

School starts @ 8:50am
 School ends @ 3:10pm

Principal

David Van Laecke

Vice-Principal

Cora Hammond

School Secretaries

Nancy Wallace

Charlotte Ratch

SEPTEMBER 2023

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

“Welcome to Lakewood Elementary School’s 2023-24 School Year!”

Lakewood Parent Council is planning a complimentary BBQ on the front lawn of the school on Tuesday Sept 12 from 5:00-6:30. Staff will be available for your child to introduce to you!

I’m thrilled to announce this year’s staff who have worked hard to prepare their classrooms and programs for the start-up of the 2023-24 school year! There are quite a few new staff. There are also a lot of new students. Our enrolment is around 630 students. As with any September, there is always a possibility of the number of classes changing later in September when overall enrolment is examined. Please be patient and understanding if this happens, as it may result in a change to your child’s teacher and blend of classmates.

Lakewood Upcoming Events:

Sept 11–6 pm Parent Council Meets in Learning Commons

Sept 12-5:00-6:30 Front Lawn BBQ

Sept 15-PA Day (no school for students)

Sept 22-Terry Fox school run: “Toonie for Terry”

Sept 22-Oct hot lunch orders open on schoolcashonline and close on October 6

Sept 27-Picture Day (retakes Oct 27)

Sept 29-Lakewood school event to recognize National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (wear Orange Shirt)

Oct 2-6 pm Parent Council Meets in Learning Commons: vote on executive members

Oct 3-PA DAY (No school for students: Young Canada Day at Norfolk County Fair)

Mrs Cuerrier & Mrs Simmons	JK SK	Mrs Whiton	Gr 7
Mrs Crouch & Mrs Wildman	JK SK	Mr Carson	Gr 8
Mrs Robinet & Mrs Koncir	JK SK	Mr Maguire	Gr 8
Mme Smith & Mme Lord	JK SK Fl	M Bonneau	Gr 8 Fl
Mme Arps & Mme Clayton	JK SK Fl	Mrs Beck	LRT
Mrs Abbott-Smith	Gr 1	Mrs Sukkel	LRT
Mrs Grimes	Gr 1	Mrs Wall	PREP
Mme Grondin	Gr 1 Fl	Mrs Goddard	PREP
Mrs Russell	Gr 1/2	Mrs Halfpenney	PREP
Mrs MacDonald & Mrs Vallee	Gr 2	Miss Bell	PREP
Mme Durette & Mme Vallee	Gr 2 Fl	Mme Mainse	Core French
Mrs Bilinsky	Gr 2/3	Mme Gardner	Core French
Mrs Stevenson	Gr 3	Mrs Long	EA
Mrs Miller	Gr 3/4	Mr Schelock	EA
Mrs Froese	Gr 3/4	Mrs Winter	EA
Mme Sykes	Gr 3/4 Fl	Mrs Lighthouse	EA
Mrs Jepson	Gr 4/5	Ms Hammond	EA
Mme Lancuba	Gr 4/5 Fl	Mr Van Laecke	Principal
Mrs Penney	Gr 5	Mrs Hammond	Vice-Principal
Mrs Robertson	Gr 6	Mrs Wallace	Secretary
Ms Wall	Gr 6	Mrs Ratch	Secretary
Mme Sahota	Gr 6/7 Fl	Vacant position	Custodian
Ms Lane	Gr 7	Vacant position	Caretaker

Lakewood Parent Council

Parent Council will meet will on Monday September 11, 2022 in the Learning Commons. **All parents are encouraged to attend!** Contact the Principal prior to Sept 11 if you require childcare to attend the meeting.



Character Focus for September is Respect

Attendance

Our student absence reporting system called **SafeArrival**. You are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these 3 convenient methods:

1. Using your mobile device, download and install the **SchoolMessenger app** from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>). The first time you use the app, select **Sign Up** to create your account. Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**.
2. Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>. The first time you use the website, select **Sign Up** to create your account. Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**.
3. Call the toll-free number **1-833-557-9420** to report an absence using the automated phone system.

These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time. In addition, we will use the **SchoolMessenger Communicate** automated notification system to contact parents whose child is absent when the absence was not reported in advance. The automated notification system will attempt to contact parents at multiple contact points until a reason is submitted for the absence. If our system is unable to reach the designated contacts, office staff will follow up. If you report your child's absence in advance using the **SafeArrival** toll-free number, website or mobile app, you will NOT receive these notifications.

