



Aurora Senior News

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Aurora, Ontario
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905.727.9751

Jodi Sepkowski
Principal

Claudia Fischer
Vice-Principal

**Gayle Brocklebank-
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Superintendent
905.884.4477

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905.713.1729



Upcoming Dates

- Feb 3 - Buzz In Start Day
Grade 4 Vivian Outdoor
Recreation Centre
- Feb 4 - Grade 4 Vivian
Outdoor Recreation Centre
- Feb 5 - Grade 7 Vivian
Outdoor Recreation Centre
- Feb 6 - Grade 7 Vivian
Outdoor Recreation Centre
- Feb 12 - Report Cards Go Home
- Feb 17 - Family Day
- Feb 18 - Monday Schedule
- Feb 25 - Health & Wellness
Volunteer Meeting
6:30 pm
School Council Mtg.
7:00 pm

February 2014

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

A Message from your Administration Team

A Message from your Administration Team

It is hard to believe that we have moved into the second half of this school year! The time has been well spent with a great deal of academic success and growth demonstrated by each child throughout the school. It is also a very busy time in our school office with the planning for the 2014/15 school year underway. In order for us to have an accurate picture of our student body, it is important that we account for all students expected to be with us next year. If your child(ren) will NOT be returning to Aurora Senior Public School this coming September, please notify the office with a note, phone call or email.

Your child's first term report card will be sent home on **Wednesday, February 12th, 2014**. These report cards are based on work completed during the first term and will be written to meet the guidelines of the Ministry of Education's Growing Success policy. They will include strengths and next steps, and will be written so that they are easily understood by students and parents. Our teachers work hard to provide students with multiple opportunities to demonstrate their learning and are always seeking ways to engage students and meet the diverse needs of the learners in their classrooms. Although no formal interview day is set for these report cards, please feel free to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or would like more information.

Beginning February 3, all school doors, including the front door will be locked 15 minutes after the morning entry bell which means doors will be locked at 9:10 am and will remain locked for the rest of the day. Anyone arriving at the school after that time must buzz in and sign in at the main office. Measures will also be put in place for parents/guardians to buzz in and pick up students participating in before and after school programs. Both Aurora Senior and George Street continue to be safe places where parent and community member involvement is welcomed and encouraged. This additional step will enhance the measures we already have in place, and ensure that all visitors sign in at the main office upon arrival.

And, finally, with Family Day on Feb. 17th, we hope that you take that day to enjoy time well-spent with your family!

Jodi Sepkowski
Principal

Claudia Fischer
Vice-Principal

UNDERSTANDING THE BOARD TRANSPORTATION POLICY FOR PARENTS REGISTERING THEIR CHILDREN IN FRENCH IMMERSION AND GIFTED PROGRAMS FOR SEPTEMBER 2014.

The large size of the attendance area for Gifted and French Immersion programs can increase the length of time students are required to travel on a school bus.

School bus service for all students is created in accordance with Board Policy and adheres to the following guidelines;

- Students who live the furthest from school often have the longest ride times.
- Ride times will not exceed 60 minutes unless under exceptional circumstances.
- All students will be assigned to centrally designated corner bus stops.
- Elementary students can be expected to walk up to 400 metres to a central bus stop location.
-

Parents can confirm transportation arrangements by accessing the Student Transportation Services website at <http://www.schoolbuscity.com> or www.schoolbuscity.com after Monday August 18th, 2014.

HEALTH & WELLNESS MEETING FOR VOLUNTEERS ONLY
AT
AURORA SENIOR PUBLIC SCHOOL
ON
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25
FROM
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM



ASPS SCHOOL COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING

The next school council committee meeting is
Tuesday, February 25 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.



ALL volunteers (e.g. study hall, classroom, pizza servers, trip supervisors & drivers) must have a Vulnerable Sector Screening

As per the **Vulnerable Sector Screening clarification** memo (below), it is recommended that any person who would come into direct and regular contact with students or who would be in a *position of trust and/or responsibility* should obtain a vulnerable sector screening as performed by their local police jurisdiction. In York Region, one is able to download the form from the York Regional Police website.

[York Regional Police - Vulnerable Sector Screening Check](#)

The vulnerable sector screening is a background check completed by the police and is required of individuals who intend on working or volunteering with the vulnerable sector. A vulnerable person is defined as a person who, because of their age, a disability, or other circumstances, whether temporary or permanent are (a) in a position of dependence on others or (b) are otherwise at a greater risk than the general population of being harmed by a person in a position or authority or trust relative to them.

