

# Aurora Senior News

125 Wellington St. W, Aurora, Ontario L4G 2P3 905.727.9751

> **Jodi Sepkowski** *Principal*

Claudia Fischer
Vice-Principal

Gayle Brocklebank-Vincent Superintendent

905.884.4477

Peter Adams-Luchowski Trustee 905.713.1729

## **Upcoming Dates**

Dec. 2 - Banana Split Day & Pajama Day

Dec. 4 - Cookie Dough Pick Up

Dec. 5 - Girls Inc. - Self Esteem

Dec. 6 - Crazy Hat or Holiday Hat Day

Dec. 9 & 10 - Cupcake Bake Sale

Dec. 11 - Aurora High School Presentation to Grade 8

Dec. 12 - Girls Inc. - Goals

Dec. 13 - Ugly Sweater Day

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Dec. 16 - Extreme Pita Sale

Dec. 18 - Friday Schedule & Touchstone Assembly

Dec. 19 - Band Performance & Vocal Choir

Dec. 20 - PA Day

Dec. 23 - Jan. 3 inclusive

Winter Break

December 2013

www.aurorasenior.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

### Administrators' Message

Well, the snow has arrived and that means it must be December! The past month at Aurora Senior was filled with many activities and presentations - including VIP, Crimestoppers, UGOT Dance, Take your Gr. 8's to High School Day, visits to the Zoo, Wizard of Oz, Public Library and Intermediate Volleyball Tournaments. We also had a beautiful Remembrance Day Assembly which included musical performances by primary students and thoughtful presentations by junior and intermediate classes.

It was also wonderful to see so many of our parents at our Parent/Teacher conferences. Through these progress reports and interviews, teachers and parents were able to reflect with students in order to set goals for future learning. Children are unique and individual in their learning style, and it is very important that they are at the centre of their learning and that they take pride in their accomplishments. Many thanks for all that you do to ensure that our children can be successful. As always, if you need to speak to your child's teacher for any reason, you are welcome to call the school and arrange an appointment or speak to the teacher over the telephone.

As we approach the holiday time, please remember that there are members of our community who may not enjoy the same opportunities as others. Your thoughtfulness and generosity can go a long way in supporting children and families who may need some additional help at this time of year. We will, once again, be collecting non-perishable food items for our annual Holiday Food Drive and hope that you will consider supporting this worthwhile event.

At this time of year, we have the privilege of celebrating diversity and recognizing different cultures as many of our families celebrate Chanukah, Christmas and Kwanzaa. On behalf of the Aurora Senior and George Street staff, we would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a wonderful and safe holiday and a very

Happy New Year!



PA DAY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2013



CHRISTMAS/WINTER BREAK

Monday, December 23, 2013 to Friday, January 3, 2014

The first day back to school in the New Year is Monday, January 6, 2014.

#### LOST AND FOUND



Our Lost and Found bin is filling up. Please remind your child to check for missing items. Should you be in the school, please take time to check the Lost and Found outside the

Office. Unclaimed items will be donated.

#### WEATHER WATCH

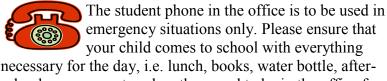
All students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 are expected to go out for every recess unless the principal or vice-principal decides that weather conditions are so poor that it would be detrimental for them to be outdoors. Students are to come to

school ready for winter and prepared to be outdoors up to 40 minutes after lunch. We always monitor the weather and, in extreme conditions e.g. wind chill; we keep the students indoors or shorten the recess breaks.

We often receive requests from parents asking us to keep their children indoors during recess times because they are not feeling well. Unfortunately, we do not have the staff or facilities to supervise students who are sick or still recovering from an illness. Students with heavy colds, etc., which are serious enough to prevent them from participating in physical education, recesses or other outdoor activities, should remain at home until their condition improves. This will likely benefit the students concerned and prevent the spread of this illness to others.

