

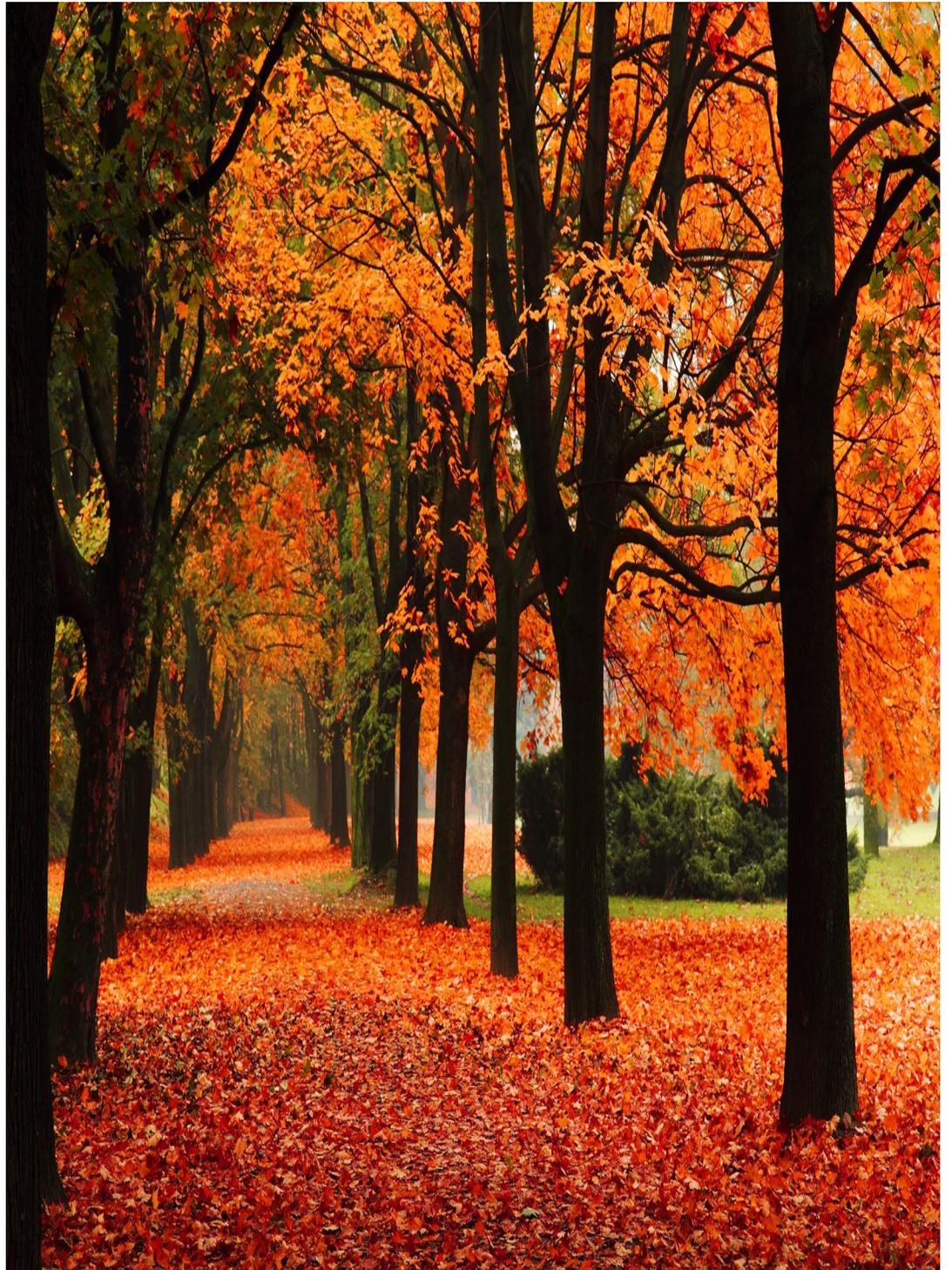


AURORA ACADEMIC
CHARTER SCHOOL



AURORA ACADEMIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Middle School Newsletter



October 2019

October 2019

From the Principal

The autumn season is beginning, tree leaves turn color, the noticeable chilly morning air, pumpkin spice drinks, and the routines of getting school underway are all familiar annual rituals by the start of every October. Routines should be familiar by now for parents and students, including diligently completing homework daily, checking grades on PowerSchool regularly, and communication with teachers. These practices are important steps in helping ensure a successful Term 1. Also, please be sure to read the newsletters to stay updated on important news from the school.



Peter Dang
Principal

Read-In Week **October 7 - 11, 2019**



Started back in 1990, Read-in Week is a local initiative held every first week of October to raise awareness of the importance of reading. During the week of October 7-11, students will enjoy a variety of themed activities including a book tasting, read-in snuggle, paired reading, book drive, and daily literature fun fact. Teachers will be sharing stories, poems and non-fiction texts with students in their subject specific classrooms throughout the week as well.

We also have visiting readers coming to the school for Read-In Week.:

Paleontologist Gavin Bradley from the U of A to come in on Monday, October 7th from 2-3pm in the Learning Commons. He will be reading from the book "Dinosaurs of the Alberta Badlands" written by his colleague Dr. Persons.

