



Aberfoyle Public School

2024 Year-End Newsletter

Happy End of School Year! It has been a great year at Aberfoyle and we have lots to celebrate! The students at this school are exemplary. Our students are respectful, willing to help and help to make our school a safe and comfortable place to learn. Our amazing educators have worked hard to ensure that each child achieved their academic best, felt safe, included and part of the school community. We wish all students, staff and their families a summer filled with joy and adventure. **See you on September 4th 2024 (it's a Wednesday)!**

REPORT CARDS:

Report cards are available online as of June 26th (*please note that there is an IT issue affecting the whole system and they are delayed in being posted*). They can be accessed from [Aberfoyle's Parent Portal](#). The document you are accessing is titled "Elementary Report Card – June 2024".

As a reminder, your username is the email address the school has on file and is the same one you have previously used to access the online reports.

If you are new to our school board, please follow the instructions below:

- [Specific instructions explaining how to create your account: Parent Portal instructions](#)
- [UGDSB Report Card Support](#)

Please visit our board website at <https://www.ugdsb.ca/parents/connected/> for more information related to online report cards.

GOODBYES:

We would like to say goodbye and thank you to Ms. Brown-Peterside (Ms. B-P) and Ms. Fordham for the learning and experiences they provided to their students this year, and for the positive relationships developed with the Aberfoyle staff and parent community! Thank you, also, to Mrs. Hall for stepping in and supporting KC for a few weeks as Ms. Thompson left for maternity leave.

A big thank you goes to Mrs. Moldenhauer for stepping in as our temporary VP while Mrs. Darroch supported another school. Mrs. Moldenhauer is returning to her Special Education role full time as Mrs. Darroch returns.

Congratulations and all of our best wishes go to Mrs. Slater, who has been working at Aberfoyle for 22 years and has decided to begin a new journey in retirement! She will be greatly missed by so many at Aberfoyle! Thank you for all of your contributions over the years to our school!

WELCOME!

We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Eardley to our Primary team! We will also have a couple of long-term temporary teachers who will be hired over the summer.

BBQ - SEPTEMBER 28

Mark your calendars! Our Welcome Back to School BBQ will be held on Thursday, September 28. This is a great time to meet the staff, tour the school and playground, grab a burger (Thanks to the Puslinch Optimist Club!) and chat with friends while enjoying the carnival atmosphere. Halal options will be available to ensure the enjoyment of all of our Aberfoyle families. Look for the Scholastic Book Fair, silent auction, bake sale, raffles and more! This fun event is a great way to kick off the school year and we are always grateful to our School Council for organizing and hosting this community building event.

Get Involved! Volunteer Opportunities in 2024-2025

There are lots of ways that parents and caregivers can get involved at Aberfoyle!

- 1) Join us at our School Council meetings! School Council members are invaluable as they are some of our most active volunteers. Committees work to organize fundraising events, lead our greening initiatives, connect with community partners, advise administrators and gain an understanding of the goals and day to day running of our school. This is a highly successful council who has positively impacted our school community in so many ways! We need many voices with ideas and perspectives that represent our Aberfoyle school community.
- 2) Reading Tutors are always welcome. If you have an hour to spare during the week and would enjoy helping some of our students to read, please contact us!
- 3) Nutrition Break Supervisors are a paid position. We need people to supervise recesses from 10:10-10:50 or 12:30-1:10. The days are flexible. Connect with Mrs Darroch if you are interested in joining our team!

If you plan to volunteer for any of the above roles or as a casual volunteer to support during a field trip or sports team etc, a Vulnerable Sector Police Check is required. Please see the procedure below. Why not get this done in the summer so that you will be fully ready to go in September!

Steps to complete the check:

- Please [complete this form](#) so that we can send you the required **volunteer** letter from the school (this doesn't happen automatically, and will occur in batches at the beginning of July and end of August)
- Visit <https://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=147&lng=en>
- Print and send in your completed check
- Print, sign and send in the volunteer agreement form we will send to you.

Please do not hesitate to call the office if you have any questions about this process.

School Organization

The Ministry of Education determines the maximum number of students in each class, on average for each School Board. Our school submits enrollment numbers to the School Board several times a year and they tell us what our classes have to look like (grade, splits and exact numbers in each class). It is possible that the Board will ask us to change our school organization in the second week of September, due to changes in enrollment over the summer.

