



# École LeMarchant-St. Thomas School

## Les nouvelles de septembre 2024 September 2024 News



Welcome/Bienvenue to the 2024-25 school year!

Our theme for the month of September is **Friendship/friendliness**. Staff will be discussing the importance of being open to new friendships and the qualities that make a good friend.

The staff at LeMarchant-St. Thomas (LMST) is looking forward to a wonderful year of collaboration and learning. Homeroom teachers will be contacting families via email or phone call between September 3 and 4<sup>th</sup> to introduce themselves and welcome you.

### Curriculum Night/Ice Cream social

Please join us (parents/guardians and children) on **September 4** from 5:30 pm-6:30 pm here at the school. You will get a chance to see your child's classroom, meet the teacher and learn about the curriculum and then enjoy a cold treat outdoors compliments of our Home & School association the night before the first day of school.

### Communication

Although it is a very busy time of year for parents and teachers alike, returning to school is always an exciting time of year - full of promise and new beginnings. Mr. Rose and I, along with the teaching staff, believe in keeping the lines of communication open. Please feel free to give us a call if you have any questions, concerns, or compliments. We look forward to working with all of you as partners to provide the best educational opportunities for all our students.

Some of the many ways we will communicate with you this year is through **school newsletters, email, [the LMST parent/guardian handbook](#), email through School Messenger technology, phone calls, student agenda, X (twitter), and the school website**. We work diligently to keep our website as up to date as possible. Please check it regularly at <https://lmt.hrce.ca/> If you have not received or had a chance to look at our parent/guardian handbook please do so.

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It is very important that we have the most up to date information for you in case of an emergency as well as it facilitates ongoing communication. If your contact information needs updating please refer to [hrce.ca](http://hrce.ca) and search student updates or click [here](#).

## Arrival and Dismissal

\*\*Primary, Grade 1 and Grade 2 teachers have a colour associated with each classroom to help our young students navigate the school.

<b>Main Entrance doors</b>	<b>Side door (playground side)/ Southwest door/ Watt Street entrance</b>	<b>Side door (playground side) closest to the field/ Northwest door/Field entrance</b>
Primary/1 Smith (red)	¾ Barkhouse	1 MacLean (pink)
Primary Lacroix (blue)	4 Beaton	1 Morgan (orange)
Primary DePalma (green)	4 /5 Trach	2/3 Drapeau (light blue)
Primary/1 Fulton (purple)	5 Duguay- Myatt	2 Manderville (dark green)
Primary Zelios (yellow)	5/6 Corbin	3 Gallivan
Primary Boudreau (silver)	5/6 Cunningham	3 LeDuc
1 Roberge (white)	6 Chiasson	4/5 Moulard
2 Jordan (gold)	6 Hagerman	4/5 Michelin
2 Smith (black)		

**2/3 Englehutt – students proceed to portable via the playground.**

### Please help us by:

- Dropping off your child from anytime between 8:35 am-8:45 am. Students enter the building upon arrival.
- Pick up- 2:55 pm Students will be dismissed from the same doors they entered in the morning. **There is no supervision after school.**

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## School Lunch Program

The provincial hot lunch program is set to begin with a tentative date of October 28. More information will be forthcoming regarding timelines and how to order lunches. Please plan to pack a lunch for your child until this time.

## TECHNOLOGY

While at school students are not permitted to use personal technology devices. No cell phones or smart watches are permitted during the school day. Students may have these items in their backpacks but they must be turned off during the school day. Students may use the school phones to call home in case of emergency or illness with the support/ approval of school staff.

## PEANUT SMART AND “SCENT”SITIVE SCHOOL



We have several students who have life threatening allergies to peanuts and nut products. Please respect their health and well-being by sending your child with snacks and lunches that are nut-free. Additionally, many of our students have medical conditions that can be triggered by scented products. When visiting the school please refrain from wearing products containing perfumes.

## Water Bottles

We recommended students bring a water bottle each day. Bottle filling stations are available. Sending your child with a full water bottle in the morning is greatly appreciated. Students also have access to the water fountain in the case that they forget their water bottle.

