional information will be shared out with interested and eligible students.

**Front Garden revitalization** ... by now you may have already seen a separate communication regarding this and as you may have noticed, the gardens in front of the school need some work! Unfortunately, landscaping such as what we're requiring is not managed by School Board staff (or by contractor) and so any upkeep becomes a school responsibility. In consultation with our School Council and local garden centres, we now have a reasonable plan (including costs) as well as several caregiver volunteers willing to help with the work. We've been able to access school budget money to cover a little over 60% of the total and we're looking for some help with the balance. If you're able to manage a buck or two, please consider accessing the School Cash online platform under 'Front Garden Revitalization' to contribute and THANK YOU in advance.

***Also find included here additional information along with a QR Code that can be used to sign up to help if you can!***

*Finally, 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.**

