



Algonquin Ridge Elementary School

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Cory McKeown
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ALGONQUIN RIDGE NOVEMBER NEWS

MESSAGE FROM MR. MCKEOWN AND MR. VAN ARRAGON

We're well into our school year now and soon your child will be coming home with a midterm progress report. We look forward to seeing you here for parent-teacher interviews in the third week of November. If you haven't signed up for one, it's not too late. Contact your child's teacher and set up a time during the week of November 14-18.

We're looking forward to some exciting events taking place at our school this month and encourage you to consider participating in them. Be sure to join us for the family bingo night as well as the book fair.

Thank you to our school council and their fundraising efforts. Pizza, pita and milk sales are in full swing and are having great success. Our latest fundraiser was initiated this week. Please see the QSP flyer for magazine and cookie dough sales. Orders are due by November 11 and all proceeds go back to supporting our students.

Also, please see the message elsewhere in this newsletter reminding you about the opportunity to purchase school spirit wear for your family just in time for Christmas. An order form is attached to this newsletter.

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Nov 2 - Dominos Raise the Dough Pizza Night in support of Algonquin Ridge
Nov 4 - We Scare Hunger Food Drive ends
Nov 8 - Junior Boys Volleyball Regional tournament
Nov 9 - Junior Girls Volleyball Regional tournament
Nov 11 - QSP magazine and cookie dough fundraiser orders due
Nov 11 - Remembrance Day assembly
Nov 16 - 6:30-7:30 Family Bingo Night at ARES
Nov 16-18 - Scholastic Book Fair
Nov 17 - JK-Gr.3 field trip to see The Little Mermaid at Georgian College Theatre
Nov 17 - ARES spirit day - "Disco Day"
Nov 17 - Picture Retake day
Nov 18 - P.A. Day for parent-teacher interviews - **no school for students**
Nov 22 - Algonquin Ridge Spirit Wear orders due
Nov 23 - Intermediate Boys Zone volleyball tournament
Nov 23 - Intermediate Girls Zone volleyball tournament
Nov 24 - 11:40 AM - Character Education assembly
Nov 30 - Intermediate boys regional volleyball tournament
Dec 7 - Grade 8 Information night @ Innisdale @ 7 pm

DOMINO'S RAISE THE DOUGH FAMILY PIZZA FUNDRAISER

Please be sure to support our Domino's Raise the Dough family pizza night fundraiser on November 2nd. For \$20 you can order two medium pizzas with two toppings and an order of crazy bread. When you call, order the Algonquin Ridge special and \$5 from your order will go back to the school. Thank you for supporting our students.

QSP MAGAZINE AND COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER

In the last week of October, information flyers were sent home regarding our magazine and cookie dough fundraiser. If you missed the flyer and need another one, please contact the school. All orders are due by November 11.

FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

Come one, come all! We're looking forward to a great night of family Bingo with popcorn, water, and prizes. Set aside Wednesday, November 16 at 6:30 PM and bring your whole family to enjoy a night of bingo. Talk to someone who has been there and you'll hear that it is a great night of family fun. The evening wraps up at 7:30 PM and you'll be able to get the kids home to bed on time to be well rested for school the next day!

ALGONQUIN RIDGE SPIRIT WEAR

Please see the flyer attached to this newsletter giving you an opportunity to purchase Algonquin Ridge spirit wear for you and your family. You can purchase long and short sleeve t-shirts, hoodies, sweat pants and shorts. Your order will be filled by the last week before the winter break, just in time for Christmas. If you want to keep the order a surprise because it will be a gift, just indicate that on the order form. All orders are due by November 22.

DAILY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

DPA is transitioning from 20 minutes once a day on days with no scheduled gym, to 10 minute movement breaks in at least 2 blocks and we are encouraging it in the third block. Educational, cognitive, psychological, medical, and behavioral research supports movement breaks throughout the day resulting in better-behaved, more engaged students who can more easily focus on and retain what they are supposed to be learning.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Every year our school receives funding from the province for the Eat Well to Excel program. At Algonquin Ridge we have initiated a Breakfast Club again this year. Breakfast club is open every morning for 20 minutes just before school starts for the day. It is meant for those students who have not had breakfast or not had enough breakfast to allow them to have a good, nutritious start to their day. Thank you to the parents and staff that have volunteered their time to organize and run the breakfast club each day.

KISS 'N RIDE

As the cold weather approaches, we anticipate more cars coming through our parking lot to drop off and pick up students. Please note that our front parking area is restricted to buses only. All other vehicles are to use the south parking lot. When coming through the Kiss 'n Ride area, please pull as far forward as possible to allow the cars behind you to move up as well. Have your child ready to exit the car quickly so you can move on again immediately. Please do not exit your car to help your children with their back packs, etc. as this significantly clogs up the flow of traffic in the Kiss 'n Ride loop. Your efforts to drop off your child quickly and efficiently are appreciated by all.

Also, please note that if you choose to drop off or pick up your child on Golden Meadow Road in front of the school, this is a no parking zone and the city bylaw officer frequently visits our street to ticket cars that have been left unattended in this no parking zone.