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## Volunteers

A strong relationship between home and school is important to student well-being and success. In order to volunteer you must have an up to date a completed [criminal record check](#) AND [child abuse registry check](#). When submitting your criminal record check be sure to link and share your application with LMST elementary. The criminal record check (police) and the child abuse registry check (community services) are two separate processes.

Please note- this process can take weeks. To volunteer both checks must be complete and submitted to the office.

## School Advisory Council (SAC)

About our [School Advisory Council](#) (SAC)

The School Advisory Council consists of parent, staff, and community members who provide input to the principal, the Regional Centre for Education (HRCE), and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) on a range of issues related to LMST and the school system in general.

Some of the functions we serve are:

- Collaborating to improve student achievement and well-being.
- Providing feedback on provincial policies
- Oversight for SAC grant spending decisions
- Providing feedback on school practices and initiatives

Our first meeting is September 24 at 4:30 pm. All welcome to attend.

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## Home & School -JOIN THE FUN!

Greetings from the LMST Home & School Association! LMST H&S is a society organized by LMST parents and guardians that provides fundraising support for LMST and acts as a vehicle to promote school spirit and community.

This year's H&S Team includes:

**Co-Chairs:** Christine Eisenhauer & Mary McHenry

**Co-Secretaries:** Sarah McMullen & Katie McIsaac

**Treasurer:** Vanessa Bruce Little

**Co-Communications:** Marcy MacDougall & Laura White

Our list of exciting fundraising and community events this school year include:

Welcome Back! FREE Ice Cream/Popsicle Social- (Sep 4, 5:30pm)	Holiday wreath/tree sale (Nov/Dec)
LMST Clothing Order (Fall)	Food Drive (Feb)
Spring Bulb Sale (Fall)	Bingo Night (Mar 27)
Fall Garden Clean-up (Oct)	Morris East Pizza Contest (Spring)
Family Skate & Grade 6 Bake Sale (Nov 11, 1pm)	Spring Garden Clean-up (May)
Woozles Shopping Night (Nov)	Spring Fair (June 7)
Adult Social (Nov 8)	Year-end Ice Cream/Popsicle Social (June 19)

\*NB: Dates & events subject to change. Consult school website for updates.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** - LMST has amazing parent/guardian volunteers who help make our events a huge success. Some of our regular event leads have (Spring Fair & Adult Social) or will transition out of their roles within the next couple of years as students move on to junior high. If you are a parent/guardian who may be interested in learning more about leading or volunteering at one of our events (including working with current leads) for one or many years, please contact LMST H&S via email ([homeschoollmst@gmail.com](mailto:homeschoollmst@gmail.com)) or speak with our Co-Chair, Christine Eisenhauer, at our next H&S meeting (6pm, Sept 24). Please note, depending on the event, required volunteer time varies widely from one to several hours.

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## OPTIONAL H&S DONATION

In response to inquiries on how to make direct donations to LMST H&S, the H&S welcomes cash or cheque donations delivered to the school office (cheques made payable to "LMST"). Tax receipts are available upon request. This is entirely voluntary.

## **SEE YOU AT OUR NEXT MEETING, SEPT. 24 @ 6pm!**

Please join us at our next H&S meeting, September 24th at 6pm in the school cafeteria, ALL are welcome! H&S meetings provide a great opportunity to learn about the exciting experiences our students and faculty are having at school, learn about upcoming events, learn how you can possibly get involved to help enrich our community (and your family), and participate in our spending decisions.

Email: [homeschoollmst@gmail.com](mailto:homeschoollmst@gmail.com)

Facebook: Check out "LMST Home & School Association" (announcements) & "LMST Buy, Sell, Swap, Save!!" (community marketplace)

## **LMST Green Space Committee and Garden Committee**

For those who may be new to LMST, the Green Space Committee was created in September 2016 under the authority of the LMST Home and School Association when discussions around the new school design began. The committee is an ad hoc group of parent/guardian volunteers tasked to work with the province and school community to plan and fund the outdoor playground and garden space for the new LMST school. Over the years we have created a Garden Committee that helps facilitate activities within the school and garden. Each year we do a variety of events including LMST Fall Clean Up Day, Harvest Snack, Seed fundraiser, Garden Week, and the school wide Planting Day.