City of Edmonton Counselor Bev Esslinger will be reading to our Middle School students on Thursday, October 10.

MLA of Edmonton-Glenora and former Deputy Premier of Alberta, Sarah Hoffman, will join us on October 11 and read a short excerpt from her favourite book.

October 2019

Message from Aurora Superintendent Team

Our Aurora Annual General Meeting (AGM) for all parents/members will be held on November 21st, 2019 at 7:00 pm in our Aurora Learning Commons. A key process in the Annual General Meeting is the election of candidates running for the open positions on the Aurora Board of Directors. For this year, we will have 4 Director positions open for election. Please review the Director Nomination Package that will be sent to all parents on October 1st, 2019 for further information and details on the process to nominate and run as candidate for the Aurora Board of Directors.

Our AGM is also key in the approval of our Aurora Audited Financial Statement along with the Board Chair Year in Summary Statement. Do not hesitate to contact our Aurora Board Office at 780 454 1855 for any additional information or supports.

We thank our Aurora Parents for making Aurora a truly inspiring and caring teaching and learning environment for our students.

Sincerely

Dr. Dale Bischoff

Dr. Paul Wozny

October 2019

Panterra

Sail away for spring break and learn about the geology of the Baja peninsula, see dolphins jumping and sea lions swimming in the wild, watch bioluminescence in the ocean at night, gaze at the stars with no light pollution, and discover the amazing under water life while snorkelling! There are still spaces on the Panterra Marine Education trip for grade 7 and 9 students for a full week during the 2020 spring break. Check out panterra.com to see photos and trip journals. Contact Mrs. Joblinski at ajoblinski@auroraschool.com for more information.

Board Meetings

Board Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month in the Aurora Academic Charter School Learning Commons.

Meetings begin at 6:30pm. Anyone who wishes to attend is welcome.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2019

Grade 9 Farewell

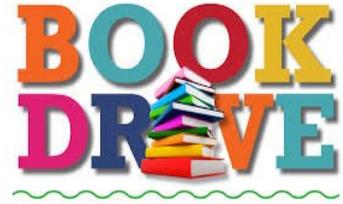
This year's grade 9 farewell will take place on Friday, June 5th in the evening. Tickets are available on Family Zone for those that wish to attend. The event will include a full dinner and dessert along with a program and speeches. More information will be shared as the event gets closer. There are three tickets available per family. Please remember that the grade 9 student requires one of the purchased tickets. Please direct any questions to Mrs. Joblinski at ajoblinski@auroraschool.ca.



October 2019

Donation Days: Sept. 30 - Oct. 4

The Junior Leadership Group will be hosting a Book Drive during Read-In Week.



Step 1: Students donate a fiction (chapter or graphic novel) or non-fiction book to their English Language Arts teacher during the donation days from Sept. 30 to Oct. 4.

Step 2: For every 4 donated books, students will receive a ticket to be entered into a draw for a chance to win a \$20 Chapters Gift card. There will be one winner per grade.

Step 3: All students in Middle School may browse the book drive tables during **Read In Week**, to choose a book to take home.

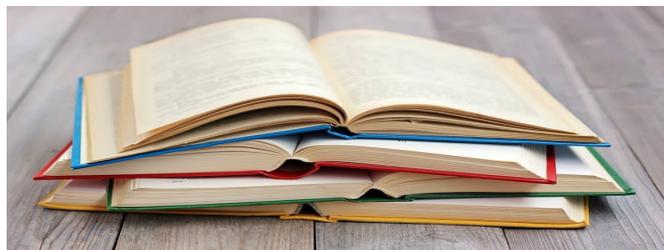
Leftover books will be donated to the “Sherbrooke Community Free Library” program.

Book Criteria:

- Books must be appropriate for Gr 4-9
- Chapter book, graphic novel, or non-fiction
- Books must be in gently used condition
- Coloring books, activity books, and sticker books will not be accepted

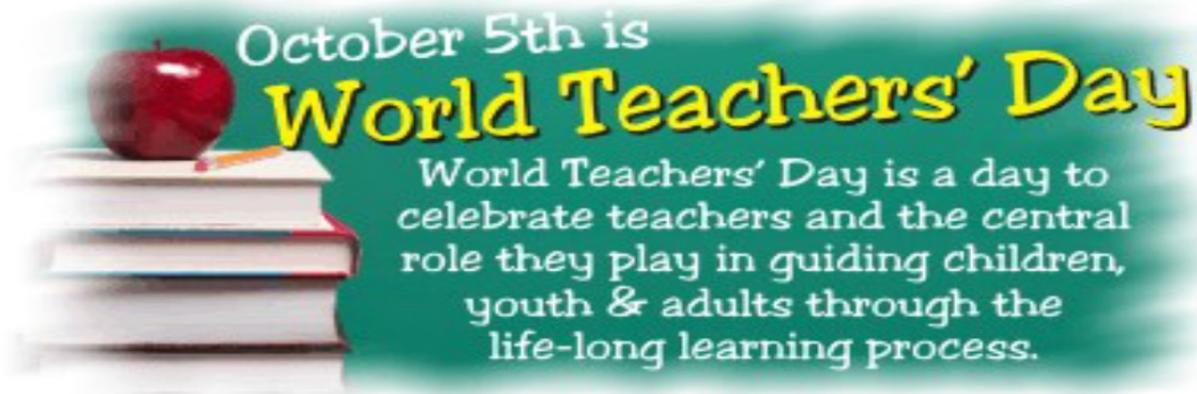


If you have any questions, please email Mrs. O'Connor at:
joconnor@auroraschool.ca



October 2019

WORLD TEACHERS' DAY



Since 1994, parents and students from around the world have celebrated World Teachers' Day to commemorate the work of teachers and their contributions.

