

Frontenac Secondary School Newsletter

February 7, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the second semester. With a new beginning, comes opportunities to start with a clean slate. It is also important for everyone to remind ourselves of what worked well in semester one, and what needs to be refined to help be successful. A fresh start allows for the chance to have new teachers and learning opportunities as well as the opportunity to make new friends. We encourage all students to get involved in a school activity as it is not too late to join a club or prepare for the spring sports season where training will be a few weeks away.

Administrative Announcements

At our grade forum assemblies this week, on top of our cornerstone beliefs of kindness, respect and taking care of each other, we emphasized some of our other initiatives to promote learning and more time in the classroom.

Cell Phone Restrictions

Cell phones should not be visible or used during learning times unless approved by the educator for educational purposes only. Cell phones may be confiscated by staff if they are not used appropriately.

Reducing Classroom Interruptions, Truancy and Tardiness (Lates)

The hall pass system is working well as there are fewer hallway interruptions and students are spending more time in class. The feedback we are getting from staff and supply teachers is letting us know that we are having students in class more. Better attendance means more opportunities to practice and learn which has been reflected in our overall data. We thank you for your support in this regard to improve overall attendance.

School Attendance – Every School Day Counts

We continue to be vigilant with monitoring attendance and lates. We appreciate everyone for using the Safe Arrival app to help ensure accurate reporting and accounting of attendance. Parents can report on the app until around 7:00 PM (time varies with the program) when the system updates in the evening. Parents cannot change information in Safe Arrival once the system updates. After this, we encourage parents to email or leave a phone message. Although these methods of communication are more time consuming, we believe communication between home and school is key, so we appreciate your support with this.

Lunch time consequences will continue two days per week from 11:10- 11:45 am: Tuesday (for absences and lates the preceding Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) and Thursday (for absences and lates the preceding Friday and Monday). The lag in having the study hall helps to ensure the accuracy of our data and allows parents and guardians to have an opportunity to converse with their student.

Extended approved absence

The "Extended Approved Absence" option is used when families have made a formal request for the student(s) to be away from school for an extended length of time. Extended absences may negatively impact a student's academic achievement. Extended absences may be granted for vacations, family obligations or based on the principal's discretion in consultation with the school supervisor. Extended Absence forms are available in the attendance office.

LDSB News

On Monday, February 24th the LCVI Academy of Hair and BHM student committee will host a Black History Month Textured Hair Workshop from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 am for Black identifying students in grades 9-12. This will be a two-hour practical workshop working with textured hair, specifically maintenance, twists, and braids. This workshop will be held in the LCVI Hair Salon.

From 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm, LCVI will also host a Panel of Excellence. This will be made up of Black professionals in the Kingston area. Students will have the opportunity to learn from these role models as they speak about their experiences. This will be a moderated question and answer format for Black identifying students. The panel will be held in the LCVI library.

Lunch will be provided. Any dietary needs can be shared on the registration form.

To Register: [BHM Textured Hair Workshop and Panel of Excellence Hosted by LCVI Registration Link](#). DUE: Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2025. Families who register are responsible for signing their student out for the day from Frontenac. Transportation to and from LCVI will be the responsibility of the participants.

FSS School Council

The next school council meeting is **Wednesday, March 19th** beginning at 6:30 pm in the FSS Library. All are welcome to attend.

FSS Library

Some textbooks from the first semester have not been returned yet. Please check at home for any materials that should be returned. Furthermore, students in grade 9 and 10 that are new to Frontenac are eligible for a Chromebook. If interested, students should see Mr. McKenna for a Fair Notice form in the main office before a device can be signed out from the library.

FSS Ophelia Club Workshop- Relationship Reality: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

The Ophelia Club is happy to be celebrating Valentine's Day with all our grade 9 students by hosting a workshop titled, "Relationship Reality: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly". The focus of the morning is to help students navigate strong relationships, with conversations centering around healthy friendships, consent, protection and support. We will be welcoming speakers from community organizations such as the Maltby Centre, Family and Child Services, Sexual Assault Centre Kingston, TriHealth Therapy, the OPP, and others. We will also have two of our Adolescent Care Workers present to facilitate discussions. The event takes place on Friday, February 14 during periods 1 & 2, and chocolate will be provided.

