

LSK Newsletter

October 2020

Principal's Message...

Ms. Kelly Oliver



Kwe. Etek tekik. Fall is here. It's getting cold. It is a great feeling to see and hear our students in the building again. Students have adapted well with the many additional Covid-19 procedures. With the cold weather, some students have developed the cold virus which includes some Covid-19 symptoms. To help stop the spread of any virus, we recommend keeping your child home if they are feeling ill. If your child has a fever or more than one other Covid-19 symptom, please contact 811 for further recommendations. If a student is recommended for a Covid-19 test, we will transition that class to at home learning until the rest results are received. Your child's teacher will contact you for further information and we will continue to update our community. We expect our Chromebooks to arrive this month.

In September we celebrated Nitap day by learning and modeling kindness and friendship. Kindness builds stronger relationships and connections. We are continuing to strengthen relationships with each other, our students and our community. It takes a village to raise a child and united we are unstoppable and can overcome hard things. We recognize this school year is harder than past years for staff and students. Please feel free to reach out to our staff with any concerns you may have, as we are here to support you.

This month's seven sacred teachings we are focusing on is Mikitelsulti, courage or bravery. Bravery is doing something that frightens you. It is doing something with your whole heart when you cannot predict the outcome. Everytime we choose courage, we make everyone around us a little better and the world a little braver. We are bravest when we are connected with others. We all need courage to face all of the new ways due to COVID-19. Sipekne'katik is demonstrating bravery by coming together and fighting for our future treaty rights.

Each morning we start our day with the morning announcement which includes our land acknowledgment, a treaty teaching and the Mi'kmaq honour song. October is Mi'kmaq history month when we recognize Orange Shirt Day and Treaty Day. We use the Nova Scotia Treaty Education Framework for age appropriate teachings of residential schools and treaties. We will continue to teach these topics throughout the year. Orange shirt day is September 30th, in which we acknowledge residential school survivors. October first is treaty day and a day in which we represent our treaties we signed with the British crown. A treaty is a promise or agreement. We signed the 1752 Peace and Friendship treaty to stop conflict for everyone to live in peace and harmony. Each side agreed to terms to create peace and friendship.

Thanksgiving is October 12th and a day in which we give thanks for all we have and the people we have in our lives. It is a day we show our gratitude and we celebrate with a large meal. Thanksgiving was originally a day to give thanks for the harvest season and because Canada is more northern, we celebrate it before our southern neighbours, the United States.

Last year we sold Nourish Your Roots Boxes and shared them with elders in our community. This year you can order boxes online and pick them up in Elmsdale. Proceeds of sales go to our lunch program if you select our school when you buy a Nourish Your Roots box online.

Although we cannot do things traditionally, we have learned to do things in new ways and grow from it. We are happy to be back into our daily routines and look forward to another great month full of many learning experiences and connections.

Library...

Mrs. Sharon Culbertson

Congratulations... we made it though the month of September. I must admit that it was a bit unnerving for me, what with learning all the new rules and procedures that are in place to prevent the spread of Covid 19, but I feel a lot more comfortable and confident that we will make this an excellent year of learning because we are all in this together.

As for the library, things are a bit different. First of all, scheduled library times will be held in the classrooms and I will be bringing in materials to read to the class or for older students to borrow. The library is closed to all elementary students. Books will be in quarantine for three days upon their return since I will not be able to sanitize them with any cleaners. High school students who wish to borrow books are required to make an appointment.

We are not participating in the monthly Scholastic Reading Club. No flyers will be sent home, but parents/guardians/family members will be able to view the monthly selections online. Teachers can provide a link for their classroom, but are not to place any physical orders. Home will be responsible for payments and home delivery. This also affects the Scholastic Book Fair that was scheduled for December. Any developments regarding this fundraiser will be forwarded asap.

Music...

Ms. Bev Cheverie

Why Music?