Friendly Reminder

If you are picking up your child/children for an appointment, please send a note to the teacher with your child in the morning stating the time for pick up. When you arrive to pick up your child, buzz the school's main door. We will call your child from class and sign out then meet you at the front door. If your child is late for school, (after 8:50) have them buzz the front door upon arrival then proceed to the office to sign-in and get an admit slip. School ends at 3:10 pm. **JK/SK students for pick up are walked out to the kiss and go gate at 3:00 pm to meet their parent.** Please introduce yourself to the educator so we know that each child is being picked up by the correct person. We realize emergencies arise, but any end of day changes need to be communicated to the office by 2pm.

Transportation/Bus Information:

If you are moving, changing childcare locations or are in need of transportation information, you can contact their staff by calling 519-751-7532 Ext 282204 or by emailing transportation@stsbhn.ca. Transportation information is available via the parent portal. Please log in to find transportation details. Logins require student OEN's, found at the top of your child's June Report Card.

Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) Volunteer and Community Partner Training

All volunteers and community partners working in our school are required to complete an online AODA training module. If you've already completed this training, please bring a copy of proof of completion to the office. If you haven't completed training, please contact the school office for more information on how to access training on the Grand Erie website.

Student Accident Insurance

Student accident coverage is recommended and voluntary for parents to consider for their child. It is important for parents to understand that the Board does not provide insurance for students against any accidental death, disability, dismemberment, or medical expenses that might occur as a result of an injury during school activities, including sporting events and field trips.

Insure My Kids protection plan is made available to parents, at low cost, to provide benefits for dental injuries and other accidents which may occur through participating in school activities. In fact, there are options in the package for coverage outside of school hours including holidays and weekends. Please see the brochure for information or visit www.insuremykids.com.

Parents may have accidental coverage as part of their employer's benefit plan. It's important for parents to review their plans to make sure they have the necessary coverage for accidents that may occur during school activities. Parents may want to consider purchasing additional personal coverage through Insure My Kids. **The Grand Erie District School Board requires that all parents declare whether or not they have accident insurance. A declaration form will be sent home with students in September.**

Hot Lunch/Milk program:

Two hot lunch days will be scheduled for October. This will be included in listed items to purchase on SchoolCashonline. We are a cashless school. All items sold at Lakewood, including school trips are available by registering to this application using [this link](#). New JK students will be assigned an Ontario Education Number (OEN) by the Ministry of Education early in September. This OEN is required to link your child to your SchoolCashonline account.

August 2023

Introduction: The idea of elementary students being responsible for their own library cards might seem daunting at first. However, it is crucial to understand that instilling a sense of independence and responsibility from a young age helps develop various essential skills. Moving forward into the September of a new year, we want to encourage and empower Lakewood Elementary students to have their cards with them rather than students leaving their cards at the library.

Here are some foundational reasons supporting this change:

1. **Encourages Ownership:** Assigning elementary students their library cards not only gives them a sense of ownership but also fosters a feeling of responsibility towards their belongings. Children are more likely to take care of something they consider their own, ensuring that their library card remains safe and intact.
2. **Teaches Organization:** Responsibility for a library card entails keeping it in a safe place and remembering to bring it to school when needed. This practice encourages students to be organized and develop skills in preparing and managing their personal belongings, an essential trait for successful learning and future endeavors.
3. **Promotes Time Management:** As elementary students grow older, they gradually become responsible for managing their time effectively. Having their own library cards empowers them to plan and schedule library visits, encouraging them to allocate sufficient time for reading, research, and borrowing new books. This responsibility fosters good time management habits from an early age.
4. **Enhances Decision-Making Skills:** Allowing elementary students to manage their own library cards gives them the freedom to make choices about books they want to read and explore. This process promotes decision-making skills, helping them become independent learners who actively seek out materials aligned with their preferences, interests, and reading levels.
5. **Builds Confidence and Self-Reliance:** By having their library cards, elementary students develop a sense of accomplishment and self-confidence. They learn to ask for assistance when needed, navigate the library independently, and complete necessary steps for borrowing or returning books. Such experiences empower students to become self-reliant individuals, ready to face challenges and seek knowledge on their own.
6. **Develops Responsibility and Accountability:** Being responsible for their library cards teaches elementary students the value of being accountable for their actions. They learn to handle and care for their cards appropriately, understand the consequences of carelessness, and take responsibility for any loss or damage that may occur. These experiences instill a sense of responsibility that carries over into other aspects of their lives.

