



## **Algonquin Ridge Elementary School**

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**Cory McKeown**

Principal

**F. Van Arragon**

Vice-Principal

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### **ALGONQUIN RIDGE JUNE NEWS**

#### **MESSAGE FROM MR. MCKEOWN AND MR. VAN ARRAGON**

Here we are again and ever so quickly it seems. Another school year is almost completed and summer is rapidly approaching! It has been a wonderful year of learning in the classroom, fun with friends and many great memories along the way. We have a great opportunity to celebrate our year together during our Family Fun Fair on Wednesday, June 14 from 5-7 PM. Be sure to come and join us in and be sure to wear your Canada clothes as we celebrate Canada 150 together as a school community.

Thank you to our students and staff for all your hard work and commitment, grit and determination this year. Thank you also to families who have faithfully supported their children throughout the school year. And, thank you to all the many volunteers who have supported our students by coming into the school to help, attending meetings, coming along on field trips, running our breakfast club, etc. Our school would not be the great place that it is without you.

A volunteer appreciation event is scheduled on Tuesday, June 20 at 1:00 pm. If you volunteered for the school in any capacity, please come and join us for student presentations, appreciation and refreshments. Please RSVP to the office if you plan to attend.

We wish a special farewell to all those students and staff who are moving on to different schools next year. We're proud of our grade eight graduates as well and wish them all the best as they move on to bigger things in high school. We wish everyone a wonderful time of relaxation and rest over the summer and we look forward to seeing all those who will be coming back in September. Please stay safe and enjoy your time spent with family and friends.

Next year we have changes to our administrative staff. Mr. Van Arragon will be headed to Hewitt's Creek to become their new vice principal. He wants to thank the Algonquin Ridge community for allowing him to feel so welcome and to be part of this community for the past 3 years. He will take many memories of a great school and community along with him. We thank him for his dedicated leadership and vision for our school over the last three years!

In September we will welcome our new vice principal, Mrs. Karen Moffitt, who will come to us from her current role as vice principal at Mountainview Public School in Collingwood.

#### **STAFFING CHANGES FOR SEPTEMBER 2017**

Every year there are changes to the staff. Some staff currently at Algonquin Ridge are covering various teacher leaves of absence and will not be returning in the fall. As well there are always other changes for a variety of reasons (retirement, transfer, parental leave, etc.). Staffing changes and class placements are usually not finalized until the end of August. Student class placements will be announced on the first day of school in September. Staff that we do know (at this time) are leaving our school this year are Mr. Heidman Jr., Mrs. McQuay, Mrs. Bisignano, and Mrs. Donovan. We wish them well in the next steps of their teaching careers.

## **JUNE CALENDAR**

June 1 - Gr. 8 Tree Top Trekking  
June 1 - Gr. 4&5 to Innisdale performance of Peter and the Starcatchers  
June 2 - Gr. 6 to Innisdale performance of Peter and the Starcatchers  
June 5 - JK/SK field trip to Springwater Park  
June 5 - Character Education assembly - 2:00 PM  
June 6 - Sportapalooza  
June 6 - Zone Track & Field meet  
June 6 - JK/SK field trip to Springwater Park  
June 7 - Grade 1 field trip to Rounds Ranch  
June 8 - Jump Rope for Heart event  
June 9 - PA Day - **no school for students**  
June 13 - Grade 3 field trip to Simcoe County Museum  
June 14 - ARES Fun Fair 5-7 PM (Canada 150 theme)  
June 14 - Regional Track & Field meet  
June 16 - ARES Spirit Day - Proud to be a Canadian  
June 20 - Intermediate Girls Slow Pitch tournament  
June 20 - Volunteer Appreciation @ 1:00 pm  
June 21 - Intermediate Boys Slow Pitch tournament  
June 23 – Last day to check the Lost and Found  
June 27 - Grade 8 Graduation @ 5:30  
June 28 - Character Education Assembly - Responsibility  
June 29 - Last Day of School  
June 30 - PA Day - **no school for students**  
July 7 – Office closes for the summer  
August 28 – Office reopens  
September 5 - First day of 2017-2018 school year  
September 7 - First day of school for year 1 (JK) kindergarten students

## **JOIN US FOR THE ARES FAMILY FUN FAIR - JUNE 14**

Please join us for the Algonquin Ridge Fun Fair and BBQ on Wednesday, June 14 from 5-7 PM. Our fun fair will have a Canada 150 theme so be sure to wear your red and white and any other Canada items you might have.

