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ALGONQUIN RIDGE NEWS- JUNE 2021

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I sincerely hope our June Newsletter finds you all still healthy, happy, and safe. While we all continue to struggle with uncertainty, I am glad that it is at least beginning to feel like the worst of the global pandemic is behind us and we will all soon be able to enjoy a return to a more 'normal' upcoming summer. With an announcement expected soon from the provincial government regarding the school closure/re-opening I regret that this message will not be able to answer the many questions you will likely have whether it is decided that schools will reopen for a few weeks in June or remain closed. You can however rest assured that the school staff will continue to do their best to meet the academic and well-being needs of your children regardless of the format, either online or in-person. Please keep watch for additional updates and messages from the SCDSB and directly from the school which will be shared just as soon as we are able to make more concrete end-of-year plans (e.g. the return of school technology etc.). Teachers and DECE's are currently busy collecting assessment data and drafting the Term 2 report cards that will be shared on June 24th so your support with maintaining positive attendance (even with the warming weather!) will be appreciated regardless of the teaching/learning format.

I would also like to take this opportunity to offer our sincere thanks to all the members of this year's ARES School Council. While it was not exactly the year we had hoped for, in terms of community events and fundraising, the group worked hard to generate several creative opportunities despite the limitations they faced. Your representatives met regularly (online), listened to input and questions from the community and provided feedback on a number of significant topics faced this year. We hope to see all of our members return next Fall when we hope to enjoy a more traditional school experience, and we also hope to welcome some new faces that are eager to become more involved in their children's school life. Please check the September newsletter for details on the School Council election/first meeting and how to access and submit a nomination form.

Stay safe,

ARES Administration
Karen Moffitt and Cory McKeown

CALENDAR

June 4, 2021 – PA Day – no school
June 20, 2021 – Father's Day
June 21, 2021 – National Indigenous People's Day
June 24, 2021 – Report cards home
June 24, 2021 – Grade 8 graduation
June 25, 2021 – All Canadian Day
June 27, 2021 – Canadian Multiculturalism Day
June 29, 2021 – Last day of school
July 7, 2021 – Office closes for summer
August 31, 2021 – Office reopens
September 6, 2021 – Labour Day
September 7, 2021 – First Day of school

Character Attribute for the month of June

Responsibility – we are accountable for our actions, and we follow through on our commitments.

More information about Character Education can be found here: www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education

SCDSB FAMILY UPDATES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

As we continue to plan for the 2021-22 school year, we encourage you to visit the SCDSB website (www.scdsb.on.ca) and social media channels (@SCDSB on Facebook and Instagram and @SCDSB_schools on Twitter) for updates and information over the summer months. If you have recently changed your email address, have a new telephone number, or have moved, please contact the school directly to update your information on file so that we can communicate with you effectively, efficiently, and securely!

COVID-19 SCHOOL SCREENING TOOL

Each day, families are asked to ensure that their child(ren) complete the COVID-19 school screening tool prior to coming to school. Secondary school students are required to confirm with their teacher that the COVID-19 school screening tool has been completed at the beginning of each day.

The updated provincial direction states that students and staff with any new or worsening symptoms of COVID-19 (as indicated in the screening tool), even those with only one symptom, must stay home until:

- They receive a negative COVID-19 test result,
- They receive an alternative diagnosis by a health care professional; or,
- It has been 10 days since their symptom onset, and they are feeling better.

In addition, all asymptomatic household contacts of symptomatic individuals are required to quarantine until the symptomatic household member receives a negative COVID-19 test result or receives an alternative diagnosis by a health care professional.

The COVID-19 school screening tool is available on the Ontario government's website here: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>. A printable version of the COVID-19 school screening tool can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3ulap6V>. More information is also available on the SCDSB website at www.scdsb.on.ca/covid-19.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2021 IS OPEN!

Kindergarten is the beginning of a wonderful journey of learning, and we want your child to begin their journey in a SCDSB school! Do you have a child who is turning four in 2021? If so, we invite you to register your child for kindergarten. To register online or for more information visit: www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/kindergarten.

REGISTER NOW FOR BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

Register your child(ren) now for the before and after school program at our school for the 2021-22 school year. Your child's space in the program for September 2021 will be considered a priority if completed registration forms have been submitted to the childcare operator by **June 30, 2021**. Please contact SEEDS @ 705-726-3770 to register your child(ren).

REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER CHILD CARE

Childcare programs for children in Kindergarten to Grade 6 are provided by independent, third-party childcare operators in some SCDSB schools. To support your childcare needs, some operators offer childcare over the summer holidays. Registration in advance is required. Please contact the childcare operator directly to discuss fees and to register. More information and contact numbers can be found at https://scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/childcare_before_after.



DAYS OF AWARENESS AND RECOGNITION TAKING PLACE IN JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST

Throughout the year, there are many awareness days that focus on different causes and recognition. The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) has developed a list of these days as a guide for schools. Schools may participate in recognizing some or all of these days in various ways. This list is not exhaustive. Following are the days of awareness and recognition that the SCDSB will recognize during the months of June, July, and August.

May 30 to June 5	National AccessAbility Week
June	Pride Month
June 20	Father's Day
June 27	Canadian Multiculturalism Day
July 15	World Youth Skills Day
July 30	World Day Against Trafficking in Persons
August 9	International Day of the World's Indigenous People
August 12	International Youth Day

COVID-19 VACCINATION FOR YOUTH 12 - 17 YEARS OF AGE

As of May 23, 2021, youth aged 12-17 years of age are eligible to schedule a COVID-19 vaccine appointment through the provincial booking system (www.covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine/), the Provincial Vaccine Booking Line (1-833-943-3900) or at select pharmacies administering the Pfizer vaccine (www.covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine/). To book an appointment online, these individuals **must** already be 12 years old as of the date of their booking.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

GET OUTSIDE AND PLAY!

Active play does more than help kids to achieve the 60 minutes of physical activity they need every day, it supports their development in many ways – especially when the play is outdoors, self-directed and fun. This allows kids to test boundaries and problem-solve, develop social skills, and resolve conflict, and learn to control their emotions and behaviour. Encourage activities that support physical distancing and that fall within current provincial or municipal COVID-19 prevention guidelines.

Active play outdoors in the fresh air and nature also helps to improve mood and lower stress. Support your child to play outside with friends in the neighbourhood and at your local park as much as possible.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

HOT WEATHER HAS ARRIVED!

Help your child stay cool during the day by giving them plenty of water and encouraging them to drink even if they're not thirsty. Kids don't sweat or release heat from their bodies as easily as adults, so they can become dehydrated quickly. Dress them in lightweight, light-coloured, loose-fitting clothing and don't forget to put sunscreen on before they head outside.

For more tips to help your family stay cool this summer, visit the health unit's website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

TAKE MATH OUTDOORS THIS SUMMER!

Are you looking for ways to promote and extend your child's math learning in the summer? Take math outside! Many of the everyday summer activities that your child engages in provide opportunities for making math practical through meaningful math explorations!

Number

- Count collections of objects found in nature or on a scavenger hunt.
- Calculate rates and speed during running, biking and obstacle races.
- Estimate the heights and lengths of natural and manmade objects outside.

Algebra

- Find examples of growing and shrinking patterns in nature.
- Code your friend. One person is the coder, and the other is the robot. The coder must instruct the robot on how to navigate a path or do a dance around the yard.

Spatial

- Use a park map to plan a route and travel to a new location.
- Go on a shape hunt and find shapes in the natural environment.
- Examine leaves and other objects to find symmetry.
- Estimate and determine elapsed time of road trips and adventures.

Data

- Keep a tally of the different types of birds that come to the feeder.
- Track and graph daily temperatures over time
- Track the growth of plants in a vegetable garden and examine how they change over time.

Financial Literacy

- Determine a budget and calculate the costs to refresh a garden.
- Set up a lemonade stand and determine costs and sales goals.
- Donate gently used outdoor items that you're done with for others to enjoy.

Have fun adding some math joy to your outdoor experiences this summer!

FUNDRAISING WITH BRADFORD GREENHOUSES GARDEN GALLERY

When shopping at Garden Gallery please advise the cashier, prior to inputting the sale that you support Algonquin Ridge and five percent of the value of sales will be issued as a gift card for the purchase of Bradford Greenhouses products for school improvements or special events. A fast and easy way to support the school and to keep our gardens looking great!

