

THE LASALLE STORM



Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

November 5, 2009



November is already shaping up to be a busy month with many exciting activities around our school. Students are hard at work now that class routines are well established. We encourage you to continue to motivate your children to work towards their personal best. It is empowering for children to hear “I know that you can do this!” Student Parliament is up and running and exciting events are planned around our school. Our walk-a-thon was very successful and everyone enjoyed this community event. Please refer to the “Dates to Remember” as well as class newsletters for special happenings.

Mrs. Breshgold & Mr. Dubeau

EQAO COMMUNITY REPORT

We are very pleased to inform you of the school results on the provincial testing. At LPS we are delighted to report that we have increased our scores in Reading, Writing and Mathematics at the grade 3 level. At the grade 6 level, we increased our scores in Reading and Mathematics. We still need to focus on Writing and this continues to be a focus of our School Improvement Plan. There are many school initiatives in place to improve student achievement such as a change in timetable to the balanced day to increase blocks of time for uninterrupted learning, a school wide implementation of the consistent use of high yield strategies, the “Take Five Reading Program” to improve fluency in the primary grades, and Readers' and Writers' Workshops to name a few. For a more comprehensive look at our School Community Report please go to our website. If you wish to have a copy, there are hard copies available at the school, or you can print the online version. Please

continue to support your child with these skills at home. Reading with your child has many positive outcomes!

ZEHR'S TAPES

Just a reminder that we are continuing to collect these so please send them to school with your child as you receive them.

ATTENDANCE- Please remember to phone the school if your child is going to be absent. This greatly assists Mrs. Charbonneau and makes our Safe Arrival procedure more efficient.

WE APPRECIATE YOU

- ☺ Mrs. Langlois and the entire Parent Council
- ☺ Our food day co-ordinator, Mr. Neveu
- ☺ Mrs. Langlois for a successful start to our milk program again this year
- ☺ Our parent volunteers who helped count the money collected for the walk-a-thon
- ☺ Mrs. Hutz for framing and displaying student artwork
- ☺ Mrs. Goddard and Mrs. Bigelow for taking care of the Zehr's tapes.

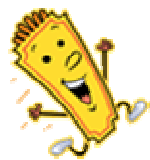
WALK-A-THON NEWS

Teachers, students and parents enjoyed a beautiful, sunny day for the LaSalle Public School 10th Annual Walk-A-Thon. Each and every student benefits from the Walk-A-Thon as 100% of the profits go directly to the school. Thanks to all the volunteers, teachers, students, parents and sponsors for all their support in making this event a successful one.

A special thank you goes out to Miss McCallum for providing us with music to liven up our walk. Thanks to Pearl Produce for providing the apples.

We would also like to thank the following businesses for their prize donations:

LaSalle Vipers
LaSalle Fire Department
Windsor Lancers
Windsor Pallet Ltd.

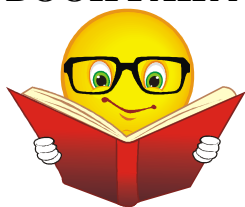


November 9th & 10th is "Wish Day," where the students can use their wish tickets towards a draw for a variety of prizes. The Awards Assembly will be held on Friday, November 13th at 1:45 with all prizes to be handed out at this time. Stay tuned to find out if we have reached our goal of \$25,000, and to see if Mrs. Breshgold will be shaving Mr. Dubeau's head!!!

Character Counts at LPS

This year we recognize our Character Counts winners in our individual classes as a way to continue to build our class community. Each month we have a character counts goal for such things as Fairness, Respect, Friendship, etc. Certificates will be awarded on the last Friday of the month and winners will be reported in the teacher's monthly newsletter and/or the student's planner. Teachers are encouraged to send their students to the office for special recognition as well. We are proud of our LPS students! Students receive a certificate and have a group photo, as well as participate in a Victory Parade.

BOOK FAIR NEWS!!!



Guess what, LPS? Our first book fair of the year earned us just over \$1400 in books. We also raised over \$600 in funds to host visiting authors, like Marina Cohen in November, and Eric Walters in December! Mrs. Martin wants to thank all her wonderful parent, staff and student volunteers, and all the families who came and shopped.

