

# LSK NEWSLETTER

Please don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> and change the batteries in your smoke detectors.



## Sikewiku's 2024

### Upcoming Events...

- 01 – Grad Photos
- 04<sup>th</sup> – 07<sup>th</sup> - Winter Carnival
- 08<sup>th</sup> – International Women's Day
- 08 – Assessments and Evaluations (No school for grades primary to six)
- 10 – Daylight Savings Time Begins
- \*\* Don't forget... clocks go AHEAD one hour.
- 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> - 16 – MARCH BREAK (No School)
- 17 – St. Patrick's Day
- 19 – Spring Begins
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Sikw Cultural Day
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Report Cards (grades Primary to eight)
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday (No School)

### Vice Principal's Message...

Mr. Greg Marr

Greetings Staff and Community,

Siewkesiku's in Mi'kmaw means the "Forerunner of Spring." Although Shubenacadie Sam has called for an early spring, it is still very cold outside. Students are reminded to dress for the weather ahead.

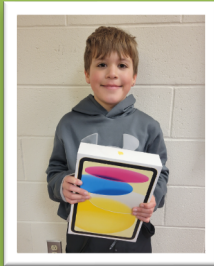
As we are winding down the wintery months here at LSK, we are in the midst of planning Winter Carnival activities. This year our school will be planning school events on March 4<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024. On March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 we will be having a professional development day and evaluation day for teachers P-8. There will be no students present for P-8. This will give staff time to prepare their report cards. Report cards will be distributed on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

March Break will take place on March 11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024. For those who celebrate St. Patrick's Day - Happy Saint Patrick's Day! After we return from March Break, Administration will be busy conducting teacher and Education Assistant evaluations.

Vice Principal  
Greg Marr



Find your inner strength to face the difficulties of life and the courage to be yourself. Defend what you believe in and what is right for your community, family, and self. Face your fears to allow yourself to live your life.



Congratulations to Alex Maloney (grade 5), Mia Knockwood (grade Primary) and Millani Cook (grade 1) for winning new iPads for participating in the MK online Christmas Concert Participation draw.

## Library News...

Sharon Culbertson

Not much has happened in the library the past month. Our classes are back up and running and many of the students have missed having the opportunity to choose new books to read. One student commented that he/she was glad that the library was open again because he/she was getting tired of reading the same old books in class. It was a good thing that I purchased so many new books when we hosted the Scholastic Book Fair. The upper elementary students are loving the new graphic novels.

March is going to be another busy month for our students and staff. Before we have our spring break, or "March Break", as the students call it, we will be having our winter carnival. I hope that some of the snow is still around so we can add snow sculpting to the activities. That would be so much fun.

March is also a stressful time for our students as the elementary teachers are working on report cards. Dun dun dunn!!! Let's hope everyone did their best to receive the best results.

As the end of March approaches, we will be celebrating Easter!! Easter is a bit like Christmas and Halloween. Presents and chocolate. Yum! Yum! I wish our students and their families all the best for Easter.

If any students have a suggestion of a book or series of books they would like to see in the library, they only have to let me know. By the way, our school library will no longer be accepting USED library books. I have spent a lot of time withdrawing old, un-used books from the school inventory. We removed a great deal of books, but do not worry, if the book was too disgusting, it was thrown out. If the book was well worn, it was recycled and if the book was in pretty good shape, it was cleaned up and put on the free rack. Many students took home these books.

## Grade Nine...

Mr. Steve DeLisle

This month in junior high math, the grade seven class will be learning how decision-making processes in school and in life often involve the use of algebra. They will recognize how numbers form patterns that can help them plan for fundraisers, make recommendations for school events, and even win class competitions. The grade eight class have been busy learning how to measure prisms and cylinders. Since most products are packaged in boxes and cans, the students have been thinking about how a box or can is made. The grade nine students have been learning about polynomials which are the building blocks of algebra. They will be using polynomials to model real-world situations in business, science, medicine and engineering.

## Elementary Learning Centre...

Mr. Kyle Busche

Our students in the Elementary Learning Center have been making lots of progress this academic year. Students have been enjoying time with their peers and EAs in class and have been using new technology to help them learn and communicate. We are working on getting IPADS that can be sent back and forth to home and school so they can continue to use them for communication at home and in the community. Spring is around the corner. We are excited to spend more time outside and utilize our trail behind the school with our students. If you see our students out and about, stop by and say hi!

