

NEWSLETTER

Aurora Elementary Newsletter

October 2018

Fall into Autumn

We've had six weeks of school and it doesn't feel like the beginning of school anymore.

We are moving the publish date of the newsletter to the 1st of every month (or the closest school day following). I hope this makes it easier for you to check updates.

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter to stay up-to-date! [@AACSElementary](https://twitter.com/AACSElementary)

While the leaves are turning colour, I hope you're all enjoying the last of the nice weather.



In This Issue

- Terry Fox Run
- Ways to Help the School
- Running Club
- Healthy Hunger
- Boston Pizza Cashback
- Superintendents' Square
- School Council News
- Ms. Harman's Musing
- Read-In Week Updates

Important Dates

October	1	Orange Shirt Day	
	2	G. 3 & 4 Choir starts (by pre-registration only)	
	3	School Council 6:00 p.m. Learning Commons	
	8	Thanksgiving Holiday (no school)	
	10	School Photo Day (G. 1-4, ECS-FM, ECS-AM, ECS-PM)	
	11	School Photo Day (G.1A, ECS-FT)	
	15	Board Meeting 6:30 p.m. Learning Commons	
	18 & 19	Professional Development Days (no school)	
	29	Read-In Week starts	
	31	Mufti Day: Orange and Black or STORYBOOK character (must bring book)	
	31	Hot Lunch Day	
	November	2	Wear-a-Word Day (Elementary)
		7	School Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. (Learning Commons)
9		Remembrance Day Assembly 10:10 a.m. (Middle School Gym)	
12		Professional Development Day (no school)	
14 & 15		Picture Re-take Day	
23		Annual General Meeting 7:00 p.m.	
23		Term 1 Report Card (on-line only) Mufti Day - Comfy Day (no pajamas or slippers) Hot Lunch - if you ordered	
29		G. 4 Honour Roll Assembly 2:30 p.m.	
29 & 30		Parent Teacher Interviews 4:00-7:00 p.m.	



Internet Safety

We had the Saffron Center come in and give a presentation called "Internet Safety: What happens after I press send?" to our grade 3 and 4 classes. Students learned about gaming safety, website safety, cyber bullying and integrity online.

Our thanks to Mrs. Dias for once again organizing a very important and informative session.

Mr. Gray will be taking up this topic with the kindergarten to grade two students, as he does every year. Our thanks to Mr. Gray!

Terry Fox Run September 27



A Toonie for Terry

The Terry Fox Run is a non-competitive event where people get together as individuals, families, and groups to raise money for cancer research in Terry's name. It is a day of celebrating Terry's legacy and helping to keep alive his dream of finding a cure for cancer.

Terry Fox's dream was to run across Canada, to raise money for cancer research. His goal was to run over 8,000 km from the east coast of Canada to the west coast of Canada. He named his run, The Marathon of Hope and started it on April 12, 1980. He ran for 143 days and was then forced to stop because the cancer returned. Now every year, more than 8,000 schools across Canada hold a Terry Fox Run to help Terry's dream for a world without cancer come true.

We had to postpone our run this year because of the Summer Snow! It is Edmonton, after all. Regardless of the snow, we had a very successful event and raised \$767.00 for cancer research!

Picture Day

Oct 10: G. 1-4, ECS-FM/AM/PM

Oct 11: G.1A, ECS-FT

Volunteers Needed

If you would like to volunteer this year, we would welcome the help. We all work together to make this the best environment for our students!

We are currently looking for volunteers to help teachers with laminating or preparing for student art projects (cutting out materials, etc.).

We can also always use people to sit with the students at lunch from 11:31– 11:51.

We will be sending emails closer to our special events to ask for volunteers for hot lunches, Christmas, Winter Fun, and Summer Fund days.

Harriers Run Club

Congratulations

Congratulations to all of our cross country runners who ran in Harriers Cross country meet on September 12 in Callingwood Park.

There were 243 runners participating in grade four from schools in Edmonton and surrounding areas. We braved the cold weather and are hoping for some warmer temperatures for our next two runs that happen on Sept. 26 in Millwoods Park and Oct. 3 in Rundle Park.

Our top female runner was Kennedy Leong and our top male runner was Everett Harrison. The cross country run team has been practicing very hard every Mon., Wed., and Friday to prepare for the meets.

We look forward to the last meet, and good luck to all of our runners! Thank you Mrs. T. Ouellette and Mrs. J. Ouellette!



Healthy Hunger October

The Hot Lunch for October will be made by the Hot Lunch Lady for October 31. Orders are through Healthy Hunger.

This month, there are gluten-free, Halal, and vegetarian options.

Hot Lunches are a fundraiser for the school, as well as fun for the students.

This term, money will be used for Sports Jerseys to be used by the Running Club and CUBS Leadership group.