Aberfoyle Staff spend hours outside of instructional time composing classes. They consider who students work best with, friendships, student conflicts, the classroom environment and community, behavioural needs, interests and several other factors. Students were asked to provide a 'friend list' to help teachers place students with at least one friend they requested. This ensures that while the students may not get their first friend choice, each student is placed in a class with at least one of their preferred friends. When a student is placed in the higher grade of a combined class (ex. Grade 5 going into a 4/5), it is not because they are academically low, nor are they placed in there if they are academically strong and are in the lower grade. Academic strength is not a driving factor in these decisions. Every class needs, and will have, a wide variety of learners who are at different levels in it. This is the reality of our school system and provides opportunities for different levels of discourse, consolidation, and extension. Teachers always meet students where they're at in their learning. Here at Aberfoyle, teachers do a great job of providing strong academic programming and do not teach students with a one-size-fits-all approach.

With very few exceptions, students will find out which class they are in right before Labour Day weekend. We will send out a welcome email that day that details information for the first day of school. Because so much thought and deliberation has been done to make the classes and moves affect multiple people, it is very, very rare that students are switched into another class after the first day of school.

SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSURE

Please be aware that the school office will be **CLOSED** as of **Friday June 28 at 3pm**, and it will **re-open Monday August 26th at 1pm**. You are welcome to leave email messages during the summer closure, however, please understand that messages will not be retrieved until the afternoon of August 26. Our school has renovations occurring over the summer and no school staff will be onsite after June 28th.

BELL TIMES

Next year, we will still begin at 8:30 am and end at 2:50 pm.

8:30	Morning Bell
8:30-9:20	Period 1
9:20-10:10	Period 2

10:10-10:50	Morning Break & Recess
10:50-11:40	Period 3
11:40-12:30	Period 4
12:30-1:10	Lunch Break and Recess
1:10-2:00	Period 5
2:00-2:50	Period 6
2:50	Dismissal Bell

TRANSPORTATION

If you do not plan on having your child ride the bus in the Fall of 2024, please contact the transportation consortium. All opt-out status' are carried forward, so if your child did not ride the bus this year but will be next year, you will need to connect with them as well. Their website is <https://stwdsts.ca/> and can be contacted at 519-824-4119.

Optimist Club Canada Day Saturday, July 1

Canada Day starts with a full breakfast of bacon eggs pancakes with real Maple syrup along with Canada Day cake. There will be a kid's area with bouncy castles and other activities. Morning activities run from 9 til 11. At dusk there will be a fantastic fireworks display. All the action is at the Community Centre and there is no charge.

SUGGESTED SUPPLIES

Every year families ask what their children should bring to school. Please see the suggestions below. Indoor shoes and headphones (in the upper grades) are very important. If you are unable to provide those two items, please let your classroom teacher know. All other items are helpful but certainly not essential.

Kindergarten	Primary - grade 1-3	Junior - grade 4-6	Intermediate - grade 7-8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Headphones ● Indoor Shoes suitable for gym (Velcro Please) ● Reusable Water bottle ● Labelled Bag of "Oops" Clothing ● Large Backpack ● Lunch Bag ● Containers that are easily opened by your child <p>*Our Kindergarten Classes are always in need of additional sidewalk chalk, white board markers, glue sticks, play-doh and Crayola markers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Headphone/earbuds ● Indoor shoes suitable for gym ● Sharpened pencils ● Pencil sharpener ● Pack of sharpened pencil crayons ● Pack of crayons ● Pack of markers ● Large glue stick ● Pair of scissors ● Erasers ● <u>Pencil case that holds all of the above materials!</u> ● Small whiteboard & dry erase markers ● Backpack ● Water bottle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Headphone/earbuds (essential) ● mouse ● Indoor shoes suitable for gym ● calculator ● Sharpened pencils ● Pencil sharpener ● Pack of sharpened pencil crayons ● Pack of markers ● Large glue sticks ● Pair of scissors ● Erasers ● <u>Pencil case that holds all of the above materials!</u> ● Small whiteboard & dry erase markers ● Backpack ● Water bottle 	<p>Calculator (does not need to be scientific)</p> <p>pencils/erasers</p> <p>2 or 3 -1.5 inch binders</p> <p>Pencil crayons/markers</p> <p>Highlighters</p> <p>Post it notes</p> <p>Scissors</p> <p>Glue sticks</p> <p>A book to read for the first week of school</p> <p>Indoor shoes suitable for gym</p> <p>water bottle</p>