



Frontenac Secondary School Newsletter

September 20, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We hope your child(ren) is/are settling into a familiar and comfortable school routine. The beginning of the school year is always a great time to reconnect with old friends, make new ones, join sports teams, explore the Frontenac arts community, or participate in school clubs. We strongly encourage all students to get involved in school life.

FSS Athletics

We have 9 sports teams participating in KASSAA this fall season, just over 200 student athletes, and 35 coaches (both teachers and community members). Come out to cheer on your Falcons on the courts, fields, links and trails! Check out kassaa.ca for up-to-date schedules and our social media accounts for action shots and results!

SAGE Club at FSS

SAGE is Frontenac's Sexuality And Gender Equity group. SAGE is made up of like-minded students and staff who provide a safe place for students who identify under the rainbow and also for those who are allies. We meet weekly, usually with cookies or treats. We plan activities, outings, games tournaments, book shares, field trips, Pride activities, and much much more. We will be meeting weekly, Fridays at lunch. Listen to announcements and read the signs for location details.

Students' Council

Congratulations to Aiden Hanes and Leah DaCosta who were elected by the grade 9 class as Grade Reos to serve on the students' council. Thank you to all the students who ran in the election.

National Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day

September 30th is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day. This is a day to intentionally continue learning about the Residential School System and the truthful history of relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. This is a day to mourn the lives of the children who never came home and honour the survivors, as well as their families and communities. This day is part of a larger conversation of colonization and systemic inequities, and the recognition of Indigenous resilience and resistance to colonial tactics should be included as part of this learning.

Should you or anyone you know need help, please see the support lines shared below:

The National Indian Residential School Crisis Line provides 24-hour crisis support to Survivors and those affected by the Residential School System at 1-866-925-4419.

Individuals impacted by the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, Two-Spirit, Transgender, and gender diverse people's crisis are encouraged to contact the MMIWG Crisis Line toll-free at 1-844-413-6649. First Nations, Inuit and Métis seeking immediate emotional support can contact the Hope for Wellness Help Line toll-free at 1-855-242-3310, or by online chat at hopeforwellness.ca.

School Council

School Councils in Ontario play a crucial role in enhancing student achievement and increasing the accountability of the education system to parents. By participating in school councils, parents can directly influence their child's educational environment and help shape school policies. Getting involved is a great way to stay informed, contribute to the school community, and ensure that the voices of parents are heard. Our first meeting and election is being held this coming Wednesday, September 25th at 6:30 pm in the Library Conference Room. All parents and guardians of Acadie and Frontenac are welcome.

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. We thank you for your support in this regard to improve overall attendance.

School Attendance – Every School Day Counts

The recent changes to our attendance policy have resulted in greater student engagement in the classroom and fewer distractions in the hallways. As we continue to fine-tune this system, we ask parents to accurately report their child's absences and tardiness. Our goal is to enhance communication between caregivers and the school, and to promote increased student accountability. Students embracing the new

policy has greatly reduced unexplained absences and lates. We appreciate your ongoing support and questions raised to help us make sure the policy is equitable for all students. [Reporting an Absence](#)

School Laptops for All Students

Laptop distribution is continuing. All grade 9s and most grade 10s should have a laptop by now. Students may choose to use their own device (not a cell phone) instead of the device provided by the school. Grade 11 and 12 distribution is on pause while we establish a balance between devices available in the school and student needs. We will share information about next steps as it becomes available.

Washroom Safety

Students are generally doing well making sure our washrooms are a safe place and accessible to all. A reminder that students are not permitted to congregate in washrooms. Please be reminded to use the toilet, sink, and mirror, then leave. No other activities are permitted.

School Day

This year we will not be accepting any personal cheques to pay for any school events. Fees can be paid in person in the main office using the credit/debit machine or via School Day. We encourage all parents to create their own School Day account using the steps outlined via this attachment: [📄Parents - Create Account & Connect to Student.docx](#)

FSS Thanks No Frills

A huge shout out to Emily and Andrew from No Frills on Bath Rd. for their donation of snack bags for our students. Through the support of the local community efforts over 450 items were able to be accessed by our students.



Terry Fox School Run

This year's Terry Fox run is Friday, September 27 at 9am!, and the campaign called #NoMatterWhat celebrates Terry's determination and persistence. When running his Marathon of Hope in 1980 he faced many challenges along the way, but he kept going – no matter the obstacles, no matter the journey, no matter the odds - NO MATTER WHAT.



We welcome donations by the FSS Community to support the dream of living in a world with no cancer. Online donations can be made at <https://schools.terryfox.ca/FrontenacSSKingston>, and donations through student home forms are also encouraged. Thank you for your continued support.

FSS Arts Camp

Calling all musicians, artists, actors, writers, dancers, and more! You are invited to the 2024 FSS Arts Camp, running from Sept. 30 to Oct 1 at Camp Iawah.

Students can participate in a variety of arts activities including campfire, singalongs, creative writing, arts & craft workshops, break dancing, drama games, and leadership workshops run by FSS Arts teachers and students, as well as some great outdoor activities run by the staff.

This is open to all interested students at FSS from grades 9-12. It's a great opportunity to make connections with other students, to learn some new skills, and to see first-hand all the great things happening in the arts at FSS!

For more information or for a copy of the permission/enrolment form, please reach out to Mr. Davey at daveys@limestone.on.ca. Hope to see you there!

FSS Library

There are still some missing textbooks and library books missing. Parents are encouraged to help your student locate and return them for accurate record keeping.

School Calendar

A printed version of the 2024-25 school calendar will not be provided this year. Please use the link below to access: [LDSB Calendar 2024-25](#)

Looking forward to building on our great start to the school year.

Kind regards,

James Bonham-Carter, Sheri Jones, Mark McKenna

Administration Team

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