Please make sure that your children are dressed properly for our invigorating winter days. It is advisable for students to bring extra pants and socks. A change is often necessary due to the wet and cold weather of the winter months. To avoid adding to our clothing collection in the Lost and Found, please be sure to label all articles of clothing. Boots, hats, mitts/gloves, scarves, and snow pants for the younger children will help make recess an enjoyable time.

#### **OFFICE TELEPHONE**



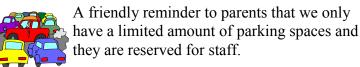
your child comes to school with everything necessary for the day, i.e. lunch, books, water bottle, afterschool arrangements, when they need to be in the office for appointments, etc. It is very disruptive to have students leaving the class to make phone calls or having office staff having to interrupt the class. We know in some situations it is necessary but we would like to try and keep this to a minimum

### **ABSENCES AND LATES**

Parents, please try and remember to call the office when your child is going to be absent or late. The answering machine is on from 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. so messages can be left at any time. Trying to get in with parents unnecessarily is time consuming and could take time away if a child has really gone missing on route to school.

905-727-9751

#### STAFF PARKING LOT



We encourage parents to use our lower parking lot or to walk their children to school.

Thank you for your co-operation

#### LUNCH DROP OFF ROUTINE

If you need to drop a lunch off for your child, please bring it to the table outside the main office and be sure to clearly label it with your child's name and teacher's name

#### REPORTING TO THE OFFICE

Please remember that the first place to visit at school is the office. The only way that we can assure the safety of all students is with your full participation! A "Sign-In" sheet is located in the office, and requires all visitors or volunteers to sign in when entering the building. Please sign in at the office and obtain a "Visitor" badge so that you can quickly be identified by staff in the halls. Going directly to your child's classroom only causes confusion in the hallways.

#### SCHOOL ASSISTANTS!!

If you are able to help out at the school and would like to have a paid job (1 hour/day), please contact the office at 905.727.9751



On February 27, 2014, auditions will be held at John McCrae Public School for students wishing to be part of the York Regional Elementary Enrichment Band. Any experienced Grade 6/7/8 student

interested in being included in this music enrichment activity should discuss it with his/her music teacher. More information is available at our website www.yreeb.com

## What happens to Lunch Lady on a Snow Day?

Regardless if busses are cancelled, if the school is open we deliver! If your child will not be going to school please call us at 905 726-8700 or email at <a href="mailto:marryw@thelunchlady.ca">marryw@thelunchlady.ca</a> before 8:00am to cancel your child's lunch and we will give you a 100% credit to your account for that lunch.

Thank you, The Lunch Lady



#### **SNOWBALLS!!**



"The Safe Schools Policy" was written to ensure the safety of each and every child in our care. In our continuing efforts to provide a safe environment, we have no recourse but to treat the throwing of snow (snowballs, ice balls, ice) as we would treat the throwing of any other object. Accidents would be unavoidable if we were to permit this practice to occur. Please discuss the following three step procedure with your child(ren).

**STEP ONE** For a first occurrence, students will receive counselling and a warning that similar behaviours will result in more severe consequences.

**STEP TWO** After a second occurrence, a letter will be sent to the parent/guardians. It will indicate the date of the first occurrence and warn that continued neglect of the school rule will result in the student being sent home. There is also a section for the student to fill in as a discussion starter.

**STEP THREE** Following a third occurrence, the student will be sent home from School and may be formally suspended from School. A record of a formal suspension remains in the student's Ontario School Record (O.S.R.) for a period of 1 year.

PLEASE NOTE: Where an injury occurs, STEP THREE may be implemented immediately.

We thank you for your co-operation and support



### **INDOOR SHOES, PLEASE**

Please ensure that your son or daughter has a pair of indoor shoes at school. A pair of shoes dedicated to indoor activities really helps us to keep our classrooms, gym and library clean.

**Homework Help:** https://**homeworkhelp.**ilc.org. This is a website that provides free math homework help to students in grades 7-10 funded by the Ontario government and administered by TVO's Independent Learning Centre.



#### INTEGRITY

We are truthful and sincere. We ensure consistency between what we say and what we do as well as between what we believe and how we behave.





