

APRIL
2015



AURORA SENIOR NEWS

www.aurorasenior.ps.yrdsb.ca

Aurora Senior P.S.
125 Wellington St. W
Aurora, ON
L4G 2P3

905-727-9751

- Mr. K. Arnott
Principal
- Ms. C. Fischer
Vice Principal
- Mrs. D. Ieraci
Mrs. C. Laughey
School Office Staff
- Mrs. G. Brocklebank-
Vincent
Superintendent
(905-884-4477)
- Mr. P. Adams-
Luchowski
Trustee

FROM THE OFFICE...

*At this time we are in the process of creating a school organization for the 2015-2016 school year. As most of you are aware, the Ontario Ministry of Education adheres to a hard cap of 20 students in each primary (Grade 1-3) classroom with average guidelines in other grades. Although limiting class sizes is certainly a positive move, it does introduce a number of challenges. Flexibility is limited and consequently combined classes are continuing to be more prevalent in school organizations. We recognize that parents/guardians may have new and/or important information to share about their child (e.g., a recent medical diagnosis, peer relationships which exist outside of school, learning style, individual and family issues, etc.) which may impact upon class placement decisions. If you wish to share any information that should be considered as we begin to tentatively place students in classes in all divisions, we ask that you do so in writing and submit to the office before **May 15th**.*

*Our primary goal is to develop balanced classes that reflect the diversity of our community and allow for a variety of abilities, interest and talents of our learners to be successful next year. Teachers work diligently to balance the classrooms in terms of gender, academic ability and social and emotional concerns. Class placement is an important and complex process that takes many hours of thought and discussion, so it is imperative that families adhere to the May 15th deadline. **Your input is valuable however should not be considered confirmation of a particular class placement. That decision remains with the school administration. Because of changing enrolment patterns in the spring and summer months, final class placement will not be shared until the first day of school in September.***

*Mr. Ken Arnott
Principal*

*Ms. Claudia Fischer
Vice-Principal*

WE ARE GROWING IN SEPTEMBER:

Renovations to Aurora Senior Public School to accommodate George Street PS students have already begun. These renovations will include new Kindergarten classrooms and outdoor play area, as well as Science, Music and Art classroom reconfigurations and renovations to our gym and lunchroom. In September 2015 all students in the George Street PS/Aurora Senior PS boundary from JK to Grade 8 will attend the new and improved Aurora Senior PS. The Board will be deciding on a new school name later this spring. The school community will also be notified of any decision with respect to the George Street building.





WE ARE AURORASENIOR...

Each month we take time to share how our students are demonstrating behaviour that reflects the principles of our Touchstone.

*This spring members of our Student Council will be spending time sharing activities with George Street students and some will also be attending the Together We're Better Conference.

LOST AND FOUND

Please have your child check the lost and found on a regular basis. One shoe or one glove cannot be donated but belongs to someone.



ASPS NEWSLETTER

EQAO – GRADE 6:

Each spring the **Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO)** administers annual testing in both Math and Language with all Grade 3 and 6 students across the province. These tests occur in each elementary school from May 25 to June 4, 2015. It is important that all of our Grade 3 and Grade 6 children are at school and properly prepared to do their best during this testing period. Each test session will be approximately one hour in length with extra time available if needed.

If you have a child in Grade 6 please plan any personal appointments or outside activities to avoid **our test dates MAY 25, 26, 27, 28 and JUNE 1 and 2** inclusive. Speak to the classroom teacher if you have any questions or think there may be any conflicts. Attendance and proper rest will be highly beneficial during the two week testing period.

MOVING????

We have started planning for the 2015/2016 school year. Our school organization of classes is based on the projected enrolment for the school. If you are moving out of our school area before September, we would greatly appreciate a call to let us know. Thanks in advance!



IMPORTANT DATES:

- APRIL 3-6: EASTER WEEKEND
- APRIL 13: GRAD COMMITTEE MEETING / SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
- APRIL 20 & 22: AREA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS
- APRIL 24: TOGETHER WE'RE BETTER STUDENT CONFERENCE
- APRIL 30: JUMP ROPE FOR HEART
- MAY 2: SPRING FAIR
- MAY 12: ARTS NIGHT
- MAY 18: VICTORIA DAY HOLIDAY
- MAY 23: GEORGE STREET CELEBRATION
- MAY 25, 26, 27 & 28: EQAO PROVINCIAL TESTING



- JUNE 1 & 2: EQAO TESTING CONTINUES
- JUNE 5: P.A. DAY

ARTS NIGHT:

Parents are welcome to come out on Tuesday May 12th to see and hear the various student art presentations at Aurora Senior. Visual Arts from our Junior and Intermediate Division students will be on display for a gallery walk, drama plays will be presented and music will fill the hallways. Please join us for Arts Night.

JUNIOR BASKETBALL TEAMS: The Junior Girls Basketball team is off to a great start to the season. The girls finished 2-2 at their first tournament, and showed great promise. Our team will be working hard over the next 3 weeks to prepare for our Area tournament. Keep up the great work girls.

