



Adrienne Clarkson Connections

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Website: adrienneclarkson.ps.yrdsb.ca
Twitter: @AClarksonPS

Principal: Nadia Russiello

Superintendent:

Michael Cohen

Vice-Principal: Ruth Walker-Rosewood

Trustee:

Cindy Liang

Administrators' Message

C'est la rentrée!! We would like to welcome everyone back to school for the 2019-2020 school year. "Bienvenue" to all of our new Grade 2 students and their families, along with the many other new students and families in our community. We hope that you had a wonderful summer.

Excitement has definitely been in the air as our staff prepared the school for this new academic year. Special thanks to our caretaking staff for their many hours throughout the summer to get the school looking amazing!

The summer has also brought some staffing changes to ACPS. We would like to welcome the following new teachers: Mme Segal and Mme Briggs and we welcome Mme Brown back. If you have been by the office, you've surely noticed that Mme Gaston has assumed our Head Secretary position and Mme Bailey is our new office assistant. We welcome them both and thank them as well as Mme Irving for their hard work to getting things in order for September.

For students, September always brings a mixed bag of emotions as we begin the school year. Enthusiasm about learning new things, excitement about re-connecting with friends, nervousness around meeting new teachers or worry about achieving higher expectations – these are all normal feelings that children may experience as the school year begins. As parents/guardians, it is important to validate these feelings, but also to reassure your child that these emotions are part of a new challenge, and that there are many people to support him/her along the way. We need to remember that every school year is a new journey, full of ups and downs. The key to success lies in the belief in ourselves that we can handle the challenges ahead as well as understanding and accepting that others can assist us to handle these challenges! A "growth mindset" is important in assisting our young people to become resilient.

Together, we look forward to this journey, as we help our students to learn and grow into responsible citizens.

Sincerely,

Mme Russiello et Mme Walker-Rosewood

Our Vision

We demonstrate respect for each other through our thoughts, actions and words. We accept that everyone is unique, with different abilities, beliefs, needs and strengths. We support and care for each other in the spirit of community. We are responsible for our learning and our behaviour and strive to be positive in our outlook and our interactions with others. We value independent, critical thinking and endeavour to make meaningful contributions to benefit our school and community, for it is through individual and collective efforts that we achieve a vibrant learning environment.



Sep 3 – First Day of School

Sep 6 – Welcome Assembly

Sep 11 – Safe & Caring
Schools Assemblies

Sep 12 – Meet & Greet for
Grade 2 Families (6:30 pm)

Sep 16 – Terry Fox Run/Walk
Assembly

Sep 18 – Karate Kids Lunch
Program begins (Gr. 2-4)

Sep 23 – **PA Day** – No school
for students

Sep 25 – Photo Day

Sep 26 – Terry Fox Run/Walk

Sep 26 – Meet the Teacher
Night

Sep 27 – WOW Guest
Speaker (4A & 4B)

Oct 2 – Grade 7 Hep B & HPV
Immunizations

Oct 2 – School Council
Meeting (7 pm)

ACPS BELIEVES IN

Respect
Responsibility
Honesty
Empathy
Fairness
Initiative
Courage
Integrity
Perseverance
Optimism

vive la rentrée



ADRIENNE CLARKSON STAFF 2019-2020

Grade 2	Mme Bertrand Mme Brown Mme Pakjou Mme Yong
Grade 3	Mme Dela Roca Mme Hamilton Mme Segal Mme Sheriff
Grade 4	Mme Clarke M. Dias Mme Ramsay Mme Scardina
Grade 5	Mme Klein Mme Nacuta Mme Panzer
Grade 5/6	M. Bradford
Grade 6	Mme Burns Mme Demacio M. Thornton
Grade 7	Mme Cherid Mme Drodge Mme Generoso
Grade 7/8	M. Mulligan
Grade 8	Mme Malarczyk Mme Motomura
Music/Prep Coverage	M. Pang Mme Malarczyk
Phys Ed/Grade 8	M. Mizrahi
Phys Ed/Prep Coverage	M. Konate
Visual Arts/Prep Coverage	Mme Gladman
SERT/Transitions/Grade 7	M. Gourley
SERT/Prep Coverage	Mme Quirion
Teacher Librarians	Mme Generoso Mme Burns
Prep Coverage/Grade 6	Mme Briggs
Grade 5	Mme Ferreira
Child & Youth Worker	Mme Bryan
Office Staff	Mme Gaston Mme Irving Mme Bailey
Caretakers	M. Lucchetta M. Cherubini M. Parekh M. Dzuryk
Principal	Mme Russiello
Vice-Principal	Mme Walker-Rosewood

Important Information and Forms

During the first week of school, there will be important information coming home with your child. Please review this information, and complete and return the necessary forms. This includes the forms in the Start-Up Package. Thank you for your continued cooperation.



