

February 2021 - Westmount PS Newsletter



February 2021

Principal: Mr. M. Moorhouse

The first month of 2021 started out with another interesting twist. Thank you to ALL of our staff as they quickly adapted for a week of virtual learning. Everyone stepped up and made the most of a challenging situation. Thank you to all of our students and families as they worked through it all with us. We were so happy to see everyone in person on the 11th.

This is a reminder to families to continue to use the screening tool available [online](#) before school each and everyday. This is an important measure as we work to keep our school community safe and healthy. As we head into the winter months it is important to adhere to the guidelines and recommendations set out by public health. You can check our [Facebook](#) page and school board [website](#) as well as the [Thunder Bay District Health Unit](#) for up to date information.

We thank all of you for your continued support this month and every month this year as we work to keep our students safe and in school!

Sincerely,

Mr. Moorhouse

DATES TO REMEMBER...

- **Report Cards go home** - Fri. Feb. 12th
- **Family Day (no school)** - Mon. Feb. 15th
- **I Read Canadian Day** - Wed., February 17th
- **Parent/Teacher Interviews** - Thurs. Feb. 18th
- **Pink Shirt Day** - Wed. Feb. 24th
- **PA Day (no school)** - Fri. Feb. 26th



Times to Know

- **8:50 - 9:05** - Playground is supervised; students should **NOT** arrive to school **before 8:50**
- **9:00** - First bell rings;
- **9:05** - Second bell rings; school day begins. It is important that students arrive on time
- **9:05 - 9:55** - Period 1
- **9:55 - 10:45** - Period 2
- **10:45 - 11:15** - 1st Nutrition Break
- **11:15 - 12:05** - Period 3
- **12:05 - 12:55** - Period 4
- **12:55 - 1:40** - 2nd Nutrition Break
- **1:40 - 2:30** - Period 5
- **2:30 - 3:20** - Period 6
- **3:20** - End of the day - Dismissal

***** **PLEASE NOTE:** Students should **NOT** be dropped off unsupervised on the school property **before** 8:50 in the morning. Supervision does not start until that time. *****

Stay Healthy and Safe at School

As we head into February we thought it was a good time to remind each other of all the things we can do to stay healthy and safe at school. Please complete the online screening tool each and every day. Monitor your child for symptoms and always follow the guidance of public health.

Protect against COVID-19

Stay Healthy and Safe at School

-  **Wash your hands** with soap and water thoroughly and often.
-  **Stay home** when you are sick. If you feel unwell, tell a teacher right away.
-  **Cough and sneeze into your sleeve** or a tissue. Dispose of tissue immediately and wash your hands.
-  **Do your best to practice physical distancing** when entering and exiting the school, using hallways, playgrounds and bathrooms.
-  **Do not share food** or other personal items.
-  **Wear a non-medical or cloth mask** while at school.



For more information, visit ontario.ca/ReopeningSchools

Ontario 

Safe Arrival

We will be continuing with our Ministry of Education mandated **Safe Arrival** automated system this year. **ALL** students are automatically enrolled in this program and there is **NO** option to opt out. This means it is important for the school to know where your child is. **PLEASE** remember to call 1-844-288-7624 or use the SCHOOL MESSENGER app to report your student's absence from school. If your child will be **LATE** to school, please report them as **absent**. Once they arrive at school and **check in** at the main office their attendance will be changed.

If you arrive **after the bell** please report to the **main office** to check in before heading to class.



Lakehead Public Schools Quick & Easy Toll-Free
STUDENT ABSENCE
 24/7 Reporting

1 844 288 7624

Parents may choose to report a child's absence online on the Parent Portal at
<http://parents.lakeheadschoos.ca>



Kiss 'n Go

- Please avoid idling while waiting in the line prior to dismissal time
- **WAIT** for a **supervisor** to indicate that your child can exit the vehicle.
- Be **prepared** and **efficient** with your drop off and pick ups to help keep the line moving.
- If you need extra time to get your child situated please consider parking on a side street and walking to the school property
- When exiting the Kiss 'n Go please finish the loop. Do not pass through the open gate into the daycare parking lot.

