



## Arthur Public School

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Principal: Marni Barrow Vice Principal: Anneke McCabe

### Principal's Message

Following the winter break, staff spent time reviewing school and class expectations to assist all students with transitioning back into the daily routines at school. It's important for all our students to clearly understand what is expected of them at school in order for them to be able to set goals and challenge themselves to be the best that they can be. Part of this learning includes a continued school wide focus on kindness. The month of February celebrates a school board-wide Pink Shirt Day, kindness, and Black Heritage, Black Brilliance and Futures Month. Pictured here is a bulletin board that was created by our Student Government in the school front foyer.



### Wintery Weather



Unpredictable weather has certainly been a topic of discussion. Once again the ever-changing weather patterns always seem to create some challenges on our playground. As a result, we ask parents to encourage and support their child(ren) to dress appropriately for the weather. Students need to be prepared to go outside at recess times; therefore, it is necessary that students come to school with warm clothes such as a hat, mitts, coat, snow pants, boots, and even extra clothes

as some students do get wet and muddy from time to time. With the rain and sleet we have experienced this winter, the playground conditions can be very slippery. Therefore, we ask parents to help reinforce at home the importance of staying off any ice and engage in safe play.

As term one has concluded, we remind parents that first term report cards will be sent home on February 15th. Please take time to celebrate the areas of success and discuss a plan to support your child with working towards his/her next steps for improvement. As well, we ask that parents use page four of the report card to record what your child has improved upon, and how you will help your child to continuously improve. If you would like to discuss your child's report card with the teacher, please check the appropriate box on page four.



### **Student Absences**

It is important to notify the school if your child(ren) are not attending school, including no bus days. You can leave a message on our attendance line 24/7 anytime 519-848-3793. For our safe arrival program we need to confirm every child's absence, if we have not heard from the parent or guardian. On no bus days we have to confirm every student's absence, that does not take a bus. As you can imagine this relates to a lot of calls especially on no bus days.

### **Extra-curricular Clubs and Sportsmanship**

Teachers and staff have been supporting continued learning about sportsmanship at APS. The students have expressed how much they enjoy playing sports together. Our intermediate students are busy participating in volleyball at nutrition break times. This time has been beneficial for any intermediate student wishing to improve their skills, play with friends and have some laughs. Some of our junior students are trying out for the school floor hockey team! Many of our junior students are participating in playing indoor soccer with a focus on sportsmanship. There is something for





everyone, as Chess continues in the library during lunch with Ms. Haddock and Mr. Makxam.



**Music Flare:** VP McCabe has been busy bringing music to life at APS. Our junior and intermediate students are demonstrating their excitement as they learn to play the Ukulele and the Guitar. Students are asked to listen carefully to the morning announcements as Choir groups are going to begin soon. We look forward to hearing all the beautiful voices! Special thank you to the UGDSB Specialist High Skills Major program for funding our 15 beautiful Epiphone guitars.

### **You're The Chef** 🧑🍳

Our Intermediate classes have been enjoying making and eating their food creations! Mme. Butchart has organized "You're The Chef" for the Intermediate classes as part of a fun way to engage with French. This program is a collaborative bilingual literacy program, which we hope will give our students an opportunity to develop food and cooking knowledge, skills, and confidence. Equipment has been provided through the UGDSB Experiential Learning, and partial funds and recipes have been provided by Public Health. Given the increase in food costs, donations to support the program are welcome. All donations can be made through cash online January 15-February 29, 2024 or by dropping off a foodland gift card at the school office.

