

OCTOBER  
2014



# AURORA SENIOR NEWS

[www.aurorasenior.ps.yrdsb.ca](http://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. Laughy  
School Office Staff
- Mrs. G. Brocklebank-  
Vincent  
Superintendent  
(905-884-4477)
- Mr. P. Adams-  
Luchowski  
Trustee

## ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

*We were very pleased to meet and greet so many of our parents on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at Meet the Teacher Night. It was great that several families also joined us for a special spaghetti dinner. Thanks to our parents Mrs. Scanga, Mrs. Sproul and Mrs. Kuhn.*

*Now that October has arrived we continue to focus our energy on student achievement and overall success and well being at school. Over the past few weeks we have had a chance to visit all homeroom and rotary classes and used various other opportunities to meet many new students as well as check on their progress and work habits. Student well-being in a supportive learning environment has been a top priority for all of the staff in September and through the month of October we will be reinforcing some of the important character traits that will allow students to continue to thrive at school; particularly those related to our Touchstone. As a staff we will continue to teach and develop good work habits with a focus on learning skills. These areas will be the basis of our planning efforts on the upcoming P.A. Day on October 27<sup>th</sup> and the provincial Progress Report that will be sent home in early November. More information will be coming home from the classroom teacher closer to the interview days on November 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.*

*I would like to welcome the parents who were recently elected to the 2014-2015 School Council, particularly the executive and Mrs. Scanga who will serve as the Council Chair this coming year. She is very active in all areas of the school and is an excellent person to contact if you would also like to volunteer at Aurora Senior. The spirit and success of our school depends on parent involvement and engagement in the learning process at home as well.*

Mr. Ken Arnott

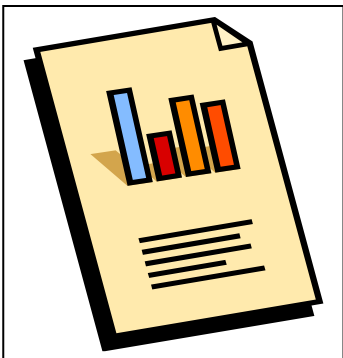
Ms. Claudia Fischer

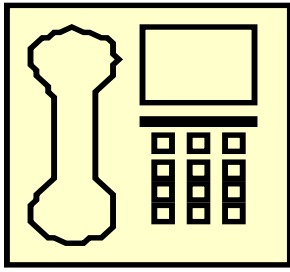


## EQAO DATA:

Within schools, EQAO results are used annually to guide school improvement initiatives by helping to identify areas of strength and areas of need to support changes in instructional practices that may be required. The provincial test results can also help schools engage in meaningful discussions about student achievement with their parent community.

Our teachers are always working hard to collaboratively plan curriculum so every student in every classroom is getting a balanced program and is encouraged to reach their potential level of achievement. Over the next several weeks, our leadership team will analyze the EQAO results along with several other sources of data to create goals for our School Improvement Plan with the objective of increasing student achievement. The monthly staff meetings, divisional meetings and PA days throughout the year allow us time to strategically plan for these goals and the steps and resources necessary to reach them. It is apparent that our school as many others, will focus our energy on math instruction and results this year. EQAO school results can be viewed on the EQAO website: [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com)



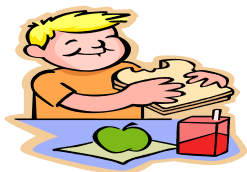


## TOUCHSTONE

**This week Aurora Senior had its first Touchstone assembly of the year. First the entire school met in the gym after announcements to sing Oh Canada, and then teachers recognized students and students recognized students. It is always wonderful each month when we take time to share how students are demonstrating behaviour that reflects the principles of our Touchstone.**

## LUNCH SUPERVISORS WANTED

If you are interested in helping as a paid lunch supervisor, please speak to Ms. Fischer about your interest and availability.



## ASPS NEWSLETTER

### SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM:

Our school operates a safe arrival program which requires that we check the whereabouts of all students who are absent or late each day. We need your help! If your child(ren) will be absent from school, please call the school office at 905.727.9751 to let us know. Please leave a message on the school answering machine indicating your child's name, grade and his/her teacher's name and the reason for the absence/ late, i.e. illness, appointment, etc. If we cannot locate a student during the arrival in the morning, we will call any emergency contacts listed at the office or if necessary, and according to our Board policy, we then need to notify the police. We have an answering machine that is on at night and weekends for you to leave a message.

### IMPORTANT DATES:

- OCTOBER 2: QSP FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN BEGINS and AREA CROSS COUNTRY MEET
- OCTOBER 9: FLAG FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT / HEP B and HPV clinic
- OCTOBER 10: REGIONAL CROSS COUNTRY
- OCTOBER 13: THANKSGIVING
- OCTOBER 17: SCHOOL PHOTO DAY
- OCTOBER 20: SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
- OCTOBER 23: BUS SAFETY PRESENTATIONS
- OCTOBER 27: PA DAY
- OCTOBER 31: TOUCHSTONE ASSEMBLY



*\* PLEASE NOTE: this section of the newsletter will include all special events for the school and should be noted on a calendar that you might maintain at home or in your child's school agenda. The monthly newsletters are posted on our website.*

### HALLOWEEN:



At this time of year it is important to remember that the York Region District School Board's Safe Schools Policy #668.0 in accordance with the Ontario Safe Schools Act, includes the following criteria:

**A student shall not engage in the following act:  
(a) possessing a weapon or replica weapon, including a firearm.**

Students celebrating Halloween in costume at our school must comply with the above stated policy. Costume accessories including, but not limited to, toy guns, knives, axes, swords, etc. are not in compliance with York Region District School Board's Safe Schools Policy #668.0. As always, we remind parents not to send in any candy or other treats that might contain nuts.

## CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to all of our cross country runners who attended the Area meet! Aurora Senior did very well! We will be taking 20 out of 75 students to the regional meet next Friday, October 10th including teams from our grades 6, 7, and 8 boys. Our grades 6 and 8 boys placed third and the grade 7 boys placed second in their divisions. Our intermediates came second overall, one point behind Highview PS who took 1st. We had nine runners place in the top fifteen of their divisions. We are very proud of all of our runners who made the commitment to train and put forth the effort in their races!

## TERRY FOX RUN

This year's Terry Fox campaign raised \$1444.74. This beats our all time best of \$1097.17, and our target of \$1200. Great job Aurora Senior! If families haven't yet donated and they would still like to they can donate at [terryfox.org](http://terryfox.org). The Terry Fox foundation is an excellent charity. 84 cents of every dollar donated goes to cancer research and treatment.

## SNACK BAR

The school snack bar is now available to all students during the lunch hour. Healthy snacks include apple juice, frozen yoghurt and cheese strings as well as other choices. Our prices range from .75 cents to \$1.50 therefore students do not need to carry excessive amounts of money with them to school.

## BOOK FAIR

Thanks to everyone who shopped at our recent Book Fair over \$1800 in books can now be included as part of our school library.

## FLAG FOOTBALL

Our flag football team has been practicing hard leading up to their tournament on October 9<sup>th</sup> at Mount Albert Fields.

## BABYSITTING CERTIFICATION

The local Red Cross is willing to offer a Babysitting certificate course to any interested Grade 6, 7 and 8 students this month on the October 27<sup>th</sup> PA DAY (9:00 – 3:30). There are forms available in the office to register and there is a cost of \$65. A minimum of 15 students is required to offer this course.

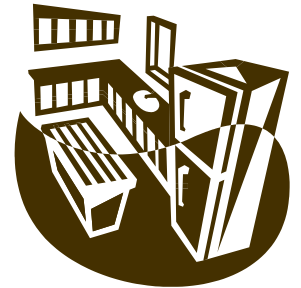
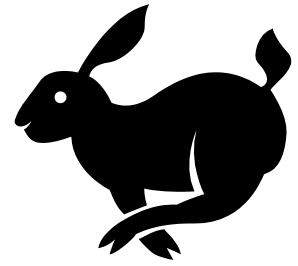
## YES WE WILL

This week our grade 8 students had the privilege of attending a media event at Aurora High School to launch the *YES WE WILL* anti cyber-bullying program in partnership with both School Boards and the York Region Police. We look forward to sharing this important message about the safe and responsible use of technology with others in the future. Will we be able to change attitudes about cyber-bullying? "YES we will."

## AMHS ARTS PROGRAM

There will be an open information night for all students and families who are interested in the Specialized Arts Program at Alexander Mackenzie High School for Grade 9 (September 2015). The information night is Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7-9:00pm at The Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts. More information is available at the office for our Grade 8 students.

**BILL CROTHERS SS** will also have a Grade 8 information session on October 16, 2014 at 7:00pm.



# AURORA SENIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

SCHOOL COUNCIL  
CHAIR:

*Mrs. Robin Scanga*  
[rscanga@rogers.com](mailto:rscanga@rogers.com)

2014-2015 COUNCIL:

As a result of the School Council meeting and elections held on Sept. 29 the following parents have been named to our Council this year:

**Robin Scanga - Chairperson**

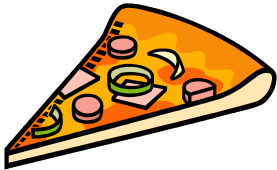
**Janet Tapping- Treasurer**

Lisa Sproul, Mariana Badescu, Hatem Kamal, Patricia Gallegos, Tara Foster, Vidya Rao and Cathy Jin.

**Extreme Pita Days  
will be on Tuesdays**

**Delicious Greek  
Days will be  
Wednesdays**

**Pizza Pizza Days will  
be Thursdays**



PRO GRANT (Parents Reaching Out):

We have been approved again this year for the Parent Reaching Out Grant. This is a night at the school where the parent community is invited to come and celebrate our school's cultural diversity. A committee needs to be formed in order to plan the evening and if anyone wishes to be a part of the planning process they are welcome to let the office know or email the Chair for any information at [rscanga@rogers.com](mailto:rscanga@rogers.com).

LUNCH PROGRAMS:

Once again our parent volunteers have offered to run the Extreme Pita, Greek Food and Pizza Lunch programs. Extreme Pita has already begun and we have had a great response to it this year. Delicious Greek order forms have just gone out so please be on the look-out for those. Pizza order forms will be going out just after Thanksgiving.

OSP MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION / COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER:

October 2<sup>nd</sup> – October 17<sup>th</sup>

George Street & Aurora Senior families - it is that time again when both of our schools are selling magazines and cookie dough as part of our annual Fall Fundraiser. This important fundraiser helps our schools raise funds to purchase needed items throughout the schools that benefit both students and staff. We hope you will take the time to go through the brochures that went home yesterday and are asking family and friends to purchase items to help support your child's school.

All Cookie Dough orders can be picked up on the morning of **Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>** in the front foyer of Aurora Senior Public School.

## COMING EVENTS:

October 2<sup>nd</sup> – *QSP Magazine and Cookie Dough Order Forms being sent home*

November 7<sup>th</sup> - *Movie Night at Aurora Senior Public School showing "Lego Movie"*

May 9<sup>th</sup> – *Mark your calendars early!!! Spring Fair*



**NEXT SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING:  
MONDAY OCTOBER 20, 2014  
AT 7:00 PM  
IN THE AURORA SENIOR LIBRARY**