- I. Music is a Science.
- II. Music is Mathematical.
- III. Music is a Foreign Language.
- IV. Music is History.
- V. Music is Physical Education.
- VI. Music Develops Insight and Demands Research.
- VII. Music is all these things, but most of all,
Music is Art.

That is why we teach music:

Not because we expect you to major in music . . .
Not because we expect you to play or sing all your life . . .
But so you will be human . . .
So you will recognize beauty . . .
So you will be closer to an infinite beyond this world . . .
So you will have something to cling to . . .
So you will have more love, more compassion, more
gentleness, more good –
in short, more LIFE.

Grade Six...

Ms. Helena Sack

Hello Students, Parents, and Staff.

We are excited to be back in grade six! We have been busy getting into a routine and back to work. The grade sixes have started reading "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory", studying indigenous artists across Canada, working with big numbers, learning about the Diversity of Life, and Canadian Communities.

We would like to wish a big Happy Birthday to Rory Brooks who's celebrated on September 5!

Love, Ms. Helena

Grade Nine...

Mr. Steve DeLisle

Junior High School Math

Wela'lin! I would like to welcome everyone back to LSK for the start of another school year. So far, LSK's junior high school math classes have been making up for lost time. The grade seven class is learning how to add and subtract integers; the grade eights are investigating patterns in square roots; and the grade nines are exploring exponent laws. The students are also learning how to use technology in the classroom so they become more familiar with it at home. I am looking forward to a full year of exploring and problem solving.

Elementary Mi'kmaq Language...

Ms. Tania Gould

Kwe!

Happy Treaty Day!
Happy Mi'kmaq Month!

I always teach my students of LSK to be proud to be proud to be Mi'kmaq, proud to be brown-(light-skin). Proud to have a unique language that you can't hear anywhere else in the world.

Greatest message I would to share is the important part of caring and sharing among our people. Not many cultures have this gift, the gift of loving each other.

Keep washing, covering your face and staying apart, as much as possible. We have been going outside for Mi'kmaw class the few

day. It is a challenge. However, we will keep doing this as much as possible, so please dress children with extra sweater. Maybe expect some children to come home with mud, a little dirt and a smile.

Fighting for our rights is amazing; love the good fight Sipekne'katik has done. Keep up the great work. Hard not mention this topic, for it is so important for our children to hear and learn about it.

The leaves are changing color, the moose are ready to be harvest. Have a safe hunt.

Wela'in Kisu'ilk!
Thank you, Creator!
Tania Gould

Grade One...

Ms. Leanne Foster

Well it has been a whirlwind busy start to our year. We have been working very hard learning and adapting to the new rules and policies at school. It has not always been easy but the grade 1 's are all trying so hard to follow the new rules. It is not easy to sit in the same room all day.

We in grade 1 have already been hard at work at academics as well. We are doing review of "how to learn", "how to listen", "how to follow directions" and how to be "a good student". We are a little bit out of practice after being at home so long but getting into routine quickly. We are reading stories and talking about feelings and characters. We have been working with numbers to 10 in math, watching videos and making name graphs. In social studies we are learning about Treaty Rights and what that means for the Mikmaq people. Busy busy busy in grade 1 :)

Mi'kmaw words for Wikewiku's

October: animal-fattening moon



Toqwa'q - Fall

Amu - bee

Muin - bear

Jikjawiknejewamu'k - orange

Maqtewe'k - black

Skite'kmuj - ghost

Puowinui'skw - witch

Ejkuj - pumpkin

Puktew - fire

Pi'kun - feather

Tepknuaset - moon

Api - net

Awo'kwejit - spider

Tech Ed.

Mr. Walter Palethorpe

It's a new year and 2020=2021 will be a new experience in the school system for staff and students.

Tech Ed. students must wear masks, tool and desks/benches must be wiped down at the end of each class, and wash our hands often.

The 7s, 8s and 9s will start with drafting skills in September and October, moving to working with wood in November, December and January.

Senior High students are in Design 11 and will learn about the Elements and Principles of Design by focusing on specific tasks and skills, gaining a deeper understanding of the process and creative solutions to design problems.

