



# Aberfoyle Public School

16 Old Brock Road, Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0  
519-763-7040 @AberfoylePS



## Welcome Back A.C.E.s!

Welcome to another great year!  
We look forward to working with  
you and getting to know you well.

Please visit and get involved with the many  
opportunities here. We'd love to see you!

For the second year we have partnered with Laurier  
University and are fortunate to host three student  
teachers; Ms. Jenkins, Ms. Airdrie and Ms. Barros. They  
will be learning from all of us as well as teaching us new  
strategies in education.

A new development is an After School Child Care  
program hosted by the Y. For further information,  
please contact them at 519-767-2816.

We have a number of staff changes this year, so be  
certain to check out the staff list.

All the best,  
Paul Tribe, Principal

## PA Days 2017-2018

Please note for babysitting purposes that there is no  
school for students on the following days (All Fridays):  
September 29, October 27, November 24, January 26,  
April 27, June 8, June 29.

## Aberfoyle's Daily Schedule

8:30	School Entry and Period 1
9:20	Period 2
10:10	Nutrition Break
10:30	Recess
10:55	Period 3
11:45	Period 4
12:35	Nutrition Break
12:55	Recess
1:20	Period 5
2:10	Period 6
3:00	Dismissal Bell

## Potential Changes in School Organization

Schools have built class lists based upon tentative  
enrolments. Changes may be necessary in order that  
our Board remain compliant with Ministry parameters  
(see below). Any changes would be implemented by  
Monday, September 18th. Principals do not have the  
option of changing the school organization that is set by  
the District Staffing Committee of the Board. If changes  
affect your child(ren), you will be informed by the  
school.

### Ministry Parameters:

- Full Day Kindergarten: average class size for the Board is 26 students
- 90% of the Board's primary classes will have 20 or fewer children.
- 10% of primary classes will have a maximum of 23 students
- Junior and Intermediate classes have an average size of 24.85 students for the Board.

## Let's Keep in Touch!

### Now there is the Upper Grand Mobile App to Help

This newsletter is one way we connect. You do call 519-763-7040. All newsletters and school council information, along with the calendar is posted on our website: <http://www.ugdsb.ca/aberfoyle>. We send emails to you, post on Twitter too. But now, there is something else!

We are pleased to announce that the Upper Grand DSB is introducing a new parent communication tool for your smart phone. Designed to streamline communication between schools and the communities they serve, the Upper Grand Mobile app provides parents with a simple interface with up to date information including news, calendars and social media feeds.

The Upper Grand Mobile App is available today for free at either the Google Play Store or at iTunes. Use the search term "Upper Grand" to find the app.

# SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES

DATE	EVENTS
05	Welcome Back!
08	Signed Forms due back at
12	School Council: 6:30 PM in the Library
19	School Photos
22	Colour Day
27	National Tree day
28	Terry Fox Run and Walk 4:30: Barbeque and Open House
29	PA Day - No School for Students

## An Important Package

There is a package of important forms that will be coming home for parent signatures that need to be returned ASAP.

Please be sure to read the **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act** which is included in the package. Contact the Principal in writing if you have any concerns about the disclosure of photos or other information.

## Staff Assignments 2017-18

Assignment	Name
Kindergarten A	Ms. Stewart
Early Childhood Educator	Ms. Dodington
Kindergarten B	Ms. Hayes and Ms. McCaig
Early Childhood Educator	Ms. Wozencroft for Ms. Reynolds
Grade 1	Mrs. Singh
Grade 1/2	Mr. Walkling
Grade 2	Ms. Mostyn for Ms. Robbers
Grade 2/3	Ms. Mullin
Grade 3	Ms. Campbell

Assignment	Name
Grade 4	Ms. Partlow
Grade 4/5	Mr. Fiddes
Grade 5	Ms. Thistle
Grade 5/6	Mr. Hawkins for Ms. Kubiw
Grade 6	Mrs. Bertrand
Grade 7/8	Mr. Sehl
Grade 7/8	Mrs. Slater
Grade 7/8	Mr. Skeoch
Resource/Planning	Ms. Fisher
Resource	Ms. Nelles
Music & Arts	Ms. Gray
Library/Resource	Ms. Moldenhauer
Core French	Mme. Duncan-Martyn
Jr. Core French	Mlle. Milloy
Jr. Core French	Mlle. Campbell
Educational Assistant	Ms. Mitchell
Educational Assistant	Mrs. Broadhead
Child and Youth Counsellor	Ms. Fairfield
Office Coordinator	Mrs. Warden
Head Custodian	Mr. Wilson
Custodian	Mr. Laranjeiro
Principal	Mr. Tribe

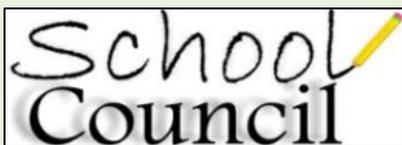
## Picture Day!