We have other good library news! We've had wonderful new parent volunteers join us recently in the library. In addition to our fabulous Mrs. Plat and Mrs. Chatterton, we now have regular help from Mrs. Allison Crundwell and Ms Jen Murphy. Our book trucks are finally empty and our shelves look great. Now we just need to get all those new books out of Mrs. Martin's office and onto the shelves!

Thanks to the Langlois, Repaye, and Lotze families for recent donations of gently used books to the school and the library, as well.

“WE CARE, WE CAN” FOOD DRIVE

For the past two years, our school has participated in the “We Care, We Can” food drive in partnership with Mayflower Moving, local Rotary Clubs and the Windsor Spitfires. Through the efforts of the students and staff in our entire school board, along with our partners, over 250 tons of food valued at \$3.2 million was donated to local food banks over the past two years.

We are pleased to announce that our partnership with Mayflower and local Rotary Clubs will continue this year, in cooperation with the Windsor/Essex County Food Bank Association. The Board-wide "We Care, We Can" food drive will take place in the second and third weeks of November.

Our school Food Drive will take place November 9th -November 18th. Classes are encouraged to bring in nonperishable food items to help "Pay it Forward." We can help others in need and feel good about it! So please bring in what you can to help people who don't have as much as we do!!

Written by: Mrs. Storino and Tamara Bartlett

WASTELESS WEDNESDAY

Wasteless Wednesdays are back! Starting Wednesday, November 4, our trial run of bringing in litterless lunches will begin. Let's get on board and see if we can work together to make LPS the greenest place to be!

FRIENDLY REMINDER

As part of our Safe Schools Policy, we require that all visitors (including parents from every grade level) first come to the office to sign in, as well as to receive a Visitor's Pass. While we still want to be welcoming, please understand that if a staff member approaches you with the reminder to check into the office, this effort will ensure everyone's safety. While there are special circumstances where it is necessary to take your child out of school early, please be aware that the school day ends at 3:00 and that learning is taking place until dismissal time.

Prevention is the Best Medicine

We all want to enjoy a safe, productive and enjoyable school year, and staying healthy will be an important factor in our success.

Let's fight germs together! Bugs which cause the common cold, influenza or even H1N1 (swine flu) can spread easily in a place like school. We can also, however easily reduce the chance of transmitting these infections to one another.

Symptoms of Influenza-like Illness (ILL) include the acute onset of respiratory symptoms with fever and cough and one or more of the following symptoms: sore throat, muscle aches, joint pain or weakness. In children under 5, gastrointestinal symptoms may also be present and fever may not be prominent.

Encourage your children to wash their hands properly as often as they can, especially after using the bathroom, before eating or whenever they are dirty. Hand sanitizer will be available in common areas throughout the school, but nothing beats good old soap and water. Parents are welcome to send a travel size alcohol free container of hand sanitizer with their child.

Everyone should cover their mouths when coughing or sneezing. The proper method is known as “the vampire,” where you cough or sneeze into your elbow rather than using your hands.

Avoid sharing drinking vessels, eating utensils, or towels.

We recommend that, whenever possible, please keep children home when they demonstrate symptoms such as high fever or diarrhea. When your child becomes ill, just as in the past, we will contact parents and remove the child from the classroom.

General information regarding the H1N1 flu virus can be found on the following websites: www.health.gov.on.ca and www.phac-aspc.gc.ca

REPORTING TO PARENTS

The 2009-2010 GECDSD school year calendar was developed after consultation with parents, school administrators, local affiliates of teachers’ federations, members of the community, and coterminous and neighbouring boards. The calendar provides for three terms relatively equal in number to provide students with sufficient time for practice to develop their knowledge and skills before reporting. As a result of this change, Parent-Teacher Interviews will take place before report cards go home. This provides a unique opportunity for teachers to share timely information about a student’s achievement and development prior to the finalization of grades for the term.

The Greater Essex County District School Board recognizes the importance of strong communication links with parent/guardians. For the 2009/2010 school year, parents/guardians will have opportunities to discuss their children’s progress with teachers at Parent-Teacher Interviews scheduled for the evening of Thurs. Nov. 19 and the morning of Fri, Nov. 20, and again on the evening of Thurs. April 22, and the morning of April 23. As always, there will be individual opportunities throughout the year for informal contact.

Please contact the school at 519-978-1823 to arrange interviews with your children's teachers.