Students must attend class each day to refine their knowledge and skills in reading, viewing, speaking, listening and organization of ideas of Design 11. Design 11 is a hands-on semester where attendance is very important.



Seedling Planting

Recognizing National Forestry Week

Grade Four...

Ms. Tabetha Stephens

The grade 4's had a great start to a great school year. They are settling in well with our new school rules & procedures. We celebrated Nitap day on September 22nd. We had great discussions about Friends, healthy friendships and unhealthy friendships. Students were asked to write an Ad for a Friend, they had to consider the characteristics of a good friend and list characteristics they valued in a friend. We also made friendship bracelets.

October is Mi'kmaq History Month. We will start the month off with Treaty Education. We are studying the following topics: We are reading Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing for ELA and we are working on the writing process. Science: We are exploring a variety of natural habits. Math: Numbers to 10 000 (reading, writing and representing large numbers) Health: Stress and anxiety management. Social Studies: Treaty Education. Art: The Element of line. Technology: We will be using laptops/ Chromebook to learn about basic skills like, how to check and send an email, signing into our google classroom and apps that we will be using. Most importantly, how to stay safe online.

High School Mi'kmaq Language...

Mr. Greg Marr

In Recognition of Nitap Day and Outdoor Education:

This week, students in Grades 5 & 6 participated in a tree planting session for Mi'kmaq Language and Outdoor education.

We also want to recognize National Forestry Week. Sara O'Neil from the Department of Natural Resources donated 24 seedlings to recognize National Forestry Week. Matt Nelson was able to supply tree planting tools on short notice to help make this possible.

On behalf of Grade 5 and Grade 6 Mi'kmaq Language classes, thank you!

High School Resource...

Mr. Robert MacIntosh

Welcome back everyone! Wow it was nice to see all the students back in school for another year. It was also very nice to see everyone wearing masks. The school is clean and safe, and the students seem very happy with how the school has adapted to these changing times. Resource has adopted project-based learning this year and so far, so good. It still doesn't seem at times that it has been over six months since school ended for the academic year last March. Everyone seems to have eased back into their school routine as if nothing happened and this is something students should be very proud of.

Well, that's it for me.

Cheers,
Mr Mac

Grade Three...

Ms. Ambrah MacNeil

Hello All,

We have had a busy and wonderful return to school since we came back on September 21st. Grade 3s are so happy to be back among friends. LSK staff was so thrilled to welcome each and every one of them back with cheers and applause as they walked through the doors that first day.

Thus far, we have been getting reacquainted with the space and setting up expectations and routines for our classroom. We have been reviewing concepts from last year and enjoying some good discussions about different read alouds we have been doing.

One aspect we are deeply focused on right now is the treaty rights of the Mi'kmaq people. These inherent rights are of top priority right now, more than ever, given the circumstances of our Mi'kmaq fishermen and women. We approach this subject using some key terms such as friendship, agreement, respect, promise, and rights. This week we will be setting up our own Classroom Treaty Expectations. To me, our class is like family so it is only right that we all come up with positive expectations for how we should all conduct ourselves among our school family. We must all agree to it and we all sign off on it; we are all accountable.

I urge each and every one of our Grade 3 parents/guardians to contact me any time they wish. I feel that easy and open lines of communication is the best way we can ensure the success of our kiddos. I will be sending a handout with some info on our upcoming year including my contact info as well. Wela'liq!

Over and Out

Grade Seven...

Ms. Erika Hilchey

Hello students and parents!

September is over and we have been back at school for a few weeks. In that time we have jumped into work in grade 7-8-9 and are having fun with our learning already. In grade 7 we have used individual cereal bars to look at mixtures and in grade 8 and 9 we have used individual cakes with candies to represent plant and animal cells. Science is FUN! In grade 7 English we are reading a novel called Not Cancelled and it is full of stories of things that are positive throughout the Covid 19 Pandemic. Students are generating great conversations. Just a reminder to students and parents – all of the assignments from Grades 7-9 Science as well as Grade 7 English and Health are posted in students google classrooms so they can access any work that has been missed. I'm excited to keep on learning and having engaging discussions in grades 7-9!

