

# **Arthur Public School**

155 Conestoga Street North PO Box 148 Arthur, ON NOG 1A0 Phone: (519) 848-3793 Fax: (519) 848-5994 Principal: Marni Barrow Vice Principal: Anneke McCabe

Principal's Message:

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year! At APS we look forward to re-establishing our teaching and learning relationships with your child(ren) and providing them with many learning challenges and extra-curricular opportunities. We would also like to welcome new members to our school community. Working together with parents, community members, staff and students will contribute to a positive elementary learning experience where all students can achieve success.

We continue to pride ourselves with our Character Education focus on the following traits: (Acceptance, Respect, Teamwork, Honesty, Uniqueness, Responsibility) to demonstrate positive character and a safe and inclusive environment. As we begin the school year, some common goals are:

- setting high academic and behaviour expectations
- maintaining a positive school climate
- parental/community involvement

We would like to thank Ms.Callaway and Ms. Jensen, our amazing custodial team for all their hard work over the summer to clean and organize the school in preparation for our school year! You can show your appreciation of their hard work by encouraging your child(ren) to do their part to help keep our school and playground clean and free from garbage.

We would also like to acknowledge the staff for their extra time and commitment they have put into getting their classrooms and our school ready for the new school year. Throughout the summer many teachers were engaged in planning programs for their students. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated collaborative team of professionals at Arthur Public School.

Through the staffing process, APS welcomes a number of new staff to the team this year. Please join me in welcoming the following new staff members to Arthur: Ms.McCabe (VP), Olivia Pritcher (teacher), Sarah Connor (LTO Teacher), Lorrie Wren (ECE), and Andrea Schneider (EA).

We are very pleased to have these individuals join the APS team!

We would like to thank parents for actively getting involved in your child's education. We look forward to your continued involvement and support be it by volunteering, attending school functions or participating on the School Council.

Ms. Barrow Principal Ms. McCabe Vice Principal Mrs. Brunkard Office Coordinator

# We are the Arthur Patriots!

**Accepting**...accept yourself and others for both your similarities and differences.

*Respectful*...show respect for individuals and school property.

*Teamwork*...work together towards a better community. *Honesty*...be true to yourself and others.

Unique...celebrate each other.

**Responsibility**...be responsible for yourself and your actions.

## **Our School Day**

9:00 am - School Starts 9:00 am - 10:40 am Instructional Time 10:40 am - 11:20 am Nutrition Break 11:20 am - 1:00 pm Instructional Time 1:00 pm - 1:40 pm Nutrition Break 1:40 pm - 3:20 pm Instructional Time 3:20 pm - Dismissal (Office hours are from 8:30am to 4:00pm)





#### FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL PLAN

The following locations have been designated to help students find their class on the first day of school: When the bell rings.....9:00 am

Kindergarten Students - report directly to the Kdg rooms

Grade 1 Primary tarmac area

Grades 2-3 - Primary Field

Grades 4-6 - Report to the tarmac area

Grades 7-8 - Report to the tarmac

Inclement Weather Plan:

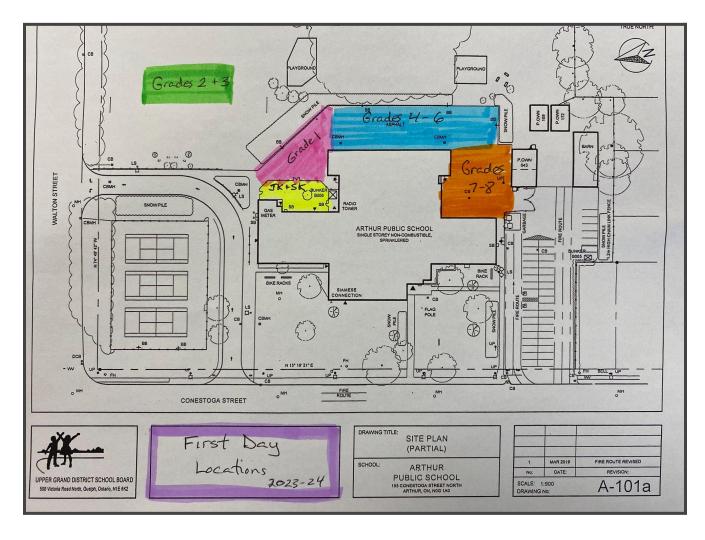
Kindergarten Students - report directly to the Kdg rooms

Grades 1-3 - report to Primary Hallway

Grades 4-6 - report to Junior Hallway

Grades 7-8 - report to Intermediate

Dismissal is at 3:20 pm and teachers will lead their students outside.



