



## Arthur Public School

155 Conestoga Street North

PO Box 148

Arthur, ON N0G 1A0

Phone: (519) 848-3793 Fax: (519) 848-5994

Principal: Marni Barrow Vice Principal: Barb Tomkins

### Principal's Message

As we watch the leaves change colour and slowly fall to the ground, we are reminded of how wonderful it is to live in a safe and caring community. November is the month when we remember those who have fought and continue to fight for our freedom. On November 11, we remember what others have sacrificed so we may live in a country of peace. Taking time to reflect on the true meaning of freedom helps us to appreciate how fortunate we are at Arthur Public School. We sometimes forget the important things and the people in our lives as our days become busy. At times we may take things for granted like our freedom, our community, and our friends.

At school we continue to use our character traits to focus on the importance of being a good friend, accepting others for who they are regardless of any differences and always using kind words. For the past couple of months the staff and students have been embedding our character education into classroom practices. More specifically, we have been working on how to accept others. During the month of November, we will focus on how to show RESPECT. If you could walk down the halls later this month you would see many "Messages of Respect" posted on the tree branches that illustrate specific examples of showing respect. Thank you to Ms. Forsey for creating our tree for all our Patriots to add their leaf to a branch.

It truly is amazing to watch and observe our students adjust and follow the COVID style expectations. It is clear that our students understand the importance of what needs to be done to keep themselves and others safe during these challenging times. On behalf of the staff at Arthur PS we would like to thank all our parents and guardians for supporting the children with understanding and following the many safety procedures. What a TEAM! As the students continue to adjust to the routines they have been able to find ways to be creative in their learning as well as during recess times. They have adjusted to their assigned outdoor space and are able to engage in many activities with their classmates. At Arthur PS we strive to include others, be respectful, be safe and have fun! Keep up the great work Patriots!

