



ALEXANDRA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

October 1, 2010

ALEXANDRA SCHOOL BELIEFS

At Alexandra school, we believe

- all students can achieve high standards given sufficient time and support
- all teachers can teach to high standards given the right conditions and assistance
- high expectations and early interventions are essential

PADDINGTON BREAKFAST PROGRAM

A reminder that all students are welcome to come to Alexandra School each morning for breakfast. Just head in the south doors and down to the nutrition room between 8am and 8:30am.

WHAT'S the BIG IDEA? and CHARACTER EDUCATION

At Alexandra, we have developed a comprehensive Character Education Program that will be threaded through various areas of the curriculum.

For our first Teaching Learning Critical Pathway (TLCP) will be happening for the first six weeks of school. Teachers will be using the critical thinking model to explore the big idea, "Are responsible people always successful? We will be imbedding this big idea into our literacy, social studies and arts curriculum. Each week, teachers will choose a student of the week who best exemplifies the sub-character trait of the week.

These students receive a certificate and a bear paw.

At the end of our six week unit, we will be selecting a student of the unit who best exemplifies the overall character trait RESPONSIBLE. Our responsible students will be treated to a lunch with Ms Lockyer at our new sponsor Montana's!

PA Day

Friday, October 9th is a PA Day. There will be no school for students that day.

THANKSGIVING MONDAY

There will not be school Monday, October 11th so our families can celebrate Thanksgiving.

Meet the Teacher BBQ

It was great to see everyone at our BBQ. Thanks to the school council for organizing food and drinks.

YMCA Alexandra

The YMCA is please to be able to provide quality licensed child care for your children here at Alexandra School. We offer child care for:

- children 6-12 years of age Monday - Friday from 7:50 am and 3:10-6:00 pm
- ½ day school aged daycare from 11:30am on

Appropriate Clothing

A reminder that students need to consider the weather when getting dressed in the morning. Indoor/gym shoes really ensure that students have warm dry feet and help to keep our school clean

Picture RETAKE Day

Picture Day at Alexandra School is

ALEXANDRA SCHOOL COUNCIL NEW MEMBERS WANTED!

Please come join us at our next meeting on October 26th at 6:30 pm in the staff room.

Babysitting is available.

DON'T FORGET

Magazine drive is now on!

DRESS CODE GUIDELINES

Students are expected to present themselves in an appropriate manner.

Here are some guidelines and reminders:

- no hats
- clothing must not have offensive logos or expressions
- straps on shirts must be three fingers wide (no halter tops, tube tops etc.)
- shirts must cover the midriff even when raising hands in class
- shorts and skirts must be longer than extended arms

Students violating the dress code will be asked to wear appropriate t-shirts provided

Halloween Dance-a-Thon Update

Our grade jk-6 students can pay for their year end trips. Our grade fours can pay for Medieval Times! How?

Every donation raised by our students for the Dance-a-Thon will be directly applied to that student's year end trip. With some effort, students could travel this year for free.

ANAPHYLAXIS

We have two students at Alexandra School with peanut allergies causing anaphylaxis.

An anaphylactic reaction is an allergic reaction so severe, that in some cases, it can be life threatening.

Prevention is the best approach. Therefore, we ask your co-operation in not sending any snacks containing products that would contain peanuts/nuts or peanut products. This policy will take place school wide.

Our staff has been trained in the use of the epi-pen, and safety procedures, including a poster, have been put in place to communicate emergency response plans.

Peanuts and nut products especially, are not to be eaten on school buses. We will encourage students

not to share snacks with others and will work with Mrs. Cleland who organizes our snack program, and Mrs. Randall to make sure snacks are peanut free.

Entry Procedures

If visiting or volunteering in the school, parents are asked to go to the office first to speak to our secretary, Mrs. Liboiron or our principal, Ms Lockyer, then to sign in and receive a visitors pass. Parents accessing the daycare must use the north doors and the buzzer (more information from the daycare).

Parents delivering lunches or other items are asked to leave them at the office and the secretary will page the students to collect the items.

Appointments and early dismissals are arranged with the child in advance by informing the office by phone or note (EVEN AT RECESS).

When picking up children for appointments, parents are asked to come to the office first and Mrs. Liboiron will page their child to come down to meet them. Parents are asked not to wander the halls without first coming to the office, signing in and receiving a visitor's pass. We don't encourage wandering the halls. It is difficult for the staff to recognize every parent or guardian who comes into the school. Staff and students will be encouraged to greet visitors without nametags and direct them to the office.

LATE ENTRY PROCEDURE

Students who arrive after the bell has rung, other students have entered and the doors have been locked must:

- enter through the front door
- check in with Mrs. Liboiron at the office
- receive a late pass and go to class

PICK UP PROCEDURE

Please pre-arrange with your child a consistent pick up location (e.g. right side of the doors) where you will meet your child each day.

Students heading home for lunch can be greeted by parents at the front doors of the school as our playground gates will be locked.

WELCOME NEW STAFF!

With increased enrolment came new staff and new classrooms. Thanks to all parents for supporting the necessary changes to comply with the provincial class size mandate.

Welcome to:

- Miss Gabriel from Meadowvale gr. 2/3
- Ms Conlon (prep)
- Mrs. Huard (EA from mat. Leave)



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LICE

Alexandra Staff and School Council have reviewed the lice procedures for our students and developed the following policy.

While lice is no better or worse at Alexandra it is easily spread and difficult to eliminate. We appreciate the support of parents dealing with lice.

LICE PROCEDURES

(as approved by School Council)

When you discover your child has head lice, please:

- notify the school immediately
- treat your child with a head lice product
- use a lice comb to remove eggs/nits from hair
- pull/comb all eggs/nits from each hair shaft that were not removed with the lice comb
- vacuum carpets, furniture and car seats
- wash clothes, hats, towels, bedding in hot water and dry in a dryer for 20 minutes (bleach is helpful)
- stuffed animals should be washed or stored outside the house for one week (5 hours in a freezer will also work)
- your child may return to school after treatment we will check hair for lice or nits before the student returns to class

If LICE is discovered while at school, we will make every effort to contact parents or the emergency contact to take the child home for treatment. When we are aware of lice, all students in the affected class will receive a letter requesting parents check their child's head and follow the above steps if lice/nits are found. If you aren't sure if it is lice, bring your student to the office and we will check for you.

Bicycles

With the start of school bringing kids out on bikes, please be aware of the Alexandra policy for bicycles. The Niagara Regional Police recommend that only students in grades 4-6 be allowed to ride their bicycles to school.

Students must wear a bicycle helmet, *walk* their bicycle on and off school property and lock it securely in the school bicycle racks.

All personal property is the responsibility of the student.

All students should understand and obey the rules of the road and practice safe cycling behavior.

Students must obey or risk the loss of this privilege.