

James Strath Public School News

Focus on Success



KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

September 5th, 2018

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From the Office...

It is with great excitement that we welcome staff and students back for the 2018 - 2019 school year and extend a warm welcome to students and families who are new to the James Strath Public School community.

We also welcome new staff members to JSPS: Bonnie Knox (Secretary), Kelly Thorndyke (JK/SK), Samantha Ramsay (LTO – JK/SK), Samantha Wannamaker (ECE), Stephanie Cavanagh (Grade 4), Drew Ginter (Grade 4/5), Lauren Martin (Grade 6/7), Laura Luloff (LTO – Grade 7), Amber Barnes (Grade 7/8), Ellen Wilson (French), Julie Madill (Planning), Holly McBride (Planning), Stefanie Kitchen (CYW), Jordan Slavik (EA), Jennifer Kraan (EA/Sign), Heather Blakely (PSW), and Steve Collins (Head Custodian). Tina Bolton has taken on the Special Education Resource Teacher role for this year.

A huge thank you goes out to our custodial team for doing such a fantastic job cleaning the school this summer. Their commitment to having the building ready for the new school year is greatly appreciated. We would like to thank Ms. Froggatt, Mrs. Knox, and Mrs. Simmons for their hard work in the office preparing for the school year and also to Mrs. Simmons for making our front garden look so amazing!

On behalf of the staff at James Strath, we extend best wishes for an exciting and successful school year.

Glen Payne – Principal

Matt Gennings – Vice Principal

Allergen Aware School

As we begin a new school year we would like to inform you that James Strath is an allergen aware school. There are students and staff in attendance who suffer from severe and life threatening allergies to certain foods, such as peanut and nut products. Exposure to the smallest quantities can cause severe life threatening reactions.

We would appreciate the co-operation of the entire school community by NOT sending any lunches or snacks that contain nuts, nut oils or derivatives (e.g. peanut butter, peanuts, or peanut oil) which could potentially harm someone.



Furthermore, bringing cologne and perfume to school is *not permitted*. A number of individuals are highly sensitive to scents which can result in severe headaches and asthma attacks. Aerosol deodorant is discouraged as students often spray it at their locker, creating a dangerous situation in our hallways.

Thank you for your attention to these important matters.

Parking Lot and Driveway

The school parking lot and driveway are quite busy prior to the start of school and at the end of the school day. While driving on school property, please drive slowly, with caution, and in a courteous manner. Please be prepared to stop around the crosswalk area in front of the school. Students and guests are reminded to use the crosswalk area when walking to and from vehicles.

The outside lane (right lane) next to the sidewalk is for drop-off only. Please do not leave your vehicle parked in the yellow striped area, as it is a designated emergency



vehicle parking zone and a no parking zone for all other vehicles. It also impedes access for buses to drop off and pick up students. Also, thank you for not parking in our accessible parking spots unless you have proper identification/visible permit.

We thank you for working together with our staff on duty, and other Strath community members, in a safe and respectful manner.

2018-2019 School Day Schedule

7:45 a.m.	Office opens
8:00 a.m.	Yard Supervision begins
8:15 – 9:55 a.m.	First Block
9:55 - 10:35 a.m.	Recreation/Nutrition Break
10:35 – 12:15	Second Block
12:15 - 12:55 p.m.	Recreation/Nutrition Break
12:55 – 2:35 p.m.	Third Block
2:45 p.m.	Buses leave
3:45 p.m.	Office closes



Police Record Checks

As per KPR Board policy, all volunteers must have a current police record check filed at the school before working with any students. Please contact the school office to learn how you can obtain an application.

Safe Welcome Program

The Safe Welcome Program is in effect at JSPS. Our school has front door security systems and locked doors, which include a camera and intercom, connected with the school offices. Parents and visitors will be “buzzed in” by office staff, who will release the door lock from inside. All other outside doors to the school will remain locked, as they have been in the past. We do understand that this procedure may cause some inconvenience; however, the safety of James Strath students is our highest priority.

Safe School Initiatives

1. Parents are reminded that access to the school will only occur through the main entry doors after the 8:15 a.m. bell.
2. Parents, volunteers and/or visitors **must** sign in at the office and receive an identification tag **before** proceeding to the classroom areas of the school.
3. Parents are reminded to drop off their children at the playground entry/exit doors between 8:00-8:15 a.m. at the beginning of the school day and to meet their child(ren) at a prearranged location at the front of the school or at the appropriate exit doors at the 2:35 p.m. bell to support the Safe School initiatives. **Please do not enter the building through the student exit/entry doors to drop-off or pick up your child.**

We thank you for your support of these initiatives to further ensure the safety of your child(ren).

James Strath Open House

The James Strath Public School Open House will take place on Thursday, September 20th from 6:00 to 7:00 pm. Please come join us to tour the school and meet your child’s teacher.

Cell Phones

Students are encouraged to leave their cell phones at home. Please be reminded that if cell phones are brought to school, the expectation is that they must be stored in lockers during the school day.