A vulnerable sector screening search may provide the following information: criminal record (adult and/or young offender, including summary offences); outstanding charges; findings of not guilty by reason of mental disorder; probation, prohibition and other judicial orders which are in effect; convictions/pending charges under Child and Family Services Act; apprehensions and/or contact under the Mental Health Act; and suspect/culprit information, where the release of such will not hinder any ongoing investigation.

Volunteer Applicants

For volunteer applicants, ensure that you have a letter from your organization when attending for a Police Vulnerable Sector Check. It must be signed by an organization member on official letterhead and must indicate your information and position for which you are volunteering. Example: Hockey Coach. When this letter is produced at the time of submitting your Personal Vulnerable Sector Check form, the RCMP fee will be waived.

Annual Offence Declaration

The Annual Offence Declaration form requires that volunteers list any convictions for offences under the Criminal Records Act (Canada) up to the date of the declaration. This form is required for existing staff and volunteers annually at the beginning of each school year.

Who can apply?

Applicants must be a resident of York Region, with proof of residency.

How to apply

Applicants should fill out York Regional Police Vulnerable Sector Check found on the YRP website and attend at one of three locations:

South Customer Service Unit – Hillcrest Mall

9350 Yonge Street

Richmond Hill, Ontario

(at Hillcrest Mall behind the Goodyear Tire Centre – enter from Carville Rd)

Monday to Friday: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Closed Sundays and holidays

North Customer Service Unit

47 Don Hillock Drive

Aurora, Ontario

(South of Leslie St and Wellington St East intersection)

Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Closed Saturdays, Sundays and holidays

#3 District Headquarters 3527 Baseline Road Georgina, Ontario Every third Saturday of the month: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

INSPIRE LEARNING

Board Launches New Mission, Vision, Values and Slogan

Mission: *To advance student achievement and well-being through public education, which motivates learners, fosters inclusion, inspires innovation and builds community.*

The York Region District School Board is celebrating the launch of its new Mission, Vision and Values statements and slogan – *Inspire Learning!*

The Board last reviewed these statements in the late 1990s. Since that time, education in York Region has been influenced by a number of significant changes, including changes in technology, in our communities and in our learning environments.

Community members, parents/guardians, staff members and students had the opportunity to provide input and share ideas about the ideal future of public education in York Region. Thank you to everyone who participated in the process.

For more information, visit the Board website at www.yrdsb.ca.



To assist with our new SAFE WELCOME measures, we ask that you try to ensure your child is prepared for the day with ALL required items (agendas, homework, instruments, shoes, snacks, lunch and utensils). This way, unnecessary trips to the school and interruptions during the day are not required.



Fairness

We are sensitive to the needs of each individual.

We treat each other as we wish to be treated ourselves.

We interact with others without stereotyping, prejudice or discrimination.

We stand up for human rights.



INSPIRE LEARNING



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!



Operation Sparrow is a local non-profit organization whose aim is to promote and facilitate the participation of children ages 3-18 in physical and cultural activities, regardless of their ability to pay for services.

Opportunities with local groups, including karate and art, are being offered (subject to availability).

Call (905) 716-1447 now for information.

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



The student phone in the office is to be used in emergency situations only. Please ensure that your child comes to school with everything necessary for the day, i.e. lunch, books, water bottle, after-school 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, guardians, and caregivers are responsible to communicate any absence or lateness to the school office. If we do not receive a telephone call or note explaining your child's absence, the office staff makes calls until an explanation for the absence has been obtained (this is the "Safe Arrival Program"). Please help us by calling the office to report any absences. A message can be left on the attendance line at **any time** during the night or day by calling (905)727-9751, to record your message. Please make sure you have provided the school with your complete and current contact information.

STAFF PARKING LOT

A friendly reminder to parents that we only have a limited amount of parking spaces and they are reserved for staff.

