



E BULLETIN - AURORA HEIGHTS PS SCHOOL SCOOP - October 11, 2021

Principal: Jennifer Anderson Superintendent: Neil Gunathunge Trustee: Bob McRoberts
 Vice Principal: Jodi Fine neil.gunathunge@vrdsb.ca bob.mcroberts@vrdsb.ca



DATE/DATE	EVENT	UPCOMING EVENTS
Monday October 11	<i>Thanksgiving, no school</i>	October 20 - Raptor Day October 28 - Black & Orange Day October 29 - Halloween @ AHPS October 31 - Halloween
Tuesday October 12 Day 3		
Wednesday October 13 Day 4		
Thursday October 14 Day 5	<i>Virtual Curriculum/Meet the Staff Night</i> <i>Cross Country Run for Grades 4-8 School Team</i>	
Friday October 15 Day 1	<i>Asynchronous Learning Day, School closed to students</i>	

NEW INFORMATION AND UPDATES

Virtual Curriculum/Meet the Staff Night: On **Thursday, October 14th**, we will be hosting our Meet the Staff/Curriculum Night. Due to Health and Safety priorities, this year's event is once again being held in an online format in either a synchronous or asynchronous format. Rotary teachers will share information through the homeroom classes they support (e.g. French). Homeroom teachers will communicate with families directly regarding the format for their class and how to access your class presentation. ***For more information please refer to the email sent October 6th.***

EDSBY Accounts: Please ensure that you have an active EDSBY account as this will be the means to schedule your virtual parent/teacher interviews for Progress Reports on November 18th and 19th. For further information regarding how to set up an EDSBY account, please click [here](#).

School Council: School councils play an important role in building school, family and community partnerships by providing input into relevant Board and school-level decisions and by encouraging the involvement of all members of the school community in support of student learning, achievement and well-being. Thank you to all of the community members and families who took part in our first School Council meeting of the year. If you wish to become a member of our School Council, please complete the School Council Candidate Nomination Form by clicking [here](#) or for further information please email Christa Greenland at christa.realfood@gmail.com

Ignite Technology Grant: The Ignite Technology Grant for students with SEA Technology is designed to create leadership opportunities, hone communication skills, and increase self-esteem for students with SEA equipment within their school community. The goal is to bring awareness to the effective and successful use of technology for modern learning. For more information please click [here](#)

Learning Disabilities Awareness Month: Throughout October, Learning Disabilities Associations of Ontario and LD@school will be raising awareness in order to reduce stigma and allow people to access the supports they need to reach their potential. Click [here](#) for this month's LD@school newsletter.

Community Vaccination Clinics: Due to York Region Public Health's continued COVID-19 response, non-essential Public Health services such as school-based vaccination clinics for students continue to be on hold until further notice. Starting in November, York Region Public Health will be providing community vaccination clinics for all eligible grade 7 students who will miss their doses of vaccines usually offered in their school. In addition, all eligible grade 8 and grade 9 students who missed any doses of these vaccines due to school closures and the pandemic response will also be able to attend a community vaccination clinic to receive their Hepatitis C, Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and Meningococcal vaccines.

Social Media and Recent Tik Tok Trends: At our school, we recognise that some students may have social media accounts (e.g., Instagram, TikTok). Social media has many benefits including helping us to stay connected. Unfortunately, it also can be used in ways that spread hurt, misinformation, and dangerous trends. While we have engaged in lessons about online safety, we suggest that families support this learning and have ongoing discussions about social media presence and how to act online. To help support these discussions we encourage families to look at [Media Smarts Social Media Tip Sheet](#) and [Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada 12 Quick Privacy Tips for Parents](#).

We have become aware of a challenge on TikTok that encourages students to do certain activities at school which includes damaging school property, physical assault, sexual assault, among others. None of these activities is acceptable in our school. Activities that happen online and social media trends may have a negative impact on our school climate. As each student and staff member has the right to learn in a safe, positive, respectful and inclusive environment, we will address all incidents that have a negative impact on our school. This will include the administration using progressive discipline and depending on the situation, may also include involving police.

FlipGive Fundraising: This season, fundraising for Aurora Heights P.S. is going to be so much easier with FlipGive, a free school fundraising app. We earn cash back on every purchase we make all year long! All you have to do is shop anytime with the brands you already love, like Home Depot, Walmart, Sport Chek, Indigo, Old Navy, Apple, Esso, and Loblaws. No more going door-to-door selling chocolate bars. This is completely virtual and contactless. Join our school now and you'll get a \$5 bonus for the first time you shop: <https://flipgive.app.link/teams/join?joincode=VDHLBM>, you can also use code: VDHLBM. Please see attached flyer for further details.

INFORMATION FROM PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THE SCHOOL SCOOP

COVID-19: Screening Update: Staff, students and visitors (including Occasional/Temp Staff) will be using the [NEW York Region Public Health COVID-19 School and Child-Care Screening Tool](#) (dated September 28, 2021) in their daily online self-assessment prior to entering the school. The link can be accessed by computer, tablet or Smartphone.

Asynchronous Learning Day: By now you should have received a memo from the Board regarding an asynchronous learning day on Friday, October 15th. This additional professional learning will enable us to share effective practices and support, and be responsive to some of the feedback we have heard. We are committed to creating learning environments that enable all of our students, both in-person and remote, to be successful, and feel connected and supported. **Schools will be closed to students on Friday, October 15 . Please do not send your child to school. Asynchronous (not live) learning activities will be provided to students in order to support their continued learning.**

Islamic Heritage Month: In 2007, the Government of Canada declared the month of October as Canadian Islamic History Month. The province of Ontario passed the Islamic Heritage Month Act (2016) to recognize and affirm the important contributions that Muslims make in Ontario as part of the vibrant social, economic, political and cultural fabric of our province. This month affords an opportunity to reflect, celebrate and learn about the rich heritage and history of Muslims in areas such as literature, the arts, math, science, and socially. Affirming Muslim identity for our students is critical in creating the inclusive climates necessary for student well-being and achievement, as well as combating Islamophobia in our schools and further challenging systemic barriers to success.

2SLGBTQ+ History Month: The month of October commemorates the impact that Two Spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual transgender, queer, questioning, and individuals with related identities have had in our local communities, nationally and internationally. It is an opportunity to build awareness of the contributions the 2SLGBTQ+ community has made in Canada and abroad. The affirmation of sexual and gender diversity in our learning and working environments means that we recognize the diversity within our 2SLGBTQ+ communities and acknowledge the presence of Indigenous, racialized, disabled and other diverse identities among our students and staff.

