



Louise Arbour F.I. Newsletter

November 2024

Principal: S. Blais
Vice Principal: P. Hart
Secretary: S. Earls, H. Weitzel, N. Whipple
Superintendent:
L. DeVos

Important Dates Coming Up

- Nov. 3
Treaties Recognition Week
- Nov. 6
School Photo Retakes
- Nov. 8
Grade 7 Vaccine Clinic
Progress Reports Home
National Indigenous Veterans
Day
- Nov. 11
Remembrance Day
- Nov. 13
Caribou Math Contest
- Nov. 15
PA Day - Parent/Teacher
Interviews (no school)
- Nov. 17
Bullying Prevention
Awareness Week
- Nov. 20
Educational Assistants
Appreciation Day

[Louise Arbour F.I.P.S](http://www.louisearbour.ca)

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Admin Message

Dear Louise Arbour Families,

We have had a successful start to the school year here at Louise Arbour French Immersion Public School. The students have settled in nicely to their new classrooms and daily routines. Students will bring home their progress reports on November 8th. The primary purpose of assessment and evaluation is to improve student learning. We have a Professional Activity Day designated for parent/teacher interviews upcoming on Friday, November 15th. Please keep an eye out for communication from your child's teacher inviting you to schedule an interview. Some opportunities may be available the afternoon of Thursday, November 14th as well.

Tips for Parents/Guardians

- **Sit down with your child and look over the report card.**
- **Praise your child.** Find all the good things about the report card.
- **Invite your child to be self-reflective.** Talk with your child about his/her learning skills and subject areas.
- **Set goals with your child.** Make a plan to improve the areas which require attention. Ensure that the goals are realistic and achievable in order to set your child up for success.
- **Make a plan** with your child's teacher. Ask for advice on how you can help your child.

Tips for Students

- **Think positively.** You are a special person. Be proud of what you were able to do; work to improve areas you think can improve.
- **Make a plan with your parents.** How do I improve areas that need improvement?
- **Try your best.** That's the most important ingredient to success.



Cross Country Updates

Over the past couple of months, a dedicated group of students were busy preparing for the 2024 Cross Country season. On October 8th, we had almost 125 students participating in the North East Regional Cross Country Meet at Gibbons Park. Top performing runners had the chance to compete at the TVDSB Finals at Fanshawe Conservation Area on Tuesday, October 22nd. This year, we had 20 student-athletes qualify for this event. It was a perfect fall day to be running outside. All athletes did a wonderful job representing our school, with many achieving personal bests at both competitions.

I would also like to thank our team of enthusiastic Grades 7 and 8 student-volunteers who helped marshal the courses at both the North East Regional event and the TVDSB Championships. These LAFI students played a valuable role in ensuring a fun and safe competition for all of our student-athletes.

A HUGE thank you to all of the staff members who have volunteered their time to assist with training sessions and coaching responsibilities at this year's Cross Country Meets.



News from the Library Learning Commons (LLC)

As usual, it has been an extremely busy start to the school year with book exchanges, class literacy blocks and teacher-/student- collaborations well underway!

Staff and students are thoroughly enjoying all of the wonderful new French and English resources that have been integrated into our library collection. With money raised during last year's Fall and Spring Scholastic Book Fairs (November 2023 and May 2024), we were able to purchase hundreds of new books for the LLC, as well as top off some of our classroom libraries.

In the weeks to come, several clubs will be running out of the LLC: Vive les Livres, Défi des Devoirs, Maker Club, etc. Students are encouraged to read the online announcements carefully so that they are aware of the many opportunities that will be available to them.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR (Fall 2024)

Information regarding our Fall Book Sale will be shared in the coming weeks. This is always an exciting event for our school community.



For Halloween at the end of October, we wanted to share a few reminders about costumes and treats. Students are welcome to wear a costume to school, or dress in orange and black to celebrate if they choose to participate. Please ensure that costumes do not include weapons or masks. Students may also bring individually packaged, store-bought, nut-free treats to school.

Terry Fox Run

We have officially wrapped up our Terry Fox season for 2024. Thank you to everyone who helped with fundraising efforts, and thanks for all the enthusiasm during our Terry Fox Run and during our Staff vs. Students volleyball game! We met our school goal this year by raising a total of \$3,000 for the Terry Fox

Foundation! Youpi!

Milles mercis les loups,
Terry Fox Committee



SCHOOL SPIRIT WEAR



We are currently offering an opportunity for students to order School Spirit Wear. Please use this [link](#) to access the website to view what items are available.

Please note that the deadline for orders is Wednesday, November 13th.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE



For the 2024-25 school year, we are pleased to offer families the option of two student accident insurance providers to choose from if they wish to purchase insurance for their children. Please use the links below to view the details of purchase.

<https://www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com/>

<https://insuremykids.com>

Progress Reports

Our updated Reporting Student Achievement procedure defines the relationship between the early academic progress of a student and the provincial grading standard.