### Grade Five...

Mrs. Raebeka Williams

#### Welcome to March!!

Grade 5 has been a busy place in February. We look forward to March and warmer weather. Here are a few of the things we have been up to recently:

**Hope for Wildlife Field Trip:** Due to circumstances beyond our control, this trip was canceled.

**Black History Month:** In celebration of Black History Month, students completed a biography project focused on an African Canadian individual. It was a wonderful opportunity for our students to learn about and honor the contributions of Black Canadians.

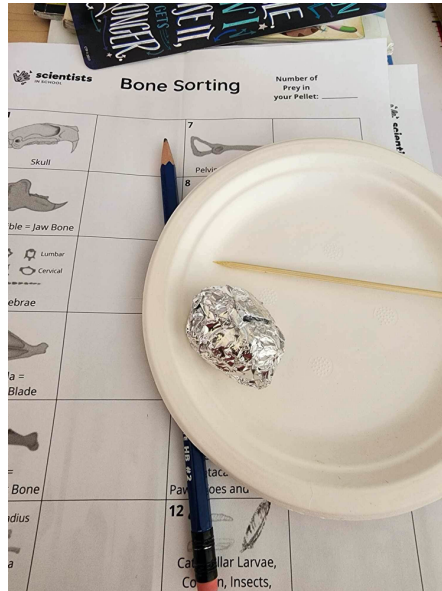
**Owl Pellet Experiment:** Students in grades 4-6 recently participated in an engaging Owl Pellet experiment. They had the chance to dissect owl pellets and learn more about the dietary habits of owls.

**Math Focus - Surveys and Graphs:** In math class, we are currently working on creating and analyzing surveys as well as interpreting data through graphs. It's a valuable skill that helps students understand and represent real-world information.



Happy Birthday wishes to Alex (Feb 25th) and ReKayla (March 8th).

Best Wishes,  
Ms. Rae



## High School Learning Centre...

Mr. Robert MacIntosh

February is coming to a close and March is just around the corner. Let's hope for an early spring and let's get rid of this snow.

So far, this month has flown by and the students seem to be very pleased with the courses I am teaching. Co-op is going fantastic thanks to the support of Fisheries, Housing and O&M. The students are super pumped for these placements.

Math 11 is going great. Students have finished their first unit on Graphing and Data, and are currently starting their Banking unit. I am also very pleased with the online program I am currently offering.

Let's look forward to March and some warmer weather.

Thanks  
Mr. Mac



## Junior High Literacy...

Ms. Lyssa Steponaitis

Kwe'

So many students are doing so well with their learning through these cold months! Many have recently learned about **chunks**. After single letter consonants and vowels, followed by digraphs where two consonants come together to make one sound, the next *phonograph* students learn about is a **chunk**.

Unlike a digraph, like **ch** or **sh**, **chunks** have at least one vowel in them, \*but\* that vowel follows the expected sound following most English patterns! The letter a, for example, followed by an 'n' or 'm' does not make the expected short vowel sound like in at. Rather, the sound of the 'a' is pushed into the nose to make a **nasal chunk** like in can, jam, land or even scam!

As always, if you have any questions about your junior high child and what they're working on, or questions about English language parts, please feel free to reach out.

Email is definitely best: [LSTEPONAITIS@lskschool.ca](mailto:LSTEPONAITIS@lskschool.ca)



## WINTER CARNIVAL...



CRAZY HAIR DAY  
MONDAY, MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup>



PAJAMA DAY  
TUESDAY, MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup>



SPORTS THEME DAY  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup>



MI'KMAQ COLOUR DAY  
THURSDAY, MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup>

## Grade One

Ms. Cheryl MacPhee

Good day! My name is Cheryl MacPhee. I am a grade 1 teacher. I started teaching in September 2023 for one month to see if teaching was a career for me. Once I had left LSK at the end of September, I missed LSK when I was in uniform again. I said that I would that I would return. I have completed my 25 years' service with the Department of Justice and I completed that in December 7, 2023. I had started to teach in 2024 as grade one. I am enjoying the experience, and looking forward to a bright future with the students.

