

ALEXANDER PUBLIC SCHOOL

GATOR GAZETTE

SEPTEMBER 2018

WELCOME TO ANOTHER GREAT SCHOOL YEAR AT ALEXANDER PUBLIC SCHOOL.

WE HOPE YOU HAD RESTFUL SUMMER AND YOU ARE READY TO TACKLE WHAT PROMISES TO BE AN OUTSTANDING YEAR. WE WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME ALL OF OUR NEW FAMILIES TO THE GATOR COMMUNITY.

Each student has received a copy of Rainbow Schools handbook, a document published by the Rainbow District School Board. This handbook contains a wealth of information regarding programs and services offered, as well as a board directory with contact numbers and Board policies. Please keep these documents for reference all year. We thank you for ensuring you return the enclosed parent/guardian consent forms pertaining to publicity releases and school council.

PUFFERS EPI PENS AND MEDS

For the Safety of all children in the school, it is required that parents inform the school if their child has an allergy or suffers from asthma.

If your child needs to take medication please contact the school to get the forms that need to be completed by your physician.

Any over the counter medication needs to be sent to the office with a note from the parents with detailed information indicating the dose and time the child needs to take the medication.

If your child has any life threatening allergies it is important to meet with the principal to discuss a plan of action to ensure the safety of your child.

Working together will help us ensure the safety of all children in the school.

STUDENT ABSENCES

Please call the school when your child will be late or absent. You may leave a message on the answering machine. 705-675-5961

DATES IN SEPTEMBER

Sept. 5	First day of school
Sept. 13	Open House 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM
Sept. 17	School Council Meeting at 6:00 PM staff room upstairs
Sept. 17	Gr. 8 parents ski trip info night at 5:00 PM in Mr. Leblanc's classroom
Sept. 28	PD Day No school for students
Oct 2	Picture Day

EXCURSIONS AND FIELD TRIPS

Please make sure to thoroughly complete your child's "Excursion Form" each time one is sent home. If your child does not return the "Excursion Form" by the day of the excursion, or if the form is incomplete, your child will be excused from the class trip and welcomed into another classroom until his/her classmates return. Teachers and the Administrative Assistant are very busy in the mornings and do not have time to contact parents. We thank you for your understanding in this matter.

THE GATOR GAZETTE

A monthly newsletter will be posted on the school and classroom website. Our Newsletter is available on-line at: [http:// www.rainbow.edu.on.ca/ele/alexander](http://www.rainbow.edu.on.ca/ele/alexander)

Please view the school website for newsletters, school policies and to access your child's classroom website.

Please save this site to your favorites and check the first week of every month.

VISITOR TAGS

In order to maintain maximum safety for your child, and all the children at Alexander PS, we ask that all parents report to the office for a visitors tag when it is urgent to circulate in the school hallways. We want students to identify those that belong in the building and those that don't.

Prior to entering a classroom please make sure you have a scheduled appointment. Teachers are busy getting ready for their day or teaching. Parents are asked to say good-bye to their child at the school entrance door. It is important that your child gets settled in quickly in order for the teacher to start teaching. Every minute is precious.

ALLERGEN SAFE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT "NUT SAFE SCHOOLS"

We have a number of students who have a life threatening allergy to peanuts and all types of nuts. We ask that you keep our students safe by not sending food with peanuts/nuts or warnings "may contain nuts" on the labels. Thank you for helping to keep these children's world safe.

Please refer to the brochure sent home by the Rainbow District School Board for "nut free" lunch and snack ideas.

Parents with students with anaphylactic reactions please make sure you notify the classroom teacher and set up an appointment to meet with the principal.

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ALEXANDER IS A HEALTHY SCHOOL

We promote healthy eating. We also want to ensure the safety of all students regarding food. Please contact the classroom teacher prior to sending food to share with the students. We only welcome veggie and fruit platters for special occasions. We thank parents for helping students make healthy choices.

PARKING

Please make sure not to park in the bus loading zone area or in front of people's driveways.

Student pick up at the end of the day will remain at the lower playground on the corner of St-Nicholas and Edmund St.

ALEXANDER OPEN HOUSE

Alexander's Open House will be held on September 13th from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM. More information to come.

5:00 – 5:30 – Meet the teacher
5:30 – 5:45 Gym Gathering
5:45 – 6:30 Pizza in the school yard

2018-2019 ALEXANDER STAFF

K1	Mme Mastroianni / Mme Cote
K2	Mme Preen / Mme Labelle
K3	Mme Beaudry
Grade 1	Mme St. Pierre
Grade 1/ 2	Mme Beaulieu-Quenneville
Grade 2	Mlle O'Hara
Grade 2 /3	Mme Bassis-Lazure
Grade 3	Mme Pepin-Seccaspina
Grade 4	Mme Laframboise
Grade 5	Mme DiMarco
Grade 6	Mme Gianfrancesco
Grade 7-8 FI	Mme Spadafore
Grade 7-8 English	Mr. Leblanc
Phys Ed/Prep	Mme Hanson
Music/Prep	Mme Gemmell
Music/Prep	Mme Horton
Spec Ed/Library	Mme Koskela
Custodian	Mr Trotttier
Library Clerk	Mme Heikkila
Admin. Assistant	Mme Piazza
Principal	Mme Goodmurphy

CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENTS

Our student enrolment is changing on a daily basis. Your child could be changing classes or your child's class can go from a straight grade to a split or vice- versa. We have to respect the Ministry's primary grade cap of 20 students and 15 or 29 in kindergarten.

Students can be reassigned to different classes up until Oct 31st. We appreciate your patience and understanding in this matter.