During the week of October 5th, please take the time to let your children's teachers know that they are truly appreciated.

Who should I talk to when...

Your child comes home from school. He or she is upset and concerned about something that has happened at school. This hypothetical situation could be concerning another student in the class, a grade on an assignment or an incident on the playground.



What do you do?

We treat all concerns seriously, and want to help our students and hear your concerns.

We ask that you follow the following steps in addressing a concern:

1. Speak directly to the teacher involved. We recognize that this can be difficult, but we ask that you allow the teacher the opportunity to resolve the issue first.
2. If the teacher is unable to resolve the issue, please contact your school administration team consisting of the principal and/or the assistant principal.
3. If you remain unsatisfied with the response of administration, at this point, please address your concerns with the superintendent.

It is our wish that through effective communication between the teacher and parent(s) to resolve any concerns that steps 2 and 3 will not be necessary.

October 2019

Theatre Club

Thank you to those students that signed up for the Grade 7 to 9 Citadel Theatre Club. Please be sure to note the following dates in your calendar. Six: November 13, A Christmas Carol (gr. 8 and 9 only): December 18, As You Like It: February 19, Peter Pan Goes Wrong: April 22.

Optional Drumheller Grade 7 Overnight Trip

Thank you to those students that signed up for the grade 7 overnight trip. Please watch for packing and travel details to be sent home soon.

JAZZ

Grade 5's will have the opportunity to watch a collection of Edmonton's best Jazz musicians at "The Yardbird Suite" on the morning of Tuesday November 19th. This ensemble features Joel Gray (https://ca.yamaha.com/en/artists/j/joel_gray.html) on trumpet and highlights the history of jazz trumpet. Check your email and your student's agenda for more information in the near future.

EUROPE TRIP

Attention students in grades 6-8 and their parents: The Europe 2021 trip to Scotland, England and France is open for enrollment! Visit www.eftours.ca/2061802ET to register. Students who register will save \$150! The program fee includes all flights, transport within Europe, hotels, breakfast and dinner every day, insurance, and the services of a full-time guide. Email Miss Wilson at mwilson@auroraschool.ca for information!

October 2019

REMEMBRANCE DAY

The Middle School is preparing for our Remembrance Day Assembly on Thursday, November 7th. In an effort to continue to relay the importance of the day and to make it as relevant to our Aurora staff and students as we can, we are asking for your help.

We would like to put together a display of current and past family members of Aurora Middle School students that have or are serving in the military. If you are able to participate, please send in or email a photo of the military member past or present and any details you know (name, rank, division, if they were active in any peacekeeping or war related mission), the name of your Aurora Student and their relationship to the military member.

Ex: Mrs. Joblinski - Caden Maplethorpe, cousin, current military member

We are hoping to put the names, student connections, and photos in the display. If you send in a photo, please include a note if you wish for it to be returned.

