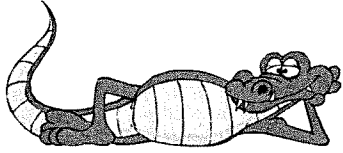


ALMA NEWS



December 2017

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

I can't believe I am already writing my December message! This Fall seemed to go by incredibly fast likely due to all of the fun and exciting things going on here at Alma Public School. Being an active partner in your child's education is a sure fire way to success. Please mark off on your calendar December 19th which is the night of our Christmas Concert! The kids are already starting to practice and I know it will be a wonderful event for everyone that can come. The last day of school for students is Friday December 22nd and we will return on January 8th. I hope everyone will have a chance to visit with family and friends over the break, I know I'm personally looking forward to spending some quality time with my family. As I bring this message to a close, I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!



New School App

There is a fantastic school App available now for download in your App store. If you search Upper Grand District School Board you will find the new App. Once downloaded to your phone you can select Alma P.S. and you are off to the races! You will instantly be able to view announcements, newsletters, calendar and even transportation notifications. I hope you will find it helpful!

Around the School

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

- Remembrance Day Service
- Fundraisers - Thanks to the School Council and parents
- D.A.R.E. Program for grade 5/6 (Drugs Abuse Resistance Education)
- Progress Reports & Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Student Leadership Opportunities:
 - Lunch supervision
 - Character education

Kindergarten Registration



The ***new online registration process*** is new this year. Kindergarten registration will begin on January 9, 2018 and run until January 19, 2018. Once you have registered online you will need to come to the school with a birth certificate, proof of address and immunization record. A computer will be set up and available if you wish to register online at the school. www.udgsb.ca/kindergarten

Merry Christmas



Christmas Program - December 19th

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. – Book Fair in Library (Mrs. Woodland will have the Book Fair set up in the Library)

7:00 - 8:00 p.m. – Program in the Gym



Lost & Found

Our lost and found has many clothing items!! We will display the lost items during the week of December 18 - 22 . All items that are left will be taken to a community thrift shop.

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 **3:30 – 4:00 p.m.** **We do not want to have an unfortunate accident occur.**
- ✓ 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.

New You may also wish to follow bus transportation on twitter STWDSTS

Spaghetti Lunch - December 21st



Our Parent School Council will be providing a Spaghetti Lunch for the entire school once again this year! This will occur on December 21st. If you would like to donate some of the food items or help that day please call Laura Freeman at 519-591-5179. Thanks for helping out in any way you can! List of items needed are in this newsletter.

Remember to pack a plate/bowl, spoon/fork, in a plastic bag for your child to carry his/her items between home and school.



Once again this year we will be setting up our Christmas Tree. All donations that come in will be sent to the Centre Wellington Food Bank. This year we are asking that you send canned goods or non-perishable food items in and not the mittens or hats.

Alma Optimist Santa Claus Parade - Sunday, December 17, 2017 beginning at 2 o'clock.



Choir Sings at the Guelph Storm Game – December 8th

Our School Choir will sing ‘O Canada’ at the game on Friday December 8th. Thanks to Mrs. Hons and Mrs. Morton for all the work they do with our choir.

Dance-a-thon - Friday December 15th

On December 15th we will be having a fantastic time here at Alma P.S. We will be dancing the afternoon away to promote fun and fitness (and hopefully raise a little bit of money while we are at it). From 11:45 – 12:45 the Primary kids will be in the gym and from 2 – 3 the Junior kids will take the dance floor – feel free to join in if you’re up to the challenge! Everyone will participate whether or not they can raise any money or not. We are hoping for a minimum donation of \$2.00 but will gladly accept more if you can raise it! Thanks for your support!!!

*** All proceeds will go to new playground equipment for the kids to enjoy***

Feedback welcome on draft board policies

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

Policy 317 – Fees for Learning Materials and Activities

This policy is important to students, staff, school councils and parents because every student is entitled to participate in the regular day school program, and to successfully complete core courses leading to graduation, without the payment of fees for learning materials, supplies, activities, and textbooks.

You are invited to review the draft documents and submit online feedback at www.ugdsb.ca/board/policy. The deadline for public input is December 28, 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.

The Alma Optimist Club

Presents

Breakfast with Santa



Sunday, December 17th, 2017

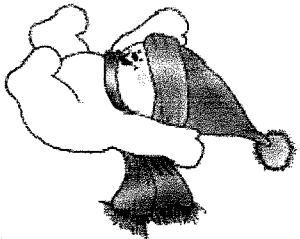
At The Alma Community Centre

Pancakes served from 8:30-10:30am

Santa visiting 9:00-9:30am, bring your camera for photos!

Admission by cash donation is greatly appreciated!

Connect with the Alma Optimist Club on Facebook for updates and more information on this event!



ALMA OPTIMIST SWIM PROGRAM

Celebrate the Winter Holiday

Spend WEDNESDAY afternoon with your friends

JANUARY 3rd 2018

@CENTRE WELLINGTON POOL

The bus will leave Alma St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

@ 1:30 and return @ 4:15

COST \$1.00 PER PERSON

Please keep in mind children under EIGHT yrs. Of age MUST BE accompanied by an ADULT for supervision

For further information: Please contact Jacobus (Coach Jim) 519-846-5124