

Arthur Public School

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December, 2015

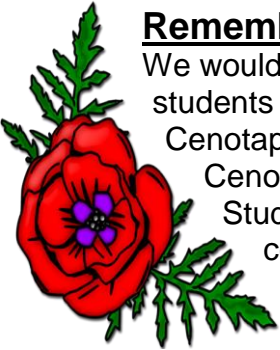


It is hard to believe December is already here. We would like to thank the school community for supporting the school thus far. We have had many successful initiatives to support our local community. Christmas Holidays begin December 21st. Enjoy the holidays with your friends and family. We will see you back in the New Year on January 4th, 2016!

Remembrance Day

We would like to express our appreciation for the behaviour and respect shown by the students of Arthur Public School during the Remembrance Day Service at the Cenotaph on Nov. 11th. Over 350 people from the school walked down to the Cenotaph to show their appreciation for those who have fought for our freedom.

Students, teachers, parents, and grandparents joined members from the community on a beautiful, sunny day to show that we remember. Thank you for the thoughtful reflection you exhibited during the service.

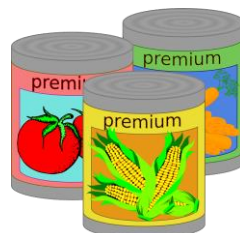


Sheyenne's Smiley Chimps Toy Drive

A big THANK YOU to all of those students and families who helped support Sheyenne's Smiley Chimp Toy Drive for McMaster Children's Hospital. In mid-November, the staff delivered 150 toys that were collected at the school to support the program. Thanks to the generous efforts of Arthur families, many children at McMaster Children's Hospital will enjoy a new toy at Christmas time.

Food Drive and Hat and Mitt Drive

Arthur Public School will once again be collecting food, hats and mitts during the month of December. Donations will be accepted at school between December 1st and December 16th. Please bring in non-perishable food items or new mitts and hats to donate to the Arthur Lion's Club Christmas Hamper Program.



Student Safety - Important Communication Needed on "NO BUS DAYS"



On no bus days please remember to contact the school if your child is a walker and will not be at school. If students are absent and we have not heard from you we have to contact home to make sure students are safe. We make the safety of your children our highest priority, and we have systems in place to ensure our students are accounted for. When we cannot account for a student, we will do everything possible to find them.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 2015

Friday, December 4th, 2015, APS will hold their Annual Children's Christmas Bazaar. This is a day where each class has an opportunity to visit our "gift store" to purchase ONE item per family member for a cost of \$.25 to \$2.00. For the younger children it is most helpful if the money is sent in a zip lock bag with a "list" of whom they should buy gifts for. The schedule begins with the youngest classes and we work our way up, there is no guarantee what will be left at the end of the day but we do try to provide an opportunity for all to shop.

This is where we need YOUR HELP! If you have any unused items sitting around your home, especially that might suit a teenager or a Dad, we sure could use it. Please drop off your gently used or new items at APS ASAP! A "suggested ideas list" is posted on the bulletin board in the front foyer.

IF you are a parent and are interested in Volunteering for even an hour that day between 8:00 a.m and 4:00 p.m please contact Mary Mitchell at 519-848-2829 or emarye@hotmail.ca ASAP....we need your help!!

"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless."



Thank you!!



A large bouquet of thanks to **Second Look!** Over the last number of months they have donated a total of \$1000.00 to Arthur Public School. These donations have been used to support our library and school teams as well as purchase items for our playground. **Second Look** has also donated items to support our Christmas Bazaar as well as school supplies.

Thank You! *It is wonderful to have such support in the community.*

Skating and Helmets

We are excited to offer the opportunity for Arthur Public School students to go skating at the arena during the winter months. Due to safety and insurance reasons, the Upper Grand District School Board's policy on skating has changed. All participants in skating (**adults and children**) **MUST** wear a CSA approved helmet before stepping on the ice. Bike helmets are not acceptable.

Thanks to a generous donation from the UGDSB, we are lucky to have 78 new helmets that are CSA approved. These helmets are available for any students to use, however, if you have your own helmet, we would encourage you to use it. When a permission form comes home for your child to go skating, please indicate beside your signature, if you require a helmet. All precautions will be made to disinfect helmets between uses.

We are very happy to be participating in skating once again. See you on the ice.



New Year's Eve Skating

Consider this your invitation to come and join us at the Arthur and Area Recreation Centre for our "**Community New Year's Eve Skating Celebration**".