BUSSING INFORMATION

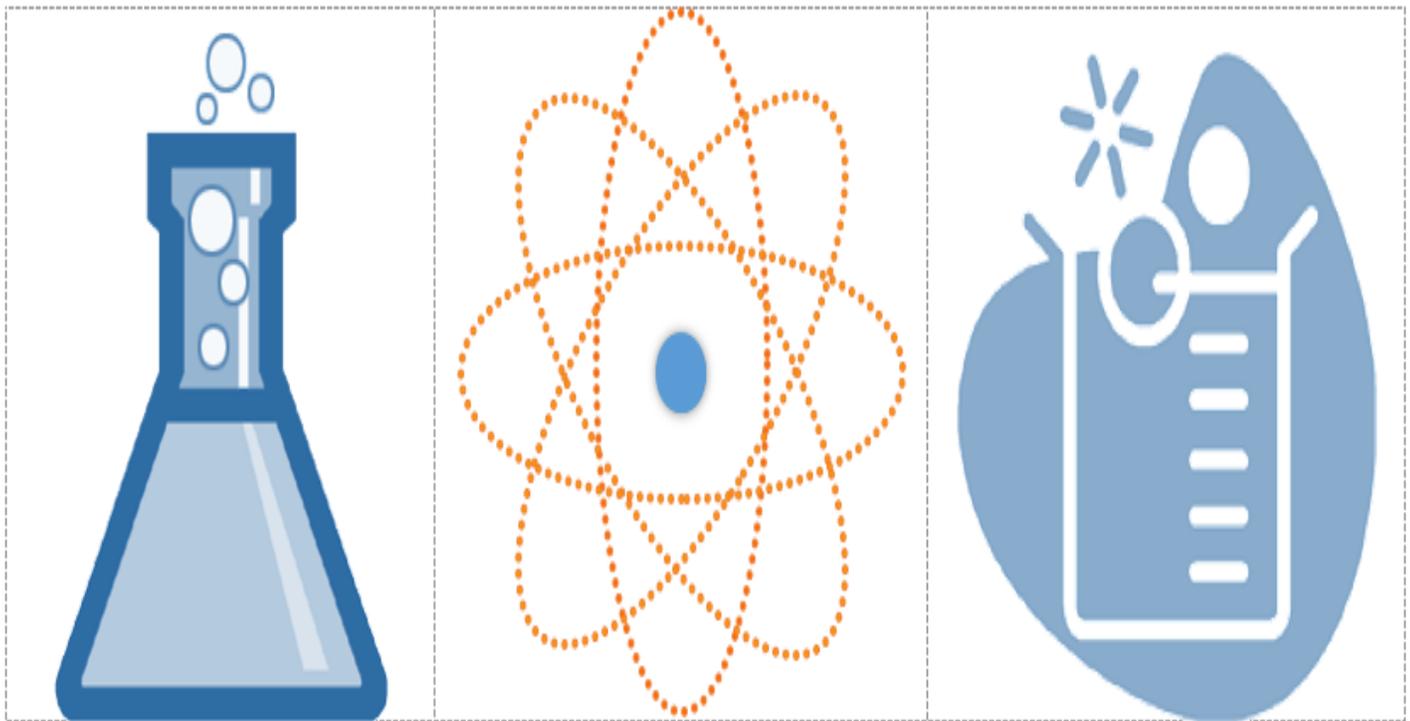
All families please note that students are NOT allowed to bring basketballs, soccer balls, footballs, etc on the school bus in grocery or plastic bags. They MUST be in a zipped backpack or bag of some sort. Also, no hockey sticks or golf clubs allowed on the bus. Ice skates must have blade guards. These are a safety issues!!

With the weather changing and getting cold, please ensure your children are dressed properly to ride the school bus. Also, your child should be waiting and standing at the stop before the bus arrives, not waiting in the vehicle as the bus will leave at the scheduled pick up time if nobody is standing at the stop. Thank you for ensuring your children are properly dressed and waiting for the bus. Safety is our one priority!!!

October 2019

Grade 7-9 Telus World of Science Field Trip Thursday, December 19

Please complete the form & fee on Family Zone by October 31, 2019



This field trip will meet curricular objectives in grades 7, 8, and 9 Science. Students will take part in a hands-on activity connected to their grade level, watch a show in the Zeidler Dome, have an opportunity to explore all of the galleries in the center, and watch the new IMAX movie *Great Bear Rainforest*. Students must be in dress uniform and may bring or lunch or purchase a lunch. The fee includes: bussing, all galleries, a dome show, an IMAX movie, demo stage activities, and a hands-on workshop. Please contact Mrs. Joblinski at ajoblinski@auroraschool.ca with any questions.

October 2019

Student Council

School Spirit Team

- Gr. 7: Aeden Beide
- Gr. 8: Nathan Yue
- Gr. 9: liesha Moume

Fundraising Team

- Gr. 7: Cattri Vuong
- Gr. 8: Aastha Sahi
- Gr. 9: Kalee Seto

Records Team

- Gr. 7: Nolan Huhn
- Gr. 8: Hazel Demeester
- Gr. 9: Inayat Sahota

Events Team

- Gr. 7: Jasmin Nakai
- Gr. 8: Ahad Faruqi
- Gr. 9: Alex Anchoris

Grade Committees

- Gr. 7: Khushnoor Brar, Safiya Singh, Angelica Vovk, Solin Deric
- Gr. 8: Reetu Arvikar, Madeline Hofmann, Shiloh Galisa, Maya Achuthan
- Gr. 9: Mike Popovskiy, Grace Choudhary, Ajay Sran, Eliora Begna

Town Hall Committee

- Gr. 7: Liza , Ayaan Faruqi, Ishna Pandit, Mahnoor Baqar-shakil, Nanky Gill
- Gr. 8: Rajman Mann , Gabrielle Ignacio, Kanya Senthikumar, Aahana, Kanza Shahzadi
- Gr. 9: Kayleen Ruda, Muskaan Rai, Hannah Mukhi



October 2019

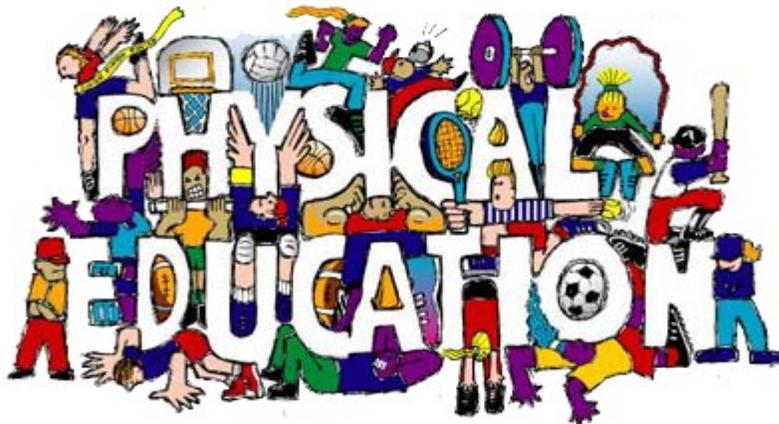
Athletics

The month of September has been busy for athletics, with our boys and girls soccer teams both competing against schools from across the city. The end of the month of September sees both leagues wrap up and the teams enter into playoffs the first week of October.

