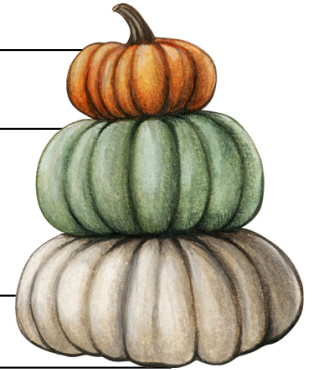

Jack Callaghan Public School

Newsletter

Issue No. 2 | September 30, 2023



Principals Message

And we are back in full swing! What an exciting month September has been. In some ways it has felt like we never left! The students are falling back into the routines of school quickly and it has been a joy to see so many smiling faces in the halls, in the classrooms and out on the yard.

The excitement has started in the areas of sports! Our primary, junior, and intermediate cross-country teams have started the practice in preparation for the county event. This will take place on October 5th at Ken Reid Conservation Area. Many thanks to Mrs. VanKooten and Mr. Tomlinson for convening this year's event that brings so much excitement for all the students in our board in the City of Kawartha Lakes. Thank you as well to our coaches Mme. Rowbotham, Mrs. Gignac and Mr. Short. The snack booth at this event will also be the kick-off of our school council fundraising for this year.

Well underway are soccer try-outs and practices. We are thrilled to share that this year we will see the return of county junior sports events. We will begin with Soccer! Thank you to Mr. Tomlinson and Ms. Carter for stepping up to coach the teams!

Our staff has been working hard this month to set routines, get to know their students and we have started with some math and literacy assessments. We are beginning to meet to review the needs of all the students for planning a responsive learning program. These meetings will continue into October as we support our students to "do great things!"

This past month we said good-bye to Ms. Reid and congratulated her in her new full-time permanent role in the Durham District School Board.

I would like to announce that we have two new teachers joining our team this week. Mr. Ellis will be taking over as a primary prep teacher two half days per week, and Mrs. Olsen will be joining us in the grade 2/3 classroom in the mornings. Please give our new staff a big warm Cougar welcome.

I would like to ask parents and guardians to be sure to read the section in the newsletter regarding student attendance, and for those using the pick up and drop off areas, please review the reminders set out. It has been a busy, but great start up to the school year. We look forward to an exciting year of **"We Can Do Great Things."**

Grateful for this amazing community,
Liana James

Dates to Remember

Spirit Wear Orders due- Oct. 2nd
Cross Country- Oct. 5th
Cougar Day- Oct. 5th
PA DAY- Oct. 6th
Thanksgiving Monday- No School
Pumpkin Patch- Oct. 12th
IEP's Sent Home - Oct. 18th
Jr Soccer County Event- Oct. 18th
Int Girls County Soccer- Oct. 24th
Int Boys County Soccer- Oct. 26th
Purple Day- Oct. 27th
Halloween Oct. 31st
(dress in Orange & Black)
Picture Day- Nov. 1st

We can do Great Things!



Today's Learners. Tomorrow's Leaders



JCPS News *October*

Primary LEX Artwork



It was great to see representation at the Lindsay Fair this year! I hope you all got to see the school display. A big Thank you to Mrs. Cameron for her creativity and enthusiasm for setting this up.

Student Attendance

We know it has been tricky navigating the changing guidelines for student illness over the past few years. While we do ask that if your child is unwell, they stay home from school, we no longer have the quarantine rules of the past and we want to see your child at school as much as possible.

Regular attendance is a key contributor to student success. It is important to establish regular school attendance habits early.

We recognize as well, that sometimes families will be taking their child(ren) for holidays or vacations outside the school calendar breaks. I would like to stress the importance of contacting the school ahead of time to inform us. If you know your family will be going on a holiday, please email myself, liana.james@tldsbc.on.ca as well as your child(ren)'s classroom teacher(s) at least one week prior to your departure date with the length of your child(ren)'s absence. This is required to allow us to document their absence correctly and to help support them in staying up to date in their learning.

We look forward to working with families to help support regular attendance for all of our students.

Student Belongings

We cannot stress enough the importance of labelling student belongings. Each year, we donate a lot of lost student items that do not get claimed. If your child's hats, coat, boots, mitts, snow pants, sweaters and water bottles are labeled, we can be sure to return them to their rightful owners. Otherwise, these items will be sent to our lost and found box, when the box gets full, we put all items out for display and have classes check them out to claim, and then remaining items are donated. All of this can be reduced, even avoided if the items are properly labeled.

