



Aberfoyle Public School

16 Old Brock Road, Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0
519-763-7040 @AberfoylePS



Welcome to 2018! As you can imagine there are many things happening here. Read and enjoy!

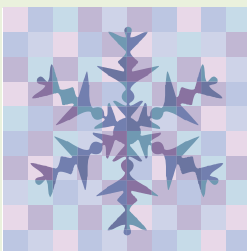
All the best,
Paul Tribe, Principal

PA Days 2017-2018

Please note for babysitting purposes that there is no school for students on the following days (All Fridays):
January 26, April 27, June 8, June 29.

JANUARY ACTIVITIES

DATE	EVENTS
08	Welcome back!
16	6:30 PM School Council
18	Gr. 3-4 to River Run
19	Jersey Day at Aberfoyle
25	Intermediate Ski Trip – Beaverdale Colour Day – Period 5
29	CCVI visit for Grade 8's
26	PA Day – no school for children
30	Cardboard Boat Local competition
31	Cardboard Boat Local competition Readathon Kickoff –More Info to Follow!



Participating in the Aberfoyle School Council is a great way to learn about what is happening in our school, news regarding academic strategies and ways for you to support the students in the school. Please consider joining the council and show your support for Aberfoyle PS.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday January 16th at 6:30pm in the library.

Here is the link to our Aberfoyle School Council Facebook group. It will give you access to what is happening with our School Council.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1509233629393288/>

If you would like to see the most recent minutes, just check out the Facebook page or our website
<http://www.ugdsb.ca/aberfoyle/>.

Thanks To Our School Council and Community!

Last month's Indigo fundraiser earned Aberfoyle Public School \$1052 in Indigo gift cards to be used in the Learning Commons as well as \$550 in donated books from our wish table. The evening was a great success! A great big thank you goes to all of the parents and staff members who came out and supported this effort. The evening would not have been as wonderful as it was without the planning and support of our School Council who ensured there were volunteers helping you make decisions and pointing out terrific gift options. A vote of gratitude also goes to Mrs. Moldenhauer who helped set up the table and stayed to cheer everyone on. The evening would not have been complete without ACE who was a hit for many children and adults. We have tentatively planned to return to Indigo next year. Stay tuned!

Talking to Children

How many times have you asked your child what they did in school today and they said “nothing”? Do you feel that most of the conversations you have with your children are just about telling them what to do? Many parents feel this way; life is busy.

Giving children opportunities to have conversations is really important for their growth and learning. What to do? Children often ask a lot of questions, especially young children. Parents answer those questions and the conversation often just ends. How do you keep the conversation going? Instead of answering the question what if next time you ask a question instead? Consider these questions: What do you think it is? What do you think about that? What interests you about that? What do you notice? How do you think that works? If you get a one word answer you might make a comment such as, “tell me more”, “I’d like to hear more about that” or ask another question.

Listening carefully is also important when talking to your child. Children respond positively if they know they have been heard and that you are interested in what they have to say. Use comments to encourage your child to keep talking: “Tell me more about that”, “that must have been difficult/interesting”, “it sounds like you had fun”, “you must have felt disappointed/frustrated/angry”. Talk while having dinner together, preparing dinner, going out for a walk, at bedtime, on the way to school or while standing in the grocery line. Think of yourself as a partner in the conversation.

Monthly environmental activities to help
celebrate our planet



JANUARY is the time to carry out your resolutions!

“There will be more waste plastic in the sea than fish by 2050” Dame Ellen MacArthur

It’s a brand new year and the perfect time for positive change. For example, let’s end plastic pollution.

Based on the daily news, it’s never been more critical to increase your environmental efforts. This year the

Earth Day Network is calling to end plastic pollution. Imagine a future free from harmful plastic garbage! Single-use plastics are especially wasteful and many plastics are also not properly recycled and take up precious landfill space or pollute our oceans, killing marine life and washing up on pristine beaches. Plastic garbage ‘islands’ are appearing in seas and oceans all over the world. One of these - the Great Pacific garbage patch, is estimated to be the size of Alberta.
<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/great-pacific-garbage-patch/>

Tips on how to reduce single-use plastics:

- Extend your use of cloth shopping bags beyond the grocery store. Use them at all other retail stores too. (You can carry purse-sized, reusable folded bags.)
- Avoid buying over-packaged food. The choice is yours. Do you need to buy the carrots that are shrink wrapped on a Styrofoam tray, or can you buy a bundle that is tied together with a simple twist tie?
- Let the restaurants you frequent know that you would like them to join the growing movement to ban the use of straws. Restaurants, organizations, institutions and schools worldwide have gotten rid of plastic straws or implemented a 'serve-straws-upon-request' policy.
- Tap water is best. Bottled water can deplete our precious groundwater resources and produce unnecessary green house gas emissions through the production and transport of plastic bottles. Carry a reusable water bottle instead.
- Lug a travel mug to your local coffee shop. (The plastic lining makes coffee cups unrecyclable, and they all end up in the garbage and in our overflowing landfills.)
- Write letters to the government asking them to fix a problem that you are concerned about such as: mandating the reduction of plastic packaging, banning Styrofoam, or promoting research for recyclable coffee cups, etc.



Safe Arrival Program

If your child is going to be late or absent, please call the school at [519-763-7040](tel:519-763-7040), press extension [100](#), and leave a message. In order to ensure the safety of your children, if your child is marked absent and you have not called, we will call you. If there is any change in your child's end-of-day routine, please write a note in your child's agenda in the morning and Mrs. Warden will get that information from the classroom teacher.

