

## Principal's Message

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the students, staff and parents of Lackner Woods for providing me with another wonderful term. Each day it is a pleasure to come to work and serve this community. Many that visit our school make comments upon leaving that warmth and care is certainly felt at Lackner Woods. Your children's smiling faces continue to be my inspiration. Together we raise the next generation. It is challenging and exhausting, but can you think of anything more fulfilling? It is one of the most important jobs entrusted to us, to assure that we guide and provide children with life lessons as well as academic lessons that assist in creating a community of caring, kind and productive citizens. I will continue to work diligently in assuring that Lackner Woods remains a safe and positive environment for your child to come to each day. I appreciate the support that many parents have demonstrated when those tough decisions need to be made. When home and school are working together - the possibilities are endless. I challenge you as parents to find ways to support your child(ren) with their learning. Creating a standard time each evening, assisting in assuring a quiet spot can be found, signing the planner, reading newsletters, participating in parent-teacher conferences and by far the absolute most important is to model and assure that reading is a part of every day for your child. Pathways to Success in Canadian Schools indicates there is a direct correlation between student success and parents reading to children. At these times love and responsiveness are operating together vs. times of guidance and authority. When children can "unlock the words" they soon can "unlock the world". Have a blessed Holiday Season enjoyed with family and friends. See you next year!

### Mad Science is coming to Lackner Woods

Mondays, January 26<sup>th</sup> to March 30<sup>th</sup>

3:40 to 4:40 pm

Watch for registration forms to come home the first week of January!

## Lackner Woods Gives Back.....

Lackner Woods students know the importance of helping others. They will be involved in a week-long charitable event called the "Week of Giving" which will take place from December 8<sup>th</sup> to December 12<sup>th</sup>. Each day of that week, students will be invited to donate a different item to help those in need over the holidays. Families have a choice of participating in as many as they like.



Giving Day	What to give?
Monday December 8 <sup>th</sup> <b>Book Day</b>	Donate a new book! A new novel! A new story! Books for all ages!
Tuesday December 9 <sup>th</sup> <b>Baby Day</b>	Donate a baby item! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infant clothing/toys</li> <li>• Diapers/Formula</li> </ul> Donations to Anselma House
Wednesday December 10 <sup>th</sup> <b>Food Bank Day</b>	Donations for the Food bank <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peanut butter</li> <li>• Pasta and pasta sauce</li> <li>• Canned food</li> </ul>
Thursday December 11 <sup>th</sup> <b>Toonie/Loonie Day</b>	Donate a loonie or toonie or more to help buy gifts for the "Tree of Angels"!
Friday December 12 <sup>th</sup> <b>Unwrapped Toy Day</b>	Donate a new UN-wrapped children's toy for the "Tree of Angels"!

*Thank you for your charitable donations!*



## Holiday Concerts

Ho! Ho! Ho!  
The holidays will soon be here!  
Plan to attend one of our two  
Holiday Concerts!  
**All are welcome!**

Tuesday, December 16 AM Concert 10:00 am to 11:00 am	Wednesday, December 17 PM Concert 12:15 pm to 1:15 pm
Mrs. Horvat's Class Mrs. Drews' Class Grades 1 through 6	Mrs. Parks' Class Mrs. Clarke's Class Mrs. McGregor's Class Grades 1 through 6

Plan to attend an hour of fun with all our Lackner students on stage! Due to our large population and to accommodate all of our families, we will have our kindergarten friends performing on two separate days. Check the dates above.

**COMING SOON!**

## Safe Welcome Program Starting Monday, December 8th

The Waterloo Region District School Board is currently installing electronic systems at all elementary schools to prepare for the Ministry of Education's requirement that elementary schools lock all doors during the school day. Visitors to Lackner Woods will be required to press the intercom by our main entry door by the office in order to enter. Students and staff will use access cards to enter and exit the building throughout the day. We will do our best to keep the wait time to a minimum but please give us lots of time if you have an appointment. We will be educating the students about not opening other entrance doors for visitors. All family members are requested to wait outside of the school doors when picking up students. Please be respectful of this protocol and do not request or expect students to allow you entry to the school as this puts them in a difficult situation. Please follow the proper protocol and request entry through the intercom at the front entrance.