Personal items – we ask for personal items such as toys, collectibles (i.e., pokemon cards, hockey cards, stuffed animals), and personal technology to please stay at home. The school is not responsible for any lost items brought to school. We have found in the past that card/collectible trading often leads to conflicts.

As well, students should only be using board approved and provided technology at school. We recognize many of our older students bring cellphones to school. We discourage students from bringing a cell phone to school, but acknowledge that in some cases it may be needed for before or after school communication. While at school, students should not be using their cell phones. If a student is feeling unwell, requires materials from home, or needs to speak to a parent or guardian, they need to communicate that to their teacher and/or the office. We allow students to use the school phone to do so. Students using cell phones at school will have their phone taken and held at the office and returned to them at the end of the day.

We want to make sure that all of our students are focused on the learning taking place at school and often personal items can distract from this. We recognize that there may be some exceptions, however these should be communicated with your child's classroom teacher ahead of time.

WITH THE WEATHER CHANGING DONT FORGET TO DRESS APPROPRIATELY!



School Screening Tool - Complete Each Day!

Wondering if you should send your child to school based on their symptoms or diagnosis? We know this keeps changing and it is hard for families to keep up. The best and easiest way is to go through the daily School Screening Tool. This is what we use in the office. Click here to access:



TWITTER
@JACKCALLAGHANPS



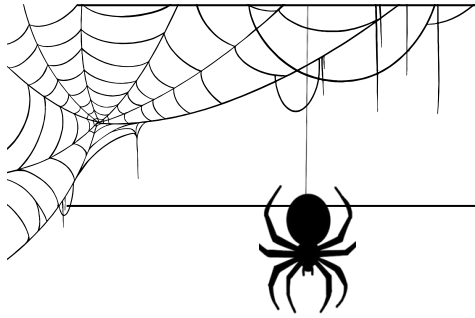
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JCPS News



School Council News



On September 26th we had our first School Council Meeting. The main purpose of this meeting is to establish our Executive Council for the year. Your Executive Council for the 2023-24 School year is:

Co-Chairs: Jennie Ormiston Kate Lowes

Treasurer: Amanda Ullius

Secretary: Danielle Slot

Our next School Council Meeting will be on Tuesday , October 10th 6pm.

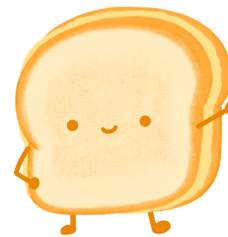
The JCPS School Council is excited to be back and ready to plan some exciting things! Back by popular demand we will once again be holding our Halloween Dance-A-Thon. If you would like to donate a prize please send it to the office. Keep an eye on backpacks for more information and pledge sheets in the next few weeks.

We are also happy to bring back Wednesday grilled cheese lunches- made with fresh Kawartha Bakery bread and real cheese cheese! A gluten free option is also available. Boston Pizza lunches are also back, keep an eye on School Cash Online to place your orders.

PIZZA DAY IS BACK!
EVERY THURSDAY (SECOND LUNCH)
STARTING... **SEPTEMBER 28TH**
ORDER YOUR SLICES USING
SCHOOL CASH ONLINE



OCT. 10TH



SchoolCashOnline
POWERED BY KEY GROUP

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

STARTS OCT.11TH



Pick-up and Drop-off

As many of you know, this is a very hectic time of the day, albeit one of my favourites! Our first priority is SAFETY! We know some families may be in a hurry, and we are doing our best to make the process move swiftly and effectively, but please keep in mind we have some young friends who are still learning the process and may need help embarking and disembarking cars. Some things to keep in mind when picking up or dropping off.

1. Do not pass in the pickup/drop off line, unless guided by a staff member to do so.
2. Yield to oncoming buses.
3. Exit to the right (out to Highway 7 directly), please do not exit to Tracey's Hill Road, as we do not have enough space for our pick-up line, cars exiting and buses entering.
4. Be considerate of our neighbours, please be sure to not block their driveways while waiting to pick your child(ren) up.
5. If you are changing a plan from bus to pick up, or from pick up to bus, please call the office in lots of time. Last minute changes make it very difficult for us to navigate where students should be going.

When we all work together, we can keep our students safe and the pick up and drop off line running smoothly and efficiently. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.