SCHOOL CLOTHING

This month you will have an opportunity to order Spirit clothing such as t-shirts, shorts, hooded sweaters, and sweat-pants. This is a great opportunity to purchase school spirit wear to give to your family members as a gift at Christmas time. Please make sure you indicate on the order form if your order is a gift and needs to be kept a secret. It's great to see students walking through the school halls wearing their Algonquin Ridge clothing and this year we have a spirit day every month encouraging the students to wear their Algonquin Ridge clothing. **The order form is attached to this email.** Orders will be received before the Christmas holidays. All orders are due by November 22nd.

COUGHS, COLDS, FLU

This is the season for many illnesses and we thank you for keeping your children at home when they have persistent coughs or colds. However, if your child is well enough to come to school, we would expect that they are well enough to go outside for recess. We appreciate your support of this policy.

Also, we continue to emphasize the importance of proper hand washing for the prevention of spreading germs. Students should be taught to use soap and to scrub their hands for several seconds to get rid of the germs.

REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY

Our school will be having a Remembrance Day ceremony on Wednesday, November 11 at 10 AM. Parents are welcome but please note that seating is extremely limited. Parents coming to the ceremony are encouraged not to arrive until after 9:50 AM. Please don't forget to send a small donation for a poppy with your child. They will be receiving their poppies on Remembrance Day. Thank you.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR IN THE LIBRARY

Our school is hosting a Scholastic Book Fair from November 11-16. Please come anytime Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, or Monday to take advantage of the great deals at the school book fair. The book fair will be open each day after school until 4 PM, Wednesday night during Bingo and Thursday night during parent/teacher conferences as well as on the Friday PA day. This is a great opportunity to do some early shopping for Christmas or upcoming birthdays. And remember, almost 50% of what you spend at the book fair goes right back to our school to purchase more great literacy resources for our school library. Thanks for supporting your child, literacy development and our school library!

GRADE 8 INFORMATION NIGHTS

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights happen this winter! Information nights give an overview of what's new and what to expect, and are a chance to ask questions.

High school is an exciting time—there are so many programs, clubs and activities for students to try. Attend the information night, Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at 7p.m. to find out what's offered at Innisdale.

If you can't attend an event, call Innisdale at 705-726-2552 to book an appointment to visit.

NOVEMBER 18, 2016 - PA DAY FOR PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Elementary progress reports will be distributed to students on Friday, November 11. The November 18 PA Day is set aside as a day when teachers will be holding interviews with parents of children whose progress they wish to discuss. If you have not yet done so please contact your child's teacher to arrange a meeting time. As always, if you have questions about your child's progress or would like to schedule a conference with your child's teacher, please contact his or her teacher to arrange a meeting time.

BUS CANCELLATION INFORMATION IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER

Winter is just around the corner in Simcoe County, and with it comes the possibility of severe weather, challenging winter driving conditions and, as a result, possible bus and school event cancellations.

All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's bus information website at www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. **OUR SCHOOL IS IN THE CENTRAL ZONE.**

When buses are cancelled, please remember that schools are still open (unless otherwise noted) for student learning.

The Consortium, in conjunction with bus operators, will make the decision to cancel school buses before 6 a.m. and as such, will make every effort to post announcements between 6 and 7 a.m. Parents should also note that inclement weather cancellations are effective for the whole day and buses cancelled in the morning will not run at the end of the day.

You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions> and you can follow the Consortium on Twitter @SCSTCSchoolBus.

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH UNIT: UPDATING YOUR CHILD'S IMMUNIZATION RECORD

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is required by law to keep up-to-date immunization records on file for every student who attends elementary or secondary school in Simcoe County. Parents need to provide the health unit with the updated status each time students receive a vaccine from their health care provider.

The immunization requirements for attending school have recently changed and you will need to ensure that your child's immunization status is up-to-date. Children need to have proof of immunization against meningococcal disease, whooping cough, and for those children born in 2010 or later, chickenpox, to attend school. If proof is not provided your child could be temporarily suspended from school. Go to www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/immsonline to update your child's record, or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 (toll free).

MAKING HOMEWORK TIME LESS STRESSFUL FOR ALL!

Children need good study habits and routines in order to be successful at homework. However, for some children, homework can be a time of stress. Sometimes children have problems with homework because of poor planning, because they don't understand the work or because they would rather be doing something else. Parents can help children develop good homework routines with preparation, encouragement and by showing an interest in the work that they are doing.

To find out more, call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 and ask about the Triple P – Positive Parenting Program solutions for homework problems or visit www.tripleontario.ca.

EYE SEE EYE LEARN PROGRAM OFFERING FREE EYE EXAMS, GLASSES FOR JK STUDENTS

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, which is free 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 JK students with their OHIP-covered eye exam, if prescribed by a participating optometrist. Learn more at www.EyeSeeEyeLearn.ca.

USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY

Electronic devices include but are not limited to cellular phones, iPods and game systems.