We'lalin
Ms. Hilchey

Grade Primary...

Mrs. Sheri Brooks

Kwe everyone,

I would like to welcome everyone to the month of October! September went by very quickly with lots of exciting things taking place. We welcomed students back to school, with a lot of different COVID rules and precautions set in place! The primary students have been doing very well with following these rules from wearing masks, to sanitizing their hands regularly. They are adjusting to the routines of school very well!

We celebrated Nitap day with our class, sharing ways to be kinds and helpful! We are looking forward to learning about our Treaties and promises throughout October and all throughout the year! We will also be honouring our Residential School survivors on Orange Shirt day, September 30th, Please take time to share your knowledge about Treaties and residential schools with your children, they will be very excited to listen to your stories.

I would like to remind families to make sure students are returning the water bottles after being washed and filled at home, our water fountains are not accessible at this time. Students are also reminded to bring their lanyards back each day as well, it makes storing their masks when not in use easier. We would like to wish everyone a Happy Treaty Day and a Happy Thanksgiving Giving!

Mrs. Brooks

Grade Five...

Mrs. Raebeka Williams

We have had a great start to the school year in Grade 5 so far. We celebrated Nitap Day by planting seedlings outside with the grade 6's. We also made beaded bracelets and discussed the requirements of a good friend.

In October, we will be studying the effects weather has on our climate, learning about the Treaties and digging in to what each side agreed to within the agreement. We will be looking at what we can do to decrease our stress and anxiety levels during health class. After the passed 6 months it will be more important than ever that the students are able to relax and reduce stress. The Grade 5's will be learning about what it takes to create a newspaper and using this knowledge to create their own newspaper articles. We look forward to sharing them with you later in the semester.

Leveled Literacy Intervention...

Ms. Angela Maloney

K'we

Here is some information about LLI and what to expect if your child is chosen for the LLI program.

My Job Goal: To help students develop proficient **reading** skills that will contribute to their academic growth.

Responsibilities: **Reading interventionists** work extensively with students to help them improve specific **reading** skills such as letter-naming, initial sounds, phoneme segmentation, and comprehension strategies.

What does LLI stand for?

Leveled Literacy Intervention System
The Fountas & Pinnell **Leveled Literacy Intervention** System (LLI) is an intensive, small-group, supplementary literacy intervention for students who find reading and writing difficult. The goal of LLI is to lift the literacy achievement of students who are not achieving grade-level expectations in reading.

What is the difference between LLI and guided reading?

LLI is meant to supplement classroom instruction, whereas **guided reading** is differentiated classroom instruction.

Guided reading is used with all students while **LLI** is used with **readers** who are having difficulty and are **reading** below grade level.

Leveled books are used for both **guided reading** and **LLI**.

Elementary Resource...

Ms. Leslie Paul

Kwe'/Hi,

September has been a busy month with both students and staff adjusting to COVID-19 protocols. I've enjoyed welcoming students back to school and I'm looking forward to working with students on a regular basis soon. In September, we held some site-based meetings to support students and their needs. In October, I am looking forward to completing these meetings and working with parents/guardians during program planning by telephone and/or video conferences. I will also be administering the Test of Preschool Literacy (TOPEL) to the Primary students for the Martin Family Initiative (MFI), and administering some math and reading assessments to students.

I would encourage parents/guardians to communicate with their child's classroom teacher any concerns they may have pertaining to their child's school success. Parents/Guardians and classroom teachers can refer a child for program planning to assist in identifying the child's strengths and needs.

If you have any questions or concerns pertaining to the program planning process or elementary resource, please feel free to contact me at the school.

Wela'lin/Thank you,
Ms. Leslie Paul

Grade Two...