Student Services Updates

Semester 2 Timetable Changes

Our team has been working hard to get students settled into their semester 2 classes. If your student requires any additional timetable changes, please have them contact their Guidance Counsellor as soon as possible. The last day to make changes is February 12th.

FSS Guidance Counsellors by Grade:

Grade 9 - Bruce Patry [patryb@limestone.on.ca]

Grade 10 - Marie Dempster [dempsterma@limestone.on.ca]

Grade 11 - Aaron Kenney [kenneya@limestone.on.ca]

Grade 12 - Krista Lackey [lackeykl@limestone.on.ca]

Co-op Placements

We still have a number of students looking for co-op placements this semester. If you or your employer are interested in hosting a co-op student, please contact Aaron Kenney, Bruce Patry, or Dale Bennett. Thank you for providing valuable workplace experiences for our students!

Summer School 2025

Please note that registration for summer school courses isn't available until the spring. Stay tuned here for information when it becomes available.

Course Requests for the 2025-2026 School Year

Believe it or not, we are already making plans for the next school year! Students returning to Frontenac next year will be doing their course requests throughout the month of February. Stay tuned for an email from our Guidance Department later today that will outline the process and deadlines.

Acadie



Tuesday, February 11th, 6:30 until 7:30pm, we will be holding an Open House here at Acadie for grade 6 families to explain more about the transition from grade 6 to grade 7 at Acadie and all about the Late Immersion Program (otherwise known as Extended French) and the Early Immersion program.

Do you know of any grade 6 students thinking about coming to Acadie? Please let them know about our Open House. It is a fantastic way for students in full English streams to gain the benefits of French Immersion. Please visit the LDSB website for more info: [Choices at 7](#) If you have any questions, please reach out to edaca@limestone.on.ca

KFL&A Public Health

“Face to Face February” Challenge

Face to Face February is a 28-day challenge designed to improve social health and combat loneliness among students and staff. Here are three key points to remember:

1. Social connection is fundamental to health, happiness, and longevity.
2. Face-to-face interactions are crucial for meeting our social needs and reducing stress.
3. Technology should complement, not replace, in-person connections.

This campaign, developed by students and promoted by [GenWell Canada](#), encourages students to engage in daily activities posted on the [GenWellProject Instagram](#) page. By participating, students can actively contribute to fostering a more connected and supportive school environment.

[The Face-to-Face February Toolkit](#) has everything a student group such as a Wellness Team or Student Council needs to get started.

Let's work together to make "[Face to Face February](#)" a success and foster a more connected school community!

For more information on how to promote **Face to Face February** in your school, please reach out to your school Public Health Nurse, call our Supporting Healthy School phone line at 613-549-1232 ext. 1102, or email healthy Schools at healthy.schools@kflaph.ca.

KFL&A Immunization Team Update

Please note that KFL&A Public Health has merged with Hastings Prince Edward Public Health and Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit to form the South East Health Unit (SEHU). SEHU's KFL&A-based immunization team is looking forward to working with your school on the annual enforcement of ISPA during the 2025 winter/spring semester. The enforcement timeline is as follows:

Initial notice distribution	Jan. 28, 2025
Immunization reporting deadline	Feb. 25, 2025
Suspension order distribution	March 4, 2025
Suspension period	April 8 (suspension day) to May 7, 2025

Upcoming Events

February 14- Ophelia Club hosts all grade 9s Healthy Relationships Workshop

February 17- Family Day (no school)

February 28- Student Course Requests for 2025-2026 are due in myBlueprint

March 3-5- Frontenac hosts OFSAA Boys AAA Basketball

March 10-14- March Break

June 26- FSS Graduation Ceremony