Photo Day
will be on
Wednesday
September
25.

School Year Calendar for 2019-2020

Labour Day	Mon. Sep. 2, 2019
PA Day	Mon. Sep. 23, 2019
Thanksgiving Day	Mon. Oct. 14, 2019
PA Day	Mon. Oct. 21, 2019
PA Day	Fri. Nov. 15, 2019
Winter Break	Mon. Dec. 23, 2019 to Fri. Jan. 3, 2020
PA Day	Fri. Jan. 17, 2020
PA Day	Fri. Jan. 31, 2020
Family Day	Mon. Feb. 17, 2020
Mid-Winter Break	Mon. March 16 to Fri. March 20, 2020
Good Friday	Fri. April 10, 2020
Easter Monday	Mon. Apr. 13, 2020
Victoria Day	Mon. May 18, 2020
PA Day	Mon. June 1, 2020
PA Day	Fri. June 26, 2020



Daily Schedule at ACPs 2019-2020

7:50 a.m.	Busses unload & playground supervision
8:03 a.m.	Warning Bell
8:05 a.m.	Students enter the school (Any student arriving after 8:05 a.m. must report to the office)
8:05 a.m. – 10:05 a.m.	Instructional Time
10:05 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.	Recess
10:35 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.	Instructional Time
11:55 a.m. – 12:55 p.m.	Lunch & Recess
12:55 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.	Instructional Time
2:35 p.m.	Dismissal
2:35 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	Bus Boarding



Meet the Teacher Open House

Please mark **September 26th** on your calendar. Our classrooms will be open providing you the opportunity to meet your child's teacher, see where your child spends his/her day and learn about the Curriculum. More information to come soon!!

Attendance & Safe Arrival

We continue using the **Safe Arrival** system which allows parents/guardians to report their child's absence quickly and conveniently. Parents/guardians can now report student absences online.

Regular and punctual attendance affects school success and is expected of all students. It is important that students, families and school staff work together to ensure regular attendance. You are expected to notify the school as soon as possible if your child will be absent or late.

Reporting an absence online is now available through Edsby. If you have activated your Edsby account, you can login to Edsby and report your child's absence online. You can access an [online video tutorial to learn more](#) at bit.ly/edsbyabsence about how to do this.

If you have not yet created an Edsby account, please contact the school office.

Families can still continue to report absences by phone. Please call the school phone number and select the attendance mailbox. If your child's absence is not reported and we are unable to reach you, we will continue to follow the YRDSB safe arrival protocol and contact York Regional Police.



Keeping staff and students safe!

ACPS is a peanut- & nut-free school

We have a number of students and staff who have life-threatening food allergies to peanuts/nuts or other by-products. If some of these individuals smell or come in contact with these foods, they may go into "anaphylactic shock", a potentially life-threatening condition. We ask all parents to please check the ingredient list of all snack and lunch items for peanut and nut products before sending them to school. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping all children safe at school.

Student Medical Conditions

School staff and parents are responsible for creating a safe and healthy environment for students. It is essential that parents communicate any life-threatening medical conditions/allergies to the school as soon as they are aware. The school needs to keep accurate records and inform staff of the condition so that proper procedures can be followed in case of an emergency. **If your child has a serious medical condition and you have not yet informed us, please communicate with our office staff immediately.**



Scent Sensitivities

Some children and adults also suffer from allergies to scents and perfumes. When exposed to such scents, it can become difficult for these people to breathe easily. **We ask that all children and adults entering the school refrain from wearing or using scented products (e.g., hand sanitizers, body sprays and perfumes, etc.) when coming to the school.** Although the scent may not be strong for you, it can be very strong to those with sensitivities. We appreciate your understanding.