School photos will be taken Tuesday September 19th.



## Family Handbook

Your child will be bringing home a Family Handbook. We encourage you to read it and discuss pertinent sections with your child. It contains important information about procedures, routines, homework guidelines, code of conduct, etc.



Participating in the Aberfoyle School Council is a great way to learn about what is happening in our school, news regarding academic strategies and ways for you to support the students in the school. Please consider joining the council and show your support for Aberfoyle PS.

The first meeting will be on Tuesday September 12th at 6:30pm in the library.

This is an important meeting as elections are held for council chair and other positions as well as the direction for the year is set. See you there!

Here is the link to our Aberfoyle School Council Facebook group. It will give you access to what is happening with our School Council.  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1509233629393288/>

If you would like to see the most recent minutes, just check out the Facebook page or our website  
<http://www.ugdsb.ca/aberfoyle/>.

### Volunteers



Aberfoyle considers its parent and community volunteers a special resource. Parents and community members are encouraged to help in the classroom, on school trips, assist in the library or with extracurricular activities and to participate on School Council. Being a volunteer is a wonderful way of participating in your child's education! Contact your child's teacher to find out how you can help.

### Safe Arrival Program

If your child is going to be late or absent, please call the school at 519-763-7040, press extension 100, and leave a message. In order to ensure the safety of your children, if your child is marked absent and you have not called, we will call you. If there is any change in your child's end-of-day routine, please write a note in your child's agenda in the morning and Mrs. Warden will get that information from the classroom teacher.

### Safe Departure

**Please send authorization in writing** if someone other than the legal guardian is going to pick your child up from school. The authorized adult may also be asked for photo identification.

If it is necessary for a child to leave early, or to leave for a period during the day for an appointment, a note must be sent to the teacher. For the safety of your child, we request that you come into the school to **sign him/her out at the office**. We cannot send students out to waiting cars.

**Please also remember to sign your child off the bus using the bus lists located in the foyer if they are not taking the bus home. We appreciate your efforts to keep all students safe.**

### Life-Threatening Allergies

We have children in our school with potential life-threatening allergies to various foods and other materials called anaphylaxis. This is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to food or other materials, and can cause death within minutes. In recent years, anaphylaxis has increased dramatically among students.

Although this may not affect your child's class directly, we are letting you know so that you may refrain from sending foods to the school that contain peanuts and nuts. We aim to create an allergy safe environment at our school.

If your child is in a classroom with an anaphylactic child, or your child has anaphylaxis, you will be contacted by the classroom teacher.

Our school has procedures in place to help manage anaphylactic reactions. If your child has health concerns of any kind, please tell your child's teacher or the office and we will take the necessary health protection steps.

**Strong scents** such as perfumes and certain deodorants can cause an allergic reaction in some of our students and staff who experience sensitivity to these products. Please be considerate of others in the building and try to use scent free products. Our noses thank you!

## An Alternative to Fundraising



Sometimes, rather than getting involved with fundraisers, people choose to support their school by giving to the **Upper Grand Learning Foundation**.

Donations of \$20 or more to your **School Fund** receive a tax receipt. Donate through the [UGLF website](http://www.uppergrandlearningfoundation.com) at [www.uppergrandlearningfoundation.com](http://www.uppergrandlearningfoundation.com)

## Scouting at Sir Isaac Brock PS



The 7th Guelph Scouting Group that meets at Sir Isaac Brock Public School is having a registration night on Monday September 11th at 7pm in the parking lot at Sir Isaac Brock Guelph.

We offer:

- Beaver Scouts 5-7
- Cub Scouts 8-10
- Scouts 11-14 and
- Venturer Scouts 15-17

For more information, email Paul at [7thguelph@w.scouters.ca](mailto:7thguelph@w.scouters.ca). For information about other groups in Guelph, go to [www.Scouts.ca](http://www.Scouts.ca) and click on the "Join Scouts button to find a group near you.

## Aberfoyle Fall Fair!

For the past several years, children from our school have participated in the Aberfoyle Fall Fair in a variety of ways. The Fair happens the first Saturday after school starts at the Puslinch Community Centre. This year, the date is Saturday, September 9, 2017. At 9:30 there will be games for the whole family.

The cost is \$10 for adults, and kids are free who are under the age of 12. All activity Bracelets are \$5. We now have large tents so we go rain or shine!

