



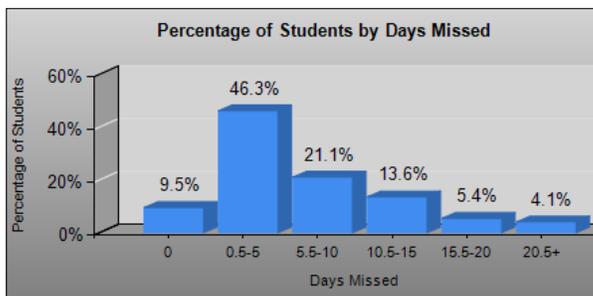
King Albert Public School

Sharing respect responsibility and caring

Dean Burke
Principal
705-324-3702

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE: A HEARTFELT THANK YOU

The holiday season, and the lead up to it, is easily the most challenging time of year at King Albert. As student anxiety increases in the days leading up to the break, so too do incidents of misbehaviour, aggression, and conflict. Our staff were successful in managing the issues that occurred in the days leading to the break in such a way that kept students safe, welcomed and included in the festive activities as much as possible. We know we didn't experience this success alone – we had immense support for you – our families. You took our calls, supported us when things got tough, were understanding, and worked with us to plan next steps. Additionally, we had scores of volunteers who came in and gave their time to ensure that our holiday store, our holiday meal, and our Christmas concert ran smoothly while the staff focussed on keeping students regulated, calm, and in a state to participate safely. Thank you to everyone who gave of their time to either support us with their children or in the holiday festivities. We really do appreciate everything our community does to support us and our mission in education.

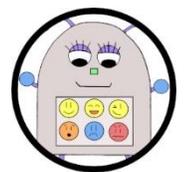


Current Attendance Data - Sept-Dec 2018

January is a time for us to get back to our core priorities. At King Albert, our priorities are closing the achievement gaps in reading & numeracy, and supporting student well-being through a restorative and welcoming school culture in the hopes of improving our attendance numbers. Over the past two years, 35% of our student body missed 20+ days of school (which is 10% of the school year – one whole month of learning). Our efforts to support families struggling with attendance are showing some success, however we want to remind families of this focus and encourage them to work with us to support overcoming barriers preventing consistent regular attendance. We're going to continue celebrating those students with perfect attendance in each month as well as celebrating students who

show growth in the focus executive function of the month. Our focus executive function for January is Emotional Control (Emotibot).

In the classroom, work completion or goal attainment may be affected by the inability to control emotions. Students may have difficulty calming down and reflecting on their feelings. When emotions take over, focus and class work will be affected. Outside the classroom, these students may have "big" reactions when playing a game or negotiating with peers. They will likely need assistance and coaching in order to solve problems and come up with a plan for the future.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

January is Kindergarten registration month. It is important that your child is registered as soon as possible. Please call and make an appointment to register your child with Mrs. Wright at 705-324-3702. If you know of someone who has a child who will be attending JK in September, please share this information with them. We will begin our Welcome to Kindergarten screening process once we return from March Break.

SNOW DAYS & 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. **King Albert is a walking school – meaning there are no busses that service the school except for the Boys & Girls Club Bus.** *On snow days, King Albert is open and operating as if it is a normal day. We expect all students to attend school as per usual on these days.*



THE KNIGHTS CODE

As part of our ongoing school improvement plan, we are trying to shift the conversations about our school to being a place of positive childhood development focussed on building academic and life skills at the same time. As part of this work, we developed the Knights Code with our staff, parents, and students. The Knight's Code is a collection of five statements that summarize WHO WE ARE as the Knights. The Knights Code is used to celebrate our successes and debrief when things go wrong. Please help spread the good news about King Albert by joining our Twitter and Facebook pages @KingAlbertPS. Like, share, re-tweet and make positive comments about the amazing things that happen here every day. Our school really is amazing and so are our students and their families.

HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

We understand the importance of strong home-school communication in keeping parents in the loop about their child's learning and about any incidents that may have happened throughout the day. We also understand that some families feel frustrated when they don't hear about things in the classroom. We will continue to make every effort to inform parents about events, accomplishments, and trips through newsletters, permission forms, letters home, agendas, our school website, our Facebook page and our Twitter feed. Should parents have a concern about specific issues at school, please call the school and ask for a conversation with the classroom teacher. If after speaking to the classroom teacher, parents are not satisfied with the resolution, they can reach out to Mr. Burke to voice any remaining concerns.

SAFE ARRIVAL

At King Albert, we are committed to ensuring the safety of your child. Safe arrival programs enhance a safe and supportive learning environment, and allow us to account for any unexplained failure to arrive at school. We need your help to ensure that this program is successful. If your child is going to be absent, please ensure that you have notified the school **prior to the start** of the school day. In case of inclement weather, please continue to contact the school if your child will be absent. Also, please ensure that we have **up-to-date phone numbers and emergency contact** information. If an absence is unexplained, and we cannot reach you, **police** may be called to ensure safety. Thank you for your support in keeping our students safe.



HEAD LICE – TAKE A PEEK WEEK

The first week back from the holiday's is a happy time for all of us as we welcome all of the children back to school. It's also a time to ensure we are helping families manage the ongoing nuisance of head lice. As we did back in the fall, we have arranged for some Parent Council volunteers to come in to the school in the first week of school and conduct a full-school head check. Reminder: any child found to have live lice must be picked up and excluded from school for a few days for treatment to take hold. Students found to have nits will receive a letter to their parents in their agendas about proactive measures to take before the eggs hatch however will not be excluded as per TLDSB's policy regarding pediculosis. ***We've heard from some folks that there is frustration that these check don't happen often enough. In order to do these head checks, we need volunteers. Any parents wishing to do head checks are invited to call the school to offer their support & time.***



LICE TIP:
Once a week,
Take a peek.

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING – FEBRUARY 7, 2019 King Albert Parent Council will be meeting at the school on February 7 at 3:25pm in the Special Education Room beside the office. Any members of the parent/guardian community are invited to attend.