

December 2018 Newsletter
King Albert Public School

Sharing respect, responsibility and caring

Dean Burke, Principal
(705) 324-3702



HOLIDAY FAMILY GATHERING



Please come out and join us on December 20 for our annual Holiday Concert! This year we are hosting our get-together at 2:00 pm in the gym. Classes have been working hard and practicing for our entertainment. The concert has been placed at 2pm so that it ends near the end of the school day. **Parents, we are requesting that students remain in class after the concert ends until the 3:10 dismissal bell.** You can imagine the chaos that will ensue if every family tries to sign their kids out in the final 10-15 minutes of the school day and we thank you for respectfully waiting until the regular end of the day to pick up your children after the show.

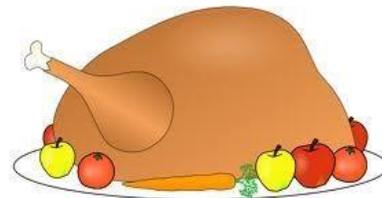
HOLIDAY STORE



We will operate the “Holiday Store” again this year. Children will be able to shop for gifts for their family – one item per immediate family member. **There is no cost for shopping.** We are planning to run the store on December 14, 2018. **We need volunteers to help students with wrapping presents for their family members and with clean up.** If you can help on that day, please call Mrs. Wright at 324-3702.

HOLIDAY DINNER

Every child at King Albert will be treated to **Holiday Dinner on Tuesday, December 18th.** Our Holiday Dinner will be held **in our gym.** At 12:30, Gr 5/6 leaders will plate food and deliver for the kindergarten classes followed by a junior division sitting at 12:50 followed by recess. At 1:10, primary students will enter from recess and be taken to the gym for their sitting by lunchroom supervisors. Thank you to Parent Council for organizing this event and to Home Hardware for sponsoring the event and providing volunteers to serve. Thank you also to Cambridge Street United Church, who is lending us their kitchen to prepare the dinner. **We need volunteers for meal preparation and serving.** Please contact Ashley O’Keefe, your **Parent Council Chair**, to volunteer for this time-honoured tradition!



SNOW DAYS AND PAID LUNCH

If a Wednesday paid lunch falls on a snow day the lunch will be cancelled for that day and will be given out on the following Tuesday. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Wright.



BOOK FAIR

Calling all Knights the Scholastic Book Fair will be arriving soon! The Scholastic Book Fair will be at King Albert **December 5th.** Support our school and help to inspire the love of reading by attending the King Albert Book Fair. The fair is **ONE DAY ONLY** this year. A preview will be available from 9am – 12pm, students and parents can make purchases from 12:00pm - 4:30pm.



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ST. PAULS ANGLICAN CHURCH CRAFT DAY

Juniors are invited to go to the church Monday, Dec. 10 and Tuesday, Dec. 11th from 10:30 to 11:30PM. Primaries are invited to go to the church Monday, Dec. 10 and Tuesday, Dec. 11th from 12:30 to 1:30PM. Because of the number of Primaries the first 20 that hand in there form goes on the Monday. The rest will go the Tuesday. If you need a permission form, please call the office.



A NEW START!

Adults - would you like to earn your high school diploma or upgrade courses you have taken in the past? Maybe you are working and did not realize you could be earning high school co-op credits while being paid? We have many options available to you. Trillium Lakelands District School Board has an Adult and Alternate Education Centre located Lindsay. **Call 705-324-4795** or visit www.anewstart.ca for more details.

WINTER HOLIDAYS

The school will be closed from December 21 - January 6, 2019. We hope your holidays are safe and healthy! Our first day back in classes will be Monday, January 7, 2019.

ATTENDANCE CONCERNS ARE IMPORTANT AND A GROWING CONCERN AT KING ALBERT:

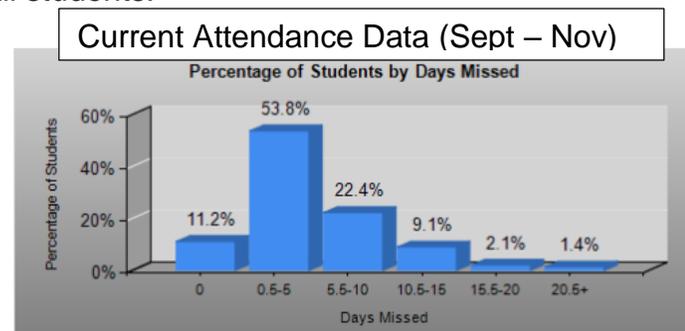
It makes sense...if students aren't at school – they can't achieve. A 2016 study found that students who missed an average of two days per month in elementary school stood a 60% chance of dropping out in grade nine. (Every School Day Counts: Persistent Absenteeism in Ontario, 2016). There is also research that shows the correlation between positive attendance patterns and student academic achievement. This is why we have moved to ask parents to allow children to finish their day uninterrupted by early pickups, which interrupt their learning and the learning of others.

When students arrive after the bell or leave before regular dismissal, they miss reviewing the day's expectations and learning as well as the opportunity to participate in regular routines. It is also important to understand that when a student arrives late or is picked up early, the flow of the lesson is interrupted for all students in the class. Arriving late or being picked up early not only impacts the late or leaving student, it also negatively impacts the learning of all students.

Look at the data below – our current trends show that we continue to be at risk of having over 35% of our students missing 20+ days of school again this year for the third year in a row.

Parents, if you would like to discuss how the school can support you/your family in getting your children to school every day and on time – Mr. Burke would LOVE to support you.

Days Missed	Total Students	%
0	16	11.2%
0.5-5	77	53.8%
5.5-10	32	22.4%
10.5-15	13	9.1%
15.5-20	3	2.1%
20.5+	2	1.4%
Total	143	



Attendance: 35% of our students missed 20+ days of school in 16/17 & 17/18
 EQAO Grade 3: R- 82%, NA, 47%, 32%, 53%; W- 71%, NA, 33%, 32%, 57%; M- 65%, NA, 27%, 32%, 49%
 EQAO Grade 6: R- 67%, NA, 75%, 65%, 44%; W- 67%, NA, 67%, 59%, 47%; M- 17%, NA, 9%, 47%, 0%
Bold data denotes our current Grade 6 student data from Grade 3 results