**School Organizations:** Schools have built class lists based on their tentative organizations. If changes are necessary in order for our Board to remain compliant with Ministry parameters, changes will be communicated and implemented by Monday, September 18th. There will be no changes to student placements unless required by the Upper Grand District School Staffing Committee.

September 2023 Elementary School Organizations Schools have built class lists based on their tentative organizations. Changes may be necessary at your child(ren)'s school in order that our Board remains 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 of Education Parameters**

- 1. Full Day Kindergarten Class Size Average for the Board is 26 students
- 2. 90% of Full Day Kindergarten classes with 29 or fewer students
- 3. 10% of Full Day Kindergarten classes with up to 32 students, under certain circumstances
- 4. 90% of the Board's primary classes with 20 or fewer students
- 5. 10% of the Board's primary classes up to a maximum of 23 students
- 6. Grade 3/4 classes have a cap of 23 students
- 7. Junior/Intermediate Class Size Average for the Board is 24.5 students

**Snack Program:** We are fortunate to have once again received funding to make available a healthy snack at nutrition break times for students that may need a little extra brain food. Arthur Public School is very appreciative of the many volunteers that help to organize and prepare the snacks for each day.

**Safety at APS:** In an effort to keep our school safe, if parents/guardians need to come to the school, they are asked to enter using the front doors and check in at the office. For safety reasons, it is important that we know who is in the school at all times.

**First Week Packages:** Important information will be sent home the first week of school. These packages will include information you need to read over, complete, sign and return to the school in a timely manner. A sheet will come home that lists all of the contact information we have for your child, read it carefully, sign and return it to the school. If you require information to be updated include it on the form when you return it.



**Video Surveillance Cameras:** As an added security measure, Arthur P.S. does have video cameras inside and outside of the school. Cameras are not installed in areas where students, staff and authorized visitors have high expectations for privacy including change rooms, washrooms and staff rooms. Information obtained through video surveillance provides us with an additional way to enhance the protection of students, staff, the public and property. Should you have any questions, please refer to the Board's Video Surveillance Policy on the board website.

Pizza Days: Watch for information coming home soon in regards to "Pizza Days".

**Allergies:** While schools cannot create an allergen-free environment, the Upper Grand District School Board expects its schools to be "allergy-safe". Providing a safe learning environment depends on the cooperation of all members of the school community, parents, staff and students to prevent allergic reactions which may be life threatening. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in providing a safe environment for everyone.

**Life Threatening Conditions:** If your child has a Life Threatening Condition please click this link for important information. It is imperative we have the most up to date information, this needs to be updated annually. <u>Student Life Threatening Condition-Important Information</u>

**Medication:** If your child requires medication while at school a new form must be completed, even if you completed one last year, it is required annually. Please use this link Form 509-1 Consent for Administration of Oral Medication All medication must be in it's original container.

**Safe Arrival:** To ensure the safe arrival of all our students we need to hear from parents if your child(ren) are going to be absent, every student needs to be accounted for each day. Please remember to contact the office at **519-848-3793** to inform us if your child(ren) is going to be absent from school.

**End of Day Procedure:** Dismissal at the end of the day is very busy. If there is a change to your child(ren) end of day procedure please notify the office prior to 2:30pm, please provide the name of their homeroom teacher and where your child(ren) will meet you. If we do not receive notification from parents, we would expect your child to go home as per their usual routine.



**Drop off/Pick Up:** If your child(ren) are late to school or are leaving school early they must do so through the front doors of the school and be signed in/out at the office. The front doors of our school are open and parents should come into the school office to sign their child(ren) out if they are leaving prior to our dismissal time of 3:20.

**Emergency Procedures at APS:** Each year we take time to practice emergency procedures in the event that an emergency were to occur we would know what to do. You may hear your children talking about the following emergency drill over the next few weeks.

- Fire Drills
- Tornado Drill
- Lockdown Drills

**Volunteers:** Please remember that there has been a change to the UGDSB Volunteer Policy. All volunteers working within the school, including attending field trips must have a Vulnerable Sector Police Records Check. Criminal Record Checks, including Vulnerable Sector Checks can only be applied for online at the Ontario Provincial Police site: <u>https://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=147</u>

**Bikes and Scooters** may be used to travel to and from school. When students arrive at school, they must walk their bike or scooter on school property and park them at the bike racks. (no skateboards, hoverboards, wheely shoes, etc. are permitted at school)

Toys from Home: We ask that students leave personal toys at home.