This year we have a Pig Roast dinner for Saturday night. Tickets are \$15 in advance or at the fair office.

We also have a Sunday Morning Church service at 10:30 AM, followed by light refreshments. Come and join the fun. Spread the word, and as always, we are looking for new volunteers, if you have a few hours to give!



## ABERFOYLE FALL FAIR SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER 8th AND 9th 2017

**FRI. SEPT 8TH 9 TO 5PM : EXHIBITS RECEIVED FOR JUDGING**

**6:00 PM KNOCKER BALLS** big bouncy balls in the arena \$5 charge

**7:00 PM TRACTOR PULL AT THE TRACK** Weigh In Is 6:00pm

**NOTE:** Halls and the green shed are closed for judging

**SAT. SEPT 9TH FARMERS MARKET** is Open ALL DAY!!

**\*\*\* ALL DAY ACTIVITY BRACELET \$5 FOR KIDS \*\*\***

**9:00** Market Tent Vendors set up and open

Hunter Jumpers and HORSELESS JUMPING-Horse Rings .  
Kids, try it out

Antique Tractor Display All Day and Stock Cars TOO!

**9:30** Children's Sports at the Kids Zone Tent

Old Macdonalds Farm All Day  
4-H CLUB Competitions and Activities All Day

**10:00** Sciencsational Snake Exhibit in Kid Zone Tent  
**Bouncy Castles Galore!!!** Check them out.  
Embroiderers 150th display in Main Hall  
**Games and crafts in the tent** - test your skills  
Used Book sale at the Library and a Balloon artist 10:30 to 12:30

**10:30** Yvette and Her Farm Friends Show – Kid Zone Tent

**11:00** Music on the Patio by TWO OF A KIND  
**4-H SHOW** - Sheep followed by Calves  
**PET SHOW** on ball diamond - bring your favourite pets  
**FACE PAINTING** in the Children's tent

**12:00** TEA ROOM open in Alf Hales Room.  
THE GREAT LOONIE IN THE STRAW... in Children's Tent  
Kiddies TRACTOR PULL , Weigh in at 1:30 Kitchen

Parking area Ball Diamond Competitions for youth and Adults Try it out

**2:00** Children's entertainer, Yvette and her other Farm Friends - Kid Zone Patio entertainment by Sound Junction Band  
Kids Tractor Pull behind the Kitchen Parking Lot

**3:00** ATV and Garden Tractor Pull Weigh In 3:30 Yvette and her Farm Friends in Kid Zone Tent 4:00 GardenTractor/ATV pull

**4:45** Buildings close for returning Entries 5:00 Pick up articles  
Pig Roast Tickets \$15 in advance or at the fair office  
Music by Country Squires Band

**10:30 SUNDAY "BLESSING OF THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY" 4 COMMUNITY CHURCHES COME TOGETHER FOR A SERVICE**

Followed by refreshments on the Patio

### **Explicit Consent**



Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL) came into force on July 1, 2014. As a result, the Upper Grand District School Board, would like to ensure that we have your consent to receive newsletters, school and Board updates, announcements, event invitations, and other electronic messages.

Some of these messages may contain advertising or promotions regarding school fundraisers, field trips, the sale of yearbooks, student pictures, or similar events.

**If you wish to receive the above communications from us, please visit our CASL registration website at: [www.ugdsb.on.ca/CASL](http://www.ugdsb.on.ca/CASL)**

If you have any questions or if you wish to withdraw your consent at any time, please click the link at the bottom of email messages you receive from the school, or visit the same site and click on "Unsubscribe" to remove your name from our contact list.

For additional information on Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation you may visit our board's website at [www.ugdsb.on.ca](http://www.ugdsb.on.ca).



### **Reminder for parents/guardians: Accidents happen – be prepared with Student Accident Insurance**

Parents/guardians are responsible for expenses related to student injuries on school premises during school activities. Accidents can and do happen and the costs involved might not be fully covered by Provincial Health Care or employer group insurance plans.

The Upper Grand District School Board is empowered under The Education Act to offer Accident and Life Insurance for students.

Information will be sent home with respect to Student Accident Insurance offered by Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada. You should receive:

1. The Director's letter and an Acknowledgment to be signed by parents/guardians and returned to school. Attached to the Director's letter is a translation sheet for your reference.
2. An InsureMyKids application form

Old Republic offers a variety of options, including family rates and multi-year plans, at affordable prices. The cost must be paid by parents/guardians.

Subscription is directly through Old Republic by mail or online. Questions should be directed to Old Republic at 1-800-463-5437 or [www.insuremykids.com](http://www.insuremykids.com).

