



Queen Elizabeth Public School

March 2024



Principal

Mr. Drew Beaton

Drew_beaton@kprdsb.ca

Superintendent of Student Achievement

Mr. John Ford

John_ford@kprdsb.ca

Trustees

Ms. Rose Kitney

Rose_kitney@kprdsb.ca

Mr. Steve Russell

Steve_russell@kprdsb.ca

Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Heather Minion

Heather_minion@kprdsb.ca

Head Custodian

Mr. Jamie Munro

830 Barnardo Avenue,
Peterborough, Ontario.

Tel: (705) 742-6331

Fax: (705) 748-9782

Safe Arrival: 1-844-434-8119

School Website:

<https://queenelizabeth.kprdsb.ca/>

Transportation Information:

www.stsco.ca

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we begin our second term, it almost goes without saying that we are all greatly looking forward to the change of seasons and the transition into warmer and sunnier days.



Please enjoy the March break when it comes. As many of us are not able to take time off to spend the March break with our families, I encourage you to check local newspapers for the many different activities that are available to students during the break. As always - if you ever have any concerns, issues, or questions, please don't hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,
Drew Beaton
Principal

Clocks "Spring" Forward on March 10th

What is Daylight Savings Time Day? It's a day when people of various locations across the world set their clocks one hour ahead of the standard time. The practice was first introduced in Europe during the First World War. The idea was to take advantage of the longest summer days by gaining an extra hour of daylight and shortening the days in winter. In 1784, American

inventor, Benjamin Franklin suggested that starting the day earlier in the summer months would save a considerable number of candles. Changing clocks at 2:00 a.m. was originally chosen as the changeover time because it was practical and minimized disruption. Remember to move your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday, March 10th at 2:00 AM. Please note that Fire Departments also encourage people to change the batteries in their smoke detectors.

Upcoming Events

March 4th - School Council Meeting
@6:30pm – Meeting Link:
https://kprdsb.webex.com/meet/drew_beaton

March 6th – 7th - Peterborough Public Health Dental Screening

March 7th – Domino's Pizza Night from 5pm - 9pm

March 8th – 15th – March Break
School Resumes March 18th

March 17th – St. Patrick's Day

March 29th – Good Friday

March 31st – Easter

April 1st – Easter Monday

Safe Arrival

If your child is going to be absent from school, for any reason, please use your SchoolMessenger account to notify the school of the absence. If we do not know why a student is absent, the safe arrival program will call you to notify you of the absence and to get clarification. If your child arrives to school late, please sign them in at the main office.

For those of you that have not already registered for SchoolMessenger to report your children's absences online, here are the instructions:

- To create your new account and register your children for the automated system, please visit www.studentabsence.kprdsb.ca
- If you use the mobile app, please search for SchoolMessenger (one word) on the Google Play Store or the Apple App Store.
- Once you have registered your child, you will be able to inform the school of your child's upcoming absences using any of the following methods:
 - www.studentabsence.kprdsb.ca
 - 1-844-434-8119
 - the **SchoolMessenger** mobile app on your cell phone or tablet.

Thank you so much for your collaboration in reducing our secretarial workload and keeping our students safe.

Character Trait for March: Honesty

"We tell lies when we are afraid...of what we don't know, afraid of what others will think, afraid of what will be found about us. But every time we tell a lie, the thing that we fear most grows stronger."

- Tad Williams

March is "Sugar Moon" - Zisbaakdoke-Giizis (Anishinaabe First Nation)



Sugar Moon is the third moon of Creation. This is a time when new life begins to show itself and provide the medicines from all Creation for purification. The sugar maple is one of the medicines that the Creator has given us to balance our blood, within the season of the spring. It is a strong medicine, that along with the plants, roots, and herbs, carry the spirit of healing within. For this we acknowledge that we are forever thankful.

March Break

This year's March Break begins Friday, March 8th and extends through to Friday, March 15th, 2024. Enjoy it – and stay safe!

Earth Hour

It's back! KPR once again encourages families to participate in Earth Hour on Saturday, March 28th, from 8:30-9:30 p.m. Participation is easy; just turn off your lights and electronics for the hour. Earth Hour started over a decade ago as an international effort to protect and preserve our natural environment. For further information about Earth Hour, please visit earthhour.org.

Good Friday – March 29th

Friday, March 29th, 2024, is Good Friday. There will be no classes on that day, and all schools and Board offices will be closed.

Easter and Easter Monday – March 31st & April 1st

Sunday, March 31st is Easter and Monday April 1st is Easter Monday. There will be no classes on the Monday, and all schools and Board offices will be closed.

Spring Water Awareness

Hopefully, spring weather will be right around the corner. However, with the warmer conditions will come unsafe ice and fast flowing creeks and rivers with very cold water in them. Please remind your children to stay away from areas where spring water conditions will soon exist.

Wet Weather Days

The transition from winter to spring, when it comes, will soon result in a very wet, muddy yard at Queen Elizabeth. Even though we will frequently remind students to stay away from puddles, both in class and on the announcements, some students will still manage to find those wet, muddy areas, and end up getting wet and dirty. Please help us by reminding your children to stay away from these wet areas as much as possible. You can also send extra clothes encase kids need to change during the school day. Thank you for your support!

