



BYRON SOMERSET PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Principal : J. Pratt
Superintendent : *M. Moynihan*
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Trustees: J. Bennett , J. Skinner

Newsletter #8

April 1, 2019



Principal's Message...

As we look ahead to hopefully some seasonal spring time weather, our students can also begin to look forward to some upcoming fun activities at Byron Somerset including numerous Kiwanis Musical performances and the Gr. 7/8 Boys and Girls Softball teams. Junior Basketball will also continue for our Gr. 5 and 6 students.

As well, as we enter into the spring season, I am sure that some parents are already starting to think about next year and wondering which teacher your child may 'get'. I believe that every child should be placed in a setting where they have the best opportunity for success and a positive academic year. At student promotion time, our school team will discuss each student with the sending teacher, the possible receiving teachers, our Learning Support Teacher(s) and school administration, to ensure the best placement decision is made for that student. K1K2 (FDK) students will typically remain with their teacher for two consecutive years. K1K2 staff will also decide, with my input as necessary where any new K1 students will be placed. Once again, typically new K1 students with older siblings would likely experience the same teacher placements as their siblings. However, please keep in mind that this procedure is not 'carved in stone' due to possible staffing changes and other unforeseen circumstances.

As I have explained in previous April 'Principal's messages', many factors are considered in determining the make up of each class. Our school personnel will go to great length in discussion and thought to determine the best possible class placement for your child(ren). The following factors are considered: learning style of the child, teaching style, social and emotional considerations, behavioural and/or academic needs, number of boys and girls, Ministry of Education 'hard cap' class size requirements and unique parent requests (ie. Keeping 'twins' separate or together and students with special needs). We as a school team always strive to ensure that every child is placed in a class with at least one friend. Additionally, the likelihood of 'combined' or 'split' classes is the reality in today's educational world. However, I can assure you with absolute confidence that separate curriculum is taught where appropriate and assessment expectations are tailored appropriately to the grade level of each student. We will however, strive to avoid having students in a combined or split grade 2 years in a row whenever possible.

With that being said, it is very likely that your child will experience a combined or split classroom at least once if not multiple times in their elementary school career.

As principal, it is my responsibility to organize the school so that it is educationally effective and balanced. It is my hope that every child's needs' will be addressed and the

best possible placement will be made by following the above criteria consistently and fairly. With that being said, I am unable to consider individual parent requests for class placements. With over 400 students projected to be in attendance come the fall, our staff, with my approval and input as necessary, will place each student appropriately. However, if there are unique, extenuating circumstances that our school team may not be aware of regarding your child(ren), please contact our school office or speak directly with your child's current teacher.

Additionally, I am unable to predict fall re-organizations. As you are most likely aware, Somerset is a growing school community and despite best laid plans, no one has a crystal ball to determine how many registrations may or may not show up during the last week of August or on the first day of school. Sometimes, depending on unanticipated enrolment numbers, the Board of Education will request that schools reorganize students in September due to class closures or additional class openings. Given the unpredictable nature of these circumstances, we will not know if class/school reorganizations will be required until mid-September. It is our hope however, that our many hours of student placement work this spring, will proceed uninterrupted come the fall.

Thank you for your trust and understanding as we strive to place your child appropriately.

Enjoy a wonderful April!

J. Pratt, Principal



Chess Tournament Update

Congratulations to all of the twenty-eight students from grades 3 to 8 who represented Byron Somerset at the Hellenic Centre on March 27th. They all played very well and 8 of our players went on to the finals. Congratulations to:

Jason S., Ishita P., Isabelle S., Ryan D., Charlotte L. and McKenna G.

A big thank you to Ms. Haley and Mrs. Durfy for their hard work in getting our chess team prepared for the tournament.

Lester B. Pearson Summer Arts Camp

One week session OR 2 week session

Register Early! We offer: Children's Theatre; Dance; Drama; Music; Musical Theatre; Visual Arts; Photography

All sessions taught by qualified teachers

www.tvdsb.ca/pearson



Optimist Club of Byron Easter Egg Hunt

The Optimist Club of Byron will hold its annual Easter Egg Hunt on: Saturday, April 20, 2019 at Boler Mountain (London Ski Club), 689 Griffith Street. Registration at 11:00 am. Egg hunt at 12:00 noon sharp. Age groups: 4 and under, 5 – 7 years, 8 – 10 years. Cost: \$3 per child.

