



April/avril 2022



Dear
Confédération Families;

Spring is officially here! It is so nice to feel the extended hours of sunlight, and to hear the birds chirping! We hope you had a wonderful March Break with family and friends and are re-energized for the final three months of the school year. We are going to try a hot lunch day this month, following all health protocols. Orders for items from La Bottega will be due online by April 6th, with lunches being delivered to students on April 20. We continue to be proud of our staff and students who embody our motto of "Courage" as we continue our learning journey in these challenging times.

Yours in cooperation,

Madame K. Ricker
Principal

Monsieur B. Poladian
Vice-Principal

Dates to Remember

April 1-Easter Theme Day (dress like a rabbit, chick, pastel colours)
April 5 & 6— 2nd Dental Screening (JK, SK, Gr 2)
April 6-Deadline for La Bottega orders through School Cash online
April 12— Hot Lunch (La Bottega)
April 14— "Spring Has Sprung" Day (*wear pastels, bunny ears, anything springy!*)
April 15— Good Friday (No School)
April 18 — Easter Monday (No School)
April 19—Papa John's Pizza
April 22— PD Day (No School for Students)
April 26- Hot Lunch (La Bottega)
April 29 — Tie-Dye Day

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Brantford, Ontario
N3R 5H8
519-751-2891

granderie.ca/confederation

Principal

Kathy Ricker

Vice Principal

Barkev Poladian

Office Coordinators

Angela Vandeven
Tracy Czeranko

Best wishes as you embark on your new educational journey.....

To the staff, students, families and community members of École Confédération,

It has been my absolute pleasure to work with you over the past 6 years. When we moved to our new school, there were many unknowns, but look at the awesomeness we have created! I will miss you all and wish you all the best as I move to the next chapter in my journey. Thanks for the memories!

Bon Courage à tous!

Mme. Smith



Bienvenue to our new principal for the remainder of the year.....

Bonjour and Hello 😊

I feel very fortunate for the opportunity to join the school community of École Confédération!

My name is Kathy Ricker, and I have been an educator, and an elementary school principal in Grand Erie for 30 years. I will be the Acting Principal from April 1st, until the end of the school year. I am very much looking forward to getting to know, and working together with all of you, to provide the best educational experience possible for our students!

Sincerely,

Mme. Ricker



Parking Reminders

In order to ensure student safety, we ask for your assistance in maintaining our routines:

-There is no drop off on site in the morning between 8:45 and 9:15, and no pick up on site between 3:15 and 3:45, with the exception of those with accessible passes or passes issued by the main office for exceptional reasons.

-Parking and stopping are allowed on only one side of the street (the side with the sidewalk). Signs are posted indicating this.

-Parking is not allowed in front of a fire hydrant.

-No parking is permitted in the private lots of the housing complexes next to the school on Ewing Drive

Thank you to everyone for their continued cooperation in keeping our students safe during drop off and pick up. If you are sending a family member who is not familiar with our routines, please share these reminders with them.



Grand Erie is planning for September 2022! To support our students and focus on their success and well-being, we need families to help us with our planning.

Families interested in online learning (instead of in-person learning) must declare this choice by **April 13, 2022** for the full 2022-23 school year.

Please go to the Grand Erie District School board website @granderie.ca for the link to the On-Line Learning Declaration.

School Council

Our next School Council Meeting will be virtual. We will meet from 6—7:30 pm, Wednesday, April 20th. If you would like to join us, please contact the school, and we will forward you the link to enable you to participate!

Grade 3 and Grade 6 EQAO PRIMARY AND JUNIOR ASSESSMENTS

EQAO will be completed digitally by all students this year. Dates for this e-assessment will be as follows:

Grade 6 : May 16—May 20, 2022

Grade 3: June 7—June 10, 2022

We have been busy ensuring that all students will be equipped with devices and will be familiar with both the technology and the format of the assessment in advance of those dates.