Progressing Very Well

- Student achievement is meeting or surpassing the provincial standard
- Letter grades B to A+
- Numerical grades 74 to 100

Progressing Well

- Student achievement is approaching the provincial standard
- Letter grades C to B-
- Numerical grades 64 to 73

Progressing with Difficulty

- Student achievement is not currently meeting the provincial standard
- Letter grades below C
- Numerical grades below 64



Assessment for Learning

Assessment for Learning is based on the belief that all students can learn and improve. When teachers are engaged in Assessment for Learning, they create assessment tasks that provide information on what students know and can do already. They use this information to motivate students and determine the next steps in instruction. Marking is not designed to make comparative judgments among students, but to highlight students' strengths and needs, and provide the students with feedback that furthers their learning. Assessment for learning happens in the middle of learning, often more than once, rather than at the end. "Assessment must be used to improve student learning and not simply measure it." (Michael Fullan)

Assessment as Learning

Assessment as Learning is the ultimate goal in empowering students to becoming lifelong learners. This type of assessment occurs when students personally monitor what they are learning, reflect on their learning, and make decisions to improve their own learning. "Effective assessment empowers students to ask reflective questions and consider a range of strategies for learning and acting." (Lorna Earl)

Assessment of Learning

Assessment of Learning collects evidence for evaluating the students' achievement of the curriculum expectations and for reporting to students and parents/guardians. Assessment of Learning is done near the end of the unit/term/semester and is represented using letter/numerical grades.



BULLYING PREVENTION UPDATE

November 17th-23rd, 2024 is Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week in Ontario. The Thames Valley District School Board has chosen to focus the week on Cyberbullying. This week is an opportunity for students, school staff, and families to learn more about cyberbullying, its effects on student learning, and how we can all help stop it. We know that fostering safe and positive learning environments is everyone's responsibility.



Scan the QR code to learn more about the TVDSB Bullying Prevention Framework 'The Essential Conditions for Learning'.



MediaSmarts is a Canadian not-for-profit charitable organization. They have numerous resources related to cyberbullying and more!



Scan the QR code and consider viewing a cyber safety workshop.



NEWS FROM ECO-EQUIPE



Our Eco-Equipe kicked off the year by weeding the Grade 8 garden and cleaning up the school grounds.

Our new monthly initiative to clean up is extended to the entire school. The Grade 8 classes have invited other classes to join us too. Other initiatives include raising funds to furnish the front room of the greenhouse, conducting monthly information sessions pertaining to the environment to interested classes, and running a plant survival competition.

Fortunately, we have our fourth year biology students who are part of the Community Engagement Program at Western who are assisting us with our many initiatives.



As we approach the winter months, we would like to provide you with a few updates.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCESS

We would like to take this opportunity to update you on TVDSB's Inclement Weather process, as the winter months approach.

What families need to know when severe weather causes bus cancellations and school closures?

During severe winter weather, the safety and security of students and staff is Thames Valley's highest priority. Here is important information for families to remember:

School Closures

- The decision to close a school is based on the best information available to the TVDSB regarding road and weather conditions. There are times when a school may also be closed due to events such as power outages and water main breaks.
- In the event of a school closure, access to virtual learning opportunities will be available to students through their Google Classroom or Brightspace platforms.
- Your child(ren)'s teacher will communicate how students can access this information; if you need more details, please reach out directly to your child's teacher in advance of these potential inclement weather days.

Bus cancellations

- In most cases, when buses are cancelled, **schools remain open**.
- Staff will be available for those students who arrive at school.
- Some families may determine that their children can safely make their way to and from school while other families may wish to keep their children at home.
- Parents/caregivers may drop off/pick-up their children, however, it is **not** an expectation that parents/caregivers transport their children to school in the event of bus cancellations.
- If a student does not attend on inclement weather days, there will be **no** negative impact to their official attendance record.

Notification of Bus Cancellations and School Closures

- It's easy to find out if your school is closed by checking your school or [TVDSB's website](#), [X](#), [Facebook](#), or [Instagram](#) as well as local media in your area.
- **All information about bus delays and cancellations are available on www.mybigyellowbus.ca.**



Thames Valley
District School Board

GRADE 8

PARENT & CAREGIVER VIRTUAL SESSION



Welcome to High School:

Preparing for High School in TVDSB

Topics will include:

Registration Process and Timeline,
Supporting the Transition to Grade 9,
Graduation Requirements and more!

**Thursday,
November 7th, 2024**

7PM Online

Where will **Thames Valley** take you?

Link will be posted
prior to the event at
www.tvdsb.ca/grades7-8



WEATHERED



HALLOWEEN

DARE to DONATE

Where: 65 Wethered Street, London

When: October 1st - October 31st

Times: 4pm - 8pm Mon - Sun

What: Non-perishable food items

- * We will not be running during rainy weather
- * Monetary donations go towards future Halloweens
- * All food donations go to The London Food Bank