

# Queen Elizabeth Public School

April 2025



#### 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. Sydney Grice sydney grice@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.kprd
sb.ca/

Transportation Information: www.stsco.ca

Sincerely,

Drew Beaton Principal

## Principal's Message

Spring greetings to all Queen Elizabeth families!

I hope this message finds you safe and well. As we are all very aware, the recent ice storm has caused significant damage, disruption, and hardship in our community. Our thoughts are with everyone affected during this challenging time.

Please be assured that the safety and well-being of our students and staff remain our top priorities. We have been working diligently to assess and address any impacts on our school facilities and operations, and things are quickly getting back to normal.

We encourage everyone to continue taking the necessary precautions and staying safe. If you need assistance or have any concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Together, we will navigate through this and support each other as a community.

On that note, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the School Council members who generously came in today and served pancakes to the entire school. It was a wonderful surprise for everyone after such a hard week and reminds us all of the transformative power of small acts of kindness. Thank you.

Wishing you all a fantastic month ahead!

#### **Upcoming Events**

**April 2**<sup>nd</sup> – World Autism Day

April 7<sup>th</sup> - School Council Meeting @6:30pm – Meeting Link:

https://kprdsb.webex.c om/meet/drew\_beaton

**April 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> –** Rocks and Rings Curling

**April 10**<sup>th</sup> – Grade 3 Swim to Survive Pool Session

April 11<sup>th</sup> – PA Day

**April 17**<sup>th</sup> – Grade 3 Swim to Survive Pool Session

**April 18**<sup>th</sup>— Good Friday

— School is closed

**April 21**<sup>st</sup> – Easter Monday – School is closed

April 22<sup>nd</sup>— Earth Day

**April 24**<sup>th</sup> – Grade 3 Swim to Survive Pool Session

**April 25**<sup>th</sup> – Loose Parts Day

#### Safe Arrival

#### **Important Notice: Reporting Student Absences**

If your child will be absent from school for any reason, please use your SchoolMessenger account to notify us of the absence. If we are not informed of a student's absence, our safe arrival program will contact you to clarify the reason for the absence. Additionally, if your child arrives late to school, please ensure they are signed in at the main office.

For those who have not yet registered for SchoolMessenger to report absences online, here are the instructions:

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

Thank you for your cooperation in reducing our secretarial workload and ensuring the safety of our students.

#### QE Fun Fair!

Get Ready for an Unforgettable Evening at QE's Fun Fair on May 14th!

Join us from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm as the school comes alive with laughter, games, and delicious treats.

Highlights of the Evening:

- A free Hot Dog: Enjoy a tasty treat while soaking in the festive atmosphere.
- Pepper the Clown: Visit Pepper and take home a balloon animal of your choice.
- Thrilling Games: Test your skills, compete with friends, and win fantastic prizes.
- Draw Ballots: Available for purchase—don't miss your chance to win exciting surprises!

Bring your family, bring your friends, and join us for an evening filled with fun and community spirit. We can't wait to see you there!

#### Yearbook Now Available

The 2024-2025 QE Yearbook is available for purchase for \$10 on School Cash Online. Please purchase before April 30, 2025. Yearbooks will be distributed to students in June.

## Character Trait for April: Responsibility

"I am only one; but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something. I will not refuse to do the something I can do." - Helen Keller

### **Passport to Reconciliation**

#### What is the Passport to Reconciliation?

In November 2021, the Indigenous Education Department at KPRDSB introduced the "Passport to Reconciliation." This initiative recognizes that everyone in KPR has a role to play in the process of Reconciliation. Each month, we share a new learning focus related to Indigenous Education, as outlined in the Passport.

For the month of April, our focus is on Indigenous Land.

## April is "Sucker Moon" - Namebine-Giizis (Anishinaabe First Nation)



## Earth Day



On April 22nd, we will once again come together to recognize Earth Day at Queen Elizabeth. This special day serves as a reminder that environmental issues concern us all, and we believe it is essential for our students to learn about these challenges and take action guided by their values.

As we nurture the next generation, we are reminded that our children will become the caretakers of our planet—a responsibility that has never been more important. Together, let's inspire and empower them to make a positive impact on our world.

## The Importance of Arriving on Time



Arriving at school on time helps your child start the day on a positive note. When your child arrives punctually, they have the opportunity to be warmly greeted by their teacher, review the day's plans, and socialize with peers before lessons begin. Working together to ensure timely arrival sends the message that school is important and helps your child develop lifelong habits for success.

Recurring late arrivals can significantly impact academic achievement and the harmony of the classroom environment. Each day your child is absent or late, they miss valuable learning opportunities and the chance to develop new skills, both academic and social.

When your child arrives late, they may feel confused about the learning that has already begun. Late arrivals also disrupt the important rhythm and flow of the day, affecting the learning of others. Our educators work hard every day to plan fun and engaging learning opportunities for all students. Please help us maintain a warm, welcoming, and positive learning environment by ensuring your child arrives on time.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

## Kindergarten Registration for the 2025/2026 School Year



Your child can begin Kindergarten in September 2025, as follows:

Junior Kindergarten – your child is four years of age by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025

Senior Kindergarten – your child is five years of age by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025

Registration for September 2025 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.

<u>PDF Version of our Registration Form</u> - Please print, then bring the completed form to your school. If you have any questions, please contact the school office at 705-742-6331. We also ask that you share this information with friends, relatives, or neighbours.