The grade 5 and 6 cross country run club has been competing against other elementary schools from across the city. Races for the grade five and six runners take place on September 11, September 25, and October 2nd.

The Terry Fox run was completed on September 30. Every student in grade 529 did their best to run for a total of 20 minutes, and raised funds for Cancer research.

Volleyball information meeting took place on Sept 18th. There were drop-in practises on September 24 and 26th. Tryouts will be held in the first week of October for both of the boys and girls volleyball teams. See Mr. Chau or Mr. Millard with any questions.



October 2019

2019 Aurora Boys Soccer

Team

Eliud Daniel
Ian Gutierrez
Karan Kang
Prabhadesh Toor
Pratham Walia
Asim Alam
Andrew Arutyunov
Theo Worssa
Navjosh Dhillon
Gurjot Khaira
Jacob Leong
Om Upadhyay
Emad Seid
Mike Popovskiy
Vijay Tatla
J.V. Samrao
Jake Revels Green
Maanus Sandhu

Congrats to the boys on an undefeated regular season. The boys will be heading into the playoffs September 30th!!

2019 Aurora Girls Soccer

Team

Heran Asrat
Gurleen Gurm
Reahman Kaler
Rajman Mann
Reetu Arvikar
Dahab Baqar-Shakil
Madeline Hofmann
Naomi Begna
Sreya Gill
Jasmine Montentan
Nazam Bhinder
Kui Karuga
Hannah Mukhi
Eliora Begna
Ada Janisz
Abigail Yohannes
Mariam Agyemang
Mahnoor Baqar-Shakil

Congrats to the girls' soccer team on an amazing season! The girls are undefeated and have made the playoffs. See them in action Sept. 30! Way to go, Bears!

October 2019

HOT LUNCHES

Hot lunches are available at: www.healthyhunger.ca

Please register for a student account and select Aurora Academic Middle Charter School to view the available menu items.

Orders are due 5 days prior to the hot lunch date.

Please note there is a small transaction fee. By signing up for an account, you will receive email notices about upcoming hot lunches as well.

30-Sep-19	<i>Subway</i>
31-Oct-19	<i>Red Robin</i>
22-Nov-19	<i>McDonalds</i>
18-Dec-19	<i>Boston Pizza</i>
24-Jan-20	<i>Taco Time</i>
14-Feb-20	<i>Care It Deli</i>
17-Mar-20	<i>Opa</i>
08-Apr-20	<i>Booster Juice</i>
24-Apr-20	<i>Mr. Sub</i>
01-May-20	<i>KFC</i>
29-May-20	<i>Boston Pizza</i>



Thanksgiving Day

Monday, October 14th

School is closed on this day.

The Middle School staff would like to wish all the students and their families a happy Thanksgiving filled with the joy of family and friends.

Also, to thank you for letting Aurora Middle School be a part of your family.

October 2019

Grade 8 Foods and Photography Option

Students in Grade 8 Foods and Photography Options worked together on a Food Presentation project. Photography students took pictures of food creations!



Award Information for Families of Aurora

Student Awards and Recognition. At the heart of Aurora School's philosophy is the pursuit and recognition of effort and excellence in all aspects of school life. The motto, "All hard work yields a profit" is interpreted beyond the pecuniary implications and refers to the innate self-satisfaction derived from the personal accomplishment. Beyond this quiet personal satisfaction, we believe there is a role for public recognition in the form of prizes and awards.

Aurora Academic Charter School Administrative Regulation Category: F. Student Policies Code: AR 6130
Policy Name: Student Evaluation .

1. **Term 1, 2 and year-end awards will be given as follows:** Grade 5 and higher: **A) Outstanding citizenship** – one per class. **B) Academics** – top three in each class. Results are based on the average of the four core subjects. Students must have a passing grade in all subjects. **C) Diligence and/or Improvement** – one per class. Student who demonstrates hard work and/or improvement throughout the term.
2. **The following awards will be year-end awards only:** Principal's Awards for academics, leadership, and sportsmanship will be given at each grade level 5 and above. An individual winner from Grade 5 and above will be selected by the teachers of those grades.
3. An honor roll will be kept for students in grades 5 to 9. The names of those students who achieved an average of 80% or higher on their four core subjects, with no subject below 70% or a B, will be posted in the foyer and published in the school newsletter following each report card.

**Please keep in mind that attendance also plays a role in the selection of award winners.

October 2019

School Info



Operation Education Fundraiser

Operation Education Fundraiser is a cooperative fundraiser that partners local schools with Boston Pizza restaurants to earn cash back. Staff, students and families can dine at any Northern Alberta Boston Pizza and help their school earn 5% cash back on the pre-tax total of submitted receipts.

1. Eat at Boston Pizza between September 1, 2019 and June 25, 2020
2. Save your receipts
3. Submit your receipts to Mrs. Bali or Mrs. Joblinski by June 25, 2020

Last year Aurora Middle School collected over \$5000 in Boston Pizza receipts,

It's as simple as save and eat!