#### **BOARD VISION**

We unite in our purpose to inspire and prepare learners for life in our changing world



#### We are Aurora Senior Public School

We are ambitious in our learning and we try our very best to achieve our goals.

Success is everyone's accomplishment to celebrate.

We take responsibility for our work, our words, and our actions and we try to make good choices.

We encourage one another to learn new and important lessons by taking risks and making mistakes.

We take care of ourselves and respect each other so we can learn, laugh, and live each day to the fullest.

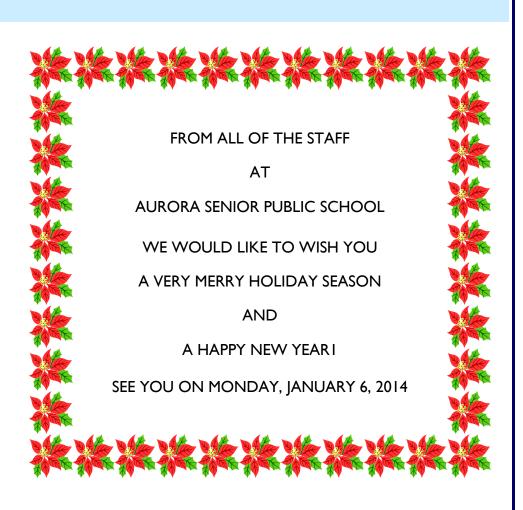
We treat each other fairly, truthfully, and honestly, always remembering how we would like to be treated.

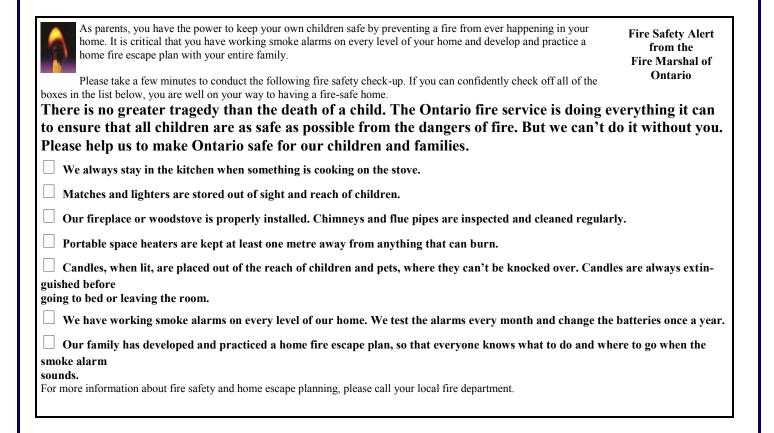
We accept, honour, and celebrate our differences because we know that it's what is on the inside that matters most.

We try to make a difference every day by keeping our school healthy, safe, clean, and happy.

We welcome everyone in our work and play so that everyone feels included and has a role to play.

At Aurora Senior, everyone belongs!





# ASPS SCHOOL COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING

The next school council committee meeting is Tuesday, January 14 at 7 pm in the school library.

## **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

You do not need to be a voting member to attend and participate in council.

Please join us at our next meeting.





#### Holiday Food Drive

At Aurora Senior P.S. everyone belongs! During this holiday season, we need to remember others who may not have the ability to provide for their families. Our school has decided to support families in our community who are in need by donating food and/or money or gift cards (e.g. movie passes, coupons, etc.) To raise money for these families, we have decided to have Spirit Days, a bake sale and an Extreme Pita day!

On the Spirit Days, you are asked to dress- up and to donate a twoonie. What a great experience this will be for our families as well as our students who will be making the holidays special for families in need.

<u>Twoonie Day</u> November, 29<sup>th</sup> – Pajama Day & video game raffle December 6th - Crazy Hat or Holiday Hat Day December 13th - Ugly Sweater Day & Gingerbread House Raffle Day

#### Cupcake Bake Sale December 9th & 10th

#### Extreme Pita Sale December 16th

The food drive will run from Monday, November 25th to Friday, December 13th, so please be generous and help make this holiday season a happy one for all!