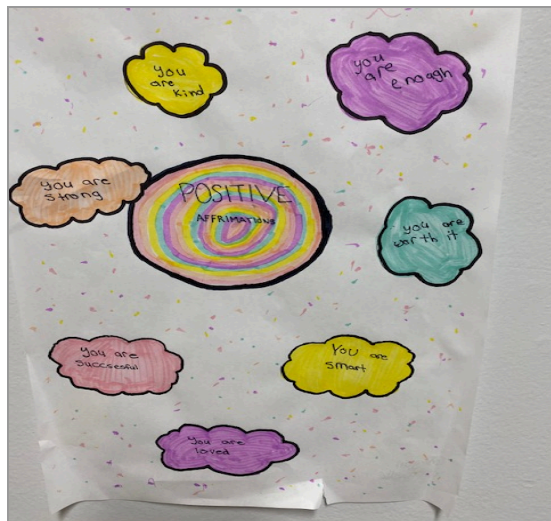


## February-Black Heritage, Black Brilliance, Black Futures Month

Black Heritage, Black Brilliance, Black Futures Month exists to remind us of all of the rich contributions within our society from people of African and Caribbean descent, and of their ongoing struggle for equity and social justice. It has been celebrated in Canada since the 1950s and is an opportunity for Canadians, like you and me, to recognize significant contributions Blacks have made to the life of Canada in education, medicine, art, culture, public service, politics, etc. Black Heritage, Black Brilliance, Black Futures Month is a chance for us to understand the role that the Black community has played in our history.

Every year Canadians are invited to take part in the festivities and events that honour the legacy of Black Canadians, past and present, during Black Heritage, Black Brilliance, Black Futures Month. This is a time to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians who, throughout history, have done so much to make Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate and prosperous nation we know today. It is also an opportunity for the majority of Canadians to learn about the experiences of Black Canadians in our society, and the vital role this community has played throughout our shared history.

### Student Government Message



During the month of February, our Student Government will be spending time communicating the following important days of significance:

- Feb 12<sup>th</sup> is Chinese New year. Dress in red and gold or anything with a dragon since it is the year of the dragon. ( Chinese new year is actually the 10<sup>th</sup> but it is a weekend).
- Feb 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> is kindness week. Dress in red, white and pink.
- February 14<sup>th</sup> Valentines Day
- February 28<sup>th</sup> Pink shirt day

## **Live Free Day March 1st! Beach Day and Smoothies:)**

The Children's Foundation are working hard to meet the growing need in our community, and that includes fighting food insecurity through our Help Kids Live Free from Hunger campaign. 100% of the funds raised between February 8<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup> will go towards providing healthy **snacks** to students through our **APS** Food & Friends student nutrition program. With your help, we can continue to provide healthy **snacks** for our school community.

This year, the need is greater than ever. 1 in 5 children may experience food insecurity, and with rising food prices a healthy Food & Friends meal can cost up to \$2.50.

Campaigns like [Live Free](#) help us continue to meet the growing need within our school community and ensure those most in need feel supported. Please refer to our [schoolcashionline](#) to donate to our school's nutrition program. You can also [Click here to donate](#) to make a donation to our school's Live Free campaign through the Children's Foundation, if you would like a tax receipt for donations of \$20 or more. Please remember to select our school from the drop-down list so that your donation will be directed to our school's nutrition program.

Our highly valued APS snack program is available to all students! Maybe they forgot their lunch or are going through a growth spurt and require additional food, or maybe they would like to try the new food we are offering. For whatever reason, there is always food available to our students, so please encourage them to use the program if they would like to.

## **What is APS doing for Live Free Day on March 1st?**

On March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 Arthur Public School will engage with Live Free by having a Beach Day theme and sell **smoothies as a fundraiser**. Smoothies are available for pre-order through **school cash online from February 8th – February 28th, 2024**. **Storm ticket prizes** will be drawn after the Family Day Weekend! We thank you for your continued support of our snack program.

## **Wellington North Community Groups**

Please see Quick Links on our school website to link to <https://www.wellington-north.com/community/community-groups>. Here you will find information such as Arthur Minor Ball 2024 Ball Registration is open! We are offering teams for both Softball and Baseball(Hardball). Please check out our registration page to get registered and for more information. [www.arthurminorball.ca](http://www.arthurminorball.ca)