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



Heart and Stroke Corner – February 2014 Edition

Tip of the Month

Winter provides a wonderful opportunity to get active and discover the great outdoors...don't hibernate! Participate! Although Canadians tend to be less active in the winter that might change if they knew physical activity actually boosts the immune system. What really helps people become and stay physically active all winter long is the pure enjoyment of it. Review these tips and pick one or two that you would like to try with your family: * Create a 3-D family portrait. Build a snowperson look-alike for each family member. Make a family of snow angels. *Build snow castles, mazes, or snow sculptures *Go tobogganing. Remember the helmets! *Plan a family game of snow pitch (slow pitch in the snow) or neighborhood game of Capture the Snowball. *Use food colouring in a spray bottle to create a hopscotch game on the snow. *Enjoy the winter wonderland while hiking nature trails or walking on a beach. *Try skating on an outdoor rink. *Snowshoeing and cross country skiing are wonderful family outings. You can rent equipment at some outdoor activity centres or parks.



Recipe of the Month

♥ Food With Heart ♥

Put even more love in your family's meals and snacks with these fun ideas! Make some heartfelt food!

Carrots: Peel a carrot, cut a small v-shaped notch down the length of the carrot and then slice crosswise. Voila — carrot hearts! They're great for dipping, throwing in a stir-fry or simmering in a soup.

Apples: Cut a big round slice from a green and red apple. Using a small heart-shaped cookie cutter, cut out a heart shape from each and switch them into the other slice.

Muffins: Cut a small heart out of a piece of paper. Place over a homemade muffin and dust lightly with cinnamon sugar. Remove paper.

Rice: Lightly coat the inside of a heart-shaped cookie cutter with cookie spray. Place on a dinner plate and fill with cooked rice. Carefully remove cutter.

Ice cubes: Using a heart-shaped ice cube tray (most kitchen stores stock them around Valentine's Day), freeze milk, yogurt, juice, pureed fruit.

Melon kebabs: Cut chunks of watermelon, honeydew and cantaloupe into heart shapes with a cookie cutter; skewer one of each melon onto a popsicle stick.

Pizza: You can shape pizza dough into a heart then get your gang to arrange the toppings in a heart shape too.

Question of the Month

Q: "My son would be happy if every meal was pasta and tomato sauce. He doesn't like meat or beans. Should I be concerned about his protein intake?"

A: Kids need carbohydrates, proteins and fats for healthy growth and development. Protein helps the body make and repair cells – in fact, every cell in the human body contains protein. Your son's pasta with tomato sauce more than covers his carbohydrate needs. But it is not enough to meet his daily requirement of protein if that's all he likes to eat. The good news is that there are lots of high-protein foods to choose from, even if meat is not your son's favourite. Protein-rich foods are found in the "Milk and Alternatives" and the "Meat and Alternatives" food groups in Canada's Food Guide. These are also all high-protein foods: milk, cheese, yogurt, nuts, seafood, eggs and tofu. Here are some tips to get protein into your son's favourite food:

* Blend silken tofu or pureed chicken into his tomato sauce * Make a rose sauce with tomato and greek yogurt
* Add cubed cheese to hot pasta and let your son have fun with the melty strings



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 yrs
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





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

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

Character Matters! **Fairness/Tolerance**
 We are sensitive to the needs of each individual. We treat each other as we wish to be treated ourselves. We interact with others without stereotyping, prejudice or discrimination. We stand up for human rights.

February 2014

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2 	3 Vivian Outdoor Recreation Centre Gr. 4—Ms. Durham	4 Vivian Outdoor Recreation Centre Gr. 4 - Ms. Foran	5 Vivian Outdoor Recreation Centre Gr. 7 - Mrs. Nacevski	6 Vivian Outdoor Recreation Centre Gr. 7 - Ms. Eaton Junior Co-Ed Volleyball Regionals	7 	8 GO TEAM
9	10	11	12 Report Cards Go Home	13	14 Olympic Morning (am) Cupcake & Hot Chocolate Sale	15
16	17 FAMILY DAY 	18 MONDAY SCHEDULE	19	20 Visual Artist @ ASPS	21	22
23	24 Visual Artist @ ASPS	25 Visual Artist @ ASPS Health & Wellness Meeting @ 6:30pm School Council Meeting @ 7 pm	26 Visual Artist @ ASPS	27 Chess Tournament @ Aurora Legion	28 Visual Artist @ ASPS	March 6 Friday Schedule March 7 PA Day March 10—14 March Break

LUNCH SCHEDULE

MONDAY - EXTREME PITA
 TUESDAY - THE LUNCH LADY
 WEDNESDAY - GREEK LUNCH
 THURSDAY - PIZZA LUNCH

(All lunches must be pre-ordered and pre-paid)

Updated: 10-Feb-14