Healthy School and Birthdays

While we understand that many families celebrate their children's birthdays with a variety of food traditions at home, **we request that you do not send any food items to school to be shared with classmates for birthdays**. There are a number of reasons for this request. Several parents do not want "sweets" being sent to school for birthdays. As well, many children have serious food allergies and others have medical concerns such as Type 1 diabetes. Birthday treats and sharing should be a **home tradition**. We will continue to recognize our students on their birthdays in a variety of simple ways. Thank you for your cooperation.

TRANSPORTATION ROUTINES

The majority of students at Adrienne Clarkson arrive and leave by bus. Students are given extensive support and education during the month of September to ensure their safety and comfort while boarding and riding the bus.

You can support their efforts by:

1. Ensuring that your child knows his/her bus route number and the name of the bus stop where s/he boards the bus from home.
2. Ensuring that your child arrives at the bus stop on time to board the bus and that young students are met promptly at the bus by an adult. Bus drivers have been instructed not to let young students off the bus unless there is an adult there to meet them. With no adult present, the bus driver will return the child to the school.
3. Talking to your child about safety issues on the bus such as: staying seated, no eating or drinking, no throwing objects out of the window or in the bus, no loud conversations and no hands on others.
4. Ensuring that any time your child does not take the bus, the teacher is informed in writing that day.

If you need to change your afternoon pick-up plans, please ensure you inform the office before 1:30 pm.



Visitors and Volunteers

All Visitors to the school must SIGN-IN at the office. Everyone must wear a 'Visitor' sticker for the safety of our students and staff. All Volunteers must have a valid police check including the Vulnerable Sector Screening on file. More information is available in the school office.



School Assistants Needed

We are looking for adults to help supervise students over the school lunch hour (11:55 a.m. – 12:55 p.m.). This is a paid position. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the school office.



Indoor Shoes Please

Our caretakers do an outstanding job of maintaining the clean and polished look of the floors in the school. Please support their efforts by ensuring that your children have indoor shoes for use in classrooms and in the gym—no black soles please, due to the stubborn marks they leave on the floors. This is particularly important during wet weather when boots and shoes track a great deal of dirt, snow and water into the school.



LUNCH PROGRAMS



As an added convenience for families, ACPs will be offering a variety of paid lunch programs which include meals from **Little Caesars, Pita Pit, Subway, Astoria and Kids Kitchen.**

You will receive additional information on these programs in the coming weeks.

Ministry Class-size Compliance

Over the summer months, many families move into or out of our community. As a result, we are monitoring class sizes to ensure compliance with Ministry regulations. By September 23rd, after examining our class sizes, the School Board will decide if a reorganization of classes is necessary. This is common in all schools across the Board and the Province.

As in all difficult situations, our children will take their lead by the example that we set for them. This could be an opportunity to demonstrate optimism by looking at this change in a positive light. We will keep you informed of any changes that will affect your son/daughter. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Eco Corner

Last year, our Eco Club worked very hard and was awarded "PLATINUM" Certification. September is a great time to set new routines, particularly when it comes to snacks and lunches. Why not think about litter-less or "boomerang" lunches for this school year?

Litter-less lunches: Pack snacks and lunches in re-usable containers. This helps reduce the amount of waste left at school.

Boomerang lunch: Encourage children to bring home any uneaten food. This helps you to see what they've eaten at school and ensures that food doesn't end up in the garbage or compost.

Please be sure the school office has your e-mail address and access our school website for newsletters, the school calendar, School Council news and much more. Visit <http://adrienneclarkson.ps.yrdsb.ca> for this information.



A message from our School Trustee

I am so pleased to welcome all of our new and returning families to another school year. As your school board trustee, it is my role to advocate for quality public education in York Region, and to ensure that our students remain at the centre of all of our decision making. The [Board of Trustees](#) makes [policy](#) and [budget](#) decisions, and communicates with the public, among other [responsibilities](#).

We are also responsible for setting direction for the school board, through our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#). This plan sets out four priorities: Foster Well-Being and Mental Health, Build Collaborative Relationships, Champion Equity and Inclusivity, and Empower Ethical Leadership.

As we start the new school year, I want to highlight the importance of relationships. We want to build and maintain relationships with our families that are built on trust, respect and responsive communication. To support that, I will continue to keep you informed of our work and priorities, and I encourage you to [contact me](#) if you have any questions or concerns. You can also find the [message from the Chair of the Board](#) on the Board's website.