Safe Departure

Please send authorization in writing if someone other than the legal guardian is going to pick your child up from school. The authorized adult may also be asked for photo identification.

If it is necessary for a child to leave early, or to leave for a period during the day for an appointment, a note must be sent to the teacher. For the safety of your child, we request that you come into the school to **sign him/her out at the office**. We cannot send students out to waiting cars.

Please also remember to sign your child off the bus using the bus lists located in the foyer if they are not taking the bus home. We appreciate your efforts to keep all students safe.

Life-Threatening Allergies

We have children in our school with potential life-threatening allergies to various foods and other materials called anaphylaxis. This is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to food or other materials, and can cause death within minutes. In recent years, anaphylaxis has increased dramatically among students.

Although this may not affect your child's class directly, we are letting you know so that you may refrain from sending foods to the school that contain tree nut and nuts, including peanuts. We aim to create an allergy safe environment at our school.

If your child is in a classroom with an anaphylactic child, or your child has anaphylaxis, you will be contacted by the classroom teacher.

Our school has procedures in place to help manage anaphylactic reactions. If your child has health concerns

of any kind, please tell your child's teacher or the office and we will take the necessary health protection steps.

Strong scents such as perfumes and certain deodorants can cause an allergic reaction in some of our students and staff who experience sensitivity to these products. Please be considerate of others in the building and try to use scent free products. Our noses thank you!

An Alternative to Fundraising



Sometimes, rather than getting involved with fundraisers, people choose to support their school by giving to the **Upper Grand Learning Foundation**.

Donations of \$20 or more to your **School Fund** receive a tax receipt. Donate through the [UGLF website](http://www.uppergrandlearningfoundation.com) at www.uppergrandlearningfoundation.com

Many of the new items in our Library Learning Commons were made possible as a direct result of donations to the Upper Grand Learning Foundation.

Explicit Consent

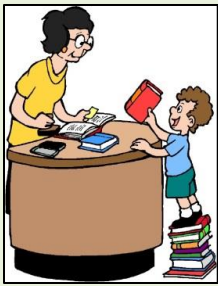
Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL) came into force on July 1, 2014. As a result, the Upper Grand District School Board, would like to ensure that we have your consent to receive newsletters, school and Board updates, announcements, event invitations, and other electronic messages.

Some of these messages may contain advertising or promotions regarding school fundraisers, field trips, the sale of yearbooks, student pictures, or similar events.

If you wish to receive the above communications from us, please visit our CASL registration website at: www.ugdsb.on.ca/CASL

If you have any questions or if you wish to withdraw your consent at any time, please click the link at the bottom of email messages you receive from the school, or visit the same site and click on "Unsubscribe" to remove your name from our contact list. For additional information on Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation you may visit our board's website at www.ugdsb.on.ca.

Puslinch Library: January Activity



Story Time (5 years and under)
Our Story Times are created to help your child get ready for reading. Share stories, songs, rhymes, and activities aimed at developing your child's early literacy skills. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to participate. Ages 5 and under with

a caregiver. Please register.

Thursdays, January 11 and 18, 11:00 - 11:45 am

Family Literacy Day: Stuffed Sleepover (All Ages)

Bring your stuffed animal to the library for a sleepover adventure to celebrate Family Literacy Day! What will those cute and cuddly creatures get up to overnight in the library? Please register.

Thursday, January 25, 11:00 - 11:45 am

PA Day: Build It! LEGO Challenge (Grades JK – 6)

Join us for some exciting LEGO challenges! You bring your creativity and we will provide the blocks. Please register.

Friday, January 26, 10:30 - 11:30 am

Monica North-Gibbons, MLIS

Feedback Welcome on Draft Board Policies

Following the November 28th Board meeting, the following policy currently under review was released for public consultation, and feedback from the public is welcome on the draft documents.



Policy 317 – Fees for Learning Materials and Resources

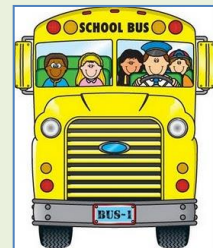
This policy is important to students, staff, school councils and parents because every student is entitled to participate in the regular day school program, and to successfully complete core courses leading to graduation, without the payment of fees for learning materials, supplies, activities, and textbooks. School council chairpersons are encouraged to circulate this information and add this policy as a discussion item at an upcoming school council meeting, if possible. The

public is invited to review the draft documents and submit online feedback at www.ugdsb.ca/board/policy. **The deadline for public input is January 19, 2017** at 4 p.m. EST. Persons without internet access may call 519-822-4420 (or toll-free 1-800-321-4025) ext. 723 to request a printed copy of the draft documents.

Thank you for your consideration.

School Bus Safety

Now that the weather has begun to change it is very important that the driver is allowed to focus on the job of driving children safely to and from school. Most children do sit very well and understand that if the driver is looking in the rear-view mirror to check on noise, he or she is not as focused on the road.



Kindergarten Registration: A New Online Process

Kindergarten registration will take place from Jan. 9 to 19, 2018, in the UGDSB.

A big change this year is that all Junior and Senior Kindergarten students who are new to the UGDSB must pre-register **online**. (SK students who attend JK in the UGDSB do not need to pre-register online).

Between Jan. 9 and 19, families must pre-register online at www.ugdsb.ca/kindergarten, then go into their child's home school to drop off the required documentation.

Anyone registering for JK French Immersion must complete their registration process and document verification by Jan. 19 at 4 p.m.

For more information on how to register and the JK FI selection process, parents/guardians should visit www.ugdsb.ca/jkregistration.