We have many fun activities planned for the evening:

BBQ (hamburgers, hotdogs, pop, chips, water, candy floss, ice cream)

Free Canada 150 birthday cake

Inflatable obstacle course and giant slide

Ice cream truck

Barrie Parks and Recreation

Unicycle performer

Balloon animals for the kids

Police, fire, paramedic displays

Face painting

And much more... Don't miss it! Bring the whole family! See you there!!!

## **SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL ALL YEAR LONG WITH QSP, BRADFORD GREENHOUSES, MABEL'S LABELS**

Please remember that you can support our school at any time of the year when you renew magazines with QSP, make purchases at Bradford Greenhouses, or purchase labels from Mabel's labels.

**QSP:** renew or purchase magazines online at [QSP.ca](http://QSP.ca) and use school code: 3720422

**Bradford Greenhouses:** When you make your purchase, remind the cashier before checking out that you support Algonquin Ridge ES

**Mabel's Labels:** 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.

### **PLEASE RETURN SCHOOL MEDALLIONS TO THE OFFICE**

Our Rapids Rewards program for students which recognizes them for their positive achievements and good character has been a great success this year. We've given out thousands of medallions over the course of the year, and each month have provided one class with a pizza party for gaining the most medallions over the course of the month. Thank you to our school council for supporting this initiative by helping to fund the cost of purchasing medallions and pizza.

We've been running low on medallions as some students have been keeping them at home rather than returning them the next day after showing them off to their parents the night before. If your child has any school medallions still in their possession at home, could you please make sure they get returned to the school by the end of the year so we can continue our medallion program next year and keep rewarding positive character without running out of medallions! Thank you.

### **DON'T FORGET TO USE OUR E-LIBRARY THIS SUMMER!**

Thanks to the generous support of our school council, we now have 1500 eBooks added to our school library collection. These books are accessible to our students from anywhere, school, home, the cottage, mobile device, as long as you have a Wi-Fi connection. Simply follow the link below to access 1500 great books to read! This link will be made available on our school website as well, so your family can enjoy these good books anytime, anywhere!

<http://my.abdodigital.com>

Username – algonquinridge

Password – library

### **TUMBLEBOOKS**

Don't forget! Algonquin Ridge has purchased a subscription to an online collection of exciting books which you and your family can access from home. It includes a wide range of animated talking picture books, chapter books, videos, non-fiction titles, graphic novels, and math stories. Please check it out today.

Here is the link and login:

[www.tumblebooklibrary.com](http://www.tumblebooklibrary.com)

User Name: scdsb123

Password: reads

Direct link:

[http://www.tumblebooklibrary.com/auto\\_login.aspx?u=scdsb123&p=reads](http://www.tumblebooklibrary.com/auto_login.aspx?u=scdsb123&p=reads)



### **IS YOUR CHILD TURNING FOUR THIS YEAR? IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN**

Our school is now registering children for Kindergarten for the 2017-18 school year. Required registration documents include birth date documentation, proof of address and record of immunization. Visit [www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten) for more information.

### **SCHOOL COUNCIL IS LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR**

Are you interested in helping the ARES school council by connecting volunteers with volunteer roles in the school? School council is very involved in many different fundraising initiatives and is looking for someone who would be willing to help organize and mobilize volunteers related to different initiatives throughout the course of the school year. If this is something you have the skillset to help with please contact the school office to be connected to one of our school council co-chairpersons who will discuss further details with you.

### **LOST & FOUND - PLEASE COME CLAIM YOUR CHILDREN'S LOST CLOTHING BEFORE JUNE 23**

Our lost and found is overflowing!!! Thank you to Mrs. Wilson and Mrs Johnson who have worked hard all year to try to keep our lost and found organized. For the next two weeks, our lost and found will be on display in the front foyer of the school near the main entrance to the gym. Please stop by to see if any of your child's belongings are there. By June 23rd all lost and found items will be removed from the school and donated to charity.

