



Riverside Public School | December 2025 Newsletter

**P. Atack - Principal, B. Tamasi – Vice Principal
K. Kramer – Administrative Assistant, L. McLean - Secretary
J. Beynon - Superintendent**

Principal's Message

Dear Riverside Families,

Schools in December are full of excitement, concerts, and seasonal sniffles and this year at Riverside is no exception! Even with tissues and hand sanitizer close at hand, this month is a wonderful time for learning and coming together as a community.

We are excited to remind families that our Winter Concerts are just around the corner. The Junior and Intermediate concert will take place on Wednesday, December 10th, and the Kindergarten and Primary concert will follow on Thursday, December 11th. Both concerts will have performances at 12:00 PM and 6:00 PM. To help ensure everyone can enjoy these special events, grandparents and extended family are encouraged to attend the afternoon performances, as our gym cannot accommodate everyone in the evening. Thank you for understanding and helping us make these concerts enjoyable for all!



This month, we are also celebrating the incredible generosity shown through our 'Community Cupboard Fundraiser'. Students have been collecting food and gently used clothing to support the Riverside community. Beyond helping others, this initiative has sparked meaningful learning as students have been counting, sorting, creating patterns, and graphing donations, turning kindness into hands-on math experiences!

As we approach the winter break, I want to express my ongoing appreciation for your support and partnership. Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful holiday season and a restful break.

Sincerely,

Peter Atack

Principal, Riverside Public School



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Highlights / Celebrations from the Past Month:

Intermediate Basketball

We are thrilled to celebrate the incredible achievements of our Intermediate Boys and Intermediate Girls Basketball Teams this season. Both teams demonstrated outstanding skill, determination, and teamwork, making this a truly memorable year for our school.

The Girls Team had an exceptional run, finishing first in the Region and earning the opportunity to compete at the Thames Valley Finals – AA Division. Their performance was marked by resilience and sportsmanship, qualities that shone through in every game they played.

The Boys Team also captured first place in the Region, continuing their success at the Thames Valley Finals – AA Division, where they proudly brought home a silver medal. Their hard work and commitment were evident throughout the season, and they represented our school with pride.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the players for their dedication, perseverance, and teamwork. A sincere thank you also goes to our incredible coaches - Mrs. Bryenton and Ms. Landry, who led the Girls Team, and Mr. Campbell and Ms. Bogorin, who led the Boys Team. Your leadership and support have been instrumental in helping our athletes grow and succeed.

Congratulations to everyone involved for an outstanding season!



Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics (STEM) Learning

This month, our Teacher Librarian, Ms. McCallum-Harris, partnered with classrooms to bring exciting STEM learning opportunities to the Learning Commons. Students had opportunity to explore hands-on activities that encouraged creativity, problem-solving, and collaboration.



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- Kindergarten to Grade 2 students participated in STEM Fairy Tale Challenges, working together to design and build solutions to imaginative problems inspired by classic stories.

- Grades 4 to 8 students took their learning to the next level by programming Dash Coding Robots to measure perimeter and area. These robots didn't just stay in the library—they traveled through hallways and

into classrooms, turning math concepts into an engaging, real-world experience!



STEM learning continues to spark curiosity and innovation in our school community. We look forward to more opportunities for students to explore, create, and discover!

Remembrance Day Assembly 2025

On November 11th, our entire school community (K-8) gathered in the gymnasium for a meaningful Remembrance Day Assembly. This day is recognized across Canada as a time to honor and remember the sacrifices of those who served and continue to serve in the armed forces, protecting the freedoms we enjoy today. Coming together as a school allows us to reflect on the importance of peace and gratitude.

Classes contributed beautifully crafted wreaths for display, creating a solemn and respectful atmosphere. Both the Primary and Junior/Intermediate Choirs performed moving pieces that added to the spirit of remembrance. A highlight of the assembly was the performance of The Last Post by a professional trumpet player from the University of Western Ontario, which brought a powerful sense of reflection to the ceremony.

Our students demonstrated exceptional respect throughout the event. A special thank you goes to Ms. Rees and our Intermediate Emcees for their leadership and hard work in organizing this important occasion.





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Lester B. Pearson – Arts Ambassadors Performance

This month, we were delighted to welcome the Grade 7 Arts Ambassadors from Lester B. Pearson School, who performed for our students in Grades 3–6. The performance was a vibrant celebration of the arts, featuring singing, dancing, instrumental music, and drama.



Events like this remind us of the importance of the arts in education and in our community. The arts allow students to express themselves creatively, build confidence, and connect with others in meaningful ways. Having the opportunity to celebrate talented students from another school enriches our own learning experience and strengthens the sense of community across schools.

We are grateful to Lester B. Pearson's Arts Ambassadors for sharing their talents and inspiring our students through the power of music, movement, and storytelling.

Important Dates:

- Wednesday, December 10, 2025 – J/I Winter Concert 12pm & 6pm
- Thursday, December 11, 2025 – FDK/P Winter Concert 12pm & 6pm
- Friday, January 30, 2026 – London Knights O Canada

2025-26 PA Days:

- Tuesday, September 2, 2025
- Friday, October 10, 2025
- Friday, November 14, 2025
- Friday, January 30, 2026
- Friday, April 24, 2026
- Friday, May 29, 2026
- Friday, June 26, 2026

2025-26 School Holidays:

Thanksgiving: October 13, 2025
Winter Break: December 22, 2025 - January 2, 2026
Family Day: February 16, 2026
Spring Break: March 16 - March 20, 2026
Good Friday: April 3, 2026
Easter Monday: April 6, 2026
Victoria Day: May 18, 2026