Students may only use their cell phones during class time if given permission by their teacher to use them to help with their school work. Students in Grades 7 and 8 will be given the chance to bring their phones into their classrooms during the second nutrition break (12:35 pm to 12:55 pm) on a trial basis. Cell phones must not be used outside of the classroom during this time (hallways, bathrooms, school yard, etc.) and must be put back into their lockers for the rest of the school day.

Bus Safety

Please review the following rules for students riding the school bus, as this will help ensure student safety.

Students are required to:

- be at the bus stop at least 5 minutes before the pickup time
- listen to the driver when getting on or off the bus, especially when a road must be crossed
- go directly to their seat and stay seated until they are let off the bus
- follow all instructions from the bus driver especially where they put their belongings
- not eat or drink, fight, swear or engage in other types of poor behavior
- not open or close windows unless the driver permits
- keep all belongings inside the bus
- keep arms, hands, heads etc. inside the bus
- not damage the bus seats (students will be held responsible)
- respect private property

Every effort must be made to maintain a high standard of discipline and safety in the operation of the school busses. On the **FIRST** occasion of improper behavior, the Principal will speak to the student. On the **SECOND** occasion, a letter or phone call will be made to the parents.

For any inquiries regarding bussing, including cancellation and delays, please contact Student Transportation Services of Central Ontario at www.stsco.ca



Student Verification Forms

Please update/complete all pages of the Verification Form and return by **Friday, September 14th**. The form will be used to update our student data base. Please ensure that we have accurate information, especially parent contact numbers for emergencies and current e-mail addresses.

Plans of Care and Medication at School

If your child has a life-threatening allergy, or serious medical condition, **please notify the office immediately**. We need to know this information so that we can create a *Plan of Care* for your child. For returning students who have had IERPs (Individual Emergency Response Plans), we will be in contact regarding updates to their *Plan of Care*. If you have any questions, contact Mr. Gennings in the office.

Please be advised that for safety reasons, no child should bring any form of medication to school without prior approval from the office. The school will store necessary medication if an Administration of Medication Form has been filled out and signed by the doctor. Forms are available in the office.

James Strath Nutrition Program

The Student Nutrition Program at James Strath has been running since 2009-10. It supports the healthy development of children and helps children attend school ready to learn. Research shows many benefits including improved academic performance, higher rates of school attendance, fewer classroom disruptions, and improved student behaviour. Students may come to school hungry for a number of reasons such as hurried morning routines, long bus rides to school, not feeling hungry before leaving for school, insufficient food in the home, or early morning practices and rehearsals.

Each day, bins are placed throughout the school, filled with fresh produce, whole grains and dairy products. This is a universal program, free for all students. **This program is completely run by volunteers and in order for the program to continue, we need your help.** If you are interested in volunteering with this important program please contact Mr. Gennings (Vice Principal) for more information.

School Council Update

Welcome back to another school year and a big welcome to all new students and families!

School Council elections occur in September. Nomination forms for Parent Representatives and information on the election process are available in the school office. In order to be a voting Parent Representative on the James Strath School Council you need to submit one of these Nomination forms.

There are limited positions available. The deadline for nomination forms to be returned to the school office, is Friday, September 21, 2018 at 8:15am. If an election is required, the ballots will be distributed on September 25, 2018 for return to the school office by Thursday, September 27, 2018 at 8:15 am.

Remember, you don't have to be a voting member to attend School Council. At our first meeting October 3, 2018 at 6:30pm, in the school library, we will be electing our new Executive from the elected Parent Representatives. Come out to our meetings, and learn about what is going on at your child's school. We hope to see you there!



Mathletes

We are excited to announce that Mathletes and the Mathletes Family Event will Take place at JSPS this year on Thursday, September 27th.



Participating students in the late primary and junior divisions will have a full day of fun, co-operative, and challenging activities that build their math skills.

Stay tuned for more information about Mathletes and the Mathletes Family Night closer to the date.

A Note from the Library

Welcome back to what I'm sure will be another fun-filled year in the Strath library, with stories to hear, books to share, and a multitude of materials to make research projects easier.

As always, children in kindergarten and grade 1 may take out one book per week, and students in grades 2 through 8 may take out two. There is a two week loan period, and children who have not finished in that time are encouraged to ask me for a renewal. If a student has two overdue books they are not allowed to take out another until at least one of those books is returned. Please designate a unique and regular place for your child to keep library books in your home, and be aware of which day they are scheduled for library so they can return their book and take another. Feel free to contact me if a book is lost or damaged so we can arrange for you to either replace or pay for it.

Also, I am looking for a reliable adult to commit to shelving books one morning or afternoon a week in the library this school year. Please contact myself or the office if you would be willing to volunteer for this vital role, and thank you in advance for your help.

I am excited to work with your child(ren) this year and to continue to make this library as welcoming and useful as possible to the entire Strath school community.

Ms. Monis

School Cash Online

Fast, simple, and secure, no need to send cash with your child or write cheques. James Strath Public School is pleased to announce that all school fees, field trips, team fees and items can be paid for online from the comfort of your own home.

Pay ONLINE! Register now at <https://kprdsb.schoolcashionline.com>. It takes less than 5 minutes.

Please see the attached "Step by Step Registration Guide" for more details.