Picture Day

for Aurora Middle School will be held on October 7th!!

****Retakes for Middle School will be October 28th!!**



Upcoming PD Day

October 24 & 25, 2019

are scheduled

Professional

Development Days for teachers.

There is no school for students on these days.

School Beautification

Multiple research have shown that living plants can contribute to cleaner air, lower anxiety, and brings a pleasing aesthetic quality to schools. If you have any plants that you would like to donate to the school to further beautify the Learning Commons or the school in general, please let us know.

October 2019

Castle Rock Study Guides for Students

Aurora Academic Charter Middle School is pleased to partner with **Castle Rock Research** to provide educational resources to help support student achievement.

Over the last 20 years, hundreds of thousands of students in Alberta have used THE KEY Study Guides and SNAP Workbooks produced by Castle Rock Research as part of their studies. We have recently been introduced to a digital resource from Castle Rock called SOLARO (Student Oriented Learning, Assessment, and Reporting Online). We find that SOLARO is a comprehensive digital study guide that provides all the benefits and features of THE KEY along with the added value of more robust content and many more practice questions. The same year-end tests from THE KEY are now available in the SOLARO courses for Mathematics, English Language Arts, Sciences, and Social Studies.

[View SOLARO Video](#)

While Castle Rock will continue to support and produce the THE KEY and SNAP, the focus moving forward will be on the many exciting benefits of SOLARO. We are working with Castle Rock to implement a new ordering procedure that will allow parents to order digital and print products online and still receive a preferred education discount (approx. 50%). To help reduce shipping charges, orders will be individually packaged, aggregated, and shipped to the school for pick up by each student. Orders can be placed starting **September 14, 2019** with shipment following within a week after the closing date of **October 6, 2019**. After this date, the educational discounts will not be available. For SOLARO digital orders, activation will be immediate upon emailed confirmation.

To order print or digital products, please visit <https://schoolorders.solaro.com/1939> to find your school.

Thank you,
The Castle Rock Team
T: 780.448.9619
orders@castlerockresearch.com
www.castlerockresearch.com

October 2019

Little Free Library

The Sherbrooke Community League has set up a Little Free Library outside the Community Hall. Parents and students are encouraged to stop by and pick a book or two to read or donate to the library. Aurora School's Learning Commons has donated to that Little Free Library two full boxes of older books that have been removed from our library system. Thank you to our Learning Commons learning resource coordinator, Ms. Amanda Poitras, for organizing this!



ORANGE SHIRT DAY September 30th for Aurora Middle School

Orange Shirt Day is an event that started in 2013. It was designed to educate people and promote awareness about the Indian residential school system and the impact this system had on Indigenous communities for more than a century in Canada .

PowerSchool - Report Card User Guide

Did you know?

Once you have logged into PowerSchool, you are able to see a breakdown of your child's grades. Students' marks will be updated on a weekly basis, depending on the subject.

Simply click the blue numbers to see an expanded view of each subject's assignments. A user guide is available on our website under the parents tab.



Please be sure to check your child's progress regularly.

<http://www.auroraschool.ca>

October 2019

MUFTI DAY SCHEDULE

Monday, September 30 – **Orange** Shirt Day in conjunction with the Terry Fox Run

Thursday, October 31 – **Orange** or **Black** (no costumes)

Friday, November 22 – Hoodie Day

Wednesday, December 18 – **Holiday Colors** (**White** , **Red**, **Green**)

Friday, January 24 – Travel (Where have you travelled to?)

Friday, February 14 – St. Valentine's Day (**White**, **Red**, **Pink**)

Tuesday, March 17 – St. Patrick's Day (**Green**, **Orange**, **Gold**, **Yellow**)

Wednesday, April 8 – **Pink** Shirt Day

Friday, April 24 – Dress your Best

Friday, May 1 – Hats on for Mental Health

Friday, May 29 – **Rainbow** Challenge (have your classmates wear as many solid colored tops as possible)

Thursday, June 25 – Sport Jersey

Students not participating must be in uniform.

The theme (color) must be visible on the top, be apparent on the piece of clothing, and cannot be covered.

Theme apparent accessories do NOT qualify

Pants/bottoms must match the solid theme color or be solid black bottoms, blue jeans or uniform pants.

Head Lice

What Are Head Lice?

Head lice, or the medical condition known as pediculosis, are a pesky problem that anyone can have at some point in their life. Most often infestations occur in children 3 to 11 years of age.

Head lice are not dangerous and they do not spread disease but they can and do spread from person to person. Having dirty hair does not cause head lice.

Head lice cannot fly or jump and you cannot get them from your pets.

While they may be **found anywhere on the head**, they prefer to live on the scalp along the neckline and behind the ears. When lice bite the scalp they cause itching.

How Do I Know If My Child Has Head Lice?

Children may say they have a tickling feeling on their head or may be very itchy on their scalp.

It can take up to 4-6 weeks for a person to experience itching.

The only way to be sure a person has an active case of lice is to find live lice.

Lice are not easy to see and can be hard to find. They are about the size of a sesame seed. They are usually greyish white or brown.

