



Les nouvelles de LMST

LeMarchant-St. Thomas Newsletter

September 2023

Welcome/Bienvenue to the 2023-24 school year!

Monthly theme: Friendship

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 by email or phone call between September 1-6 to introduce themselves and welcome you. If you have not heard from us by September 6- please call us at 902 421 6769.

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.

Please take a moment to read [the LMST parent/guardian handbook](#),

Some of the many ways we will communicate with you this year is through **school newsletters, email, email through School Messenger technology, phone calls, student agenda, Twitter (X), 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.

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 let us know.

To view our LMST school calendar, please use the direct link [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.

<u>Main Entrance doors</u>	<u>Watt Street entrance</u> <u>Side door (playground side)/</u> <u>Southwest door/</u>	<u>Field entrance</u> <u>Side door (playground side)</u> <u>closest to the field/ Northwest</u> <u>door/</u>
Primary/1 Rogers (red)	3/4 Barkhouse/Foster	1 MacLean (pink)
Primary Lacroix (blue)	4 Beaton	1 Morgan (orange)
Primary DePalma (green)	4 /5 Trach	2/3Crawley/Michelin (silver)
Primary/1 Burt (purple)	5 Duguay- Myatt	2/3 Manderville (dark green)
Primary Joanne Zelios (yellow)	5/6 Bohaychuk	3 Gallivan
1/2 Smith/Raftus (light purple)	5/6 Cunningham	3 LeDuc
2 Englehutt (white)	6 Chiasson	¾ Moulard
2 Jordan (gold)	6 Hagerman	4/5 Flett

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.**

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.



Moira Cavanaugh, Principal
Gabe Rose, Vice-Principal
Jody Kearney, Administrative Assistant

email: mcavanaugh@hrcce.ca
email: grose@hrcce.ca
email: jody.kearney@hrcce.ca



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 completed and submitted to the office.

Stand Up Against Bullying Day is September 14

Stand Up Against Bullying Day is recognized on the second Thursday in September across Nova Scotia. Recognizing this day early in the school year allows us to set a positive tone by engaging students in activities that focus on the importance of building healthy relationships.

HRCE is committed to ensuring that every school is a safe place to learn and succeed. We put this commitment into action through our policies, procedures, staff development, and school supports.

Please join us in taking a stance against bullying by wearing pink on September 14!

Using BusPlanner

BusPlanner will provide everything you need to know about student transportation including eligibility, stop times and stop locations. 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 and click on Parent Portal. Follow the instructions to create an account.

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



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 next meeting is September 20th at 4:30 pm. All welcome to attend.

[Home & School \(H & S\) 2023-24- JOIN THE FUN!](#)

Greetings from the LMST Home & School Association!

LMST H&S is a society that provides fundraising support for LMST and acts as a vehicle to promote school spirit and community.

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

Welcome Back Ice Cream/Popsicle Social (Sep 19)	Holiday wreath/tree sale (Nov/Dec)
LMST Clothing Order (Fall)	Bingo Night (Mar 21)
Spring Bulb Sale (Fall)	Food Drive (Mar 4-8)
Farm Box Sale (Fall)	Book Fair (Apr)

Moira Cavanaugh, Principal
Gabe Rose, Vice-Principal
Jody Kearney, Administrative Assistant

email: mcavanaugh@hrce.ca
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Fall Garden Clean-up (Oct)	Morris East Pizza Contest (Spring)
Family Skate & Grade 6 Bake Sale (Nov 13, 10am)	Spring Garden Clean-up (May)
Woozles Shopping Night (Nov 15, 5:30-9pm)	Spring Fair (May 25)
Adult Social (Nov 3)	Year-end Ice Cream/Popsicle Social (June 13)

*NB: Dates subject to change. Consult the school website for updates.

LMST has many amazing parent/guardian volunteers who help make our events a huge success. Some of our regular event leads will be transitioning out of their roles within the next couple of years as students transition 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) or speak with our Co-Chairs, Christine Eisenhauer and Mary McHenry, at our next H&S meeting (6pm, Sept 19). Please note, depending on the event, required volunteer time varies widely from one to several hours.

[OPTIONAL H&S DONATION](#)

In response to inquiries 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. 19!](#)

Please join us at our next H&S meeting, **September 19th 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 participate in our spending decisions.

Email: homeschoollmst@gmail.com

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

Please see [brochure](#) regarding the 2023-24 Home & School dates and hopeful events. It can also be found on our website under Home & School.

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For a complete list of home and school executive members please check our website.

Broadway is coming to LMST!

Extracurricular opportunity for students in grades 5 & 6

After the huge success of past musicals such as Beauty and the Beast Jr & Mary Poppins we are pleased to offer a musical again this year, Frozen Jr. In order to find our Elsa, Anna, Olaf, Kristoff and more, our director Becca Guilderson will be holding auditions on Thursday, September 15 during school hours. Any interested Grade 5 or 6 is invited to attend and more information about what to expect at the audition will be circulated once school begins next week. Everyone is welcome and no one will be turned away. Please direct any questions to Sara Harrigan, saragan77@gmail.com.

Employment Opportunities at LMST

Outdoor Lunch Monitor

LMST is looking for outdoor lunch monitors for the 2023-24 school year. If you are interested please contact Gabe Rose at grose@hrce.ca

EXCEL

The LeMarchant-St. Thomas EXCEL program is looking for Before and After school or just After school staff members to join their team for September! The hours at LeMarchant St. Thomas are 7:30am-8:55am and 2:25 pm-6:00 pm. The wage rate is \$18.28 per hour. Please see attached, a copy of the EXCEL Group Leader job description. Please note that children of EXCEL staff members are able to attend the EXCEL program at their home school for free while their parents/guardians are working with EXCEL. Interested Candidates are welcome to email Tracey Penney, at tracey.penney@hrce.ca to apply (please include the school name, a resume, and a cover letter) or check out our job postings on <https://www.hrce.ca/employment/job-postings>.

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 7 - First day of school for students

September 14 - Curriculum Night/Ice Cream Social 6pm

September 14 - Stand Up Against Bullying Day (Students invited to wear pink or light coloured t-shirt to school in support of anti-bullying)

September 13, 14, 15 - Picture Day (schedule will be sent closer to date)

September 19 - School Advisory Council (SAC) 4:30 pm - *All welcome!*

September 19 - Home & School meeting (H&S) 6:00 pm - *All welcome!*

October 2 - Truth & Reconciliation Day (no school)

***Please check our LMST website for further information at <https://lmt.hrce.ca/>*