



September 2023 Newsletter

# A A Wright Public School

**Mr. S. Bacik, Principal**

**Mrs. A. Blanchard, Secretary**

**Lambton Kent District School Board: <http://www.lkdsb.net>**

**AA Wright Public School: <https://www.lkdsb.net/school/aawright/>**

**Office Phone-519-627- 2581**

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**School Bus Zone – Zone 5**

## WELCOME

Welcome back to our returning students and to our new Wildcats! We are looking forward to an exciting 2023-2024 school year! We are excited to be returning to our regular school year without interruptions and we appreciate your patience, support and flexibility as we enter this year.

We would like to welcome our new staff members: Ms. Willmore, Ms. Thompson, Mrs. Sands-Gamble, Ms. Hope, Mrs. O'Neil, Mrs. Chauvin and Ms. Ripley. Welcome to the Wildcat family!

School staff have been very busy preparing for the new school year. Our school looks great and we would like to thank the custodial staff for all their hard work making AWW look so fantastic!

## STAFF DIRECTORY

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Principal    | Mr. Bacik   |
| Secretary    | Mrs. Blanchard  |
| FDK          | Mrs. Dramnitzke   |
| FDK          | Mrs. Keskeny  |
| Grade 1      | Mrs. Dobbelaar  |
| Grade 1/2    | Mrs. Lilley   |
| Grade 2/3    | Mrs. Dittmer  |
| Grade 3      | Mrs. Gallerno   |
| Grade 3/4    | Mrs. Berry  |
| Grade 4      | Mrs. Campbell   |
| Grade 4/5    | Ms. Willmore  |
| Grade 5/6    | Mrs. Thompson   |
| Grade 6      | Mrs. Oliveira   |
| Ojibwe Class | Mrs. Sands-Gamble   |
| French       | Mrs. Burns and Ms. Hope   |
| Prep         | Mr. Braithwaite and Mrs. O'Neil                                       |
| Resource     | Mrs. Pharazyn   |
| ECE          | Mrs. Gardiner and Mrs. Chauvin  |
| EA's         | Mrs. Pelletier, Mrs. Mills, Mrs. McKillican, Mrs. Cadotte, Ms. Ripley |
| Custodian    | Mrs. Christian, Mrs. Smith and Mr. Yott                               |

## BELL TIMES AND SAFE ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL

8:55 a.m.: School Arrival/Outdoor Supervision Begins  
9:10 a.m.: School Start Time  
11:30 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.: AM Nutrition Break and Recess (Staggered by grade)  
1:50 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.: PM Nutrition Break and Recess (Staggered by grade)  
3:30 p.m.: Dismissal

## WE ARE GROWING

Our numbers are climbing and our classrooms are at max capacity. There is always a chance that if these numbers continue to climb we may have to reorganize our classroom compliments if another classroom is added. Please understand that we will do our best to ensure the minimum amount of moves but some may be necessary to ensure our classroom numbers meet the Ministry of Education guidelines.

## SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

### Holidays

|                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Monday, October 9, 2023   | THANKSGIVING         |
| Monday, December 25, 2023 | WINTER HOLIDAY BREAK |
| Monday, January 8, 2024   | RETURN TO SCHOOL     |
| Monday, February 19, 2024 | FAMILY DAY           |
| March 11-15, 2024         | MARCH BREAK          |
| Friday, March 29, 2024    | GOOD FRIDAY          |
| Monday, April 1, 2024     | EASTER MONDAY        |
| Monday, May 20, 2024      | VICTORIA DAY         |
| Thursday June 27, 2024    | LAST DAY OF SCHOOL   |

### Professional Development Days

Friday, September 15, 2023  
Friday, October 6, 2023  
Friday, November 17, 2023  
Friday, February 2, 2024  
Friday April 26, 2024  
Friday, June 7, 2024  
Friday, June 28, 2024

## DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Students who walk to school or get dropped off **must not arrive before 8:55 a.m.** as they will not be allowed on the yard unsupervised in the morning or after the bell. Parents are not permitted on the school yard after 8:55 a.m. Please remind your children to cross only at crosswalks or intersections. For the safety of our bus students, please do not park in the bus loading area on the north side of the building. Parking is available on the front (east side) and the back (west side) of the building. When leaving your car to pick up/drop off students, please park in the parking area, turn off your vehicle, and take your keys. Please remember that students **must be picked up at 3:30 pm** as there is no supervision on the yard after this time. Please note that changes to your child's departure at the end of the day should be messaged to the classroom teacher before 3:00 pm. The office is extremely busy between 3:00 pm and 3:30 PM and getting messages through the office may be difficult at this time.

## MEET THE STAFF NIGHT, THURSDAY OCTOBER 5<sup>TH</sup> 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Save the date! Meet the Staff Night will be Thursday October 5<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm. Families will have the opportunity to meet with our staff this evening. More details will be sent out closer to the event.

## WILDCAT SPIRIT WEAR – COMING SOON

We are currently setting up an online ordering system for Wildcat Spirit wear. We will send out a school wide messenger to your email very soon outlining the details for ordering Wildcat Swag. Families will be able to order at anytime during the school year and orders will be shipped to your house.

## COMMUNICATION:

### **Home and School Communication**

*Communication between home and school is key to your child's success. If you ever have concerns or questions, please speak directly to your child's teacher. If any concerns remain, please contact the school administrator as soon as possible. Do not think that you have to postpone concerns you have until Parent/Teacher interview time in November. Please contact us sooner rather than later.*

### **AAW Newsletter**

*In an effort to be more environmentally responsible, AAW will be looking for ways to reduce the amount of paper used throughout the year. One way to support this is to decrease the number of school newsletters and forms printed on paper. All issues of the school newsletter will be available electronically through the school website: <https://www.lkdsb.net/school/aawright/Pages/default.aspx#/=> and through a School Messenger email that will be sent to you. If you are not receiving these emails please contact the office*

### **Emails and Phone Numbers**

*It is essential that we are made aware of any contact information changes in case there is an emergency at school. It is extremely important that we have a current email for each family. As phone numbers and emails may change over the course of the year, please remember to let Mrs. Blanchard know so that we can update our files.*

### **AAW Facebook and Twitter**

*AA Wright Public School is still on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Follow us to receive updates about upcoming events, reminders, and photos of our students working hard at school. We can be found on Facebook: [facebook.com/aawright](https://www.facebook.com/aawright) and Twitter: @aawright.*

### **AAW Messenger**

*School-wide messages will be sent through an email system called "Messenger". This system does **not** require you to sign up to receive these messages. We simply require a current email for your family and messages will be sent to this email throughout the school year. Please make sure that your current email is on the verification registration form that will be sent home the first week for your signature. Each individual homeroom will use their own form of electronic communication, which is typically SeeSaw or Google Classroom. If you are not receiving messages to your email, please contact the office to update your email address.*

## SCHOOL CASH ON-LINE

We encourage all parents to sign up for School Cash Online to help eliminate the exchange and handling of money. School Cash Online is a convenient, web-based solution that gives parents/guardians the ability to pay for student items online. Further information about School Cash Online is available on our school website <http://wheatley.lkdsb.net>. If you require assistance signing up for School Cash On-Line, please call Mrs. Blanchard at the front office.

## VERIFICATION FORMS AND APPENDIX B

The Verification and Appendix B (Anti-Spam Legislation) forms will be sent home the first week of school. Please make any corrections to these forms and please ensure that there is an up to date email and return them to your homeroom teacher. This will ensure that we have accurate student information on file.

## LUNCHES AND SNACK PROGRAM

Please try to pack reusable containers and a garbage-less lunch, to help minimize garbage and recyclable items. Please note that we do not have a lunch program for students. We do however offer a grab-and-go snack program at AAW. This program will be up and running as soon as we get our supplies. Supplemental, healthy snacks will be available during the day for students as prepared and served by our gracious volunteers.

