

January 31, 2022



Dear Parents,

I hope this email finds you well and able to enjoy the beautiful winter weather that we have been getting as of late. We are thankful for snow, as it makes our playground a much more fun place to be! Please take note of the following:

**Registration:** It's that time of the year again!!! If your child is already attending L.E.S. please make sure to go onto the parent portal (where you go to get report cards) to re-register them for next year. The registration period for **NEW students** for the 2022-2023 school year has already begun and will run until Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. If you have a child that you would like to register for Pre-Kindergarten (or other grades who are not currently attending L.E.S.) please call our school secretary at 819-569-5103 to set up an appointment to come in and register. Again this year, due to Covid-19 restrictions, we cannot accept "drop in" registrations, you must make an appointment.

**Pre-K:** For the second year in a row, L.E.S. will be offering a Pre-Kindergarten program for children who have reached the age of 4 by September 30<sup>th</sup>. The Pre-K program is a full-time program where the students attend school during the same hours and for the same number of days as the other children and they can take the bus to and from school if necessary. The program is taught by a qualified teacher and your child must be eligible for instruction in English in Quebec to be able to attend. We are hoping to have two Pre-K classes next year. Should you require more information about our Pre-K program, please see the brochure that is posted on our website at <http://lennoxville.etsb.qc.ca/>

**Report Cards:** Finally, your child's first term report card will be available on the parent portal on February 7<sup>th</sup>. Your child's teacher will be reaching out to you if a parent-teacher interview (by phone or online) is necessary. Please know that even if your child's teacher does not request an interview, you are more than welcome to request one should you have questions or concerns regarding their progress.

**Late Arrivals:** Just a reminder that your children must be at school for 8:30 a.m. Late arrivals are disruptive and do not help children to get their day off to a good start. The homeroom period is from 8:30 a.m. to 8:40 a.m. and by 8:40 the children should be in their seats, ready to learn. Thank you for your cooperation in showing your children that school is important.

**Covid Protocols:** We are doing our best to keep everyone safe while here at school. For the time being, the classes (bubbles) do not mix and only the students who are having hot lunch eat in the cafeteria, the rest eat in their classrooms. We continue to enforce the handwashing and mask wearing protocols put forth by Public Health. To date, we are happy to report that our absenteeism rate is no higher than usual for this time of year. Because Public Health is no longer opening covid testing centers to the general public, they are asking that schools report any confirmed cases to them. For this reason, we ask that when you contact us to inform us of your

child's absence, please state the reason for the absence. As per Public Health Protocols, we no longer inform parents when there is one case in a classroom, but we will let you know if we see that there is starting to be communal spread. Because there are still many cases of Covid in our province, we will continue to operate as if we are at risk, until the situation changes. Lastly, please be sure to follow the directives put forth by Public Health regarding isolation in the event that there are cases in your family or close contacts. The information can be found on the Santé Québec website at <https://www.quebec.ca/en/health/health-issues/a-z/2019-coronavirus/instructions-for-people-who-have-been-in-contact-with-a-confirmed-case-of-covid-19> or on the school board website at <http://www.etsb.qc.ca/covid-19/>

**Winter Clothing:** Please remember that your children are outside for 2–20-minute recess periods and 1- 50-minute lunch hour. Students are arriving at school with no mittens, scarves or hats. These items, along with warm jackets, boots and snow pants are a must for making their time outside enjoyable. We still go outside on very cold days so please make sure that they are dressed appropriately.

**Parking Lot Issues:** We continue to have problems with people parking in the staff area and expecting their children to cross the parking lot to get into their car. This is **NOT** allowed as it is very **dangerous**. Unless you are parking in the visitor spots (which have pathways beside each spot leading to the playground so the children don't have to walk amongst moving cars), you shouldn't be in the parking lot. Likewise, you should not be parking in the entrance way either. Thank you for your understanding.

**Forgotten Items:** It happens often that parents arrive during the day to bring items that their children have forgotten at home. We are working hard to teach the children to be responsible for themselves and for this reason, we ask that unless it is a lunch that has been forgotten, you allow your children to bring the items to school the following day. Thank you for helping us to help them.

**Last Minute Changes at the End of the Day:** Please note that if your child will be following a different routine at the end of the day, you must send a note, in writing, to the child's teacher in the morning. With over 300 students, dismissal time is a very busy time, and we need your support. The last thing we want is for a child to be going home to an empty house because there was a change in plans and the message didn't get relayed. We are doing our best, but there have been some close calls where we've actually had to run outside and pull children off the bus due to very last-minute requests and this is not safe. Thank you for your understanding.

**Planning Day:** Don't forget that Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, is a planning day and there are no classes for students on that day.

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have questions or concerns.

Kind Regards,

Dawn Irving, Principal