## **GRADUATION**



This year we have 72 excited grade 8 students ready to move on to the next chapter of their lives. They are busy preparing for their special day here at Algonquin on Tuesday, June 27 at 5:30 PM. We wish them well as they move on to high school next year.

## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Congratulations to our Algonquin Ridge student leaders of 2016-2017! They have worked really hard and have made our school and our world a better place because of their efforts. Assembly leaders, morning announcements, lunch helpers, office helpers, safety patrollers, and more; our leaders have been great!

## **SUMMER CONSTRUCTION AT ARES**

You may have noticed the temporary measures taken place recently to board up some windows adjacent to the kiss 'n ride area of our parking lot. Harsh winter conditions in the 2014-2015 school year caused some movement in our school building and caused damage to the mortar between the exterior bricks in our school building. Repairs will be made to the building this summer. All the exterior brick on the front (west) and south side of our building will be removed and replaced in July and August. The building should be ready for students and staff again in late August. The brick on the north and east sides of the building will be removed and replaced in summer 2018. The work is expected to be completed by mid-August. All entrances to the building will be maintained and the building and school yard will remain completely safe for our students for the remainder of this school year.

## **VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION**

Thank you to all our school volunteers who have faithfully committed their time to our students and staff by helping in a variety of different ways at our school. We will be holding a volunteer appreciation time for all our volunteers on Tuesday, June 20 at 1:00 pm. This will be a time to enjoy some student presentations, volunteer appreciation and refreshments. Please contact the school office to RSVP if you can come to the event.



## **DRESS CODE**

As the weather gets warmer appropriate dress can become an issue at school. Please ensure that your child is dressing appropriately for school on hot summer days. Your support helping your child select proper clothing to wear to school is appreciated.

## **JUMP ROPE/HOOPS FOR HEART**

Thank you to everyone who has already made a pledge for our Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart event coming up on June 8 & 22. If you haven't yet made a pledge and would still like to do so, please go to the following link: [http://jumpropeforheart.ca/jumpmap\\_2016?path=login](http://jumpropeforheart.ca/jumpmap_2016?path=login) Use **login: on7048 password: jump2017** There you can make a pledge for the Algonquin Ridge Jump Rope for Heart event. Our school's goal for this year is \$3000 and so far we are only at 41% of our goal. A free skipping rope is provided with each first online donation in a student's name. You will receive an instant tax receipt when you make your donation online. Thank you for your support of the Canadian Heart and Stroke Society.

### **PAINT THE PLOW**

Students from the ARES Arts Council have been busy painting a plow blade with their interpretation of what Canada's Sesquicentennial means to them. Hopefully you were able to view the artwork done on the plow during our Arts Night on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Our plow is now finished, and the City has picked it up. Our plow along with plows decorated by other schools were on display at the City of Barrie Operations Center on Ferndale Drive, during the Operations Center public open house on Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup>. At the open house, the public had the opportunity to vote for their favourite plow.

Congratulations to Algonquin Ridge for winning the competition and being voted the best designed plow!

Next winter, the plow will be put on a truck that will clear the roads in our school area, so watch for the Algonquin Ridge plow! We also very much appreciate the support for the Arts that was received from our School Council for this project.

### **GIFTED SCREENING PROCESS**

Students who display an advanced degree of general intellectual ability require additional program support in order to reach their educational potential. This support may be through enhancing the curriculum, differentiated instruction and through providing program modifications. This type of programming is important to engage, motivate and challenge students who are identified as gifted in either the regular classroom or in gifted classroom placements.

A letter examining the gifted screening process in greater detail will be sent to parents of students in Grade 3 in September. Parents will still have the opportunity for nominating their child in September and October.

If you require further information about this process, please contact the school.

### **APPROVED SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR FOR NEXT YEAR**

The Ministry of Education has approved the Simcoe County District School Board elementary and secondary school year calendars for the 2017-2018 school year. School starts on Tues. Sept. 5, 2017. The Holiday Break takes place Dec. 25, 2017 to Jan. 5, 2018, and March Break is March 12 to 16, 2018. The last day for elementary students will be Thurs. June 28, 2018 and the last day for secondary students will be Wed. June 27, 2018. To view the full calendar for next school year, visit [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) – 'Schools' – 'School Year Calendars.'

Senior Kindergarten (Year 2) students will start school on Tues. Sept. 5, 2017. Junior Kindergarten (Year 1) students will start school on Thurs. Sept. 7, 2017. They will attend continuously from this time.

### **FIRST RIDER PROGRAM GIVES STUDENTS THE CHANCE TO RIDE A SCHOOL BUS**

The Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) welcomes students to take part in the experience of riding on the school bus for the first time through their First Rider program. This program, offered in the summer, teaches school bus safety for first-time school bus riders and includes a ride on a real school bus. This FREE program is provided by the SCSTC, in partnership with school bus operators, to educate students and their families about the rules and responsibilities on and around the school bus. The sessions start in late August at school locations across Simcoe County. Parents/guardians and students attending school in Simcoe County may attend any of the sessions. For more information and session dates/times, visit the SCTSC website at: [main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca) and click on the 'Safety' link.

### **THERE'S STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR SUMMER SCHOOL**

Summer school credit courses are available this July through in-person classes and eLearning. New this year are full credit grade 9 and 10 courses at Bear Creek Secondary School in Barrie. The in-person courses at Bear Creek will run July 4 to 28 from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Limited school bus transportation is provided from all areas of Simcoe County. Details are on the Learning Centres website: [www.thelearningcentres.com](http://www.thelearningcentres.com). Students can also get information from the school or from any of the SCDSB's Learning Centres. Online registration for current SCDSB students is available through the student portal. ELearning registration is supported through high school Guidance Offices. Non-SCDSB students can register using the forms on the website.

## **REGISTER NOW FOR BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL/CHILD CARE PROGRAMS FOR SEPTEMBER 2017**

Register now for this September! Your child's space in the program for the 2017-2018 school year will be considered a priority if completed registration forms have been submitted by June 30, 2017. Please contact S.E.E.D.S. Childcare before and after school program Supervisor Kila Walster at 705 726-3770 or [kwalster@seedschildcare.ca](mailto:kwalster@seedschildcare.ca) to register your child (ren).



## **EYE SEE EYE LEARN PROGRAM OFFERING FREE EYE EXAMS, GLASSES FOR JK STUDENTS – DEADLINE IS JUNE 30**

Your child may have a vision problem. Only an optometrist knows if your child sees to the best of their ability. Get them a comprehensive eye exam, covered for children under 19 years-old with their Ontario Health Card. The Eye See...Eye Learn® program offers one free pair of glasses to this year's Junior Kindergarten (JK) students with their OHIP-covered eye exam, if prescribed by a participating optometrist. Learn more at [www.EyeSeeEyeLearn.ca](http://www.EyeSeeEyeLearn.ca). The deadline for this year's JK students to receive free eye glasses is June 30.



## **MINISTRY OF EDUCATION SEEKS ONLINE ENGAGEMENT REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS AND INUIT EDUCATION POLICY FRAMEWORK**

The Ontario Ministry of Education is working with researchers to gather feedback and input to inform the development of the Third Progress Report on the implementation of the *First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework*. Students, parents/guardians and families, teaching and nonteaching staff, Indigenous communities, organizations and partners, and school boards are invited to participate in an online survey and/or online focus groups to capture successes and help to identify promising practices and opportunities to provide further support to enhance the achievement and well-being of Indigenous students.

To learn more, visit the SCDSB website, click on 'About Us', 'News', and look for the article entitled "Ministry of Education seeks online engagement regarding implementation of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework."

## **SAFE KIDS WEEK IS JUNE 5 TO 11**

Did you know that a properly fitting helmet reduces the risk of head injuries like concussions by 85%? Teach your children to wear a helmet that fits properly while wheeling and riding. Help prevent injuries by teaching your children the skills they need to wheel and ride safely. For tips, visit [www.parachutecanada.org](http://www.parachutecanada.org).

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*

## **KEEPING KIDS' MINDS AND BODIES HEALTHY THIS SUMMER**

All parents want their children to grow up healthy. Being healthy means lots of things – growing up strong and active, making connections, developing positive relationships with others, and learning to make good, responsible decisions. Here are some tips on how to keep your child's mind and body active this summer.