There will be skating from 6:30 to 8:00pm followed by munchies, hot chocolate and a New Year's countdown at 8:45.

All Children under 12 **must** be accompanied by an adult. Admission of either a canned good for the Arthur Food Bank or monetary donations to a Nicaragua Mission would be appreciated.

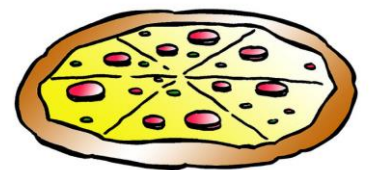
Call Bonnie or Chris McIntosh 519-848-5852 for more information.

***Please note:** this is not a school sponsored event.



Pizza, Pita's and Subs in the New Year

Please look for a pizza and sub forms to come home in December. We will need to compile all orders before the Christmas break if we are to be ready for pizza in 2016. Please ensure your total amounts are correct and that deadlines are met, as we cannot accept late orders. Pita order forms will be sent home in January.

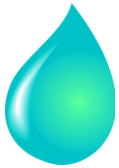


Snack Program Update

Thank you to our volunteers who help prepare snacks every day for our students. A big shout out goes to: Jennifer Smith, Lianne Kaminski, Brenda Neal, Candice Morrison, Shari Shoemaker, Terri Warden, Michelle Humphrey, Mary Mitchell Cross, and Deborah Sara. Our snack program continues in search of volunteers and donations. Please contact Mrs. Cozzarin if interested.

Come & Join us December 16th for...

Productions at 2:00pm & 6:00pm.



December's Environmental Theme: WATER POLLUTION

Water might seem like an endless resource. It covers more than 75% of our planet, but only 1% of the water on planet Earth is fresh, usable, and drinkable. The rest is either saltwater or frozen. And now the 1% that is drinkable is being threatened by pollution because of humans.

We need to conserve the water that exists on planet Earth. Did you know that almost 1 billion people do not have access to clean water? That is really hard for us to understand because Canada's most valuable natural resource by far is freshwater. While we have only 0.5% of the world's population we have approximately 20% of the world's fresh water resources. But unfortunately Canada is also one of the highest fresh water users in the world. Of 29 nations studied, only the United States uses more water than Canada on a per capita basis. Canada's consumption is an alarming 65 per cent above the average!

What are some of the ways we can reduce water pollution? At home, purchase environmentally friendly, non-toxic cleaning products. Or clean with baking soda, lemon or vinegar. Conserve fresh water by collecting rainwater in barrels. Use it to water your lawn and garden or even indoor plants. Don't pour chemicals or paint or oil down the drain, and especially not into the storm drains on the street, as it goes directly back to our rivers and lakes. Using natural products that are biodegradable, for example, is a great way to go. Most importantly, don't waste the clean water that we have. Turn off the taps when you brush your teeth, take shorter showers, and know that lawn watering is now no longer cool!

Slogan of the month: Conserve our water - it's all we have!

Talking About Mental Health – December 2015

31 Days of Taking Care of Ourselves

In December, as the days get shorter and colder, we all need to take some time to do something good for ourselves. Taking a little time each day to take care of ourselves makes so much difference to keeping in good mental health. You may choose to do some activities on your own or with your family or with a friend. Try one or a few or try them all. Enjoy!

December 1 : One Minute – Take deep breaths, in and out, for one minute.

December 2 : Two Minutes – Smile at yourself in the mirror.

December 3 : Three Minutes – Listen to a favourite song.

December 4 : Four Minutes – Eat some fresh fruit.

December 5 : Five Minutes – Light a candle and quietly watch the flame.

December 6 : Six Minutes – Sit quietly for six minutes.

December 7 : Seven Minutes – Enjoy the taste of a holiday snack.

December 8 : Eight Minutes – Spend fun time with someone special, a person or pet .

December 9 : Nine Minutes – Think of the best things that happened this week.

December 10 : Ten Minutes – Take some time out with a cup of tea. Sip slowly and enjoy.

December 11 : Eleven Minutes – Sing along with your favourite songs.

December 12 : Twelve Minutes – Send an email to a friend setting up a time to meet up during the holidays.

December 13 : Thirteen Minutes – Draw, paint or doodle.

December 14 : Fourteen Minutes – Go outside and breathe in the cool, crisp air.

December 15 : Fifteen Minutes – Read a favourite story.

December 16 : Sixteen Minutes – Call or skype with someone.

December 17 : Seventeen Minutes – Do something active: dance, walk, run, skip, play.