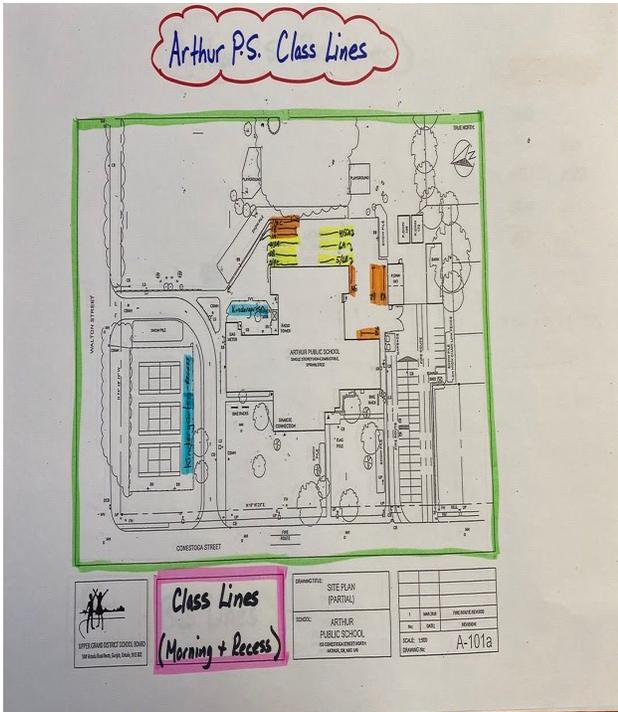
Ms. Barrow

Principal

Ms. Tomkins

Vice Principal

## APS New Procedures Covid Style

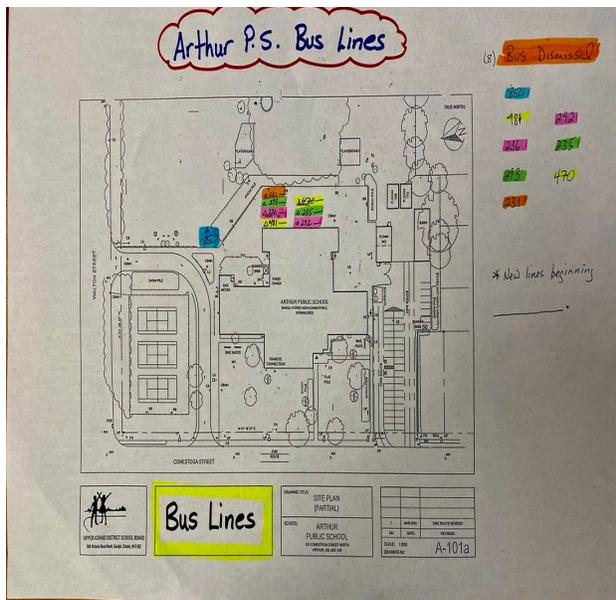


### Morning/Recess Entry Procedures:

With the colder weather and eventually snow, we will be moving our class lines for the morning and recess times to the tarmac area. Please see the map for winter locations. We will continue to have our Greeters in the morning to help with our lines, entry and hand sanitizing. With the colder weather upon us we will be sanitizing upon entering the school once students have taken off their mitts at the door. The coat hooks will be used to store winter clothing during the day when not outside. Please work with your child in preparation of this change to ensure that they keep all their belongings neat and tidy. As well, we ask that parents label all their child's belongings as we do not have a lost and found area. There should not be anything left on the hooks at the end of the day.

**Recess Procedures:** Students are now required to wear their mask from the classroom to outside. They may still take it off outside but must remember to stay 6 feet apart. To help with the mask wearing transition, the school and our school council have purchased a lanyard for every student. Our school council has arranged to have our school colours incorporated into each lanyard. We would like to thank our school council for their quick action to help support this change to keeping our students safe. From all the students and staff "THANK YOU to our SCHOOL COUNCIL"

### Dismissal Procedures:



**Primary Classes:** We will be transitioning to walking our primary students outside closer to bell time. Bus students will be dropped off at the bus line and walkers are dismissed at the bell.

**Junior/Intermediate Classes:** We will transition to dismissing students from classrooms or outdoors at the bell. Students will be instructed to go directly to their bus line or walk home/meet parents immediately at the bell.

**Progress Reports:** Progress reports will be sent home on November 19<sup>th</sup>. Please take time to discuss your child's strengths, next steps and goal setting for term one. After these reports go home, there will be an opportunity for a virtual parent/teacher interview. This is time for parents to connect with teachers early in the school year to discuss how their child(ren) is progressing and what you can do at home to support your child's learning. Parent/Teacher interviews will take place the evening of November 26 and all day on November 27. Parents/Guardians will need to sign up for an interview time. The instructions and timelines for booking an interview will be coming home with your child's progress report on November 16. Booking an interview time is time sensitive so please make sure you follow the instructions provided.

**Allergy Reminder:** We have children in the school with extreme allergies. Several students in our school suffer from allergic reactions to nuts and eggs. The allergy for some of these children is so severe that it could be life threatening. These students are aware of their allergies and are beginning to know to avoid certain products. All of our staff have been made aware of this situation and have been instructed in the correct procedures regarding anaphylactic shock. We are working to educate the children in every classroom about allergies. However, prevention is the best approach, please be advised that we can never guarantee a completely safe environment.

Thank you in advance, for helping us to make our school a safe environment for all students and staff. We sincerely appreciate your assistance in being aware of life threatening allergies in our school.

**Electronic Equipment:** Thank you for ensuring that electronic equipment (Ipods, gameboys, cell phones, etc.) are not brought to school. We recognize that electronics can be used as an excellent learning tool and will be incorporated into learning programs. When technology is being used for classroom learning outcomes, teachers will provide the students with specific instructions and guidelines for their use at school. Technology is not to be used at nutrition breaks, in the halls, washrooms or outside at recess. The reason for this rule is to ensure student safety and to encourage physical activity at recess time and imaginary and organized play with friends and classmates. Thank you for your continued support.

**Library Books:** Our school library is searching for many books that were signed out last school year prior to March Break. If all of our families could take time to look around the house for any library books, we would appreciate getting them back into our library circulation for all of our students to access. Thank you for taking the time to search and return our library books.

**The Arthur Food Bank** is open for families within our community that may require support during these difficult times. We are open on Tuesdays from 10am to noon for families to pick up food. We are located at 146 George St in Arthur. Please contact us by email at [arthurfoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:arthurfoodbank@gmail.com) to set up an appointment to pick up food or to Register if you are a new client. Thank you ,The Arthur Food Bank Committee 519-848-3272