Elementary students being responsible for their library cards is an essential aspect of their educational journey. It nurtures skills such as ownership, organization, time management, decision-making, confidence, self-reliance, responsibility, and accountability, which are invaluable for their personal growth and academic success. By providing students with this responsibility, we prepare them to become lifelong learners who are capable of handling responsibilities effectively.

We understand that the students have not been responsible for their own library cards over the previous years. Consequently, several incidents have occurred.

- Library staff do not know each student so when a student goes to the desk and gives their name, staff assume the correct name is being given and the library materials are checked out on that name. Students have used other student's name to sign out materials and then not return the items causing many angry calls between parents/guardians and library staff and many items declared as lost with no means for the library to recover the loss.
- Teachers are not available at the circulation desk to oversee the correct name is being given to library staff to check out library materials.
- Privacy issues are also a factor. Library staff do not monitor what students borrow and neither should the teachers. It is up to the parent/guardian to monitor library card use.
- This Branch is often viewed as a school library but as the community's Public Library Branch, students have opportunities to participate in the annual March Break fun events and activities and Summer Reading Program challenges. For students to have their cards with them, offers more opportunities to engage with the library's programs and events when school is not in session.
- Parents often complain that they don't have access to their child's library card during the summer and after hours, especially if they visit other Branches. We've learned that many parents believe that the library card they receive through the school is a "school library card". We want to be sure to communicate to everyone that the card students receive is a public library card and can be used at any Branch throughout the year.
- Parents/Guardians are responsible for fines owing on their child's card.

NCPL library cards are designed in two parts. There is a credit card size library card and a smaller tag with the library card number on it. When these library cards are issued to students, parents/guardians can keep one part, such as the business card size part, and let the students carry the smaller tag version. If parents/guardians want to arrange with teachers to monitor their child's library card, they can make their arrangements with the teachers.

If a student wants to borrow library materials but does not have their card with them at the time, library staff will be more than happy to put the materials on HOLD for the student so they can come back later with their library card and maybe their parent/guardian as well.

If students are carrying their own library card when they come to use the library, they will also be able to use the self-checkout unit to speed up the checkout process during a class visit.

As we begin a new academic year, we are excited to continue supporting Lakewood Elementary staff and students. We look forward to working with everyone.

If you are interested in applying for a Norfolk County Public Library Membership Card, the following conditions apply:

- Children under the age of 14 years may apply for a Library Card, but applications must be signed by a guardian who has a current Norfolk County Public Library Membership in good standing. If the guardian does not have a valid Library Card, they must visit their local Library Branch with identification showing their name and address. A guardian should only sign if they are willing to accept responsibility for the child's selection, use of the library, and incurred fines.
- Youth ages 14 to 17 years may apply for their own Library Card by presenting identification showing their name and address. If they do not have ID, a guardian who has a current Norfolk County Public Library Membership in good standing must sign to confirm their personhood. The youth applicant will be responsible for their selection, use of the Library, and incurred fines.
- A Virtual Library Card application will only be granted to residents of Norfolk County.
- A Virtual Library Card may be upgraded to a full Membership if the applicant brings identification with their name and Norfolk County Address to their local Library Branch.

Please print clearly.

Circulation Type (*select one*):

Child

Youth

Virtual

Library Card Applicant's Full Name:

Home Branch Location (*select one*):

Delhi

Port Dover

Port Rowan

Simcoe

Waterford

Today's Date:

Birth Date of Applicant:

Guardian's Full Name and Relationship to Applicant:

Guardian's Library Card Number:

Address of Applicant:

Phone Number:

Email:

I would like to receive email notifications
(*select all that apply*)

Overdue Notices

Hold Notifications

Monthly Newsletter

Pre-Overdue Notices

By signing this document, I the applicant and/or guardian is responsible for the person named on this card abiding by all the rules of the Norfolk County Public Library.

Signature of Applicant:

Signature of Guardian: