

Staff are also working to support important skills necessary for kindergarten students – such as social, communication and behaviour response skills – much of which were impacted by the extended isolation. The school recently applied to the Kawartha Lakes Community Foundation for funding to purchase technology devices and resources to help youngsters adapt and thrive.

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Burke is optimistic the board's fund will continue to assist struggling families.

"The one thing this pandemic has done is given some segments of our population some perspective," said Burke. "We have unwell adults and unwell families, and that's leading to unwell children. These last seven, eight months have caused families that would otherwise have resilient and thriving children to experience lags in development."

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