Below is a list of non-perishable items which we are looking for, for each family. Feel free to add anything else you would like.

- · Assorted Soup
- · Canned Stew or Chili
- · Canned Fish (tuna/salmon)
- · Canned Fruit
- · Canned Vegetables
- · Kidney Beans/Chick Peas/Lentils
- · Baked Beans
- Pasta Sauce
- Pasta
- · Kraft Dinner
- Rice
- · Juice (canned/bottles or tetrapaks)
- · Evaporated Milk or Milk Powder
- Jam
- Peanut Butter
- Sugar Cereal
- Jello
- Tea
- Coffee (instant)
- $\cdot \ Personal \ Supplies: \ Paper Towel/Toilet \ Paper/Laundry \ Detergent/Shampoo \ \& \ Conditioner/Dishwashing \ Soap/Hand \ and \ Body \ Soap/Deodorant/Kleenex/Toothbrushes/Deodorant/Combs \ and \ or \ Hairbrush$

Thank you for your support!







#### Heart and Stroke Corner - December 2013 Edition

#### Tip of the Month

During the month of December, winter is just around the corner and the challenges of keeping your children physically active may be difficult due to the cold weather, busy schedules and safety concerns. Remember, children are naturally energetic, but without encouragement, they may spend more time sitting than getting up to do physical activities. Some tips to get children active outside during the cold weather include doing family activities, these activities include: shoveling the driveway, skating on an outdoor rink, tobogganing/ sledding and building snow forts/snowmen. If outdoor activities don't appeal to you on cold and extreme winter days, other activities that involve indoor family fun include: helping with housework, playing fun and active games like Simon Says or Twister, doing family meditation activities like yoga. Always remember to consider safety concerns such as dressing appropriately for the weather. Wearing layers, waterproof mittens, and hats help to keep the cold weather out and to keep the fun-filled activities in.



#### Recipe of the Month

#### Cinnamon Coffee Cake

Serve this easy-to-make, extra-moist cake with fresh fruit for any meal at any time of day to warm up the Winter chillies!

Nutritional Information (1 slice): Calories: 198, Protein: 3 g, Fat: 5g, Saturated Fat: 1g, Dietary cholesterol: 16 mg, Carbohydrate: 36 g, Dietary fibre: 1 g, Sodium: 236 mg, Potassium: 156 mg

#### Ingredients

- 250 mL (1 cup) low-fat plain yogurt
- 5 mL (1 tsp) baking soda 50 mL (1/4 cup) soft margarin
- 250 mL (1 cup) lightly packed brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 5 mL 1 tsp pure vanilla extract 375 mL (1 1/2 cups) all-purpose flour

- 10 mL (2 tsp) baking powder
- Topping
  125 mL (1/2 cup) lightly packed brown sugar 15 mL (1 tbsp) cinnamon

#### Directions

- In small bowl, combine yogurt and baking soda, mixing well; set aside. (Mixture will increase in volume.)
- In large mixing bowl, beat margarine with sugar until well mixed.
- 3. Add egg and vanilla; beat well, about 2 minutes.
- 4. Mix flour and baking powder; add to margarine mixture alternately with yogurt mixture, making 3 additions of dry and 2 of wet.
- 5. Spread half the batter in greased and floured 2.5L (9-inch) square cake pan.
- 6. Topping: Combine sugar and cinnamon, mixing well. Sprinkle half over batter in pan. Cover with remaining batter. Sprinkle with remaining topping.
- Bake in 180°C (350°F) oven for 35 minutes or until toothpick inserted in centre comes out clean.
- Let cool for 10 to 15 minutes in pan.
- Cut into squares

#### Ouestion of the Month

O: "With the cold season upon us, do you have any nutritional ideas to help keep kids healthy?"

A: Start with a healthy diet to keep everyone's immune system in cold-fighting shape. While there isn't one specific food that can help fight the sniffles, foods that contain vitamin C and probiotics may help shorten the duration of colds; probiotics may also lesson the severity of the symptoms. Probiotics are good bacteria that help keep your immune system healthy. To fight colds, children and adults need about 10 billion active probiotic cultures per day starting three months before cold season. This amount can be found in some yogurts with added probiotics – but not all so remember to check the label. Foods high in vitamin C include sweet peppers, strawberries, kiwi, oranges and broccoli. If a cold strikes despite your efforts, have your children drink plenty of fluids to help relieve symptoms.