Cell Phone Reminders

Many of our students in the upper grades have personal cell phones. While this can be an effective way to communicate with your child, please be reminded that students are not permitted to send or respond to text messages or phone calls during instructional time. Any communication during the day **MUST** be done through the main office. Students will need to first speak with the teacher, who can assist with a plan for contacting the family. This procedure is in place for student safety and attendance purposes. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.



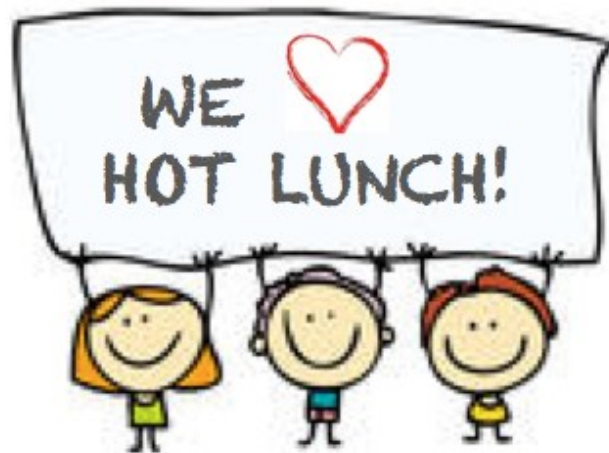
VOLUNTEERS FOR SNACK PROGRAM NEEDED



We are looking for assistance with our snack program! We hope to run Snack Program on Wednesdays and Fridays. It would only entail a little bit of your volunteer time! If a volunteer could come around 8:30 in the morning on those days to organize the snacks into the bins (approximately 30 minutes) our staff and students will look after the rest. We would love a bit of help with this great program. Please contact the school if you are interested. :)

Hot Lunch is Back!!!!

Hot lunches are back! Orders are currently available through School Cash online for La Bottega, and Papa John's Pizza. Orders are due on April 6th. Students will receive their lunch orders on April 12, 19th and 26th during second break. Options available are lasagna, penne and meatballs, penne with butter, and chicken noodle soup. All meals will arrive individually packaged and will be distributed to students by school staff.



COVID-19 UPDATES

On March 9, the Province of Ontario announced the lifting of a number of COVID-19 related restrictions. As a result, things in our schools have looked different upon return from March Break.

We are following the direction of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Ministry of Education in these matters, and we acknowledge some families may feel uneasy about changes to health and safety protocols. We will continue to stay in close contact with our local public health units to report on and monitor any changes in the local health situation. We will let you know if any guidance changes. We also encourage staff and students who may choose to continue to wear masks to feel welcome to do so.

Health and safety protocols remaining in place in schools

All students and staff should continue to monitor their own health daily through [Ontario's COVID-19 Screening process for schools](#) – please see below for more information.

The Province will continue to supply us with Rapid Antigen Tests for symptomatic staff and students who may wish to use them. The Province will continue to supply masks to staff and students until June.

We will continue to support and encourage good hand hygiene in our schools. Enhanced cleaning protocols remain in place.

We continue to monitor ventilation in our schools to ensure compliance with Ministry guidelines, and to support air quality where possible. **We have received Provincial supplied HEPA air filtration units for all classrooms and collective spaces in the school (i.e. library, gym, etc.)**

Masking

The Province has removed the requirement for masking as of Monday, March 21, which was the first day back from March Break. Masks are no longer mandatory for staff or students at school or on school transportation.

- **Please note** – staff and students may choose to continue to wear masks, and we ask that everyone respect that choice. We also encourage anyone with underlying health issues to continue to wear a mask wherever possible. Staff and students may also be required to wear a mask in compliance with travel protocols.



Daily Screening

Students or staff who are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 should not come to school, and all students and staff should continue daily use of [Ontario's COVID-19 Screening process for schools](#).

There is no longer a requirement to confirm completion of this screening – either in person or through email.