Nits are small, oval and blend into the color of the hair. Each nit is firmly attached to a hair. They cannot be washed out or flicked off like dandruff. Finding nits does not mean the individual has a current infestation and they should not be treated based on finding nits.



Head louse



Louse egg (nit) on hair

How Do I Check for Lice?

Detection combing is the recommended method to check for head lice.

Detection combing is an organized examination of the hair, from the scalp outwards, to find head lice. Finding lice by parting the hair and looking at the scalp is not particularly efficient and likely to miss many infestations

Please see Head-Lice-Detection Combing handout

For a demonstration on detection combing:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=je-cWdTrhFQ

Can My Child Attend School?

Once children are treated they can return to school because:

- Head lice do not spread disease
- Children can have head lice for several weeks with no symptoms.
- The presence of nits indicates a past infestation that may not be currently active
- Cases of head lice are often misdiagnosed

How can you prevent the spread of head lice?

- Teach your children how head lice are spread (by direct contact with the head of someone with an infestation) and to avoid this kind of activity.
- It is a good idea to teach your children not to share brushes, combs or head gear such as hats, bandanas, etc.
- Check your child's head for live lice once a week all year long and daily during an outbreak.
- Head-to-head contact may be less if long hair is braided or tied back.

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October 2019

What is the Treatment for Head Lice?

- Health Canada recommends treatment with a topical insecticide (pyrethrins, permethrin 1% or lindane) or a non-insecticidal product called Resultz® (for use in individuals 4 years of age and older). These products are available over the counter at drug stores.
- Tell the pharmacist if anyone needing treatment is pregnant, breastfeeding, under 6 years of age, has allergies or a serious health problem.
- **It is very important to read and follow the package directions carefully.** Some products recommend that there should not be Crème Rinse or Conditioner on the hair, as it may prevent the treatment from working
- Each product is different and has detailed directions for use. For example one product might say it should be put on dry hair while another should be put on wet hair. Each will say how long it should be left on the hair before rinsing out.
- Avoid unnecessary contact with the product since it can be absorbed through the skin.
- The treatment course for each of these products involves an initial application followed by a second application in 7 to 10 days as per the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Most approved treatments will kill the lice, but are not effective against the nits.
- A second treatment in 7 to 10 days will kill the lice that have hatched since the first treatment before they are mature enough to lay new eggs.
- Check the heads of anyone who was treated daily for 3 weeks after the first treatment
- The presence of nits indicates a past infestation that may not be active.
- Public Health does recommend removal of nits within 1 ½ inches of the scalp to ease in identification of re-infestation
- If live lice are found on the head 24 to 48 hours after the treatment, contact your pharmacist or public health nurse for advice.
- **DO NOT treat unless you are sure that you have found a living, moving louse**

Do Other Treatments Work?

Many home recipes and products sold in stores are based on mixtures of essential oils (eucalyptus, lavender, tea tree, etc), salts or other natural substances. Some people have used oils like mayonnaise, olive oil and Vaseline or hair gels to try to smother lice.

Public Health does not recommend any of these products as there is no proof that they work.

I Keep Treating My Child But He/She Keeps Getting Head Lice. Why?

The following are several common reasons why treatment for head lice may fail:

- Applying the treatment to hair that has been washed with conditioning shampoo or rinsed with hair conditioner
- Insufficient application of pediculicide (the treatment)
- Re-infestation
- Resistance of the head lice to the treatment used
- Lack of removal of live nits that are within 1 ½ inch (3.81 cm) of scalp
- Misdiagnosis: Children can scratch for 2 or more weeks after treatment or other objects in the hair (dandruff or hair spray droplets etc) can be misidentified as lice

What Cleaning Needs To Be Done?

Lice cannot live for more than 2-3 days away from the scalp so excessive cleaning is not necessary.

Choose the best method to clean the following items (washing in hot water for 15 minutes or running through a drier on the hottest setting):

- All personal hair care items such as combs, barrettes, etc. Repeat this daily until the lice are gone.
- Items that have been in prolonged or intimate contact with the child's head (bedding, hats, etc.) at the time of first treatment.

Items that cannot be washed should be placed in a sealed plastic bag for two weeks, or placed in the freezer for 48 hours at -10° C. (to prevent any eggs from hatching)

There is no need to vacuum or wash floors, carpets or furniture. Do not use household sprays or lice sprays. They do not work and may be harmful to people.

**For more information contact:
your local Public Health Office
or your Physician
or Health Link Alberta 1-866-408-5465**

October 2019



Head Lice: Who's Responsibility Are They?

Head Lice

Head lice or the medical condition known as pediculosis, are a pesky problem that anyone can have at some point in their life.

Head lice are not dangerous and they do not spread disease but they can and do spread from person to person.

Infection is common during school holidays as well as during the school year. Parents start to worry more about lice when children go back to school because they think the lice are being caught there.

Research indicates that most lice are caught from close family and friends in the home and community, not just from the school.

Head louse infection is a problem of the whole community, not just the schools. Co-ordinated efforts between parents, teachers, schools, public health and the community are necessary to control outbreaks of head lice.

