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Lansdowne-Costain Public  
School

## October 2017 School Newsletter

### Message from the Principal

We are off to a fine start for the 2017-2018 school year. Everyone is settling back in to school routines. Our Safety Patrollers have been trained and are dutifully carrying out their duties. Our Junior and Intermediate Co-Ed Soccer Teams competed in tournaments on October 10<sup>th</sup>. They represented us well but did not advance to the next round. Our runners competed on October 11<sup>th</sup> at a new venue, W. Ross. Congratulations to Camille and Kenzie on their top 10 finishes! Our runners will participate in a relay race on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>. Leadership Teams from grade 8 are making sure our milk program, and pizza lunches, are running smoothly. At our first assembly, October 6<sup>th</sup>, our Leaders 4 Tomorrow highlighted Terry Fox, in preparation for our Terry Fox Run/Walk on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

### Student Absences and Late Arrivals

- The school has an answering machine to take your attendance message at your convenience. It is a tremendous help when parents call in at night or in the early morning and tell us the reason for an absence or late arrival, eliminating calls home or to parent's work. This verifies the reason for the absence and ensures that students who have left home for school have in fact arrived safely at school.
- Students may not call in their own absences.
- Your current phone numbers for contact are very important to us. Please notify our school office if there have been changes.
- Students and parents are reminded that in the event of a late arrival to school, students must report to the office to sign-in and obtain a late slip before going to classrooms. Unless a phone call or written note has been received, a late will be registered as "unexplained". Repeated incidents of unexplained lateness will result in follow-up consequences with the principal and/or the attendance counsellor.

## Improving Safe Schools - Character Development

Lansdowne-Costain has a focus on character development as an integral part of the school culture. Check in the student agendas for quotes about the monthly Character Trait and a story about a Canadian who demonstrates that quality. This month's "Character in Action" is Compassion.

## A Message from School Council

At the end of the 2016-17 school year, the decision was made to drop our association with Home & School and continue on as a School Council. We will continue to run the same events. We held our first meeting on October 11, 2017, welcoming many new faces. Our Executive for this year is: Anna Nemeth - School Council Chair, Erin Westra - Secretary, and Amanda Dougherty – Treasurer.

As we launch into the second month of school hopefully we are all able to settle into familiar routines. Even with routines in place, morning drop off time is often hectic; please remember that although we are all in a hurry, **WE NEED THE SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS TO BE PARAMOUNT!** Traffic on Parkside Ave has increased due to the St. Paul Ave construction and has been exceeding the speed limit! Please take care when your children exit your vehicle. Also, please remember to use our crosswalks. Using safety patrollers will help to teach children how to cross the road safely, instead of jumping out from between parked cars and running across the road to the school. Our crossing guard, Patrick, is terrific, as is our team of student safety patrollers in front of the school. Please use them!

On September 13th, we welcomed families at Meet the Teacher. We were happy to see many familiar faces and some new ones. Thank you to all who sent in Volunteer Forms. Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday November 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm. We meet in the staff room. Childcare is available in Room 6. Please come and join us!  
Anna Nemeth, Chair of School Council

## Keeping Everyone Safe

Reminders:

- Use the loop or on street parking for drop off and pick up.
- Parking lot is for staff. Please do not use the lot for student drop off and pick up.
- Walk all wheels on the school yard (scooters, bicycles etc...)
- Students exiting the Portapack, need to head across the grass to waiting parents or along the fenced walk way to the front. Students should not be walking through the parking lot.
- Use the cross walks to safely cross Preston Blvd.

## Fire and Lock Down Drills

Staff and students have been practicing for and completing the necessary fall Fire Drills. Our focus in October will be Lock Down drills. Each child will respond differently to these drills, or the perceived reasons behind conducting these drills. Teachers will prepare students at a level that is appropriate for the class/age prior to the drills.