Healthy Hunger Fun Lunches On-Line—How It Works

STEP 1. REGISTER UNDER STUDENTS & PARENTS

STEP 2. ADD STUDENT OR STUDENTS TO YOUR ACCOUNT

Ordering Your Meals

STEP 1. VIEW UPCOMING ORDERS

STEP 2. SELECT THE ORDER DATE YOU WOULD LIKE TO ORDER FOR

STEP 3. SELECT MENU ITEMS

STEP 4. PAY FOR ORDER

**The cut-off date is always 5 days before the 'Fun lunch' .

www.healthyhunger.ca

Yearbook Volunteers

Can you use drag-and-drop websites?

Do you like designing photo-books?

If you would like to help us design the yearbook this year, we could very much use your help.

It involves placing the pictures onto the pages just like designing a photobook online.

All work can be done from home! Pictures will be loaded onto the secure website.

Let us know if you would like more information: jharman@auroraschool.ca

As always, student privacy will be safeguarded. Volunteers will need a Vulnerable Sector Check and to sign an agreement with the school.



**Boston
Pizza®**

School Earnback

Want an easy way to give to the school?

Boston Pizza will make a cash donation to Aurora School of 5% of every receipt turned into the school.

There is a basket outside the Elementary School Office where you can drop off receipts (just tell your server—you will need the itemized receipt, not the credit card one).

Donations will be used to help fund clubs for the students at lunch!

Thank you, Boston Pizza, for an easy fundraiser!



Dale Bischoff

Superintendent

dbischoff@auroraschool.ca

Superintendents' Square

Autumn Greeting from Aurora Superintendent Team:

The dynamic and beautiful Autumn transition continues to provide an inspiring backdrop with our teaching and learning team at Aurora. Poet and novelist Emily Brontë described Autumn so eloquently "Every leaf speaks bliss to me fluttering from the Autumn tree."

One of the joys we have at Aurora is participating in motivational activities with our students, staff, parents and community. This month we will participate in the Terry Fox Run where our students, staff, and volunteer parents collectively run/walk around the perimeter of our Aurora and Sherbrooke Community playground area and raise awareness and support of Terry Fox's important contributions and legacy. Terry Fox's determination and grit in the face of incredible challenge while battling cancer and raising funds to assist cancer research continues to inspire and motivate generations of Canadians.

On Monday, October 1st, Aurora will participate in Orange Shirt Day to bring awareness to the experiences of residential school students. Orange Shirt Day is also an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come.

We wish you all the very best during our Autumn transition to Winter and a rewarding school year with our Aurora teaching and learning family!

Dr. Dale Bischoff—Superintendent

Dr. Paul Wozny—Deputy Superintendent



Paul Wozny

Deputy Superintendent

pwozny@auroraschool.ca

Waitlist Updates

Parents are responsible for updating the waitlist information for their children each year on Familyzone.

If you have a child on the waitlist, you MUST change their grade EVERY year or you risk being on the wrong list.

Double check that we have your current email address. All interviews are scheduled by email using the address you provide.

Updates must be done by October 31!

French Help Website

Do you need help with the French homework?

Our wonderful French teacher, Mme Marko-Kwasny, has made videos of all of her lessons so that your child can watch them words and actions at home! (You can too, if you need a little refresher.)

Our thanks to Madame!

<https://sites.google.com/a/auroraschool.ca/french-vocabulary/>

New Face at Aurora

We are happy to announce our newest face at Aurora. Ms. Deboer will be covering 2D while Mrs. Scantlebury is on Maternity Leave.

Ms. Deboer isn't really a "new" face, as she is an Aurora Alumna! She has a deep understanding of what it means to be a part of the Aurora Family. We are so happy to welcome her back to our school as a part of our Learning Team.



School Council Corner



Ellen Fung, Chair

Photo
Unavailable
See November
Newsletter

Jacqueline Kossick, Co-Chair



Senait Salih, Treasurer



Harinder Gill, Secretary

We had our **Annual General Meeting** on **Wednesday, September 12, 2018** in which our new Executives were elected: Ellen Fung (Chair), Jacqueline Kossick (Co-Chair), Senait Salih (Treasurer), and Harinder Gill (Secretary). Congratulations, and thank you to all who attended.

Our **MONTHLY** meetings are on the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of every month. These are a great way to stay in the loop, share feedback, and meet other parents!

Our **next meeting:**

Wednesday, October 3, 2018 at 6 pm in the Learning Commons.

Main topic for discussion: Next fundraiser for November/December.

Please check the school **website** under "**School Council**" tab for the most updated information and our meeting minutes, including a link to join the meeting online (<https://meet.google.com/agj-dfvh-mpw>)

Agendas for the upcoming meetings will be emailed a couple of days before. If you are unable to attend but would like to send us feedback, information or if you have questions, please email us at schoolcouncil@auroraschool.ca.