To quote Dr. Seuss. Who once said, "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

### Junior High Mi'kmaq...

Ms. Raylene Syliboy

Kwe'

Siewkesiku's the Forerunner of Spring has arrived. The Mi'kmaq language class has been very busy with cultural activities and guest speakers. Cheryl Maloney visited us here at LSK and spoke to the students about the Mic Mac hockey stick and the history of hockey and the Mi'kmaq people. Grade 8's are currently working on replicating a Mic Mac hockey stick in Tech class. We all have been making our own moccasins and enjoying storytelling in the process. Our students were given teachings on Mi'kmaq medicines and their purposes. They also made beautiful medicine pouches. Some exciting news, the crew from Mi'kmawey Debert Cultural Centre has approached me with a request to document myself and students on the land for the 2024 Mi'kmaq History Month videos and posters. We will be guiding a crew in land-based activities such as snaring, tree tapping, and bass fishing.

In language, students have been given weekly challenges on speaking Mi'kmaq in school and the community. Students are given small conversations such as saying weli eksitpuk and the response weli eksitpuk, me' tal-wuleyn? response weleyi or mu weleyu, nmultis ap! response nmultis!.

Some Mi'kmaq questions to challenge yourselves:

Kewisin? Are you hungry?

Kisi wije'wultis? Can I come with you?

Ketu'samqwan? Do you want a drink?

Ketu' pite'man? Do you want tea?

Wela'lioq aq Nmultis Aq

Mrs. Raye



## Grade Two...

Mr. Tyler Schussler

I can't believe the month of February is already over and we've completed half of the school year. February was an excellent month as the grade 2 students had a lot of fun as they explored all the different learning avenues that were presented to them. In literacy, students continued working with non-fictional texts. Students continued to study the features of non-fictional texts as they explored topics such as; animal habitats, animal adaptations, outer space and information regarding the winter season. In math, students continued working on addition and subtraction challenges. Our geometry unit took place in February, which had students compare 2D and 3D shapes, classify 3D shapes and build 3D shapes so they could compare the similarities and differences each 3D shape have. February was African Heritage Month in Nova Scotia, so we used the opportunity to learn about people with African heritage that have made a difference in the world especially regarding equality. We studied contributions made by prominent African Canadian/Americans such as; Viola Desmond, Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr. February was a great month in grade 2 and I know March will be equally as great.

Looking ahead to March, the fun and learning doesn't stop. In March, we will be continuing to explore non-fictional texts. In math, students are going to work on addition and subtraction problems that are more challenging. During our exploration unit in March, students will be looking at the different states of matter. St. Patrick's Day also falls in the month of March, which will provide us with our theme for an art-based painting project. February is in the rearview mirror and I can't wait for all the learning opportunities that will happen in March.

## Grade Primary...

Mrs. Sheri Brooks

The Primary class has been very busy throughout the month of February! Students were very excited to find out what the groundhog would predict, many of them were hoping for an early spring, so they were thankful with what Shubenacadie Sam predict. Our students enjoyed learning and sharing how they care for others, and were very excited about Valentine's Day! They enjoyed sharing cards and crafts with each other, especially the delicious treats. Students are getting excited for our winter carnival activities which will be held during the first week of March. We hope that everyone has a fun-filled March Break. We would like to send birthday wishes to Keylin who celebrates his birthday in March.

## Acting Principal

Ms. Joanne Julian

Hello Staff and Students,

I have recently been placed in the role of Acting Principal of LSK School. I am in the office nearly every day. If the staff or students need to come down to the office and see us there, you are more than welcome to come and see us anytime.

If there are any concerns, please do not hesitate to come see us in the office.

Wela'lin

## March Birthdays...

01 - Aksel Sack (1)  
 03 - Makayla McDonald (4)  
 04 - Masin Maloney (6)  
 06 - Keon Nevin (8)  
 09 - Keythan Julian (10)  
 12 - Rekayla Maloney-Morris (5)  
 21 - Keylin Sack (Primary)  
 25 - Shylynn Peter-Paul (8)  
 27 - Brynlee Cook (K4)  
 31 - Aryiz Augustine (1)