Student Transportation Services of York Region 320 Bloomington Road West Aurora, Ontario L4G 0M1 905-713-2535 FAX: 905-713-2533

Web site: www.schoolbuscity.com

#### School Bus Cancellation Notice

To ensure the safety of students, school bus service may be cancelled from time to time due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements.

Since some busing schedules begin by 7:00 a.m., cancellation decisions must be made by 6:00 a.m. to allow time to communicate this message to bus drivers. Cancellation decisions will only be made after thorough consultation with the Safety Officers of school bus companies servicing York Region and are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature, road conditions and weather forecast.

Please note the following;

- A decision to cancel school bus service will be region-wide meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.
- School bus routes may be cancelled when severe weather may not be affecting all
  municipalities in York Region. Both the YRDSB and YCDSB operate many regional
  educational programs. Students attending these programs are transported over large
  attendance areas encompassing several municipal boundaries. This limits the ability to
  cancel bus service using a municipality or zone methodology.
- Unless otherwise stated, schools will remain open and parents can make arrangements
  to transport their children to and from school even if school bus service is cancelled. If
  buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon.
  Therefore students transported to school by parents will require the same
  transportation home.

Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information:

RADIO 590 AM 1540 AM	640 AM 1580 AM	680 AM	860 AM	1010 AM	1050 AM
88.5 FM	89.9 FM	92.5 FM	93.1 FM	94.9 FM	
95.9 FM	97.3 FM	98.1 FM	99.1 FM	99.9 FM	
101.1 FM	102.1 FM	104.5 FM	100.7 FM	107.1 FM	

#### TELEVISION

CITY TV CTV Barrie CFTO TV CP24 GLOBAL NEWS

A bus cancellation message will also be available at <a href="www.schoolbuscity.com">www.schoolbuscity.com</a> and by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following the YRDSB on twitter.

Please note that school bus charters will not operate when home to school bus service is cancelled.

YOUR FIRST AID TRAINING EXPERTS
Training Schedule



# **BABYSITTING**

Region of York Branch 13311 Yonge Street Unit 204 Oakridges, On L4E3L6 1-800-361-9448 york firstald@redcross.ca

### REGION OF YORK BRANCH

DATE	LOCATION	TIME
November 2	Dufferin Clark Library	10:00-5:00
November 15	Oakridges	9:00-5:00
December 7	Stouffville Library	10:00-5:00
December 14	Oakridges	9:00-5:00
December 30	Markham	9:00-4:00

#### \*PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR ALL COURSES

#### Babysitting

- 11 to 15 years of age
- \$60.00

#### Course Content Includes:

Business of babysitting, caring for babies, caring for toddlers, caring for preschoolers, caring for school-aged children, creating safe environments and how to handle emergencies and first aid.

Private group courses available



The experience to make a difference





The Aurora Public Library in Partnership with Family Services York Region and the York Region District School Board presents:



# Triple P- Positive Parenting Tip Sheet Discussions 2013/2014

### Join us for any or all of these FREE sessions

Mon Sept. 30	Developing Good Bedtime Routines 2-8 yrs
	Positive parenting suggestions on being a parent and managing
	difficult behavior at bedtime. * Discussion Group
Mon. Oct. 28	Managing Fighting & Aggression 4-9 vrs

Positive parenting strategies to help children gain the skills they need to cooperate and get along with others. Discussion Group

Mon. Nov. 25 Dealing with Disobedience 4-8 yrs Discussion Group Positive parenting strategies are offered to help parents develop plans to prevent and manage disobedience.

Mon. Jan. 27 Coping with Stress (All parents) - Tip sheet
Tips on how to manage day-to-day stress so that you can act
calmly and consistently with your children.