Do you have a **Facebook** account? Put in a request to join our group "**Aurora School Council**" for reminders.



Do you have a **twitter** account? Follow us **[@aacsSchCouncil](https://twitter.com/aacsSchCouncil)**.

Fundraisers:

The money raised from fundraisers help fund special events for our children like:

The Science Fair

Clubs

Winter Craft Night

Winter Carnival

Telus World of Science trips

Artists in Residence

Summer Fun Day

Just to name a few.....

Thank you for
your continued
generosity!

We have just finished our **first fundraiser**: ADmazing Ticket Packs. Our **goal** was to sell **350** books. As of September 21st, we have sold **203**. We are still accepting orders and money until **October 15th, 2018!!**

Due to popular demand, we have brought back the **Harvest Bundles**.



Forms and money are **due** back **Monday, October 1, 2018**.

No EXCEPTIONS can be made for this fundraiser.

Cerebral Palsy clothes bin (green):

The next time you have clothes you no longer need, please bring to the school and drop them off in the bin that is **located in the new parking lot where the old and new lots join**.

Mabel's Labels:

Go to the website: campaign.mabelslabels.com
and select our school **Aurora Academic Charter
School (Edmonton)**

mabel's labels

Ms. Harman's Musing

Diligence, Respect, Cooperation, Attendance, and Accountability

Field Trip Sign Up Changes

As you have already seen, we've made a few changes to the way we do Field Trip Permission Forms.

We had many parents who told us they had difficulty with the website. I ended up phoning and emailing parents many times right before their field trip as they had accidentally denied permission but had paid for the trip! It was the number one issue in our annual parent survey.

We needed a better way to keep the kids safe.

As a staff, we sat down to brainstorm what we could do to make Field Trips easier for parents. After looking at all the Field Trips that we run in Elementary, we set a maximum cost per year and a maximum number of trips. Now we are all on the same page and can provide the enrichment activities your children love while being mindful of the costs and time away from working at the school.

We want to be sure that we make the process as easy as possible, so we switched back to paper forms for Elementary field trips, as the teachers are always taking their own students. The Middle School has many more variables which makes on-line sign-up easier for them.

We also heard that it was difficult to keep track of having separate payments for each field trip where you might need to pay \$5 on Monday for one child and \$2 on Tuesday for another child.

To simplify things, we will post Field Trips Payments once a term so that you can pay for the whole term at once for all your children. We thought this would be a good way to spread out payments as well; this way, you won't get a big bill in September.

I want you to know that we listened to your feedback and worked hard to make things better. The teachers are happy with this plan too as it will simplify keeping track of permissions and payments for them. Please be sure that meet their deadlines so that they don't need to email you to follow up.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas for improvement, please let me know. Many heads are better than one!

Kind regards,

J. Harman

Contact Us

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Visit us on the web at
www.auroraschool.ca



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Read In Week

Aurora Elementary School is celebrating Read-In Week October 29-November 2. To help foster a love of reading we will be hosting a week full of activity!

Monday, Oct. 29	Grade One "Book"nic
Tuesday, Oct. 30	Grade Two "Book"nic
Wednesday, Oct. 31	Storybook Character Dress-Up
Thursday, Nov. 1	Grade Three "Book"nic
Fri. Nov. 2	Grade Four "Book"nic Wear a "Word" Day
Throughout the Week	*Teacher Read Swap *Volunteer Readers *READO (Bingo) *Bookmarks *Draws



Wear a Word Day

On Friday, November 2 K-4 students are encouraged to wear a word to school. Find a shirt or hoodie that has a word, maybe a place you have been, your favourite sports team, a store you shop at, etc. Uniform bottoms must be worn. Those not wishing to participate must be in school uniform.



4/10/12

Read In Week

October 29-Nov. 2

Aurora Academic Elementary School is celebrating Read-In Week October 29-Nov. 2. Fostering a love of reading is essential in developing young minds. We would like to invite parents and grandparents to help celebrate Read-In Week by volunteering their time to come read to our classes. Bring in a favourite picture book, or books can be provided by the classroom teacher.

Please have forms returned to your classroom teacher by Friday, October 19.

I Can Volunteer

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|------|------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Monday, October 29 | A.M. | P.M. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tuesday, October 30 | A.M. | P.M. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Thursday, November 1 | A.M. | P.M. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Friday, November 2 | A.M. | P.M. |



Times will be confirmed by the homeroom teacher once schedules are finalized.

Storybook Character

Dress-Up

To help celebrate our Reading Week, on Wednesday October 31, K-4 classes are invited to dress like their favourite storybook character. Be prepared to share who your story book character is and why they are your favourite character.

You must bring in a book that has your character in it to share with the class.

As this is also our Mufti Day, those who do not wish to dress as a storybook character may wear orange and black.

★ Those not wishing to participate in either Storybook Dress-Up or Mufti Day, must be in their school uniform.