**Gaga Ball:** The Gaga Ball Pits await the return of our students. This was an exciting game in June and we can't wait to pick up where we left off. The APS recess rules will be shared with students again as we transition back to another school year.

#### **Expectations for students:**

- no food or drinks on the yard
- play safely, fairly and appropriately
- use appropriate language
- avoid any physical contact games or activities
- share playground equipment with others
- leave the stones and sticks on the ground
- respect our neighbours and stay safe by staying out of the tree line
- line up quickly when the bell rings
- respect the environment



Safety at play is a priority at APS, and students will be reminded on a regular basis about the playground rules/expectations. We hope that you will reinforce them at home with your child(ren).

#### **Bus Expectations:**

- Stay seated
- Face forward
- Quiet voices
- No eating or drinking
- Respect your driver and each other
- Walk to and from your bus in a line



• Please go go STWDSTS.ca to view your child's bus schedule, subscribe to bus delays/cancellations notifications, opt out of eligible transportation

**Technology:** At APS, technology is used for school learning purposes and it is used only under the direct supervision of your teacher. Technology (this includes cell phones) are not to be used at nutrition breaks (this means outside on the yard or in the classroom).

#### Mark your calendars.....

**School Council:** Our first school council meeting will be held at Arthur P.S. on Thursday, **September 14, 2023** from 6:30-7:30 pm. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend.

**Professional Development Day:** There is a PD day, on Monday, September 18, 2023. There is no school for students and the APS staff will engage in professional learning. The link below is an outline of our learning focus.

### September 18, 2023 PD Day Outline For Posting/Distribution

**Meet the Staff Night:** On **Thursday, September 21, 2023** from 5:30-7:00, Arthur P.S. invite all our families to "Meet the Staff Night" right here at the school. Join us for some fun activities and time to visit your child(ren)'s classroom(s) and meet their teachers.

**Picture Day:** All students at APS are asked to bring their SMILE for a school picture that is scheduled for **September 29th**, **2023**.

**Rowan's Law Day:** "Rowan's Law legislation was passed by the Ontario Government in 2018. This legislation is named in memory of Rowan Stringer who tragically died in 2013 of Second Impact Syndrome, the result of suffering multiple concussion playing rugby three times in six days. The legislation is designed to create a safer environment for competitive amateur athletes, children and youth to play sport." All UGDSB staff and students are invited to **wear purple on September 27, 2023** to support concussion awareness.

**Orange Shirt Day:** Orange Shirt Day was created as an opportunity to discuss the effects of residential schools and their legacy. It honours the experiences of Indigenous Peoples, celebrates resilience and affirms a commitment that every child matters. All UGDSB staff and students will be invited to **wear Orange** in recognition of residential school children.

#### Communication

- Google classroom
- School Website/Messenger

Please remember to check our school website and calendar at <u>www.ugdsb.ca/Arthur</u> frequently for school wide events and information. Upper Grand District School Board:

Below is the link to the UGDSB school operation guide.

https://www.ugdsb.ca/blog/back-to-school-2023-24-school-operations-and-health-and-s afety-information

ELEMENTARY School Year Calendar 2023-24																											
Upp District	Lege	Ministry - Approved   Legend: H - Statutory P - Professional B- Board Designated   Holidav Activity Dav Holidav   Last Day 10 months employees : June 28, 2024   *1st day back to School for Students - September 5th, 2023																									
Month		15	t We	ek			2nd Week				3rd Week					4th Week					5th Week					# of Instruc- tional	# of PA Days
	м	т	w	т	F	м	т	w	т	F	м	т	w	т	F	м	т	w	т	F	м	т	w	т	F		
August 2023		1	2	3	4	7 H	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31		0	0
September 2023					1	4 H	5 *	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18 <b>P</b>	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	18	1
October 2023	2	3	4	5	6	9 H	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27 P	30	31				20	1
November 2023			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24 P	27	28	29	30		21	1
December 2023					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25 <b>B</b>	26 <b>B</b>	27 B	28 <b>B</b>	29 <b>B</b>	16	0
January 2024	1 B	2 B	з В	4 B	5 <b>B</b>	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26 P	29	30	31			17	1
February 2024				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19 H	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29		20	0
March 2024					1	4	5	6	7	8	11 B	12 B	13 B	14 B	15 B	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29 H	15	0
April 2024	1 H	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19 P	22	23	24	25	26	29	30				20	1
May 2024			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20 H	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	31	22	0
June 2024	3	4	5	6	7 P	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28 P						18	2
July 2024	1 H	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31			0	0
																							Tot	tals		187	7



P - denotes System Wide PA Day