ASTHMA- FRIENDLY SCHOOLS

Many children have asthma.

Some asthma attacks can be life threatening. Rainbow District School Board staff receive asthma education and training on recognizing triggers and symptoms.

Please contact your school Principal as soon as possible.

If you are a parent/guardian of a child with asthma, we need your co-operation in providing the school with current medical information and in developing a plan with your child's Principal to protect your child.

Please also contact the Sudbury Student Services Consortium at 705.521.1234 and inform your child's bus driver of your child's condition.

Students under 16 years of age who have parental permission are permitted to carry their own asthma medication with them at school.

Students 16 years of age and older do not require parental permission.

ST DONAT SKI TRIP

The dates have been set! Grade 8 students will be going to St Donat, Quebec from Feb 24 to Feb 28th.

We invite all parents to join us at the St Donat meeting in Mr. Leblanc's classroom on Monday Sept 17 at 5 PM. A deposit of \$100 is due by September 14, 2018.

ALEXANDER PUBLIC SCHOOL GATOR GAZETTE SEPTEMBER 2018

ALEXANDER PS SCHOOL COUNCIL WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

LOOKING FOR A CONNECTION TO THE SCHOOL?
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HELPING A CHILD READ
OR HELPING WITH OUR HOT DOG DAYS?

A CHANCE TO MEET OTHER PARENTS?

AN OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE ISSUES?

DO YOU HAVE IDEAS FOR SCHOOL
IMPROVEMENTS?

JOIN THE SCHOOL COUNCIL WHEN WE MEET IN THE
STAFF ROOM UPSTAIRS IN THE SCHOOL FROM 6:00
PM -7:00 PM

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2018 WHERE WE WILL BE LOOKING
FOR MEMBERS TO TAKE ON THE ROLES OF CHAIR,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

ALL VOLUNTEERS WORKING WITH CHILDREN ARE
REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A VALID POLICE CHECK.
OUR SCHOOL COUNCIL WOULD BE PLEASED TO
RE-IMBURSE THIS FEE, UPON REQUEST.

A WORD ABOUT BEARS

While bear sightings are not uncommon at this time of the
year, there has been an increase in bear incidents. As a
result, we are taking precautions to ensure that our
children remain safe.

Garbage will be stored and secured so bears are not
attracted to school grounds.

Staff will scan the schoolyard for bears before and during
nutrition breaks.

Students will remain indoors or return indoors if there is a
bear on school property.

We remind students to not take shortcuts through the
bush when walking to and from school. We also
encourage students to walk together and ask that
parents/guardians reinforce these messages with their
children.

As always, we will continue to be vigilant about bear
sightings near our school and will notify the Ministry of
Natural Resources and Greater Sudbury Police Service,
as needed.

The safety of our students is our first and foremost priority.

For more information on how to prevent encounters with
bears, visit <http://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/report-bear-problem-bear-wise>

PIANO LESSONS

While nurturing a love of music and developing creativity,
did you know that studying music also makes you
smarter? Neuroscientists have demonstrated that
learning to play an instrument leads to the following
changes in a child's brain: stronger connections between
brain regions, more grey matter, better memory and
attention, higher IQ. Private piano lessons (\$18 per ½ hr.)
continue to be offered at Alexander P.S. Application forms
are available at the office. If you have questions, please
contact Joanne Leblanc at (705) 692-0631.

SEASON OF SPORTS – 2018/2019

Cross country - championship third week in October

Slow pitch - Junior co-ed tournaments Sept/Oct
- Intermediate co-ed June

Soccer - Intermediate co-ed Sept/Oct
- Junior co-ed May/June

Volleyball - Intermediate boys and girls
championships early December
- Junior boys and girls championships
early April

Basketball - Intermediate boys and girls
championships Early April
- Junior championship Late Nov early
Dec

Track and Field - Late May, June

Parent volunteers / coaches might be required.

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CROSS COUNTRY

Students in grades 4 to 8 who are interested in cross country running are invited to train with the Alexander P.S. Team on Mondays and Wednesdays after school from 3:15 to 4:00. Parents who are interested may join us. No running experience is necessary. Volunteers are needed for student supervision, attendance, and as course officials during races. The season runs from the beginning of September until the championship race, usually in mid-October.

Please contact Mr. Leblanc (leblann@rscloud.ca) if you can help out or need further information.

ELEMENTARY REPORTING DATES

Progress Report	November 1
Parent Teacher Interviews	November 2
First Term Report Card	February 21
Interviews Requested by Teacher or parent	February 22 to March
Year End Report Card	June 28.

Parents may schedule an interview at any time.

EQAO Assessment -May 27 to 31. Please make sure not to schedule any appointments at that time.

GRADE 8 FUNDRAISER

We hope you have heard the buzz about the Grade 8's fundraising initiative for their trip to St-Donat- Fresh from the Farm! We are so excited to offer a healthy fundraiser that can be educational, exciting and profitable. The students will be selling Ontario-grown fruit and vegetables to our local school community – supporting our local economy and Ontario farmers. The window of time to run the fundraiser is short, September 5- to October, with delivery in November. More details will be sent home the first week of school. Any parents who are interested in volunteering to assist to bundle root vegetables into bags on delivery day should contact Mme Spadafore. Thank you for you supporting an initiative that helps our kids raise funds – in a healthier way!

NOON HOUR SUPERVISORS

We are always looking for temporary noon hour supervisors.

If you are interested in this position, please make an appointment with the office and have an updated police check ready.

Grade 8 Graduation JUNE 26 at 5:30 PM