There are some changes to the screening process regarding isolation requirements. Following the screening tool will help you understand any isolation requirements for your particular situation, but in general, household members of COVID-positive or symptomatic individuals do not have to self isolate if:

- They have tested positive for COVID-19 in the previous 90 days
- Are 18 and older and have received their booster dose (three doses)
- Are 17 and younger and are fully immunized (two doses)

Household and other close contacts of positive cases will have to monitor symptoms and wear a mask in public settings and avoid activities which may require mask removal for 10 days.

Household members who do not meet the criteria above must self-isolate.

Changes in Protocols as of Monday, March 21

- All requirements around cohorts and distancing have been removed
- There will be no more restrictions on athletic activities, music or singing
- No capacity limits for indoor activities (other than fire code regulations)
- No immunization requirements for indoor sports spectators
- Visitors to schools will not be required to provide proof of immunization or wear a mask
- Staff immunization disclosure requirements are lifted, as well as the regular testing requirements for non-immunized staff
- As mentioned by Dr. Kieran Moore, the Chief Medical Officer of Health, these changes represent a move to “learning to live with and manage COVID-19.” We look forward to your continued support and cooperation as we continue to move in this direction together.

APRIL 2022 - DAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE

	Sikh Heritage Month	Ontario
	World Autism Month	
	Genocide Awareness Month	
	Latin American History Month	
	Earth Month	
1	Kha b-Nisan Spring Festival	Assyrian Diaspora
1	Hindu New Year	Hinduism
2	World Autism Awareness Day	United Nations
3-May 2	Ramadan	Islam
7	World Health Day	World Health Organization
7	Tutsi Genocide Memorial Day	Canadian Government
9	Vimy Ridge Day	Canadian Government
8	International Day of Silence	GLSEN
10	Sri Rama Navami	Hinduism
13	International Day of Pink	
14	Vaisakhi Sikh New Year	Sikhism
14	Puthandu (Tamil New Year)	Buddhism/Taoism
14	Solar New Year (Mesha Sankranta)	Hinduism
15	Memorial to Christ's Death	Jehovah's Witness
15	Good Friday	Canadian Govt Holiday and Christiani-
16-22	Pesach/Passover	Judaism
16	Theravada New Year	Buddhism

APRIL 2022 - DAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

17	Easter Sunday	Christianity
18	Easter Monday	Canadian Govt Holiday and Christi-
20	First Day of Ridván	Baha'i
21	Grounation Day	Rastafarian Holy Day
22	Earth Day (International Mother Earth	United Nations
22	Orthodox Holy Friday	Christianity: Eastern Orthodox
24	Armenian Genocide Memorial Day	Canadian Government
24	Orthodox Easter Sunday	Christianity: Eastern Orthodox
24-30	National Volunteer Week	
25	Orthodox Easter Monday	Christianity: Eastern Orthodox
25	Feast of St. Mark	Christianity – East Orthodox and
27	Laylat al-Qadr*	Islam
27	Administrative Professionals Day	
27-29	Yom HaShoah* (Holocaust Remem-	Judaism
28	Jumu'ahtul Wida	
28	National Day of Mourning	Canadian Government
28	Yom HaShoah* Holocaust Remem-	Judaism
29	Laylat al-Qadr	Islam
30	Ninth Day of Ridván	Baha'i



Our Exclusive School Code

B3S8YP

École Confédération Parent Council is hosting an online fundraiser for our school with **Fundscrip**.

Purchase gift cards from www.fundscrip.com and a percentage of your purchase value will be donated back to our school. All payments are done online and all gift cards will be delivered right to your home.

How to register for an account:

- 1) Go to www.fundscrip.com
- 2) Click on Support a Group (Top Right)
- 3) Enter our school code (top of this page)
- 4) Fill in your personal information.
- 5) Check your email and confirm your account.
- 6) Confirm your preferences.
- 7) Start shopping.

Home | About | Help | News | Contact Us

Start a Group

Support a Group

Payment options available include: electronic funds transfer, online banking, or credit card.

We thank you in advance for supporting our school. Happy shopping!

Sample Of Participating Retailers. Visit www.fundscrip.com for a complete listing



Labels for the stuff kids lose!