Lock downs occur when there is threat in the general vicinity of the school, a threat inside or on the property or when there is an environmental threat such as a chemical spill or extreme weather. The Board's School/Site Security and Lock Down policy is very detailed. There will be different responses to various levels of threat. For example, **Lock Down** will be the highest threat, and a response plan will match this. **Hold and Secure** will be for an outside threat when exterior doors are locked but students can move freely inside the school, and **Shelter In-Place** will be for weather related threats. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the principal.

## Picture Day

Smile - Picture day is on Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. Please indicate your choice of background colour. There is no need to send money in at this time. Register for online proof notifications at [edgeimaging.ca/photoday](http://edgeimaging.ca/photoday). Code - LCP  
Photo Retakes will be done the morning of November 20, 2017.

### Safety Patrol

We are pleased to announce that 8 excited and energetic students signed up to take part in training last month to become Safety Patrol Officers for Lansdowne-Costain School. They have chosen to train for a very responsible position as an Officer and a Leader. Patrol members must be at their posts on time, properly uniformed and giving full attention to the job. These young people will help to ensure our students come to school and leave for home safely. Thank you for your commitment to this important job!

Mrs. Salole

### Pumpkin Carving Contest!

Lansdowne-Costain is hosting their annual Pumpkin Carving Contest. Pumpkins may be dressed up and/or carved to be entered into one of four categories: scariest, most original, movie inspired, or story/fairy tale inspired. Pumpkins may be dropped off on Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup> between 8:00- 8:50 am at the library. Please limit your entries to one per family. Please pickup your pumpkin on October 31<sup>st</sup> no later than 3:45 pm. After this time, we will dispose of the pumpkins Please contact Mrs. Salole for any questions.

### Halloween

On Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, we will hold our annual costume parade. Beginning at 1:30 pm, we gather the classes by parading through the rooms and then exiting the school to parade around Preston Park. Please be patient, as it does take some time to gather all the classes. Students are invited to bring their costumes to school to change into in the afternoon.

### Socks Wanted

Lansdowne-Costain is collecting socks for **Socktober**. Socktober is a fundraising campaign that gathers new socks for people who really need them. People, who are in crisis, and depend on our community to keep them safe. *Socks are one of the most needed but least donated items.* People, who live in precarious conditions, need their feet to be warm and dry, especially with winter fast approaching. New socks are essential for keeping peoples' feet clean and safe. We need socks of all colours and sizes!

Mrs. Salole is providing a pizza lunch and supervising an extended recess outdoor soccer game for the class that brings in the most socks. Please donate what you can! Every pair makes a difference!

Thank you,

Mrs. Salole

### Grade 8 Transition to High School

Grade 8 Class visits to BCI on Nov. 1, 2017.

Grade 9 Parent Information Evenings on Jan. 18 or Jan. 25, 2018

### IEPs

The reporting periods for IEPs have changed based on recommendations from the provincial Special Education Committee. Effective September 2017, IEPs will be reviewed and updated within the first 30 instructional days of school, with the Term 1 report card in January and the Term 2 report card in June. As always, we welcome communication and conversation about your child's progress, on-going achievement of learning skills, work habits and curriculum expectations at any time. IEPs were sent home October 17, 2017.



# October



# 2017



NOTES

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	Day 4	2 PA Day	3 Day 5	4 Day 1	5 Day 2	6
			Pizza Day			7
8		9 Day 3	10 Day 4	11 Day 5	12 Day 1	13
	Thanksgiving	AM Jr & Int Soccer	Pizza Day Cross Country School Council 6:00 PM		Terry Fox Walk/Run 1:30 PM	14
15	Day 2	16 Day 3	17 Day 4	18 Day 5	19 Day 1	20
		Brantwood Farms JK/SK Classes	Pizza Day		School Photo Day	21
22	Day 2	23 Day 3	24 Day 4	25 Day 5	26 Day 1	27
		Wear Purple Child Abuse Awareness Day Bus Evac. 1:45	Pizza Day			28
29	Day 2	30 Day 3	31	1	2	3
	Pumpkin Craving Contest Socktober Collection Ends	Costume Parade 1:30 PM				4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11