The Junior Boys' Basketball team has been organized and selected. Thank you everyone who attended the try out practices. There was a lot of talent, skill and dedication observed in the 60+ students who participated making the team selection a very difficult process. The junior boys team for the 2014/2015 school year has already begun multiple practices and are participating in several exhibition games to better prepare us for the Area Tournament on **Wednesday April 22**. GO SENIOR!!

CAMP COUCHICHING:

Our Grade 8 students are scheduled to attend a 3 day overnight program at Camp Couchiching. The trip dates are **May 27-29th**. This has been a very popular trip in the past providing excellent outdoor education instruction and many lasting memories for this group before they graduate. A letter is coming home with more details about the program and the cost. A deposit will be due in the next two weeks.

BADMINTON: Congratulations to the members of our intermediate badminton team. This is a difficult team to join with over a hundred athletes participating in try-outs. Mr. Foster is quite excited with this year's squad. Our team has four practices a week and is working diligently on drills and skills. As we had an early start on the season, matches are yet to be scheduled; however, the area tournament is on May 12th. Mr. Foster wishes our competitors good luck and good skill throughout this season.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART: ASPS is excited to once again support the Heart & Stroke Foundation, through our Jump Rope for Heart program. We have committed to raising \$4,000 for this very worthy cause. We are accepting pledges, as well as donations, until the end of April. All students and staff will participate on **Thursday April 30th** in fun filled activities including, skipping, basketball and some team based friendly competition. Please help us reach our goal as *everyone has a heart*. Thanks!

TECHNOLOGY DESIGN COMPETITION: National Engineering Month (NEM) Ontario provides an opportunity for youth to learn about many disciplines of engineering. It helps to inspire the next generation of engineers, technicians and technologists; and contribute to a new direction for the profession. This year, a team of Aurora Senior students was tasked with building and designing a drag racer car. Through teamwork, perseverance and leadership, our Grade 8 team achieved a third place finish overall. They each won an Arduino Starter Kit and a free in school workshop for Arduino and robotics. Congratulations to Emily H, Richard Z, Anthony K, and Robert L!

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FAIR: On Saturday March 28th Richard Z and Jeffery C participated in the York Region Science and Technology Fair. It was a great experience and they had a lot of fun. They worked hard on their project titled "The Effects of Light Radiation on Surfaces of Various Colours and Materials". Richard and Jeffery displayed teamwork, sportsmanship and leadership qualities. Good work!

BAND PRACTICES: Grade 7 and 8 Band members continue to practice during lunch recess each Monday. New members are always welcome. We look forward to hearing them in the spring.

DAFFODILS: In recognition of Cancer Awareness, during the month of April we have daffodil pins and stickers available to all students and parents in our main office. A small donation would be kindly appreciated.



AURORA SENIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS!

SCHOOL COUNCIL
CHAIR:

Mrs. Robin Scanga
rscanga@rogers.com

LUNCH ORDERS:

The deadline for the last Exteme Pita order has past but we can still take orders. Please see the office if you need a form.

The deadline for Delicious Greek lunches has past as well but we can still talke orders. Forms are in the office.

Pizza Pizza Days continue on each Thursday as usual



PARENT EVENING WORKSHOPS:

Unfortunately we did not have enough families registered to participate in our planned evening workshops on March 31st. Instead we will be offering a visit from our key speaker Steven Chapelle to students during the school day later this spring. Parents who are available may wish to attend this smaller event as well.

GRADUATION COMMITTEE:

The next meeting of the Parent Grad Committee will be held on Monday, April 13th from 6:00 – 7:00 in the library. All interested Grade 8 parents who would like to assist on the evening of grad are invited to attend. The Grad is scheduled for Tuesday, June 23rd and will include a formal ceremony at Aurora High School followed by a trip downtown for an island boat cruise.

QSP FUNDRAISING:

School sales of QSP magazines never really stop. If you would like to subscribe or send someone a gift subscription please login to www.qsp.ca. Be sure to select **Aurora Senior** from the account finder. Our group ID is: **3725413**. The school will continue to benefit from all future sales.

SPRING FUNFAIR – SATURDAY MAY 2ND :

Come and join us at our annual school community event. We have new inflatable bouncy activities, a bake sale, games, raffle baskets and other special surprises. **We need volunteers to run activities that day. IMPORTANT INFORMATION IS ATTACHED TO THIS EMAIL Please contact Lisa Sproul at lisa.sproul@yrdsb.ca.**

GEORGE STREET P.S. CELEBRATION:

SATURDAY MAY 23rd will be the last chance to visit and say goodbye to George Street Public School (closing at the end of June). If you have any souvenirs, artefacts, pictures or other related memorabilia please contact us. You may also find more information on our new blog: georgestreetps.blogspot.com.

**NEXT SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING:
MONDAY April 13, 2015
AT 7:00 pm - AURORA SENIOR LIBRARY**

The upcoming Agenda items include:

- **Treasurer's Report**
- **Regional Parent Symposium**
- **Spring Fair planning**
- **George Street celebration**

