



NEWSLETTER

The PRIDE of LYN




PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I hope our families had a nice March Break this year. It was nice to return to school with the lifting of many health and safety measures including masking, cohorting, distancing, assigned seating, and limited use of spaces and gatherings. We are excited to embark on our journey 'back to the future'! April is filled with lots of fun and learning just like 'the good ol' days'! We are beginning to plan whole school assemblies again including Friday dance days, as well as class field trips and guest speakers. Intramurals are already underway with mixed cohorts from Grades 4, 5 and 6 playing floor hockey and Mme. Hunt is starting a Dance Club once a week!

As we look forward to blooming flowers, warmer weather, and more daylight, we also look forward to getting back to normal! Having said this, we are taking a gradual approach in shifting away from the previously tight restrictions to no restrictions. For example, we are maintaining zones on the playground for Kindergarten students, Primary students and Junior students and rotating them through these zones while allowing them to play with their friends outside of their own classrooms. It is our hope that, in time, our students will be able to access any part of the yard that they choose at recess and eliminate zones altogether.

Here are some dates to note for April:

- April 6th – Jersey Day (to celebrate International Day of Sport for Development and Peace)
- April 14th – Easter Bonnet/Easter Hair Day! *Be creative!*
- April 15th – Good Friday; April 18th – Easter Monday
- April 20th – Wasteless Wednesday (no garbage in lunch)
- April 22nd – Earth Day and Earth Hour



Use your WITS!

At Lyn, we use a program called WITS to support our students in solving peer conflict. The focus is on the prevention of peer conflict. This program encourages the cultivation of a safe school

community by using a common language between teachers, students, their parents. We use WITS to foster pro-social behaviours and social competence in children with consistent strategies that can not only be used at school but in other areas of a child's life outside of school. We encourage parents to use this language and these strategies with their children as an effective tool in a variety of situations.

Sometimes, when a child experiences chronic peer conflict, it may be necessary for parents to seek help on his or her behalf. To help determine the severity of the situation try using the following questions from the WITS Bullying Prevention Toolkit for parents when your child confides in you about problems with peer conflict or victimization:

Look and Listen: *What did your child tell you? What other info did his or her behaviour convey?*

Explore points of view. *Who else is involved? Discuss how their perspectives might differ from your child's.*

Act: *How did you respond? What did you say? What did you do? What did you suggest your child do?*

Did it work? *Did your child's actions solve the problem? How do you know?*

Seek help: *If your child's problems appear to be chronic and involve the same student(s) repeatedly, it may be time to seek help. Contact your child's teacher or the school principal.*

For more information, visit the [WITS](http://www.ucdsb.on.ca/school/lyn) website.





Using Microsoft Teams as an Educational Platform Only

We kindly ask that parents monitor the use of Microsoft Teams by their child.

Students should not be using Microsoft

Teams as a social media application. This platform should only be used for educational purposes. We have noticed that some students may not be using it appropriately. Students should not be ‘chatting’ or meeting virtually on Teams if the meeting is not directed by their teacher or tied to educational tasks or assignments. We want to keep this platform strictly for education. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



Earth Week

Lyn PS will be planning some activities for our annual Earth Week to increase awareness and promote environmental stewardship. We will be participating in some Earth Day activities in the week of April 19-22. On Wednesday, April 20, we are holding a school-wide “Wasteless Wednesday”. Kids are encouraged to bring a lunch with **zero waste**. If they do, they will get a little eco prize! On Friday April 22, it’s “Earth Day”. We are asking all staff and students to be green and wear GREEN! Finally, on Friday, we will recognize Earth Hour, one hour without electricity, and hope that students will spend time learning outside (weather permitting)!

Veg Trugs

We are excited to announce that during Earth week we will be launching the use of our experiential gardens provided by the Eco Club. The Eco club used the profits from the Christmas store to purchase 6 additional Veg Trugs (we already owned 3) so that each classroom will have access to a raised garden to plant vegetables and flowers. The Veg Trugs will be arranged out on the front yard as a learning environment perfect for use as part of an outdoor classroom. The Eco Club will also be providing the soil, seeds and plants for our Trugs! Thanks to the Junior students who helped build the Veg Trugs and to Mr. McElrea for leading the building!