Important Information regarding the Student Absence Reporting System

This message is about the new automated Student Absence Report System that will be introduced in all KPR schools starting in September 2018. This change means **you will need to create a NEW account to report your children's absences online.**

To create your new account and register your children for the new automated system, please visit **studentabsence.kprdsb.ca**

If you use the mobile app, please search for **SchoolMessenger** (one word) on Google Play Store or Apple App Store.

Once you have re-registered your child, you once again will be able to inform the school of your child's upcoming absences at:

- **studentabsence.kprdsb.ca**
- **1-844-434-8119**
- the **SchoolMessenger mobile app** on your cell phone or tablet.

Every family is receiving a magnet with the new web address, phone number and mobile app info. Re-registering will allow you to report all of your children's upcoming absences at a time that's convenient for you - 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Note from KPR: Health and Physical Education Curriculum

We wanted to provide an update on the Health and Physical Education Curriculum for the coming school year.

As you know, the government has announced a broad public consultation on this issue. While this consultation is underway, the Ministry of Education has re-issued the 2010 Health and Physical Education Curriculum for elementary students. Secondary students will continue to receive the curriculum broadly revised and introduced in 2015.

We know that our teachers and school support staff are well-trained professionals who will continue to be committed to supporting the well-being and healthy development of students.

We are also obligated by legislation to follow the provincially approved curriculum. Our teachers are highly professional, and will teach the curriculum in a developmental and age appropriate manner as they have always done.

As with any question you may have about anything related to your child's learning, the best place to start is with their classroom teacher. These conversations can strengthen positive relationships between parents and teachers, and resolve concerns at the level closest to the issue.

More information is also available on our board's website at: www.kprschools.ca

Newsletter Hard Copy Request

At James Strath we are environmentally conscious, therefore, all further monthly newsletters will be posted on the school website on or around the first of each month. We can, through our efforts, stop the cycle of abuse to the environment and leave a much healthier footprint for our children. Newsletters are meant to serve as a means of communication between home and school. They will inform you of various school activities, programs, routines, reminders, and so forth. If you do not have internet access and require a hard copy, please return this tear off section to the school.

Student Name: _____ **Classroom Teacher:** _____

Dates to Remember:



Tuesday, September 4th – First Day of School!

Thursday, September 6th – Welcome Year 2
Kindergarten Students

Friday, September 7th – Welcome Year 1
Kindergarten Students

Thursday, September 20th – Open House (6-7pm)

Thursday, September 27th – Mathletes

Thursday, September 27th – Mathletes Family Night

Friday, September 28th – PA Day
(no school for students)

Pizza and Sub Day Information

We will be offering hot lunch days throughout the school year. On select Tuesdays during the year we will be having Subway lunches. On select Fridays there will be Pizza Hut lunches offered. The hot lunch dates will begin in October.

Order forms and dates will be sent home shortly, and the schedule will be updated on Edsby.

Litterless Lunches

Last year, the James Strath Character Council helped us to become more environmentally aware by leading us through a number of initiatives. One that was a resounding success was our “Litterless Lunch” day.

This year, we will be looking to have as many students take part in the litterless lunch program as possible. A great place to start is to take a look at ways to reduce waste in your lunch!

Edsby and Our School Website

Our school website can be found at:

<http://jamesstrath.kprdsb.ca/>

We are working to update the information on the website, so please check regularly for information regarding about the school and upcoming events. Also, you will be able to access information through your Edsby account for your students here at James Strath. Please contact the office with any questions regarding Edsby.

Classes for 2018/2019

This is the current organization for James Strath for the 2018-2019 school year. As we continue to account for enrolment changes that have occurred over the summer, there may be some revision to these classroom assignments.

<u>Grade:</u>	<u>Teacher/ECE:</u>
JK/SK	F. Lasenby/S. Pattison
JK/SK	S. Ramsay/A. Turkington
JK/SK	K. Thorndyke/K. Bailey
JK/SK	L. Lawrence/S. Wannamaker
Grade 1	L. Wright
Grade 1	J. Mallory
Grade 1/2	A. Palmer
Grade 2	E. Healey
Grade 2	K. Killen
Grade 2	S. Peers
Grade 3	S. Helleman
Grade 3	L. Richardson
Grade 3	D. Istead
Grade 4	B. Kelly
Grade 4	S. Cavanagh
Grade 4/5	D. Ginter
Grade 5	L. Brown
Grade 5/6	K. McNamara
Grade 6	B. Oakley
Grade 6	M. Adams
Grade 6/7	L. Martin
Grade 7	L. Luloff
Grade 7	M. Brisson
Grade 7	B. Armstrong
Grade 7/8	A. Barnes
Grade 8	K. Sawyer
Grade 8	G. Soligo
Grade 8	K. Schubert
Grade 8	M. Shadgett
LLS	E. Salac
Library	M. Monis
Music	J. Mackay
SERT	T. Bolton and M. Robinson-Fisher
SERT/Reading	A. McLean
Core French	E. Wilson, J. Oltean, and A. Nabigon-Froese
Math/Planning	K. Fortin
Planning	H. McBride J. Madill

#WEARESTRATH