NEW Bus Delay App

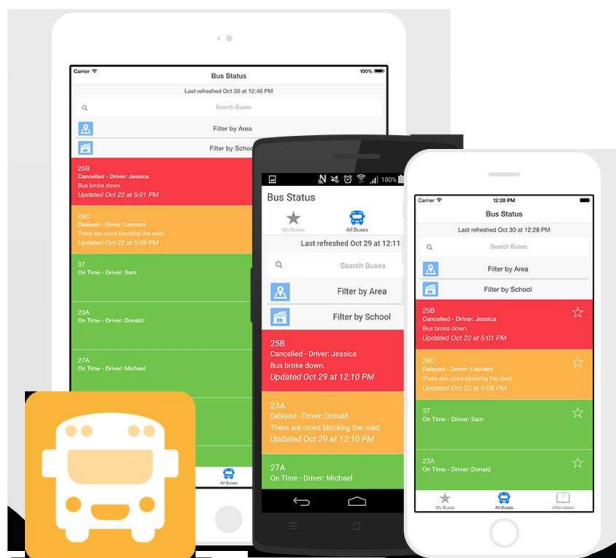
Bus Status, our new delay reporting notification mobile app, has launched!

The Bus Status App allows users to keep track of any busing delays or cancellations, and receive push notifications for just the bus routes that matter to them and is available for Android and Apple devices.

The app will provide subscribers with real-time notifications whenever our operators post route delays/cancellations or STSTB posts inclement weather cancellations. The notifications will come in the form of alerts to anyone who downloads the free app onto their mobile device and subscribes to weather cancellations and/or their bus.

Bus delay and weather cancellation information will continue to be posted on the STSTB website, but with improved functionality through colour coding, searching, sorting by school and the ability for the bus operator or STSTB to add comments.

More information about how to download and use the mobile app can be found here: www.ststb.ca/bus-status



Pink Shirt Day

Each year, on Pink T-Shirt Day we encourage all of you to wear something pink to symbolize that we as a school will not tolerate bullying anywhere. This year Pink T-Shirt Day is - Wed. Feb. 24th. Take the message and remember it all year long. It is so important that victims of bullying know they are not alone and there is help and support available. Wearing a pink shirt on this day sends a strong message to them that others care. Often, the simple act of wearing a shirt can start conversations - conversations can be a big step towards healing and helping!



If you placed an order through the online store at Mallons they will be delivered to the school by Mon. Feb. 22nd.

Nijiji Indigenous Mentorship Program

Lakehead University's Office of Indigenous Initiatives is offering a tutoring and mentorship program for students in grades 1-12 via a virtual after school program.



Nijiji Indigenous Mentorship Program Schedule
November 2020 - June 2021

Mondays: Joke & Mantra of the Day
Tuesdays: Open Tutoring 4:30pm - 5:30pm
Wednesdays: Nijiji Zoom Session 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Thursdays: Open Tutoring 4:30pm-5:30pm
Fridays: Fun Interactive Links

Contact us:
nijiji@lakeheadu.ca
nijiji.outreach@lakeheadu.ca

Sign up for Private Tutoring Anytime with a Nijiji Staff Member and Volunteer:
<https://signup.com/go/HhHTHdY>

1. Students can log onto <https://classroom.google.com>
2. Click the "+" in the top right-hand corner
3. Type in either Classroom Code: darbskn or eptqf
a. (Classroom's are both identical but are needed for accessibility by different types of email addresses.)
4. ALL SESSIONS MENTORED BY A STAFF MEMBER AND VOLUNTEER HUS COMPLETED A POLICE VULNERABLE SECTOR CHECK.

Stay Connected With Us

There are many different ways to stay connected with the school.

Visit us on the [web](#)

Check out our social media channels...

