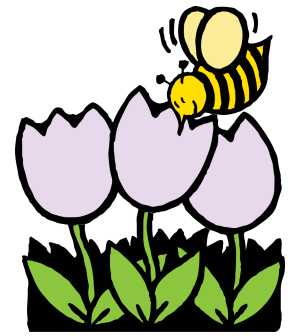




# École King George Public School

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Principal: Randy Dewey

Vice-Principal: Kelley Jones

Office Coordinator: Wendy Davidson

mai 2020/May 2020

## Message from the Principal

“The year was 2020, and suddenly we had to do everything differently.” Can you picture yourself trying to tell future generations about this year? We will be the experts and be able to provide real accounts of what the times were like. There are so many stories developing of how everyone is coping. We are proud of our teachers and students who have so quickly adapted to the on-line learning format. It is a learning curve for us all. Families are figuring out how to share tech equipment and precious band-width, all the while supporting each other and being positive and patient. Thanks to all of you for being so supportive of our teachers. Your kind words and acknowledgements are truly appreciated.

I have been in the school building a few times in order to distribute tech equipment. The halls are eerily vacant and appear just as they were on the Friday before March break. I know that many of you are needing your belongings such as shoes and binders. While we are under strict government rules that deny public access, please know that the School Board is working on a plan to accommodate families to be able to retrieve personal items once restrictions are lifted.

At the time of writing this, we do not know if schools in Ontario will reopen for any part of June. This has forced us to cancel many of our fun activities, such as school trips, Track and Field events, Jump Rope for Heart, the Book Fair and Family Fun Night. Highly at risk are our graduation ceremonies. A parent committee is working on ways to recognize our Grade 8 graduates and we appreciate their time and ideas that they are dedicating to this.

Our librarian, Mme Kristiansen, is spear-heading our yearbook this year with the help of staff and parents. Families will be able to order the yearbooks directly from the publishing company and delivery will be in September. More details will be sent out as they become available. Thanks to everyone who is working to make this possible in these circumstances.

We also want to acknowledge all our volunteers who, even now, are working to help make our school great. We usually have a celebration where we honour the many parents, grandparents, and friends who contribute so much of their time and talents to support and enhance our student learning and opportunities. This year we will not be able to have that celebration but we do want to thank you and let you know how much we appreciate your dedication. Our school would not be the same without you.

As with any large school, changes in staffing are the norm. Mme Smith has started her maternity leave and Mme Buckley has taken over as the Grade 4/5 teacher. We welcome her to our staff. Mme Renaud will be starting her maternity leave next week and we welcome Mme Thompson as she covers all the classes that Mme Renaud teaches. We are working on staffing needs for next year. One of the changes we know of at this time is my role as principal. I have decided to retire at the end of June. It was a difficult decision and was not based on our current situation dealing with the Covid 19 pandemic. King George has been the centre of my working life for the past six years and I will greatly miss working with all the students, staff, and families who work so hard to make King George the very best. Thank you

for all the support you have given me. A new principal has not yet been named but we will let you know when an announcement has been made.

In the meantime, take care and be safe. There are some good things evolving from our new reality. Let's look for them, recognize them and learn from them.

M. Dewey and Mme Jones

## Yearbook Orders

Details on how to order this year's publication will be announced in the next few weeks. Expect delivery of the yearbook in September.

## Grade 8 Graduation

Thanks to the parent committee and staff who are working on ideas to honour this year's grads. A formal ceremony and dance is unlikely at this time.

## 2020-2021 Class Placements

King George staff have already begun preparing for next year with class organizations being completed and student placements being made. This process takes many hours with teachers and staff considering many factors such as caps on class size, gender ratios, academic strengths and needs, personalities, learning styles, behaviour, and friendships. Please understand that we do not accept requests for class placement. This can make class building very difficult and hinder the process that we have in place. If your child has an exceptional circumstance that requires consideration, please email me directly at: [randy.dewey@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:randy.dewey@ugdsb.on.ca)

## Moving In? Moving Out?

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT that if you are planning a move to another school this summer, or know of someone moving into our school area for the 2020-2021 school year, that you notify the office as soon as possible. You may also email our office coordinator, Wendy Davidson at: [wendy.davidson@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:wendy.davidson@ugdsb.on.ca)

## School Council Corner



Details of our next meeting will be announced soon. Stay tuned!