



ALEXANDRA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

October 1, 2011

ASKING QUESTIONS HELPS US LEARN

Our staff and students have been working hard in September. As in the past, we will be involved in several Teacher Learning Critical Pathways (TLCPs) this year. Our first cycle has already begun and it is designed around our big idea, "Asking questions helps us learn." Teachers will also design critical challenges for their students as they work towards their reading goals. Students will continue to use teacher feedback to 'bump up' their work as ongoing assessment and evaluation is still an important focus for us. We look forward to student work being displayed on Performance Boards and Bump it Up Walls.

Keep up the good work, Bears!

CHARACTER EDUCATION

This year we will focus on a different character trait each month. At our weekly assemblies, Student of the Week certificates will be awarded to those students who have displayed that character trait during week.

For the month of October, we will focus on responsibility. Being responsible means that you are held accountable for doing what is asked of you. This goes along very well with our school motto which is, "Do your best and do what's right!"

Children learn responsibility in various ways. They can be responsible for doing their homework, cleaning their room,

taking care of the family pet, or following instructions. Teachers will be incorporating this character trait into their lessons across the curriculum this month.

PA DAY

Friday, October 7th is a PA Day. There will be no school for students that day.

THANKSGIVING MONDAY

There will not be school Monday, October 10th so our families can celebrate Thanksgiving.

PICTURE RETAKE DAY

Picture Day at Alexandra School is Thursday, October 6th, 2011

ALEXANDRA SCHOOL COUNCIL

NEW MEMBERS WANTED!

The School Council Chair for this year is Tanya Randall. The vice-chair is Nancy-Clare Ferreira and the secretary is Catherine Stirling.

Please come join us at our next meeting on **October 25th at 6:30 pm** in the staff room.

PARKING LOT SAFETY

Please remember that the parking lot is for teacher parking only.

Please do not drive through the parking lot to drop your children off, or park in the handicap parking space. We do not have a Kiss and Ride parking system in place. Because we have so many more bus students this year, we are trying to decrease the amount

of traffic in the parking lot.

When dropping off your children or picking them up after school, please park along the side streets.

Remember that our dismissal time is 3:05 pm and please be on time picking up your children. Please make arrangements with your child **before school** so that they know who will be picking them up. It is very busy in the office and when parents call late in the afternoon to make alternate arrangements, it is very difficult to get the message to the students.

Thank you for your attention to these safety routines.

HARVEST HAPPENINGS AND TURKEY TROT

Students will be taking part in the Turkey Trot again this year. They will be running around the school daily at 11:05 am as part of our DPA program. The more laps they run, the more chances they have to win a turkey! Thanks to the PTA for donating these.

As part of our Harvest Happenings, students are asked to bring in canned goods for Community Care. In doing so, they can earn bear paws for their bear dens.

A series of activities have been planned for the first week of October.



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PADDINGTON BREAKFAST PROGRAM

A reminder that all students are welcome to come to Alexandra School each morning for breakfast. Please fill out an application form if you would like to participate. Breakfast is served in the nutrition room between 8:15 am and 8:40am.

HALLOWE'EN DANCE-A-THON AND PARADE

The students will be participating in the Dance-a-Thon again this year. The PTA organizes this annual event as a fundraiser.

More information about this will be sent home closer to the date.

Students will be involved in a parade in the afternoon.

Halloween Safety

Some pointers to keep the trick or treaters safe.

- Children under nine years of age should go out with an adult or responsible older child.
- Be sure your child stops at all curbs, looks left, right and left again to check for traffic.

Remind children to cross at crosswalks, street corners or intersections. It is important they walk on the sidewalk, or walk

facing the traffic if there is no sidewalk.

- Bright coloured costumes make your child easier to see. You can use reflective tape on a costume to make your child more visible. Face paint instead of a mask helps them to see well. Have your child carry a flashlight.
- When they get home, check all of their treats carefully. Throw out any treats that aren't wrapped, if the wrapping is torn or loose, or if the wrapper has a hole. Remember that small treats can cause your child to choke.
- You might want to offer an alternative to sugar based treats. Stickers or multicoloured pencils can be a nice surprise in place of, or in addition to, traditional treats.



SPIRIT DAY

Friday, October 28 will be Spirit day at Alexandra. Please wear black and orange.

SAFETY ITEMS FOR PARENTS ACTION

- ❖ Severe allergic reactions – consent forms for intervention in medical emergencies must be on file in the office
- ❖ Student medications – authorization forms to administer medication must be completed, signed by a physician and returned to the office
- ❖ Custody arrangements and access – please provide current documents if there are special circumstances the school should be made aware of
- ❖ Visitors to the school – all visitors and parents must check in at the school office. If you are dropping off items for your child, you can bring them to the office

MAGAZINE DRIVE IS NOW ON! DON'T FORGET TO PLACE YOUR ORDER!

The PTA magazine fundraising drive will take place from September 30 – October 17th. Please consider participating in this worthwhile event.



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ANAPHYLAXIS

Some students at Alexandra School have 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.

The parents who organize our snack program and breakfast program work hard to make sure the selections are peanut free as well.

CO-ED SOCCER

Our Co-ed soccer team has been having a great season. Thanks to Ms. Robinson, Mme Kubarakos and Mrs. Crawford-eybel for their dedication to coaching the team.

The team members are Cole D., Braeden H., Detrick, Trevor S., Jacob C., Sam U, Eric, Liam S. Graeme H., Lucas, Aivry N., Lauren C., Lauren Sm., Sienna C., Carlie and Rebecca. Keep up the great work!

CROSS COUNTRY

Mme Berner and Mrs. Simmonds have been running with the cross country team for the month of September. They had their first meet on Wednesday, September 28th and all the runners participated and had a great time. The next race is Thursday, October 6rd, at Burgoyne Woods.

From there, the top runners in each division at regionals will move on to the DSBN championship race which will take place on October 12th.

The following students are members of the team: Logan L., Owen, Raiden, Lilah, Mackenzie, Haneen, Joylynn, Mina, Reese, Evan, Hannah, Emily, Hayley Z., Cassandra, Damian, Graeme, Julien, Liam, Lucas, Sam U., Sunny, Ashleigh, Chelsea, Chloe, Emma S., Erika, Madalyne, Haleigh R., Declan, Sam G., Holden, Aivry, Liv and Lauren

Good luck to all our runners!

FREE DENTAL SCREEN COMING TO OUR SCHOOL

A Public Health registered dental hygienist is scheduled to visit our school October 21, 2011 to assess students in grades JK, SK, 2, 4, 6, 8. During this time the registered dental hygienist will perform a

visual assessment of each child to determine his/her dental needs. Parents will be contacted if their child requires immediate dental care. Public Health dental programs may financially assist children who do not have access to required dental care. If your child is not in one of the targeted grades and you would like him/her to take part, please call the Public Health dental program at 905-688-8248 ext. 7399 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7188 or email michael.solanki@niagararegion.ca.

M & M MEATS

Thursday, October 27th – 10% of all purchases at M&M Meatshops on Lake Street will be donated back to Alexandra. Please identify yourself as a supporter of Alexandra when you make your purchase.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

The Book Fair is coming back to Alexandra in October! It will be here the week of October 18th – 21st. More information will be available as we get closer to the date.



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