The Parent - Teacher Interview Days for all teachers are Thursday, November 19th (4:00 - 7:00 p.m.) and Friday, November 20th (8:30 -10:00 a.m.)

Report cards for Grade JK-8 students will go home on Tuesday, December 15, 2009

Honours Recognition:

We once again are recognizing Junior and Intermediate students who achieve honors. In the primary division it is difficult to arrive at a consistent measure/level of achievement as assessment at this level incorporates observation and anecdotal comments along with levels. We continue to work hard with all of our students to encourage them to be the best that they can be and we appreciate your continued support at home as you encourage your children every day.

Be Prepared for The Parent/Teacher Interview

“Reprinted with permission from the Parent Institute”

To get the most out of an interview, come prepared. Ask your child how she/he feels about school. Look over your child's papers - and bring any with you that raise questions or concerns.

Also bring a list of specific questions you'd like to ask the teacher. These might include:

- Is my child performing at, below or above grade level in basic skills? Math? Reading?
- Does my child complete his/her work?
- What can I do to support my child's learning at home and school?
- Does my child need special help in academics or social adjustment?
- What are my child's strengths and weaknesses (subjects, talents, social skills)
- Does my child get along well with classmates?

LOST AND FOUND

Many items occupy our "lost and found" bin. If you are looking for any missing clothing, please visit the school this week. All items remaining after November 30 will be sent to the Diabetes Society. We will try and display these items at the end of every month.

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY FOR PARENTS

1. Have your child at his/her stop 5 minutes before the bus is due.
2. Have your child wait on the far side of your driveway.
3. Have your child wait until the bus has come to a complete stop and opened its door.
4. Have your child wait for a signal from the driver before crossing the street.
5. JK/SK parents, please be at the stop on time at the end of the day.
6. Remind your child to walk 10 steps away from the bus after exiting, and then **WAIT** for the driver to signal him/her to cross the street.



LUNCH SUPERVISION

We provide the very best supervision possible, with adult noon aides in the hallways and 3 or 4 intermediate students in each Grade 1 - 6 classroom. We do insist, for safety, that children stay seated and talk quietly at lunch. Good manners are to be used. From time to time, we have students who will not obey lunch rules, and we call parents about this. Sometimes we may give a timeout in the office, or arrange for your child to eat in another classroom. Some students need to go home for lunch in order to take the message seriously. If your child is disrupting his/her class at lunchtime, we need your support, please. We need to work as a team.

THE WONDER OF CHRISTMAS

On Sunday, December 6 @, at 7:00 pm, our LaSalle Choir will be participating in the Music Express Annual Christmas Concert at Villanova High School.

The LaSalle Choir invites all friends and family to attend this concert. All choir students will receive forms to sell tickets for the performance. LaSalle's music program receives a portion of all of our school's ticket sales. Please support our choir by purchasing a ticket for a great show. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. Any cheques should be made payable to LaSalle Public School.

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, December 9th. The Grade 3's and 4's, Sr. Band, Jazz Band and Choir will be performing our annual Winter Concert which

will include a musical production and lots of great music! Our school dress rehearsal will be on the Wednesday morning at 11:15 am.

LaSalle Choir will be performing at the LaSalle Superstore on December 12th at 2:00 pm. Enjoy the sounds of the season while you shop.

GRADE 7 AND 8 DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

The grades 7's and 8's visit the Essex Elementary Technology Centre ("Design 2000") three days each year. The centre provides the environment, materials, tools and resources necessary for students to discover the impact of technology on today's society. Technology basics are presented through hands-on activities and a series of challenges. The level of student achievement is integrated with the home school's Science and Technology assessment.

Students receive a better understanding of structures and mechanisms and are involved in the designing, building and testing of Robotics, Towers, Automobile Structure, Electric Motors and more. The experience provides an early exposure to the skills that engineers, designers and trades people use in their careers.

CREATIVE WRITING FROM 7MW

The following are editorial pieces written to persuade the reader about an opinion:

BOOK FAIR TRINKETS

Book fair trinkets are the most popular thing you can find at a school book fair. Ninety percent of the students want to visit the book fair just to buy trinkets, not the books.

Due to the popularity of book fair trinkets, the prices go up on most of the items. When the prices go up the students don't care, they just keep asking for more money from their parents. Also it is just a waste of your money because the trinkets always end up breaking after a couple of days.