The system has integrated the needs of before and after school programs. Parents will use an intercom system located at the Kindergarten entrance of the school for this.

I want to thank you in advance for assisting in the success of this program. It is recognized that having all school doors locked will be new for our school community. It just is another example how we value the safety of our most precious possessions.

## Lost and Found

Missing a mitten? Lost your lunch container? Can't find your hat? Where are those gym clothes? Is your name on your clothing and other belongings? Students and parents are encouraged to look in our collection of "Lost and Found" items before the holiday season. Items from our "Lost and Found" will be displayed in the front hall beginning December 9<sup>th</sup>. Please take a few minutes to look through this for any items, which might belong to your child! Any remaining items will be donated to Goodwill on December 19<sup>th</sup>.



## Hot Lunch Program

Our second round of Tuesday pizza lunches, Thursday lunches and daily milk begins in the New Year on Monday January 5<sup>th</sup> and runs until March Break, Friday March 13<sup>th</sup>. Prepayment forms have gone home with your child and are due on Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Kindergarten Registration September 2015

Parents who have children who were born in 2011 will be eligible for Junior Kindergarten in September 2015. Students born in 2010, who are not currently enrolled in our Junior Kindergarten classes, should register at this time, as they will be eligible for Senior Kindergarten beginning in September 2015. If you have a son/daughter eligible for Junior or Senior Kindergarten next year, please call the school at 519-894-1150.



## Please Support our Safety Patrols

Lackner Woods is proud to have a number of Safety Patrols who give of their time to cross students safely at the driveway at the front of the school, and at the parking lot crosswalk. Parents can help support them by waiting with your children until the safety patrol has given the signal to cross. It sends a strong message to your own child and to other children who are watching if you respect our crossing rules and the students who are enforcing them. Thanks for your support in ensuring the safety of all of the students at Lackner Woods.

## Weather and Transportation

During the winter, unusual or severe weather conditions can lead to a number of different situations requiring cancellation of some or all student transportation. Several scenarios may occur. Please read the following carefully. If schools are to be closed due to severe weather before the school day begins, every effort will be made to ensure that a media announcement begins prior to 6:00 a.m. and you can also check the WRDSB website. It will sound like this: **"Due to current weather conditions all school buses, taxis and special education routes operated by the Waterloo Region District School Board are cancelled and all schools are closed. All Extended Day Childcare Programs are CLOSED"**

There may be times when it is necessary for the school buses to be cancelled due to poor road conditions. If it is necessary for school buses to be cancelled the media statement will sound like this: **"Due to the current weather conditions, all school buses, taxis and special education routes operated by the Waterloo Region District School Board are cancelled. All public schools are open with the exception of those schools dependent on transportation. All Extended Day Childcare Programs are OPEN."** **IF BUSES ARE CANCELLED IN THE MORNING THEY ARE CANCELLED ALL DAY.** In such a case, remember that *Lackner Woods Public School stays open as it is not bus dependent.* **IF PARENTS BRING STUDENTS THEY MUST CONFIRM THAT STUDENTS KNOW THEIR PLAN TO GET HOME.** Once the school day has started, should the weather conditions deteriorate significantly a decision may be made to send students home early. Media and websites will advise parents. Students who walk to school will be dismissed at the school's regular time; however, parents are encouraged to pick up their children as soon as possible. On days when the weather is bad parents will need to listen to one of the following media sources for inclement weather cancellation announcements.

Media/Station	AM/FM BAND
KOOL-FM	FM 105.3
MAGIC FM	FM 106.1
570 News	AM 570
Oldies 1090	AM 1090
Faith FM	FM 94.3
CTV	CBC Radio
CKWR Kitchener	FM 98.5
CHYM Kitchener	FM 96.7
Dave FM	FM 107.5
Kicx	FM 106.7
The Beat	FM 91.5

***Please Remember***.....in the age of technology the WRDSB is facilitating its communication via its WRDSB Website and WRDSB social media feed. Please access these forms of communication for all updated information.