In addition, I invite you to share your feedback on our Board policies. Policies govern everything from field trips, school volunteers, equity and inclusive education, student discipline and much more, and we greatly value input from families on these important matters. We regularly post on our website the [policies that are under review](#) and available for comment as well as information about how to share your feedback. I hope you will take a look.

I know school staff are excited to welcome back students, and I look forward to meeting more of our families throughout the upcoming school year. I encourage you to build a relationship with the staff members and community at your school. There are so many [different ways to get involved](#) and support your child's education. I hope you have a great start to the school year and wish you a happy, safe and successful year ahead.

Cindy Liang
Trustee, Richmond Hill Wards 3, 5 and 6

Student Busing Eligibility

Did you know that students' busing eligibility changes throughout their school career? Your son/daughter's eligibility to ride the school bus may change according to their grade and distance from home to school. Below are the provisions for eligibility identified in the Board's Transportation Policy #680:



- All YRDSB students in Grades JK-3 who live within 1.2 km of their school are not eligible for transportation
- All YRDSB students in Grades 4-8 who live within 1.6 km of their school are not eligible for transportation
- All YRDSB students in Grades 9-12 who live within a transit served area are not eligible for transportation.

To view Board Policy #680 Student Transportation, please visit www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. For more information about bus transportation and to determine your son/daughter's eligibility please visit www.schoolbuscity.com.

Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy Act

The display of student work, student performances or significant achievements of our students are common school practices both within the school, on the school and board websites or at board and school-sponsored events beyond the school.

We recognize that there are situations where these practices may be contrary to the wishes of some parents and students for important reasons. If you do not wish to have your child or your child's work displayed, published or broadcast within or beyond the school, please inform the principal in writing.

USE OF LOCKERS

Wherever available, lockers are issued to students for storing their books, coats and other personal belongings related to school activities. Students need to keep their lockers locked at all times, using a combination lock.

The combinations of all locks must be given to the homeroom teacher for safe storage. Lockers are the property of the school and are made available to students for their convenience. Students who deface, damage or use their lockers inappropriately, risk losing their locker privileges. According to the *York Regional Police/York Region District School Board Protocol*, **school administrators have the right to search school property, such as lockers and desks**, without notice or permission from any person.



School Council

There is a large body of research that illustrates that children whose parents take an active role in their education enjoy greater success in school and beyond. There are so many ways that one can be involved, from assisting with homework to volunteering at the school. As always we encourage you to play an important part in your child's education.

The school council is just one of the means by which you can support the education of your child and the children of this community. Members of our council work to enhance the learning environment here at Adrienne Clarkson PS. We encourage you to join our efforts as many hands make light work. On **Wednesday, October 2nd** the council will hold its election. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend these meetings. Your commitment to the education of the children of this community will yield benefits for many years to come. Our children are our hope for tomorrow. Become involved today.



THE EDUCATION CENTRE

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Box 40, Aurora, Ontario L4G 3H2
Tel: 905.722.3201 905.895.7216 905.727.3141 416.969.8131
Automated 905.727.0022 895.7227 722.6255 416.969.7170

Fax: 905.727.1931
Website: www.yrbe.edu.on.ca

September 3, 2019

Dear families,

We are so excited to welcome you to the 2019-2020 school year at York Region District School Board. We hope that you are looking forward to a year of learning, growth and discovery. It is important to us that all of our students and families know that they are a valued part of our school community. Each and every child has important and unique contributions to offer and we aim to create learning environments where they feel safe, respected and supported in making those contributions.

It is a privilege to work alongside families to support your children in exploring their interests, learning more about the world around them and reaching their full potential. We are more successful in doing that when there are strong connections between our schools and families, and we hope you will find opportunities to build those important connections throughout the year.

Our work to provide your child with the best possible education is guided by four priorities set out by the Board of Trustees in our Multi-Year Strategic Plan: Foster Well-Being and Mental Health, Build Collaborative Relationships, Champion Equity and Inclusivity, and Empower Ethical Leadership. [Our plans](#) are available on the Board website or you can make a request through your school office.

As part of our commitment to build collaborative relationships, we will continue to keep you informed about our work at the board and important news and events through our website, social media and through your school. We look forward to connecting with you, and wish you a happy, safe and successful school year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L Sirisko".

Louise Sirisko
Director of Education

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C McBain".

Corrie McBain
Chair of the Board

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