- Summer programs - over the summer months there are a wide variety of programs to keep children and youth active. Whether outdoors or in a facility like the YMCA, swimming is a summertime favourite. Consider signing your child up for swimming lessons, giving them the confidence they need to be safe in and around the water.
- Summer day camps – summer camp is a great opportunity to introduce your child to "physical literacy." This means getting kids to feel comfortable being active, so when asked to play a game such as soccer at recess, they are confident to say "yes." Summer camp teaches children how to be active in a fun and supportive environment.
- Child care - when looking for child care for your youngster, make sure the centre is health conscious and provides nutritious meals to ensure children develop in a positive environment. Try to find a centre that incorporates a "Play to Learn" curriculum and make sure the staff observe and document your child's daily activities. A good child care centre should feel like home away from home while providing the tools to help children reach their full potential.

**The YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka offers child care and summer programs for children of all ages and abilities. To learn more about the programs being offered this summer, visit [www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca](http://www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca).**

## **STUDENT ENTRY PROCEDURES FOR SEPTEMBER 2017**

Our morning supervision of students starts at 8:55 a.m. until student entry at 9:10 a.m. Our staff will be out on the school yard to meet students and their parents on the yard. While parents are normally asked to stay off the school yard for the safety of all students, on this first day, we welcome parents to help their children find the right teachers. The teaching staff will be out on the school yard with class lists to meet the students and organize them before heading up into the classrooms.

In the days to follow and for the remainder of the year we will follow the same entry procedures as we did this past year. To ensure the safety of all, parents are asked to ensure that students arrive between 8:55 and 9:10 a.m. when teacher supervision will be available. During this time the students are to remain on the tarmac. Students arriving after 9:10 will enter at the front door and sign in at the office. There will be a warning bell sounding at 9:07 to cue students that it is time to line up for an orderly entrance into the building.

## **BELL TIMES**

Warning Bell: 9:07 AM

School day begins: 9:10 AM

Period 1 - 9:10 – 10:00 AM

Period 2 – 10:00 – 10:50 AM

First Nutrition Break – 10:50 – 11:30 AM

Period 3 – 11:30 – 12:20 PM

Period 4 – 12:20 – 1:10 PM

Second Nutrition break: 1:10-1:50 PM

Period 5 – 1:50 – 2:40 PM

Period 6 – 2:40 – 3:30 PM

School day ends: 3:30 PM

To ensure that your child maximizes his/her learning and is not disruptive to the learning of others please make punctuality and attendance a priority. You can assist your child in achieving excellent attendance and punctuality records by maintaining consistent routines and recognizing the link between the character trait of responsibility and long term school success. It is no surprise that high achieving students typically have excellent attendance records, strong learning skills and focus on building positive character traits. When students miss school, gaps in learning occur since much of what they learn builds on previous experiences and lessons. A student with 20 days of absences misses one whole month of important learning activities. At Algonquin Ridge, students who arrive late for class without a justified reason will be expected to make up the instructional material missed. Let's all work together to ensure a successful school year!

## **LEARNING ADVANTAGE**

Please visit [www.learningadvantage.ca](http://www.learningadvantage.ca) for summer learning resources. The books are kid and parent friendly with 100% Canadian content. They provide a bridge for academic learning from June to September and reinforce the past year's learning. For spring/late summer, order your Summer Advantage books for the grade your child will enter in September.

## **SUMMER CHILD CARE AVAILABLE AT SELECT SCDSB SCHOOLS**

In partnership with community child care operators, we are pleased to support your childcare needs, offering full-day child care programs for children (aged JK to 12 years) in select schools across Simcoe County this summer. Registration in advance is required. Please contact the child care operator directly to register. A fee subsidy may be available to families who qualify. For more information, please contact S.E.E.D.S. Childcare before and after school program Supervisor Kila Walster at 705 726-3770 or [kwalster@seedschildcare.ca](mailto:kwalster@seedschildcare.ca) For the full listing of childcare centres in the SCDSB, visit [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) and click on 'Schools' and then 'Before & After School Care.'