FLIPGIVE FUNDRAISER

Hello ARES Families, we invite you to join our easy and free school fundraiser - FlipGive! You're doing it already... online shopping for groceries, gas, clothing, meals, coffee, gift cards, gifts, sporting goods, books, home decor, renovations, etc. ARES will earn fundraising money when you shop via FlipGive's website with hundreds of popular brands available. You can also shop in-store and earn by using a linked payment card or with gift cards to be redeemed in-store. How does it work? Brands on FlipGive's site pay FlipGive a commission and then they in-turn share that commission with ARES! Every dollar earned is credited directly to our school's fundraising efforts. It's that simple! SHOP, EARN and DONATE! It's quick and free! Sign up and start shopping today! flipgive.com Enter Team Code: SLQPHH If you have any questions, reach out to School Council at councilchairalr@scdsb.on.ca Thank you for your participation and supporting the school!

MABEL'S LABELS

Mabel's Labels is one of our school's fundraising initiatives. This website features peel and stick clothing labels, bag tags and a variety of safety and household labeling systems. This will be an ongoing, open initiative for our school which means that any time you wish to get labels for your children or household, please consider using Mabel's Labels and help Algonquin Ridge. It could not be easier. Simply go to <http://mabelslabels.com> and click on "Support a Fundraiser". Then "Select your School/ Organization", find "Algonquin Ridge (Barrie)" and follow the steps to fulfill your order. Anyone can support our school, whether their children attend ARES or not, so please pass this on to family and friends as well. The product comes directly to you and the school will receive 20% of the total sales! Thank you so much for your support.



PEANUT AND NUT AWARE SCHOOL

Our school strives to be a Nut-Safe School. At Algonquin Ridge, we have several students who have a severe nut allergy. These students cannot be exposed to nuts in ANY form, as this may trigger an anaphylactic reaction that is life threatening and requires immediate medical intervention. Therefore, in the best interests of these students and for any other students who may develop peanut or nut allergies in the future we have banned all peanut/nuts and food containing nuts within the school. These include, but are not limited to:

- Peanut butter sandwiches, dips, or crackers
- Nutella
- Cookies or cakes with nuts
- Granola Bars with nuts
- Chocolate bars containing nuts e.g., Snickers.
- Dried Fruit and nut mixes



Direct contact with the food is not always required to trigger a reaction. For example, if someone in our school eats peanuts and then touches playground equipment it could be contaminated with enough peanut butter to trigger a severe reaction. We also ask that children who have peanut butter for breakfast on school days please wash their hands thoroughly and clean their teeth before coming to school.

As always, our paramount concern is for the safety and well-being for all children in our care. We feel this is the best way to attempt to ensure the safety of students that have severe nut allergies in our school. If your child forgets to comply with this, we will send a reminder home with them and provide an alternative snack. Teachers will also assist students by reinforcing the policy through class discussions.

KEEP CONNECTED WITH OUR SCHOOL AND WITH THE SCDSB

It is important to get accurate information about what is going on at your school and at the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB). Here are some ways to do that:

- Subscribe to our school's website by visiting the 'What's New' section at <http://alr.scdsb.on.ca>. You can sign up to receive emails about school news updates and information during emergencies. It is easy to subscribe – visit our website and click the 'Subscribe' link at the very top of the page. Provide your email and click 'Subscribe'; and we will send you an email with a link to click to confirm that you want to subscribe. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link at the bottom of each email.
- Sign up to receive SCDSB media releases by clicking the 'Subscribe' button at www.scdsb.on.ca.
- ([instagram.com/scdsb](https://www.instagram.com/scdsb)).

DEAR A.R.E.S. FAMILIES!

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT OUR VERY OWN

ALGONQUIN RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

BECOME A YEARBOOK SPONSOR, HELP MAKE GREAT
MEMORIES & LET OUR AWESOME COMMUNITY
KNOW ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS!

3 WAYS TO SPONSOR:

1

SPONSOR A PAGE

Say hello or advertise a special promo, with a short paragraph, to be printed at the bottom of one of the book's pages.

\$20

2

GIVE A MEMENTO

Write a fun, touching and memorable message, and help us create a beautiful collage of wisdom, hope and inspiration!

\$20

3

ADVERTISE WITH US

Get more friendly eyes on your business and attract new customers!

- Business Card - \$75
- Quarter Page - \$100
- Half Page - \$150
- Full Page - \$200