## NUT AWARE

Please remember that AAW is a NUT FREE school. Students may not bring any nuts, peanut butter, or nut products (including Nutella and Wow Butter) to school. Please make sure to read all labels before packing your child's lunch. We have several children with severe allergies to a variety of nuts and it is important that we ensure their safety while they are at school. We appreciate your co-operation and support with this.

## MEDICATION & MEDICAL EMERGENCY PLANS

Specific criteria must be met for staff to administer prescriptive medication when it cannot be administered from home. An "Authorization for the Administration of Medication" form (available from office), must be completed by the parent/guardian and physician, and then forwarded to the Principal for each school year. This includes the administration of occasional use medications as well. Whenever the physician directs a modification of the prescribed medication the process is repeated. Should your child have a medical need (such as a severe allergy that requires an Epi Pen, or Asthma that requires them to carry an inhaler, or Epilepsy) that requires special emergency attention please inform the school and an "Prevalent Medical Conditions Plan" will be put in place. The forms for this purpose are available in the office.

## PARENT COUNCIL

We are always looking for new parents to join us at our Parent Council meetings. If you have any interest in being a part of this team, please contact the school. Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday September 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm, in the AA Wright Public School Learning Commons. We can also accommodate for parents who are only able to meet virtually. Please contact the office if you are interested in joining.

## LINK TO COMMUNITY SUPPORT RESOURCES

To assist families with some community support resources, AAW has created a document with links to various organizations in the Wallaceburg and surrounding area. Please click on the following link to access the document:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/11AP\\_Vlv-wTBN5h0aQwN\\_ueTmhGEE9UNYskV9ZTOewEQ/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/11AP_Vlv-wTBN5h0aQwN_ueTmhGEE9UNYskV9ZTOewEQ/edit?usp=sharing)

## VTRA

The LKDSB is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students, staff, school visitors, and community members. When a student behaves inappropriately, principals will most often employ progressive discipline strategies to help a student take responsibility for their actions, learn from their mistakes, and make better choices in the future. In more extreme cases however, when a student's behaviour poses a potential threat to their own or others' well-being, the Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol (VTRA) supports principals in taking further steps to safeguard everyone. More information involving the VTRA protocol can be found on the LKDSB website.

## Events at the School:

### **Orange Shirt Day**

Friday Sept 29<sup>th</sup> is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day to honour the survivors of residential schools, as well as the children and young people who never returned home. We encouraged staff and students to wear orange on this day to promote learning and understanding about the residential school system and its impact on First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people and communities. Students will also be participating in activities throughout the day. Don't forget that every Thursday is orange shirt day at AAW as well.

### **Terry Fox Run/Walk**

We will be participating in the Terry Fox Run/Walk at the school again. It will take place on Thursday October 5<sup>th</sup> during our last block. Students will walk/run around the school area with their class. This day will also be "Superhero Day," and/or Red Day. Students are encouraged to dress as their favourite Superhero or dress in red to honour Terry. For the month of September we are encouraging students to bring in a "Toonie 4 Terry." For every Toonie a student brings in for Terry, they will receive a ballot for gift card. Students will also receive a special treat in the afternoon for participating in this event.

### **Fall Picture Day**

Thursday October 26<sup>th</sup> is Fall Picture Day for Grades JK to 6. More information will be sent home shortly regarding Fall Picture Day. Picture retake day will be Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Special Food Days, Milk and Popcorn**

Special Food Days and Milk/Popcorn sales will continue again this year. Stay tuned for further details and communication regarding these days and sales in the near future

### **Important Dates in October:**

- 5 Terry Fox Run
- 5 Meet the Staff Night 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
- 6 PA Day
- 9 Thanksgiving
- 26 Fall Picture Day

**Work Hard. Be Kind. Be the Example!**