Mr. Tyler Schussler

I can't put into words how happy I was to see all the students return to LSK during the month of September, it's been a long time coming and it was amazing to have students back in the classroom. In Grade 2 we wasted little time learning the new routines and expectations. Students really embraced the team atmosphere we've tried to create in Grade 2 by helping out with everything from cleaning to utilizing and organizing their material bins. It was a great start to a new school year.

During the month of September, we celebrated Nitap Day in our classroom. At LSK we usually celebrate Nitap Day as a whole school however, with the new protocols, we had to celebrate the day in our bubble classrooms. In Grade 2 we celebrated Nitap Day by reading a book on friendship and students were encouraged to use words of kindness throughout the day. Students also created friendship flowers that they brought home to their families. Students created flowers by cutting out the petals and writing words of kindness on them. In September our literacy and math routines were also established. Students participated during our class shared readings a long with our smaller group guided reading activities. In math students began exploring their new math tools that were created for individual students. Students used their number charts and their math manipulatives to participate in a variety of counting activities. The grade 2's are off and running and if the month of September is any indication on how the this year will go, I'd say were going to have an awesome year.



High School Math & Science...

Mr. Morgan MacDonald

Hi Everyone, we've been back to school for about a week and things are going great. Math 10 is working on measurement between imperial and SI units. Math 11 is working on using inductive and deductive reasoning and Math at Work 12 is working with probability.

"Mathematics is not about numbers, equations, computations or algorithms. It is about understanding"

- William Paul Thurston

Grade Eight...

Ms. Meredith Conrad

Happy October!!

It has been a busy first few weeks of school and wonderful to have our students return to LSK! In middle school Social Studies classes we have been discussing and researching treaty rights, and Mi'kmaq cultural history! We also had an exciting opportunity to participate in the Ji'kmaqnn Making Workshop, and we are looking forward to celebrating Orange shirt day this week!

Wela'lin,
Meredith

Grade Ten...

Ms. Carol Howe

September has been a busy month for our grade 10 students.

This recent past week, with Treaty Education week, our students were looking at the history of the Sipekne'katik fishing issue. We viewed the film 'Treaty Tribulations' (produced by April Maloney) which is a prime example of what can be done with the tools and skills we are learning in Film Production 12. We wrapped up with a recent clip on YouTube called 'All Eyes on Mi'kma'ki – Current dispute in Digby regarding Sipekne'katik Moderate Livelihood'.

In Child Studies 11, we are looking at ways to transfer traditional knowledge to children. We watched and discussed as Kerry Prosper takes us through the entire process of making an eel spear, from finding just the right tree to how the spears are actually made. Mi'kmaq youth are shown the tools and learn their place in the ancient eel tradition on YT.

Throughout the courses, students enjoyed learning the history of the fishing issue. Some saw family members from history, and some saw many family members who are still exercising our rights today.



Tech Ed.

Mr. Walter Palethorpe

It's a new year and 2020-2021 will be a new experience in the school system for staff and student Tech Ed. students must wear masks, tool and desks/benches must be wiped down at the end of each class, and wash our hands often.

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Physical Education...

Mr. Gordon Pictou

I want to start by recognizing how well all our students are doing with adjusting to their return to school and all the changes to routine because of Covid. Phys. Ed. class continues to be outside. So far we have been lucky to have had great weather on school days but I would like to remind everyone to be prepared as we enter fall and the temperature starts to get colder. We cannot use the gym at all and the classroom is pretty limiting so if the weather is bad we are still going outside. It is important to have a raincoat if it's raining and layers if it is cold.

This month K-2 grades will be working on balance, some fundamental movements, and going on some nature walks. Grades 3-9 are doing some work on mindfulness, nutrition, using both weak and dominant feet and hands for striking and they too will be going on nature walks. Grades 4-9 will also be doing some physical fitness testing to be able to create some s.m.a.r.t goals and track their progress over the year.

I wish everyone a happy and safe fall!

Grade Twelve...