Please bring your own bag or basket. Maximum of 10 eggs per child. The eggs are filled with candy and possibly a coupon for a chocolate bunny. Please dress for cold and possibly wet weather. Sturdy, waterproof shoes are recommended.

Student Council

Student Council is happy to present our Spring Donation Drive to support Merrymount Family Support and Crisis Center. Merrymount is a caring organization committed to providing around the clock support and crisis care for children and families. We deliver responsive and innovative services and programs to strengthen children and their families in times of transition.

Items that can be donated are:

- Children's underwear
- Brushes/combs and other hair accessories
- Children's bubble bath
- Children's shampoo and conditioner
- Children's spring/summer clothes (new or used for ages 0-12)

Students can bring in donations from April 29th to May 6th.



To celebrate spring, student council has chosen to have Rainbow Day on April 30 as their next spirit day. Dress in as many colours of the rainbow that you can.



March Award Winners

Grade	Somerset Star	Mathematicians
Mrs. Brosnan's K2/Gr 1 Class	Charlotte B.	Gabin B. Lennox S.
Mrs. Singer's Gr 1/2 Class	Scarlett F.	Victoria F. Huzaifa I.
Mrs. Fleming's Gr 1/2 Class	Evan J.	Sydney B. Tristan S.
Mrs. Heyland's Gr 2 Class	Lina A.	Luke A. Ben C.
Mrs. Varey's Gr 3 Class	Graham L.	Benjamin C. Daniel F.
Mrs. Armeniakov's Gr 3/4 Class	Griffin G.	Curtis K. Isaac S.
Mr. Bogart's / Mr. Thomson's Grade 4 Class	Kimrat A.	Nico I. Duncan P.
Ms. Pasko's Gr 5 Class	Genevieve B.	Ruby A. Natalie B.
Ms. Kieken's Grade 5/6 Class	Anderson W.	Abdallah A. Ava F.
Mr. Dawson's Grade 6 Class	Ashley G.	Mohammad B. John P.
Miss Descrochers' Grade 7 Class	Mitchell Z.	McKenna G. Michael J.
Mrs. Russell's Grade 8 Class	Gabrielle A.	Donovan O. Isabelle S.

April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Day 9 	2 Day 10 Kiwanis - Gr 5/6 Recorder Ensemble Sal Army 9:30 am	3 Day 1 EQAO Parent Night 6:30-7:30 pm Library	4 Day 2 Kiwanis – Gr ¾ Recorder Ensemble Sal Army 9:30 am Kiwanis - Gr 7/8 Band Saunders SS 5:10 pm	5 PA DAY	6
7	8 Day 3	9 Day 4 Kiwanis – Musical Futures – Gr 8 Montcolm SS – 10:20 am 'Bundles' Evening 6:00-9:30 pm Gym	10 Day 5	11 Day 6  Lunch	12 Day 7	13
14	15 Day 8 Snack Day 	16 Day 9	17 Day 10 Gr 7 Vaccine Clinic 9:00 am	18 Day 1	19 GOOD FRIDAY	20
21	22 	23 Day 2 Jack n Beanstalk Play - FCCC JK-Gr 3	24 Day 3  Lunch	25 Day 4 Mandarin Challenge Lunch 11:00 -1:00	26 Day 5	27
28	29 Day 6 'Merrymount' Spring Donation Drive Begins (to May 6) Fire Prevention K1K2 Classes School Council 6:30 pm	30 Day 7 Rainbow Day	Upcoming Events in May: 7 th – K1K2 – K2G1 to Safety Village 8 th – MLHU Dental Screening – JK, SK & Gr 2s – Spring Concert – 6:30 pm 9 th – Pizza Day - Jr T&F Day 10 th – Int T & F Day 17 th – Jump Rope for Heart – pm 20 th – Victoria Day 21 st – 31 st – EQAO – Gr 3 & 6 21 st – T & F Regionals @ Westminster 22 nd – Pizza Day 23 rd – Fanshawe Conservation Trip – Gr ½ Classes			