## **Spring Water Awareness**

Another reminder that with the warmer conditions of spring, we have fast-flowing creeks and rivers with very cold water in them. Please remind your children to stay away from areas where spring water conditions exist.

## **Spring Weather Notice**

As we transition into spring, the melting snow creates wet and muddy conditions in the schoolyard. To ensure our students remain comfortable throughout the day, we kindly ask parents to pack extra clothing in backpacks, especially for our younger learners.

While we encourage students to avoid puddles and muddy areas, we understand that slips and splashes can happen during active play. Please note that we will not be calling home every time a child gets wet or muddy. Having a spare set of clothing on hand will help everyone stay focused on fun and learning!

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we navigate this muddy but exciting time of year.

#### Pizza Lunch Orders



We are happy to share that **Domino's Pizza Lunch** is available at our school for the 2024/2025 school year. Orders are available for purchase until the end of the school year. Pizza lunches are every Thursday unless it is a PA Day or Holiday. Orders are due the Sunday before the pizza lunch and can be found on your **SchoolCash Online** items page.

#### **How to Order:**

- 1. Go to your child's SchoolCash Online account items page and click "ORDER NOW".
- 2. Confirm your child's account information including their teacher and grade for the current school year.
- \*\*Please ensure the correct teacher and grade are selected to prevent errors on delivery days.
- 3. Proceed with ordering your child's pizza lunch.
- 4. All orders are submitted on the website and payment is processed online.

#### **Things to Remember:**

- The Pizza Lunch ordering deadline is by end of day Sunday for the upcoming week's deliveries.
- New orders will not be accepted after the Sunday deadline.
- If there is a school closure, lunches will be cancelled, and a credit will be issued to your account

## **Popcorn Orders**



Kernels Popcorn is delivered every Tuesday at Queen Elizabeth! Orders are available for purchase until the end of the school year. Popcorn can be ordered through School Cash Online for \$2.50/bag.

There will be 7 flavours to choose from: Butter Salt, Dill Pickle, Ketchup, Salt & Vinegar, White Cheddar Cheese, Jalapeno Jack, Creamy Caramel, Say Cheese Cheese, Cheesy Dill, Thai Sweet Chili. Orders must be placed before the Friday the week of the order.

## Important Notice: Nut-Free School Initiative

This year, we have students at Queen Elizabeth who have anaphylactic reactions to peanuts and nut products. Currently, we ask that all families refrain from sending peanut-based products in their children's lunches. However, we believe we can take additional steps to ensure the safety of these students.

In school, these students are not only exposed to their classmates but also to others on the yard. With this in mind, we ask that all parents continue to avoid sending peanut butter and other nut products to school. While we understand this request may cause some inconvenience, we ask that you consider the potential risks and agree that this is a reasonable measure to ensure the safety of all students.

While we cannot guarantee a completely nut-free school, we can certainly work toward this goal. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation in creating a safe environment for all of our students.

## **KPR Personal Electronic Device Policy**

At Queen Elizabeth, we continue to follow the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board's policy on the use of mobile devices in schools. A mobile device includes any personal electronic device (P.E.D.) that can be used for communication or accessing the Internet, such as a laptop, cellphone, tablet, or smartwatch.

To maintain a focused and engaging learning environment, we ask that all personal mobile devices be turned off and stored out of sight during the school day. If a student needs to contact home, they may request to use the phone in the office. Should there be an urgent need for a student to access their phone during the day, they are encouraged to speak directly with their teacher to find an appropriate solution.

Additionally, we remind parents that electronic games and other toys should not be brought to school, as they can be a significant distraction to learning. The school is not responsible for these items if they are lost or stolen. Your support in helping ensure that students do not bring these items to school is greatly appreciated!

## Addressing Bullying at Queen Elizabeth

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 create a secure environment for everyone.

For smaller issues, students may receive consequences such as restricted recess times or community service. More serious infractions can result in suspensions. However, research indicates that children sometimes do not report when they are being bullied, so we rely on you for information.

If you ever think your child is either being bullied or is bullying others, please call Mr. Beaton at the school. Your vigilance and communication are crucial in helping us maintain a safe and supportive environment for all students.

Thank you!

## Picking and Dropping Off Your Child

#### **Important Reminders for Parents and Guardians**

For the safety of all students, please remember that parents and guardians must begin their visit to the school building by coming to the office. Visiting classrooms during the day without permission is not allowed. Additionally, if anyone other than a parent or guardian will be picking up your child(ren), please notify the school in advance. Without prior notification, students must follow the regular arrangements for their departure.

If you need to take your child out of school during school hours for an appointment or any other reason, please arrive at least 10 minutes before the scheduled pick-up time. Upon arrival, use the front door to buzz the office. The secretary or principal will then contact the classroom, and your child(ren) will come to the office. For safety and logistical reasons, we are unable to have students waiting in the office, so please ensure you allow enough

#### **School Council**



Our next hybrid School Council meeting is April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30, and you can either join us in person in our Library or join by clicking 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'd like to stay informed about what will be discussed during our upcoming School Council meetings, you can find the agendas posted on the School Council page of our school website: https://queenelizabeth.kprdsb.ca/Community/School%20Council

Agendas will be available by the weekend immediately prior to each meeting. For those who are particularly keen, the page also hosts past meeting minutes for your review.

Finally, if you have any comments or questions about School Council matters, we encourage you to reach out!

- Principal, Mr. Beaton: drew beaton@kprdsb.ca
- School Council Chair, Matt Riley: mattriley33@hotmail.ca

Thank you for your continued interest and support in our School Council activities!