December 18 : Eighteen Minutes – Make a cup of hot chocolate and pay attention to the flavor and warmth as you sip– add marshmallows if desired.

Dr. Lynn Woodford, Psychologist, is the Mental Health and Addiction Lead for Upper Grand District School Board

Follow me on twitter: @drlynnwoodford



Technology

The Upper Grand District School Board now has Chromebooks for student use in all 25 public libraries across the district.

The program first launched in April at three pilot sites within the Wellington County library system and has grown to include all 25 public library branches that serve our region.

Each branch has been outfitted with five Chromebooks that are available exclusively for Upper Grand students to access and complete their homework and assignments.

For more information, visit the board website at ugdsb.ca.

December Activities at the Library

Christmas Activities (All Ages)

Visit the library throughout the month to take part in our Christmas scavenger hunt, holiday activities, and draws!

All month, during branch hours.



Fireside Holiday Night (All Ages)

Join us in celebrating the holiday season! Gather around and enjoy stories, songs and crafts by the fire. Please register.

Wednesday, December 9, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

After school Board Games (Pre-teen)

Come by and play! Bring a partner or come on your own to join in on the fun! Please register.

Thursday, December 17, 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Family Holiday Movie (All Ages)

Keep warm and join us for a movie to get you in the Christmas spirit! Please Register.

Wednesday, December 23, 2:00 pm

Afternoon Movie (All Ages)

Come dressed up in wacky colours and join us for a screening of Pixar's "Inside Out".

Please register. Wednesday, December 30, 2:00 pm

Volleyball Teams

Our junior and intermediate volleyball teams have been practicing hard to prepare for their upcoming tournaments. Our junior team will have their tournament on December 3rd and our boys and girls intermediate teams will compete on December 15th.

Thank you to our coaches: Mrs. Hustler, Mr. McCabe and Mr. Duncan.

Well done everyone for your hard work and effort!



Road Construction News

We have been notified that effective Monday, November 30th the Crossing Guard will be returning to her original position at Frederick and Domville. Construction will be ended and all roads will reopen.

Please review with your children guidelines for crossing at a round about as outlined in the presentations they received from the township. To view the video please go to

www.youtube.com/user/CountyofWellington.



Parent Council Corner

The Christmas Bazaar is fast approaching....December 4th, 2015!!! Donations of items especially Dad or Boy items, wrapping paper and old Christmas cards would be appreciated! Also, if you have some spare time to help the kids "shop" or wrap please swing by and lend a hand!

On Monday, November 23, 2015 we saw an interesting presentation about Makers Space in the Learning Commons (Library) by Ms. M.K. Goindi. It was a great presentation about what our students are doing on their own time as well as class time. The Learning Commons is open daily starting at 8:30am and encourages all students to think creatively by using blocks, tinker toys, water colours, chrome books, and much more. Ms. Goindi has lots of new and exciting items that the students will enjoy immensely with the support from some of the fundraising that the school will be doing this year. Ask your child about the Learning Commons and what they did today!

Looking for a night out to learn more about what goes on at your child's school and have some input? Our next meeting is Monday, January 18, 2016 @ 6:30pm (all are welcome)!

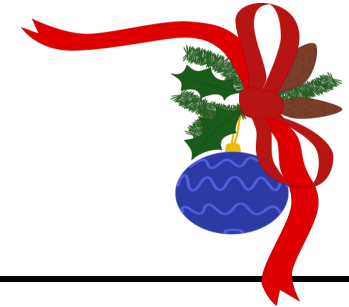
Parent Council working together with; schools, parents, teachers and the community to support learning for all children.






Happy Holidays!





December 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>Day 3</i>	2 <i>Day 4</i>	3 <i>Day 5</i>	4 <i>Day 1</i> Christmas Bazar 	5
6	7 <i>Day 2</i>	8 <i>Day 3</i>	9 <i>Day 4</i>	10 <i>Day 5</i>	11 <i>Day 1</i> Pizza Orders Due  <u>Progress Reports</u> <u>Go Home</u>	12
13	14 <i>Day 2</i>	15 <i>Day 3</i> Return Signature Page for Progress Reports 	16 <i>Day 4</i> 'Twas the Week after Christmas 2:00 & 6:00 P.M. 	17 <i>Day 5</i> Wellington Heights Band Performs 	18 <i>Day 1</i> School Assembly Last Day of School	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	Christmas Break Return to School January 4th					

