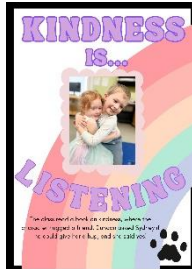




PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

November was a busy month for us at Lyn. We enjoyed many wonderful learning opportunities and extra-curricular activities. Bullying Prevention and Awareness week with our focus on kindness and belonging was a great way to highlight how wonderful our students are! We have created a bulletin board in our main hall to celebrate and recognize our students for their kindness. These visuals also help our students to understand what being kind can look and sound like at school.



Holiday spirit is building at Lyn! We have been busy working with a group of student leaders to plan spirit days and special events for the children during the month of December. Check out our calendar for details and follow our school Facebook page for reminders! On behalf of the Lyn staff, we wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Holiday Concert & Band Concert

Holiday Concert: We are excited to announce that Lyn will host a holiday concert during the school day on **Tuesday, December 19th at 2:00 pm** for students in the following classrooms: **McElrea/Stadig, Gallacher/Roy, Crotty, Shupe, Synnott, MacArthur/Leeder, and McNish.** (With a snow date of Wednesday, December 20th). The concert will highlight student talent in drama, dance, and music. Due to the limited space in our gymnasium, we are asking families to limit guests (2 guests per family please).

Band Concert: We will also be having a band concert on **Tuesday, December 19th at 7:00 pm** for students in the following classes: **Bradford and Cross.** (With a snow date of Wednesday, December 20th). Our students have been working hard to learn holiday songs on their instruments and look forward to sharing their progress with families.



We will be collecting non-perishable food items for the food bank at both of our concerts.

Gratitude: Helping kids show appreciation this holiday season.

We teach our children to say thank you because we want them to appreciate others and not take things for granted, but learning to be grateful can have other significant benefits. Practicing gratitude can help children and youth to empathize with others and build positive relationships. It also contributes to overall happiness! This holiday season, help your child to understand the importance of gratitude and find meaningful ways to express gratitude as a family. Here are some tips:

Show examples of gratitude by offering a genuine “thank you” to others or pointing out acts of generosity. Your children watch and learn from you so be sure to express how these acts of gratitude make you feel.

Let children choose how they want to show their gratitude. Work with your child to find a way of expressing gratitude that is meaningful to them. It could be linked to a special interest like drawing or baking. Let your child know that you are proud of them for expressing gratitude.



Make gratitude a daily practice by setting time aside for each member of the family to express what they are grateful for. Share verbally as a family or be creative! Write what you are grateful for on a cookie, ornament or decoration or create your own family gratitude tree or wreath!



This content was developed from the Child Mind Institute website. Visit <https://childmind.org/article/10-tips-raising-grateful-kids/> for the full article and for more children’s mental health articles.

Looking for mental health support in your community? Visit the Mental Health and Wellness pages of the Upper Canada District School Website where you will find a [list of community supports and services](#) by community.

Provided by the Upper Canada District School Board, Student Mental Health, and Wellness Department.





Thank you to all families who have expressed interest in our Halenda's Peperoni Stick Fundraiser. We are raising money for a new play structure for our primary yard. We are expecting the peperoni sticks to arrive for distribution in the next couple of weeks. Money is due back January 12th, 2024.

Our next School Council meeting will be on Monday, January 22nd at 6:30 pm. The meeting will be in person in the learning commons. All are welcome to attend.

The Holiday Shop

Excitement is building with our students for the Holiday Shop! We are so grateful for all the donations of gently used and new items as well as the gift wrap and bags! The last day to send in donations for the store is December 8th. The Holiday Shop will be open on December 11th & 12th. Be sure to send your child with a few dollars so they can buy gifts for the family!



Clothing Donations



We are looking for donations of "gently used" Lyn Lions spirit wear and pants for boys (sizes 4-14). If you have items that your child has outgrown, we would be happy to have them!

News From the Health Unit

Building Strong Connections with Children at Every Age: Warm, responsive, and consistent connections with children are crucial for their learning, development, and wellbeing. As a parent or carer, it can be challenging to know when and how to develop that connection. It can be helpful to think of it as a series of small, meaningful moments instead of one big thing. As children grow, showing genuine interest in their thoughts, playing together, emotional support, routines, boundaries, and consistency can boost their self-regulation, social skills, and resilience. When they enter pre-teen and teen years, making a few communication tweaks can help build trust and keep relationships strong. Try to have realistic expectations, listen actively, validate their feelings, and spend quality time together. Every little moment can make a difference, and supportive connections can help children thrive and reach their full potential. For simple, everyday strategies, [read our article](#).

The Triple P – Positive Parenting Program® gives practical steps to raise happy, confident, resilient kids. For parenting tips and suggestions, call 1-800-660-5853, email triplep@healthunit.org or visit www.triplep-parenting.ca.

Student Safety Reminders

Supervision in the morning does not start until 9:15 am. Please do not drop off your child and leave him/her unattended. All students should remain at the crosswalk area until the duty teacher arrives. If children are being dropped off curbside, they should wait in the vehicle until the bell rings at 9:15 am.

At the end of the day during the pick-up process, families are reminded to follow the flow of traffic and exit past the buses on the west side of the school drive through. We ask that parents be aware of the buses and ensure that you are not waiting in the drive through area when the buses are trying to enter the bus lane.

Hot Lunch Update

Our hot lunch program is going **PAPERLESS**. Starting for our January 2024 hot lunch orders, no paper order forms will be distributed home. Order notifications will go out through My Family Room, along with a reminder prior to the due date. By placing orders online, it ensures order accuracy, no money handling and less administrative time and classroom learning time spent on hot lunch. Forms can still be viewed on our school website (www.lyn.ucdsb.on.ca) by clicking on 'For Families,' 'Forms and Information.' If online ordering is not an option, the online form can be printed, completed, and returned to the school with exact cash/cheque amount by the due date. Or one can be obtained by requesting one from the school.



Grade 6 Real World Learning Project



Our grade 6 students travelled to Mac Johnson Wildlife area on November 30th to check out the Story Walks that were created by our grade 5/6 class last year as part of their Real-World Learning Project. The students were able to see the stories the students created and explore the Wildlife area. The students came back with some great ideas



for a Real-World Learning project they can work on this year with Mr. Cross. We can't wait to see what they come up with!





December 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4 Kindness Countdown Begins!	5 Hot Dog Day 	6 NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE & ACTION ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN DECEMBER 6TH 	7 Hanukkah Begins 	8 Holiday Hat or Hair Spirit Day 	9
10	11 Holiday Shop 	12 Holiday Shop 	13	14 Grade 5/6 Basketball Tournament 	15 Holiday Wear Spirit Day (hats, socks, sweaters) 	16
17	18 Jan 2024 Hot Lunch 2024 (PAPERLESS)	19 Holiday Concert JK-Grade 3/4 2:00 pm  Holiday Band Concert 7:00 pm (Bradford & Cross)	20 Grades 1-3 Holiday Activities 	21 Grades 1-4 to Gananoque Playhouse in am  Grades 4-6 Holiday Dance	22 Holiday PJ Spirit Day & Holiday Bingo 	23
24	25 	26 Kwanzaa Begins 	27	28	29	30