For today's active children, especially those who participate in field trips, co-curricular and other school activities outside the school day, Student Accident Insurance is valuable.

### **Puslinch Library Activities: September 2017**



#### **Story Time (3-5 years)**

Our Story Times are created to help your child get ready for reading. Share stories, songs, rhymes, and

activities aimed at developing your child's early literacy skills. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to participate. Ages 5 and under with a caregiver. Please register.

Thursdays, September 7 - December 14, 11:00 - 11:45 am

#### **Inflated Ego Balloon (All Ages)**

Stop by the library and be amazed by the balloon art

created by Inflated Ego Entertainment! Watch the creations unfold and take something home.

Saturday, September 9, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

**Culture Days: Storybook Art** (Grades K- 6)

Create a piece of storybook art in the tradition of a famous illustrator. Please register.

Friday, September 29, 10:30 - 11:30 am

**Monica North-Gibbons, MLIS**

Branch Supervisor

Puslinch Branch – Wellington County Library

29 Brock Road South

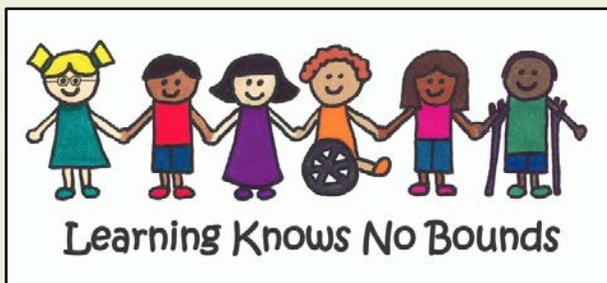
Puslinch ON NOB 2J0

T: 519.763.8026

F: 519.763.4122

E: [monican@wellington.ca](mailto:monican@wellington.ca)

W: <http://www.wellington.ca/Library>



**Feedback Welcome on Draft Board Policies**

The Upper Grand District School Board is welcoming public input on draft policies. Currently under review are the following two policies:



**Policy 209 – Distribution of Materials in Schools from External Organizations**

The policy and procedures for Distribution of Materials in Schools from External Organizations have been revised to clarify and update requirements, and to distinguish between the process of distribution to the system and distribution to a single school. The procedures for the distribution of non-curricular religious materials have been incorporated to centralize

the policy directive concerning the distribution of all materials.

This policy is important to staff, students, school councils, and parents because it allows the board to support non-profit community groups in showing information about their activities and supports for students.

**Policy 307 – Outdoor Play Spaces**

The policy and procedures for Outdoor Play Spaces have been revised to respond to the increasing practice of creating more naturalized playscapes on school yards, and the need to clarify the various levels of responsibility associated with playground construction, maintenance and the daily operations of outdoor play spaces.

The policy is important to staff, students, school councils, parents and community members because outdoor play spaces at UGDSB schools are used for play and learning during the school day, and after hours by the community.

You are invited to review the draft documents and submit online feedback at [www.ugdsb.on.ca/policy](http://www.ugdsb.on.ca/policy). **The deadline for public input is October 12, 2017** at 4 p.m. EST. Persons without internet access may call 519-822-4420 (or toll-free 1-800-321-4025) ext. 723 to request a printed copy of the draft documents.

**Transitions to School in the Fall**

Returning to school is both an exciting time as well as one that can be challenging for some of our students. As our students get ready for new September routines, here are some tips to support parents on things to consider when the new school year is beginning again:



- If you are new to the school community, make an appointment to meet your child's school team so that you can develop a relationship with the school and learn the school based routines alongside your child.

- Connect your child with neighbourhood friends that are in their class to help them get to and from school with a peer to make the transitions more fun.
- Consider adapting your child’s bedtime routine by returning to an earlier ‘school day’ schedule before school starts, aiming for 10hours of sleep a night.
- Sit and plan what your child would enjoy eating as part of a healthy lunch while at school. Including kids in these routines helps them build their independence in packing a well-balanced lunch and snacks.
- Sometimes when kids are older and have more things to remember like locker combinations and schedules for classes, they can get worried about remembering it all. Talk through their concerns and make some plans for how they can remember these items during a busy day.
- Walk with your child to school to remind them of the safety rules and routines. The summer is a long time and this needs to be refreshed from time to time.
- Spend time each night checking in on how the first few weeks of school have gone. If your child is facing some concerns that do not seem to be ironing out, connect with the school to see if together something can be done to support them to be happy in their new school year.