Role and Responsibilities

Parents' Role:

- Be aware of the signs and the symptoms of infestation;
- Be familiar with the technique for examining hair for lice and nits;
- Examine their children's heads weekly for signs of infestation as part of routine hygiene;
- Notify the school when their child has lice and others who have come into contact with the child, that is, family members, neighbours, etc.;
- Carry out treatment on family members with live moving lice;
- Wash personal items such as combs, brushes, bedding and hats;
- Inform the school that treatment has been completed

School's Role:

- Schools should not take on the responsibility of checking heads for head lice as traditional methods of parting the hair and looking at the scalp is not efficient and many infestations may be missed.
- "Alert" letters should not be sent out. These can cause an "outbreak" of imaginary lice.
- Research indicates children who may have lice should not be excluded from school; if they do have lice, they will probably have been there for weeks already.
- The school should give best practice information on lice to parents and staff, including the importance of regular detection combing and how to do it. Provision of information should be on a regular basis throughout the year, not just when there is thought to be an "outbreak."

Public Health Role

- Providing Best Practice treatment guidelines to schools, to parents and community agencies upon request;
- Assisting school boards and schools to implement head lice policies and protocols;
- Consultation on difficult-to-treat cases of head lice

For more information contact:

**Your local Public Health Office
or your Physician
or
Health Link Alberta 1-866-408-5465**

July 2012



Head Lice – Detection Combing

What is Detection Combing?

Detection Combing is an organized examination of the hair, from the scalp outwards, to find head lice. Finding lice by parting the hair and looking at the scalp is not particularly efficient and likely to miss many infestations.

How Do I Do Detection Combing?

You need:

1. *Plastic* fine-toothed comb. Available in most Drug Stores. Many combs sold as louse detection and removal combs are unsuitable for the purpose. Combs with flat-faced, parallel-sided teeth less than 0.3mm apart are appropriate. Metal combs are harsh and may pull hair out.
2. Good lighting
3. Ordinary comb

Steps

- Wash the hair well and then dry it with a towel. The hair should be damp. Detection combing dry hair can lead to static in the hair and lice can be repelled from the comb into the air as the comb is withdrawn from the hair.
- Make sure there is good light. Daylight is best.
- Comb the hair with an ordinary comb.
- Start with the teeth of the fine-toothed comb touching the skin of the scalp at the top of the head. Keep the comb in contact with the scalp as long as possible, draw the comb carefully towards the edge of the hair.
- Look carefully at the teeth of the comb in good light.
- Wipe the fine-toothed comb off on white tissue (like Kleenex or paper towel) to see any lice that may be caught in the comb
- Repeat the combing over and over again from the top of the head to the edge of the hair in all directions, working round the head.
- Do this for several minutes. It takes 10 to 15 minutes to do it properly for each head.
- If there are head lice, you will find one or more lice on the teeth of the comb.

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- Head lice are little insects with moving legs. They are often not much bigger than a pin head, but may be as big as a sesame seed (the seeds on burger buns).
- When you have finished clean the comb under the tap. A nail brush helps to do this. Put the tissue you used to clean the comb in the garbage
- If you find something and aren't sure what it is, stick it on a piece of paper with clear sticky tape and show it to your public health nurse or family doctor. There may be other things in the hair that are not lice.

Notes

For a demonstration on detection combing: www.youtube.com/watch?v=je-cWdTrhFQ

If you need help and advice, ask your local Public Health Nurse.

Don't treat unless you are sure that you have found a living, moving louse.



Head louse



Louse egg (nit) on hair

The head louse is about the size of a sesame seed.
The head louse and the nit in this picture have been enlarged approximately 100 times

For more information contact:

**Your local Public Health Office
or your Physician
or
HealthLink Alberta 1-866-408-5465**

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School Council and Aurora Fundraising Society Message:

Our next meetings are the first Wednesdays of every month: October 2, November 6 and December 4:

- **Wednesday October 2, 2019** (goal: review fund request guidelines);
- **Wednesday, November, 2019** (TBA)
- **Wednesday, December 4, 2019** (Combined 3 Year Education Plan for 2019-2022 and Annual Education Results Report (AERR) for 2018-2019; potluck dinner)

Our meetings are a great way to stay in the loop, share feedback, and meet other parents! We always need a minimum of 5 parents at our meetings. Please come out! Would love to hear from you!

Please check the school **website** under "School Council" or "Aurora Fundraising Society" tab for the most updated information and our meeting minutes, including a link to join the meeting online (<https://meet.google.com/yhb-humh-fim>)

Agenda 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 or fundraising@auroraschool.ca.

Tartan uniform accessories are back:

Headbands (\$11 each) and **Ties** (\$15 each) go great with the uniforms! Please send us an email to make arrangements.

Traffic Flow in Front of the School:

Please continue to follow the flow of traffic, **West to East**, in front of the school, during drop off and pick up times so we may keep our students safe!

Fundraisers:

Thank you for supporting our first fundraiser, **ADmazing Coupon book**, we are still taking orders until October 15. Our next one is starting right away, **Harvest Bundle and Beef Jerky**. Information can be found on the Aurora Fundraising Society tab on the website. Orders are due no later than **Tuesday October 15 by 3pm**. We will not be able to accept any orders after this date.

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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.**

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

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

Thanks for all your continued generosity!