# WINTER CARNIVAL SCHEDULE

March 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>

Day	Theme	Activity
Monday (March 4 <sup>th</sup> )	Crazy Hair/Hat Day	Elementary "Minute-to-win-it!" Jr. High - Cooking/Minute-to-Win-It!"
Tuesday (March 5 <sup>th</sup> )	Pajama Day	Movies (K4 - 12)
Wednesday (March 6 <sup>th</sup> )	Sports Theme Day	RECC (swimming, rock climbing, skating - P-12)
Thursday (March 7 <sup>th</sup> )	Mi'kmaq Colour Day	Cafeteria Dance (Elementary) Waltzes, board games, cards, dice, chess (High School)
Friday (March 8 <sup>th</sup> )	NO SCHOOL FOR ELEMENTARY	High School Choices

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## Elementary Mi'kmaq

Ms. Elle Michael

### Important Announcements:

1. Si'ko'ju's (See-Go-Goose) Celebration: Throughout the month, we will be celebrating Si'ko'ju's, a traditional Mi'kmaq festival. Students will learn about Mi'kmaq culture, language, and traditions as part of our commitment to promoting Indigenous awareness and understanding.
2. Gimkit Game: We are excited to announce that our students are mastering the Gimkit game! This interactive and educational game helps reinforce important concepts in a fun and engaging way.
3. Medicine Mondays: As part of our commitment to holistic education, we will be introducing a smudging ceremony in class on Mondays. Students will have the opportunity to learn about the traditional practice of smudging and experience the use of Sweetgrass.
4. Waltzes Wednesdays: To promote physical activity and well-being, we encourage all students to participate in Waltzes Wednesdays. Waltzes is a traditional Indigenous dance that helps connect students to their culture while staying active. We invite all students to join us in this fun and energetic activity every Wednesday.
5. Traditional Thursdays: Every Thursday, we invite students to embrace and celebrate Indigenous culture by wearing their Ribbon Skirts or Shirts. While participation is not mandatory, we encourage all students to take part and show their support for Indigenous traditions and identity.

### Celebrations from the Week:

We would like to appreciate and recognize Ms. Lyssa and Ms. Rae for their efforts in incorporating the Mi'kmaq Language throughout our school. By integrating the language into our daily routines and activities, they are helping to preserve and promote the rich Mi'kmaq culture.

Miss Elle, Elementary Mi'kmaq Language & Culture

## Grade Six...

Mrs. Alisha Dunhan

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Here's a glimpse into the exciting activities happening in our classroom. In ELA, students have been captivated by the Read Aloud of the "Restart" novel. Additionally, they showcased their creativity by working on biographies and crafting presentations about their favourite individuals using the innovative Book Creator tool. March promises to be equally engaging as we delve into persuasive writing and story creation, focusing on storytelling skills.

This month in Math, students conquered the intricacies of dividing decimals with whole numbers and explored different math games for better understanding. Looking ahead to March, our focus will shift to the exciting world of measurement, exploring concepts of area and perimeter.

The exploration of flight has taken center stage in our science class this month, and students will continue to soar to new heights as we carry on with this thrilling topic in the coming weeks. In Health class, students learned valuable lessons about cultivating healthy friendships, understanding the qualities they cherish, and identifying those they wish to avoid in friendships. We immensely appreciate your children's dedication and enthusiasm for each class.

Thank you for your continued support in fostering a love for learning.

Best Regards,  
Alisha

## Grade Four

Ms. Tabettha Stephens

Winter carnival (March 5-9)

March Spring Break (March 11-15<sup>th</sup>)

Good Friday no school (March 29<sup>th</sup>)

Students in grades 4-6 participated in an engaging Owl Pellet Dissection. In this activity, students dissected owl pellets and reconstructed the skeletons of animals inside to discover what the owls have been eating.

When you first see an owl pellet, you will probably think that it is feces, but this pellet has been regurgitated from the other end, the owl's beak.

Owls are predators and usually swallow and eat their prey whole, or at least in large chunks complete with bones, fur, and feathers. Prey species can include rodents, insects, lizards, rabbits, bats, snakes & birds, to name a few. In the owl's stomach, the soft matter is digested, but the fur and bones are regurgitated back out through the mouth in a little package, or pellet.

Pellets are important for scientific study because they give us a picture of what the owl eats, when, and in what frequency. The last time you read in some book what an animal eats, did you wonder how some scientist was able to learn that information? It would be too difficult to follow the animal around and watch it eat, especially at night when most owls feed. This means we have to examine things like pellets.

We are excited to announce that we will be starting a Robotics Unit in Late March early April. All grades from P-8 will be taking part.

We would like to give a birthday shout out to Makayla. Happy Birthday to Makayla on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.