Mon. Feb. 24

ADHD – Primary Schoolers – Tip Sheet

Being a parent of a child with ADHD is a challenging job, but it can also be very rewarding. The aim of good parenting is to help your child reach their full potential.

Mon. Mar. 31 Sexual Behaviour & Dating-Teens - Tip Sheet Suggestions to help you guide your teenager through puberty and manage the sexual behaviour during this transition.

Mon. April 28 Supporting Your Partner - Tip Sheet
How to work together as a parenting team and minimize the impact of any conflict on your child's development.

Mon. May 26 Hassle-free Shopping with Children - Discussion
Positive parenting suggestions to help you avoid shopping
hassles and to teach your child to behave responsibly.

#### Triple P Parenting (Positive Parenting Program)

Triple P will build on your knowledge, skills and confidence as you support the development of positive attitudes and behaviors in your children.

Tip Sheets are Triple P Informed
\* Discussion Group with Workbook

Magna Room
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
This will include a Question & Answer period.

Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk,

(905) 727-9494 ex 275

Everyone is WELCOME







## Are you looking for great holiday gifts for family and friends?

Go SHOPPING at <u>www.QSP.ca</u> and you'll be supporting our school at the same time.

Our school group number is **10023** and the internet site is open to take your order 24 hours a day.

No line-ups, no gift wrapping and free delivery anywhere in Canada.

QSP also offers a free e-card service.

A gift of a magazine subscription is like giving a gift every month for an entire year!

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THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR FAMILY READING MAGAZINE FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN!

Many magazines will begin to arrive over the next few weeks, but some subscriptions due to different publishing schedules may take longer to start. If you have any questions, please contact QSP Customer Service at

1-800-667-2536.

They offer a 100% satisfaction guarantee.

XXQSP₩	Progr	ραμ Δης	SERVICE	FVΔI	LIATION		
Kindly take a few moments to complete the evaluation, save and then email to Linda Hartnett at <a href="mailto:hartnett.gsp@rogers.com">hartnett.gsp@rogers.com</a> . Thank you!							
School/Organization Name: AUI	RORA SENIC	R PUBLIC S	SCHOOL				
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Variety	H	H	H	H	H		
Packaging							
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Information Letters/Instruction	ons 🗌						
Ease of Administration							
Product Delivery							
Prize Program							
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Thank you for taking the time to o welcome!	complete this	survey. Any	additional comi	ments or i	deas are		
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December 2013 Character we are truthful and sincere. We ensure consistency between what we say and what the consistency between what we say and what what we believe and how we behave.

Nork Region

Aurora Senior Public School
Tel: (905) 727-9751 Fax: (905) 727-1811
Website: www.aurorasenior.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca
eMail: aurora.senior.ps@yrdsb.edu.on.ca

George Street Public School
Tel: (905) 727-4921 Fax: (905) 727-1697
Website: www.georgestreet.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca
eMail: george.street.ps@yrdsb.edu.on.ca

BUS ROUTES HOTLINE 1-877-330-3001 www.schoolbuscity.com

14.35			14	<b>*</b>	21 WINTER BEGINS	**	<b>58</b>	** **	* * * * *	
	<b>6</b> Crazy Hat or Holiday Hat Day		<b>I3</b> Ugly Sweater Day		20	PA DAY (No School)	27   GLOSED		BACK TO SCHOOL Monday, January 6, 2014	
	<b>5</b> Girls Inc Self Es- teem		12 Girls Inc Goals		19 Band Performance		26 CLOSED			
	4 Cookie Dough Pick Up		   Aurora High School   Presentation   for Grade 8		18 Friday Schedule	Touchstone Assembly	25 CUCSED	CHRISTMAS / WINTER BREAK		
	e	International Day of Disabled Persons	10 Cupcake Bake Sale	International Human Rights Day	17@		24 CLOSED		31 CLOSED	
	2 Banana Split Day Pajama Day		<b>9</b> Cupcake Bake Sale		16 Extreme Pita Sale		23 ACLOSED		30 ACLOSED	
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD		*	8		15	KWANZAA	22		29	