Sending in Baked Goods to Your Child’s Classroom

We ask that you refrain from sending baked goods into your child’s classroom. We have to ensure we are following the board-wide nut-free policy and we cannot ensure there is no cross contamination, particularly in-

home baked goods. Other concerns that some parents have are their child’s sensitivities to certain ingredients, sugar/fat content and dye in foods. Also, with consideration to equity and inclusion, allowing birthday treats from parents to come in means that some children will have their birthday celebrated this way and others will not. The teacher will ensure inclusion by determining how the class celebrates every child’s birthday in the same way—including those who have birthdays on days we are not in school. There may be, on occasion, times when the teacher requests parents send in foods (e.g., fresh veggies for a ‘bunny party’). Our teachers will always endeavor to notify parents prior to giving students food that is not in their own lunch kit and they will give you the opportunity to have your child opt out of eating the food provided to the class.



This month was a short month with the break in the middle! Here are the students who were recognized for demonstrating great character:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Jalynn McAllister | Bryden Jacobs |
| Jack Gurski | Jack McDade |
| Kaleb D | Addison Bell |
| Ben Robinson | Jesse Jones |

Remote Learning for 2022-23

The Upper Canada District School Board believes in the value of in-person learning for all students and it is our sincere hope that all students will return to in-person learning for the 2022-23 school year. However, there may be circumstances where it is necessary for a student to learn from home during the 2022-23 school year, and it’s for this reason that the Ontario Ministry of Education has confirmed that all school boards in Ontario will offer remote learning for the upcoming school year.

The registration information was shared electronically by the school board and the deadline for remote learning was Monday, March 14 at 10 a.m. Remote learning will be provided **digitally only**. Both synchronous (online and in real-time) and asynchronous (digital materials completed on your own schedule) will be provided in the following way:



- Remote learners will have a dedicated online teacher and *will not be attached to a regular classroom or teacher at their local school.*
- Remote learners **will not have the option to switch to in-person learning until the beginning of Term 2 (February 2023).**
- Non-digital remote learning options will not be available in the 2022-23 school year.



For Families:

New School Phone Line Hours: Due to low call volume on weekends, the Health Unit's School Phone Line at 1-866-236-0123 will operate Monday to Friday only from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm. If you have questions about COVID-19 testing and isolation guidance, you can call Ontario's 7 day a week information line at 1-888-777-0730 that is open from 8am-6pm, Monday to Sunday.

Mask Use in Public Settings: As of March 21, Ontario no longer requires masks to be worn in most indoor public spaces. However, some people may choose to continue to wear masks to protect themselves or others. We all need to go at our own pace and show kindness and respect about the choices we all make.

Did you know some settings and situations still require masks?

Places that still require masks:

- Health care facilities (e.g. hospitals, doctor's offices, clinics).
- Higher risk congregate settings like long-term care or retirement homes, shelters and jails.
- Public transportation (excluding school transportation).

- Businesses or organizations that have implemented masking policies to continue to protect their staff and clients.

People who must still wear a mask in public settings:

- Anyone who is a close contact and not required to isolate; they must still wear a mask in all public settings for 10 days from their last exposure. Also, avoid visiting vulnerable people or high risk settings during this time.
- Those with COVID-19 who are only required to isolate for 5 days must wear a mask in all public settings for days 6–10. Also, avoid visiting vulnerable people or high risk settings during this time.
- Under [current federal travel requirements](#), anyone returning from international travel must wear a mask in all public settings (including schools) for 14 days upon arrival to Canada.

For more information about mask use visit:

<https://healthunit.org/health-information/covid-19/face-coverings-masks/>

Wondering what to do if you have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and are experiencing COVID like symptoms again?

- If you are experiencing symptoms again after having a close contact with someone with COVID-19 – then assume this is a new COVID-19 infection, isolate and use a [Rapid Antigen Test](#) (provided by the school). Review this [flowchart](#) for more details.
- If you are experiencing symptoms again and have had no known recent contact with someone who has COVID-19- then you can assume your current symptoms are less likely to be a new case of COVID-19 and just stay home until your symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours (with no fever, and gastro symptoms must be improving for 48 hours).

Do you have a child who missed their grade 7 school immunizations due to the pandemic? The Health Unit is offering catch-up clinics for students in grades 7-12 to get their Hep B, HPV, Meningitis and Tdap vaccines. Book online or by phone. Booking info and more details: <https://bit.ly/35RlcEy>



April 2022



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 <i>Chocolate fundraiser participation forms due</i>	2 World Autism Awareness Day
3	4 <i>Boxes of chocolates for fundraiser sent home with students</i>	5	6 Jersey Day! (International Day of Sport for Development and Peace)	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Easter Bonnet or Easter Hair Day!	15 Good Friday	16
17	18 Easter Monday	19	20 Wasteless Wednesday (zero lunch waste)	21	22 Earth Day <i>Chocolate fundraiser money due to office</i>	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