Kindergarten Registration for the 2024/2025 School Year

Your child can begin Kindergarten in September 2024, as follows:

Junior Kindergarten – your child is four years of age by December 31st, 2024

Senior Kindergarten – your child is five years of age by December 31st, 2024

Registration for September 2024 is now open!



Online registration - Click here [Registration Form](#) and register TODAY!

Online registration allows parents to sign up for Kindergarten using any device connected to the Internet, any day of the week, and any time of day. It's easy, fast, and convenient.

First, create an account using your email address. Then, complete the fillable fields, providing all of the information requested. Once complete, the form is sent to the school for review. The school secretary receives the registration form and checks for completeness and accuracy. The form may be sent back and forth between the parent/guardian and school until the form is complete.

Once the form is complete, parents/guardians will need to visit the school to provide the following information:

- Birth certificate.
- Proof of address
- Citizen verification
- Custody documents (if applicable).

Parents will receive a Kindergarten Registration Package when they visit the school, containing a welcome letter, a book, information about busing, and strategies to support a successful start to school.

If you do not wish to register online, please print, and complete the following form.

[PDF Version of our Registration Form](#) - Please print, then bring the completed form to your school.

Families, please contact your child's school directly if you have any questions regarding its Kindergarten programs, registration, and information nights.

Anaphylactic Allergies

Again, this year, we have several students who have severe anaphylactic reactions to peanuts or nut products. Currently, we ask everyone not to send peanut products in their children's lunches. However, we believe we can continue to do more. In school, these students are not only exposed to their classmates, but to others on the yard. Taking this into consideration, we ask that all parents continue to avoid sending peanut butter and other nut products to school. Although this request will cause some inconvenience, if you reflect upon the potential tragedy that could occur, we believe you will agree that this is a reasonable request. Although we cannot guarantee a Nut Free **school**, we can certainly aim toward this goal. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in helping to keep a safe environment for all our students.

Plans of Care



Every year, we re-establish Individual Plans of Care for everyone in our building who has a medical condition that could potentially be life-threatening. It is our belief that collaboratively creating a Plan of Care is vital to promoting the safety of everyone who suffers from a life-threatening condition.

Essentially, these plans are a set of directions and cautionary advice to help our staff through a potential emergency medical situation that an individual might face. The plan includes all the information that a first responder would require, as well as step-by-step instructions on how to respond to the medical crisis. All our staff members are familiarized with the plans, and they are posted in central locations for administration to refer to in the event of an emergency. If you are a parent / guardian of a child with a potentially life-threatening illness or a medical condition, please ensure that you:

1. Inform the school of your child's medical needs.
2. Schedule a meeting with your child's teacher to review the medical needs of your child.
3. Working with our school secretary, complete a Plan of Care for your child. If this has already been established, please make necessary changes to the form, and send back to the school as soon as possible.
4. Complete the Administration of Medication form which details the request and authorizes the administration of prescription medication.
5. Provide the school with up-to-date epinephrine auto injectors (preferably a minimum of two), and any other prescribed medication, and keep them current.
6. Teach your child to take as much responsibility as possible for his/her safety.

7. Provide your child with a medic alert bracelet.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact the office - and thank you for your full cooperation in keeping all our students and staff safe!

Bullying Prevention Measures



At Queen Elizabeth, we take the issue of bullying extremely seriously. We believe that everyone has the absolute right to be safe and feel safe at our school, and we consistently strive to make our school environment a secure place for everyone. Students are given consequences such as restricted recess times or community service for smaller issues, and they are suspended for more serious infractions. Research indicates, however, that sometimes children don't report when they are being bullied, so we rely on you for information. Please call Mr. Beaton at the school if you ever think your child is either being bullied or is bullying others.

Picking and Dropping Off Your Child



For the safety of all students, please notify the school if anyone other than a parent or guardian will be picking up your child or children. Without notification, students must follow the regular arrangements made for travelling home.

If you need to take your child out during school hours for an appointment, etc., please come at least 10 minutes early to the front doors and buzz the office. The secretary or the principal will then call in to the classroom to have your child or children meet you at the office. We will not be able to have students waiting for you at the office, so please make sure you leave yourself ample time.

School Council



Our next meeting is March 4th at 6:30, and you can either join us in person or you can click on this WebEx link: https://kprdsb.webex.com/meet/drew_beaton. All parents and guardians are welcome to join us – and we greatly appreciate your involvement.

If you are interested in knowing what we will be discussing, please feel free to look for our agendas which will be posted to the School Council page of our school website at <https://queenelizabeth.kprdsb.ca/Community/School%20Council> by the weekend immediately before each meeting. And if you are really, really interested, you can also find past minutes and financial information on this page as well.

And finally, if you have any comments or questions about any aspect of School Council, please feel free to reach out to Mr. Beaton, the Principal @ drew_beaton@kprdsb.ca or to your School Council Chair, Matt Riley @ mattriley33@hotmail.ca.