We are happily in the midst of another growing season at the LMST Garden. Volunteers had fun watching incredible things grow and harvesting delicious veggies this summer. Lots of things are still growing so please take a look next time you are visiting the school. Thank you to all the

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families who helped plant, water and weed this summer. It truly takes so many people to help make it all work and thank you so much.

We will be having a garden committee meeting in September - stay tuned for details. No garden experience is necessary - we just love having new faces and past volunteers too.

Again, thank you to all the parents, teachers and neighbours that have helped over the years create such an engaging and beautiful play and learning space for our community!!

## **Broadway is back at LMST-February 26 & 27, 2025!**

Extracurricular opportunity for students in grades 5 & 6

After the huge success of past musicals such as Disney's *Beauty & the Beast Jr* & *Frozen Jr*, we are pleased to offer another musical opportunity this year with Disney's "*Lion King Jr.*" In order to find our Simba, Nala, Scar and more, our director Becca Guilderson will be accepting video auditions in mid-September. Any interested Grade 5 or 6 is invited to try out and detailed information about the audition process, rehearsals and important dates will be circulated the week of September 9th. **We are also looking for a Costume Coordinator, so if you are interested, please reach out to Parent Producer, Sara Harrigan-[lmstmusical@gmail.com](mailto:lmstmusical@gmail.com)**

## **Stand Up Against Bullying Day**



On the second Thursday of September, we recognize Stand Up Against Bullying Day. This day, happening on September 12 this year, is an opportunity for us to start the school year off right – by celebrating inclusivity, kindness and friendship.

All schools in HRCE are focused on ensuring all students have a safe and welcoming environment in which to learn and thrive. Please join us and wear pink if you're able on September 12 to take a stand against bullying.

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## National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Each year on September 30, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation honours the children who didn't return from residential schools, as well as survivors, their families, and communities.

Orange Shirt Day, led by Indigenous communities, aims to raise awareness about the inter-generational impacts of residential schools and allows us all to show our support for the *Every Child Matters* movement.

As there are no classes on Monday, September 30, we welcome staff and students to wear orange on Friday, September 27.

## Employment Opportunities at LMST

### Outdoor Lunch Monitor

LMST is looking for outdoor lunch monitors for the 2023-24 school year. Please contact Gabe Rose at [grose@hrce.ca](mailto:grose@hrce.ca)

## SchoolCash Setup

SchoolCash Online is an easy-to-use and safe way to pay for your children's school fees. You can pay for items sold by school fundraisers, class trips and so much more, quickly and conveniently. Simply register an account to be able to pay in several different payment forms. Click [here](#) for more information.

## Using BusPlanner

Everything you need to know about student transportation including eligibility, stop times and stop locations can be found on BusPlanner. Once you register and subscribe, you may also receive email notifications on changes to routes, bus delays or cancellations.

To sign up, go to BusPlanner at [hrce.mybusplanner.ca](http://hrce.mybusplanner.ca) and click on Parent Portal. Follow the instructions to create an account.

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Don't have a BusPlanner Parent Portal account? Need help logging in? Please contact the HRCE Student Transportation Team at [transportation@hrce.ca](mailto:transportation@hrce.ca) or call 902-431-4723.

## PARKING

It is important that we work together to ensure student safety in the parking lot of our school. Please remember that the parking lot of the school **is strictly for staff**. Please take note of the many no parking signs, as parking this year will be closely monitored and tickets will be issued by police or from parking enforcement. If possible, walking your child to school would be appreciated.



## Important Dates

- September 4- Curriculum night/Ice cream/popsicle social 5:30-6:30 pm
- September 5-First day of school for students
- September 12 - Stand Up Against Bullying Day- students are invited to wear pink or a light-coloured t-shirt to school in support of anti- bullying
- September 16 & 17 – Picture Day (schedule will be sent closer to date)
- September 24- School Advisory Council (SAC) 4:30 pm- All welcome
- September 24- Home & School meeting (H &S) 6:00 pm- All welcome
- September 27- Orange Shirt Day
- September 30- Truth and Reconciliation Day – no school

For a complete listing of staff at LMST please check out our website

<https://lmt.hrce.ca/staff-directory>

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