~ Adapted from KidsHealth.org

### **The Benefits of Making Mistakes**

As the new school year begins, there is one quote that educators wish that all students would consider they enter their new classrooms, “making mistakes is part of life—and a really big part of growing up. It’s how you learn who you want to be”

(<http://talkingtreebooks.com/quotes/quote-making->

[mistakes.html](#)). As adults, we understand that making mistakes is an important part of life; however, students sometimes struggle to see the benefits of their errors.

One of the ways that we, the adults in children’s lives, can support youngsters is to be open about the mistakes that we make and share with students how we take



responsibility for our errors. It is important that children see that everyone makes mistakes and that mistakes are a valuable part of our lives due to the fact that they encourage brain development. Researcher, Jo Boaler, states in her book *Mathematical Mindsets* (p. 12) when the brain is challenged and mistakes are made, that is the time when “the brain grows the most.”

When students are taught about the importance of mistakes, it can have a positive impact on their lives.

New York Times author, Peter Sims, identified the following habits of successful people:

1. They feel comfortable being wrong.
2. They try new ideas.
3. They are open to different experiences.
4. They try out ideas without judging them.
5. They are willing to go against the crowd.
6. They do not give up when things get hard.

Wouldn’t it be wonderful if all of our students followed these ideas?

It would be wonderful if students believed that every time they entered school they were going to a place where they were going to make mistakes that will help them grow and learn. It is vital that we understand that learning means not being afraid to examine the mistakes that we all make. It would be great if children remember this quote from former President of the United States, Bill Clinton, “[everyone] will make mistakes. But if you learn from them, you’ll be a better person. It’s how you handle adversity, not how it affects you. The main thing is never quit, never quit, never quit.”

UGDSB Program Department

## Student Agendas

Students will be bringing home agendas soon which have been purchased by the school. This resource allows the teaching of good planning habits and encouraging open communication between home and school. Students who deface or lose agendas are required to purchase a replacement.

## The Balanced Day ... What is that exactly?

This year at Aberfoyle we will continue the schedule used last year. There will be three sets of 100-minute blocks of instruction during the day. This is set up to cut down on disruption and allow for uninterrupted learning time.

School start and end times remain the same (8:30 am & 3pm). Nutrition Breaks consist of 20 minutes of eating time indoors and 25 minutes outdoor recess time. There is much research supporting the idea that when children eat healthy foods a few times throughout the school day, they are able to focus better and moderate emotions which supports their ability to learn and focus.

We are encouraging families to pack enough food for their children to eat what they need to feel full and content during both breaks. Please have a conversation about foods included in their lunchboxes and how they need to be spread out over the two breaks. Please check out this website for more information:

<http://www.eatrightontario.ca/>

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## Monthly Environmental Activities SEPTEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup> IS NATIONAL TREE DAY!

*"Let nature be your teacher." William Wordsworth*



### **Celebrate National Tree Day on September 27<sup>st</sup> 2017!**

*"National Tree Day will serve as a celebration for all Canadians to appreciate the great benefits that trees provide us - clean air, wildlife habitat, reducing energy demand and connecting with nature."*

<http://www.nationaltreeday.ca/>

*"Children today spend less time outdoors than any generation in human history." <http://getbackoutside.ca/>*

*"For children, studies show that time outdoors, especially unstructured time in more natural settings, can increase curiosity, creativity and problem solving ability. It also improves their physical fitness and coordination." <http://30x30.davidsuzuki.org/>*

### **Great activities for your family to do on Tree Day!**

- Read a book on trees: *The Lorax*, by Dr. Seuss; *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein; *What Good Is a Tree* by Larry Dane Brimner; *The Great Kapok Tree* by Lynne Cherry
- Learn the names of the trees in your backyard or neighbourhood
- Do tree art – e.g., a leaf collage, or leaf/bark pencil rubbing art, or tree photography
- Create a tree book: "adopt" a favourite tree, name it and throughout the year record and examine its characteristics and the changes that it goes through.
- Organize a Tree Walk game - Look for trees that are: the tallest, oldest, has the widest trunk, has the largest leaf, is the most prickly, etc.
- Download a bird app and start to help your child learn to identify the colours and songs of birds in your neighbourhood
- Research all the great forest hiking trails in your area and pick one to try out.
- Hold a Tree Day birthday party with your family, friends, neighbours or community! Serve tree-shaped foods! (*Find lots of ideas on Pinterest.*)

### **For more ideas:**

- ✓ Join the **30x30 Nature Challenge**: If you want to feel healthier, happier and more focused - add a daily dose of nature to your routine! Find out more at <http://30x30.davidsuzuki.org/>
- ✓ Do a Google search: "What to do on a nature walk" or "Arbour Day activities"