## Strong Start!

We are just wrapping up our first session of Strong Start for the 2014-2015 school year. We are fortunate to have the support from our community to offer the Strong Start program to selected senior kindergarten and grade 1 students. Our trained community volunteers help children aged 5 and 6 learn the names of the alphabet letters, the sounds each represents and some initial words in print. Some students also have the opportunity to learn more about reading and building words. This is a very rewarding program not only for the students, but also for the volunteers who work with one child at a time and enjoy watching the progress that is made in only **10 weeks!** This fall, Collette Eston, Silvana Mihailova, Susan Quarry, Laurie Tremble, Caroline Barnes, Mike Piperakis, Evelyn Sawatzky and Lini Czech provided support to our Grade 1 students in the Strong Start program. THANK YOU for making such a positive difference in the learning of the students you have worked with! Jim and Sue Hallman have generously supported the Strong Start program at Lackner Woods through their ongoing funding of this program. We are very grateful for their generosity and commitment to the students at our school. THANK YOU!

## Calling All Strong Start Volunteers!

We need 3 or 4 more volunteers to help support our Senior Kindergarten students in the Strong Start program this winter. We are hoping to begin the program late January or early February. All volunteers attend 2 training sessions (2 hours per session) at a central location. Dates and times of training vary and attempt to meet the needs of all volunteers. If you are able to dedicate an hour and a half, one day per week to help selected Senior Kindergarten students, or have any questions about the program, please contact Mrs. Daub at Lackner Woods as soon as possible (519-894-1150). Please also extend this invitation to grandmas, grandpas, aunts or uncles who may be interested in this opportunity. Your contribution would be GREATLY appreciated and valued.

**Presented by School Council**  
**"Building Healthy Relationships"**

This is a 6 part program developed by parents, students and educators across Ontario to help parents guide and encourage their children in skills that are essential for success in school and life. Parents want their children to have happy, healthy relationships as they are fundamental to well-being. Healthy relationships provide children with a sense of security and stability: a sense of being valued and belonging; support and guidance to learn essential skills: and the ability to deal with stress.

We plan to hold three workshops in the new year. Information to follow. Each will cover two sections of this program. In January we will talk about Building Healthy Relationships and Developing Resiliency. You can find the resource online at

<http://www.ontariodirectors.ca/parentengagement.html>

**TIPS:**

- Relate to your child in an age-appropriate way
- Be there: supervision matters
- Accept mistakes as learning opportunities
- Watch for signs of unhealthy relationships
- Help children set realistic goals
- Give children responsibilities
- Stress the importance of helping others
- Help children handle disappointment and focus on the positive

**Make the Connection - CALL 2-1-1**  
**Proudly supported by the**  
**United Way**

Change starts here. CALL 2-1-1 to find out about:

- Child care
- Family resource centres
- Health programs
- Youth centres
- Parenting classes
- Mental health supports
- Counselling services
- Schools supply programs
- Food banks
- Disability support
- Employment centres
- And more...

Lackner Woods' staff supports United Way during the Fall Campaign.



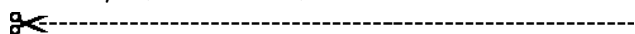
**Important**  
**Dates**  
**to**  
**Remember**

<b>December 1-8</b>	Donate a Stuffed Animal
<b>December 8-12</b>	Week of Giving
<b>December 16</b>	Holiday Concert - 10:00 am
<b>December 17</b>	Holiday Concert - 12:15 pm
<b>Dec. 20-Jan. 4</b>	Winter Break
<b>January 5</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> day back to school in 2015!
<b>January 6</b>	Mad Science Assembly. Watch for your registration form!
<b>January 19</b>	School Council Meeting 7:00 p.m. All Welcome!
<b>January 30</b>	PA Day

**December Pizza Winners!!**

Congratulations to the following students who won free pizza just for reading November's newsletter!

Lucy B., Emily S., Bryant R., Noah S., Danica H., Liam H., Sidney T., Samantha T., Cameron M. and Carter M.



**Lackner Woods Public School**  
**Free Pizza Lunch**

Yes, I have read the December 2014 issue of the "Lackner Link". My child has permission to have a free slice of pizza should his/her name be drawn.

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Classroom \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Happy Holidays**



**From all the staff at Lackner Woods**