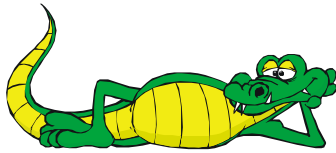


ALMA NEWS



February 2015

Alma Public School, 12 Simpson St E. Box 118, Alma, ON N0B 1A0

Principal – Mr. Andy Hill

Visit our WEBSITE: <http://www.ugdsb.on.ca/AlmaPS/>

Principal's Message

Where in the world did January go? I can hardly believe we are into our second month of 2015 already! The children have been doing exceptionally well this year, they have been having fun and learning lots of new and exciting things. One of the things that makes this school such a wonderful place to be is the many parent volunteers we have helping out in various roles in the school. Thank you so much for your efforts enhancing the school experience for our kids. As a mid-year reminder, please remember that school is open on “no bus” days and if it is safe to do so, you can always drop off at 8:30 and pick up your child at 3:30. If a bus is not running in the morning it will not run in the afternoon, even if the weather clears up. As another reminder, please try to get your child to school on time in the mornings as much as possible. Children who chronically arrive late unintentionally disrupt the learning of their classmates. It would be nice to minimize this situation as much as possible. The February Council meeting has been moved to the 4th at 6:30 pm, why not consider coming out and joining this fun group? As a last reminder please feel free to call me or pop in for a visit if you ever have any questions, concerns or ideas to share.

Mr. H.

Around the School

During the past month, students have been involved in many and varied ongoing academic and social learning activities:

- Scientists in the Classroom
- Primary & Junior Reading Tutoring (Thanks to Shannon Pegg)
- Student Leadership Opportunities:
 - Lunch supervision
 - Character education
 - Crossing guards
 - Healthy snack program
 - Environmental incentives
 - Milk distribution
 - Morning announcements

- Office helpers
- Kindergarten helpers
- Composting & recycling

Term 1 Provincial Report Cards



Term 1 Report Cards will arrive home on February 12th. The purpose of the provincial report is to communicate to students and parents students' progress toward meeting the expectations outlined by the Ministry of Education. It is important to us that we help children to recognize their strengths and learning styles and to understand the areas in which they need to improve so that they can set reasonable goals for themselves.

When the report comes home, the following suggestions may be helpful:

- ✓ Take time to sit with your child(ren) and look over the report together
- ✓ Focus on the learning skills and work habits
- ✓ Focus on the comments for each subject area and talk about your child's strengths and areas needing improvement, and suggestions for next steps

Thanks for taking time to fill in the response portion of the report card and sending it back to the school, along with the report card envelope to be re-used for Term 2.

family day

February 16th

There will be no school on this day. We hope you have a great day with your family.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for the School Year 2015 – 2016 will take place during the week of February 2 – 6, 2015. If you know of a child in your neighbourhood that does not have an older sibling at school, please pass this information on to them.

Legion Public Speaking Contest

The public speaking contest will be held at the Elora Legion on Saturday, February 21, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. For more information you can call the Elora Legion.

School Safety Check

Please continue to help keep our school safe:

- ✓ Call the office if your child will be absent and, **if they are ill please say that** as we have to report to Public Health daily.
- ✓ As the weather worsens, ensure your child has appropriate clothing, and for the little ones, you may consider sending extra clothing should they need to change (i.e. mittens, socks).
- ✓ **Thanks to the many parents who are picking up their children in the front foyer.** This has reduced the number of people in the main hallway where students line up for buses at the end of each day.
- ✓ **Bus Zone** – This area must be kept clear between 8:10 – 8:30 a.m. and again between 3:40 – 4:00 p.m. We do not want to have an unfortunate accident occur.
- ✓ **NEVER drive into the school parking lot, or out of the school parking lot when there are children boarding busses. PLEASE , SAFETY is PARAMOUNT where our children are concerned.**
- ✓ For our walkers, who have to cross County Rd 7, we continue to encourage that you use the crossing guard. This is in place for the safety of all!!

Bus Cancellation Days

On a day when the buses are cancelled and the school remains open, all walkers can come to school if parents feel it is safe to walk, or if parents decide it's safe to drive them. **We need the parents of the students who walk** to call the school if their child is not going to be at school (sick, unsafe to walk).

When buses are not running, we do not need a call from parents who have children who are bused because we know why your child(ren) are away. If you're driving your regularly bused students to school, remember to pick them up at the end of the school day (3:30 p.m.). Once buses are cancelled in the morning, they do not run in the afternoon.

Thanks so much for helping us with our efforts with safe arrival for all students.



Announcements will be made on the following radio stations in the event of bus cancellations and/or school closure: 1460 CJOY AM - Guelph, 106.1 Magic FM - Guelph, Oldies 1090, 99.1 FM CBC, 105.3 Kool FM, 570 AM, and 96.7 FM CHYM.

CKCO TV will also announce bus cancellation and parents can check the Alma Public School website (site at top of this newsletter) for bus cancellations and on the Board website under Transportation.



RMC – Battery Recycling Challenge Update

Just a reminder, the grade 4/5 class has organized and entered Alma Public School in an Ontario wide challenge!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p style="text-align: center;">FEBRUARY 2015</p>						
1	2 Kindergarten Registration Week	3 Dental Screening JK/SK & Gr.2	4 Council Mtg. 6:30 p.m.	5 Gr. 6 – to Marden Centre	6	7
8	9	10	11 Gr. 3&4 Linamar Production Harriston Meat Orders Go Home	12 Reports Go Home	13 Scientist In School Gr. 5	14 
15	16 Family Day	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 Lunch Order Go Home Meat Orders Due	24 Scientists in School Grade 4 Linamar Prod. Grade 1 & 2	25	26	27	28