The point of school book fairs should be to encourage students to read more books, not to make money! Also students play with their trinkets during class instead of paying attention to the teacher!!! So instead of helping the students learn, the trinkets are distracting the students from their work.

When I was in grade five the most popular trinket was the puppy dog sharpener. All of the students were playing with the sharpener in their desk instead of focusing on their work the teacher had given them. The pencils and bookmarks are okay as long as they aren't overpriced because the pencils the kids buy can help them in school because lots of kids loose their pencils and need new ones. The bookmarks go with the topic of books and help you keep your place.

So the next school book fair you go to, remember to buy more than the trinkets, buy the books. After all, it is called a Book fair!

By: Emma Langlois

COMPUTER LOG IN

It takes WAY too long to log in on a computer! It takes forever to actually get to the log in screen, then, you have to take the library's check out book, type in your student ID number, and type it in again for your password! Do we really need to do all this just too actually start working?!

If we just went back to the old system, all you have to do is type in the first four letters of your first and last name, and the password as 123, and it's as simple as that. If we went back to the old system, we'd have more time to work on the computers, so we could get more done, in fewer classes!

Another problem with it, is that it's near impossible to memorize the random cluster of numbers that is your student ID! With the old system all you had to know was your name how to count to three! The only thing your student ID should be used for, is for checking out library books!

*So, the main point I'm getting at here, is **GO BACK TO THE OLD SYSTEM!***

By: Shaun Pretti

HOW LASALLE STORM GIRLS SOCCER TEAM BROKE RECORDS

Congratulations LaSalle Storm Girls Soccer team! This year we made it to the semi-finals and finals in the Pronger tournament. LaSalle Storm Girls have never made it this far in Pronger. In our semi-final game, we got a free kick and Sophie Hicks kicked it into the net for a winning goal. Therefore we won that game.

In the finals, we played a hard game but unfortunately A.V Graham beat us 3-0. Even though we lost, we still moved on to the Districts Meet.

In the Districts, we lost our first game 2-0 to McWilliam. As they went to play the next day for the gold medal, we went on to play for the bronze. Sadly we lost the bronze medal game 3-0 to Hugh Beaton. Those shots they had were all lucky. Out of all the thirty-two teams in Essex County, we came in fourth.

We thank Coach Shane Ostrom, Mrs.Ostrom and Mrs.Storino for being on the side line for us, every game. We also thank our parents for supporting us through the whole tournament. Our M.V.P. this year goes to our stopper, Kyra Wardell. We truly are lucky for having Kyra with us. We made history this year and are planning on doing even better next year. To our Grade 8's: Kyra Wardell, Megan O'Neill, Aubrey DeCarlo, Sara Lauzon, Nicole Futko, Beth Whitebear and Catherine Goetz, we are going to miss you next year!!!

*By: Karly Masse, our sweeper/forward,
Mackenzie Habash, our center forward and Chelsea
Crundwell, our left mid/forward*

QUICK NOTES

- Poppies will be given to students on Wednesday, November 11th to wear at our Remembrance Day Assembly. Donations will be accepted.
- Parents and guests are welcome to join us for our Remembrance Day Assembly Nov. 11th @ 10:30.
- Please make sure that all bikes are securely locked.
- Reminder that students are not to arrive at school before 8:25 am.
- Our milk program is moving along very well. We are still looking for parent volunteers to help us with the milk program.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday Nov. 2	Eco Schools Assembly
Monday Nov. 9	Wish Day
Tuesday Nov. 10	Wish Day
Wednesday Nov. 11	Remembrance Day Assembly @ 10:30
Friday Nov. 13	Walk-a-thon Awards Assembly @ 1:45
Tuesday Nov. 17	SAC Meeting @ 6:30
Wednesday Nov. 18	Pizza Day JK/SK – 4
Thursday Nov. 19	Pizza Day JK/SK - 4/5 – 8
	Parent Teacher Interviews 4 – 7 pm

Friday Nov. 20	PA Day (no classes for students)
	Parent Teacher Interviews 8:30- 10 am
December 6	Music Express @ Villanova
December 9	Winter Concert @ 7:00 pm
	Dress rehearsal @ 11:15 am
December 15	Report Cards sent home
December 18	Last day of school for Winter Break