- The school is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged devices. The safest place for these devices is at home.
- If they are brought to school they are to be OFF and AWAY during school hours including nutrition breaks. Devices are to be turned off at 9:00 am and maybe turned on at 3:30 pm. If your child needs to contact you they may ask their teacher for permission to use the phone. If you need to contact your child please call the office at 705-737-4080.
- Devices maybe used by your child to support curriculum expectations with permission from and, under the supervision of, their teacher. Parents/students must read and sign Student Information Computing Technology Appropriate Use Agreement to any device being used in the classroom.
- If these rules are not followed, the device will be removed from the student and given to the office to hold until the end of the day. If the device is removed a second time it will be held in the office until the end of the day and the parent will be contacted. If the device is removed from the student a third time, it will be held at the office until a parent or legal guardian picks it up.
- If the student continues to use devices without the permission and under the supervision of his/her teacher, consequences will be imposed ranging from detention and community service to suspension.

NO CHILD WITHOUT

Medic Alert Foundation Canada provides children and students attending participating schools **FREE** MedicAlert ID and Free MedicAlert membership coverage between 4 years of age and their 14th birthday. The program is available across 224 school boards, in over 6,000 schools.

Parents should consider this program if their child lives with:

A medical condition.

Allergies and requires the use of an epinephrine injector.

Asthma or uses an inhaler.

Medication they need to take.

For a more comprehensive list of conditions, please visit: www.nochildwithout.ca

If you would like an information booklet please visit the school office or speak to your child's teacher.



FREE FILM SCREENING ON NOV. 22: MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED, A DOCUMENTARY

On November 22, the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) will hold public screenings of the film Most Likely to Succeed. This film examines the history of education, revealing the growing shortcomings of conventional education methods in today's innovative world. The film explores compelling new approaches that aim to transform learning as we know it. To learn more about the film and view a trailer, visit www.mltsfilm.org/.

The following schools will screen the movie:

- Innisdale Secondary School
- Nantyr Shores Secondary School
- Lions Oval Public School
- Nottawa Public School
- Georgian Bay District Secondary School
- Bradford District High School
- Alliston Union Public School

MESSAGE FROM SCDSB DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION KATHI WALLACE

At the Sept. 28 Board Meeting, it was shared publicly that I will retire as of December 31, 2016. As I'm sure you can imagine, this decision was challenging for me. I love what I do - I have felt this way in every role during my 39 years in this board. It's truly been an honour to serve the students and families of Simcoe County throughout my career. I've had the privilege of working with fantastic staff, parents and community partners. I've been surrounded by skilled, passionate and caring people.

My focus remains on our work as I complete my time here. The Board of Trustees have started the search for a new director. We are also now gathering the results of our strategic planning consultation. The input provided by our staff, students, parents and community members will be invaluable to the board and senior administration, including the new Director, as they move the system forward.

I am looking forward with optimism to this next stage of my life. It's a chance to spend some more time with my family. This includes my growing group of beautiful grandchildren who provide that daily reminder of life's wonder and simple joys. It's that same reminder I cherish from my days as a classroom teacher.

WE SCARE HUNGER

The Algonquin Ridge Me to We student leadership team wants to scare hunger on Halloween. The Me to We team is encouraging all students when they go out Trick or Treating to ask for non-perishable food items to donate to the Barrie Food Bank. You can help by helping your kids carry all the food they collect on their journey around the neighbourhood. Feel free to also send in some food items from your own cupboards. The Me to We team hopes to collect hundreds of food items for the food bank this week.

ME TO WE COLLECT BATTERIES (ZINC SAVES LIVES!)

The Algonquin Ridge Me to We student leadership team is also initiating a battery collection campaign. The campaign is called Zinc Saves Lives! Did you know that children in developing countries don't get enough zinc in their diets? For every one AA battery that is recycled, enough zinc is collected to provide the zinc needed for 6 children. Recently you would have received a battery recycling bag from the City of Barrie to collect old batteries. We're asking all families to use this bag to safely collect any old batteries you might have laying around the house. This is also a great time to be replacing the batteries in your smoke detectors.

The Me to We team will be running this battery collection campaign for the next two weeks. Just send your bag of used batteries to the school and the Me to We team will count them and send them away to be recycled. Thank you for your help in saving the lives of children around the world. Together we can save hundreds of lives. Zinc saves lives!!

Algonquin Ridge Public School



“Raise the Dough Night”

This is an easy way for you to participate in a School fundraiser from the comfort of your own home! “Raise the Dough Night for Algonquin Ridge!” is sponsored by Domino's.

All you have to do is order the “Algonquin Ridge Special” from Domino's on Wednesday, November 2nd.

The Algonquin Ridge Special consists of Two Medium, Two Topping Pizzas, and an Order of Cheesy Bread for only \$19.99^{+tx}.

Domino's will donate \$5 from every Algonquin Ridge Special ordered on this day back to our School. Anyone can order this special; neighbors, family, friends, co-workers etc. So mark it on your calendar and spread the word: Order the “Algonquin Ridge Raise the Dough Special” from Domino's on Wednesday, November 2nd.

South East Barrie **827 Big Bay Point Rd (705) 722-5000**

This special can be ordered for pick-up or delivery. Delivery area is limited. Delivery charge does apply.
North Barrie 20 Bell Farm Rd. (705) 726-0230 and South West Barrie 490 Mapleview Dr W (705) 728-0330