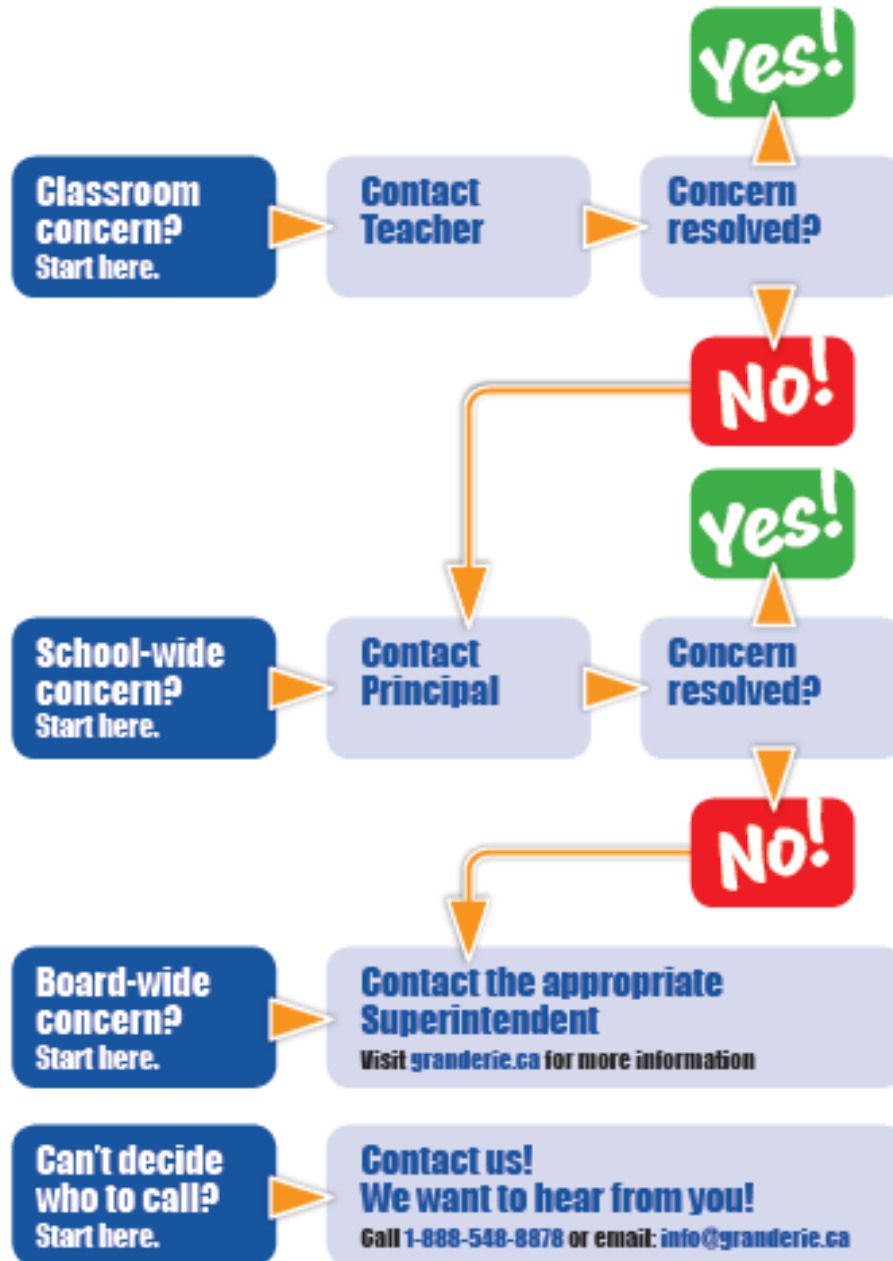
Be sure to label all your gear and supplies to help keep them out of the Lost & Found. Shop for durable, personalized labels and support our fundraiser!

mabel's labels
FUNDRAISING

Visit campaigns.mabelslabels.com
to support our organization.



How to Get Help with a Concern



Your trustee can guide you through this process