Mrs. Nikki Maloney

September has arrived and slipped by very quickly. We were off to a late start, but are starting to settle into our new normal. My first semester courses being offered are as follows: English 12, and Business Technology 11. We are going over document processing fundamentals in Business Technology and are working on some treaty education resources in English 12.

Career Cruising for Grades 9-12 has also started for the grade 12's. This is an approach to help students become more prepared for the decisions they will have to make on course selections and post-secondary institutions in their future. Our students will be using web resources as a tool to help them make these decisions. Last year all of our grads were accepted into post-secondary institutions of their choosing, which is our annual goal for each grad class. We will continue with the Grade 12 group and make our way down to the Grade 9's.

We have moved our Grad pictures up to October 7th this year, to ensure if a wave comes we will have this completed. Reminder when we switch to digital learning, to log on to google classroom daily for your assignments and to check your emails daily. All work posted is required this year, and if not completed it could prevent a student from completing needed course outcomes.

Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions: nmaloney@lskschool.ca



Guidance (P-6)...

Ms. Mary Davies

Guidance (P-6)

Things are going well. I have seen a few people but now I am at home because of the grades 10-12 bubble. Things should be back to "normal" by Friday of this week.

Global History 12

So far so good. Very nice class that can spark some good conversation. We are working on the Cuban Missile Crisis right now, culminating with a case study. I encourage all students to access assignments on Google Classroom and to return assignments in the same manner.

Sociology 12

A slightly larger class, by LSK standards. Nice students who are, generally, interested in the subject. We are just wrapping up the first Unit, which examines different perspectives on the study and meaning of Sociology. This is completed when the assignment has been returned via Google classroom.

Guidance (7-12)...

Mr. Bryan Brooks

Kwe'

With September coming to a close, it has been a good month for school. We took precautions to make sure the safety of our students, staff and admin, when necessary. Students have been in great spirits and the daily routine is starting to become the new norm.

If your child wishes to have a chat, they can let their teacher know and appointments can be made. I would love to end with a saying my grandmother always said, 'We have two ears and one mouth for a reason...we need to listen to twice the information before we speak!'

Hope all is well,
Bryan Brooks
JR/SR High School Counsellor

Grade Eleven...

Mr. Robert Watson

Hello students and guardians! It is so nice to finally have you back. Even though this school year will be much different from any we have experienced before I think we have begun the semester on the right foot. Students seem happy to be back and ready to work. While in the classroom we will be doing most of our work using Google Classroom. This is to ensure that if school is shut again in the future, all students will have the knowledge and understanding of how to use Google Classroom to get their assignments completed and also continue with their learning. While I am still learning how to use Google Classroom, I believe it is an excellent way to teach from a safe atmosphere for both students and teachers should the need arise. Best of luck to everyone this semester.

Elementary Learning Centre...

Ms. Jo-Anne Julian

Hi everyone from the Learning Center, we are getting our routines down. We are having a great time in getting used to our new normal. I hope everyone is having a great time in school for our first month back.

I hope everyone is enjoying their time back this month in school.

I wish everyone has a great Happy Treaty Day.

Upcoming Events...

- 01 - Treaty Day (No School)
- 07 - Picture Re-Takes/Grades 10-12/
High School Graduation Photo Day
- 12 - Thanksgiving Day (No School)

October Birthdays...

- 01 - Taliyah LeBlanc-Julian (One)
- 02 - Riley Gould-Maloney (One)
- 05 - Reginald Maloney (K4)
- 07 - Virginia Paul (K4)
- 10 - Jada Paul (10)
- 13 - Zayden Bernard (K4)
- 13 - Frayah Bernard (Primary)
- 14 - Ms. Brenda Buck
- 15 - Dakota Brightman (Primary)
- 16 - Addison Michael-Maloney (Primary)
- 21 - Angeliah Augustine (One)
- 21 - Phoebe Gehue (9)
- 20 - Harlem Syliboy (10)
- 27 - Leela Simon-Julian (4)



Mi'kmaq History Month 2020

Theme: Plant knowledge and use

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