

ALEXANDER PUBLIC SCHOOL

"THE GATOR GAZETTE"

December 2018

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

To the Alexander School Community may you and your family have a safe Christmas and holiday season. I would like to acknowledge the contribution of staff, parents and students to Alexander PS so far this year, with Bingo, School Council, volunteering in the classroom, sports and excursions.

Walt Disney once said *'You can dream, create, design and build the most wonderful ideas in the world, but it requires people to make the dream a reality'*. At Alexander we appreciate the commitment and support from the staff, parents, students Superintendents, Trustees and the Board.

In 2019 we wish health and happiness to our Alexander families and peace around the world. May your child continue to thrive and enjoy becoming life- long learners. Joyeux Noël et Bonne Année.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

December 18th & 19th Concerts

1st concert Dec 18th – 1:45pm - 3:00pm

2nd concert Dec 19th – 11:45 – 1:00pm

This year's Christmas Concert will be held on Tuesday December 18th from 1:45 PM to 3:00 PM. Please do not park in the bus loading zone. The second concert will be held on Wednesday December 19th from 11:45 AM to 1:00 PM.

Please only attend one concert as our school gym can only accommodate a set number of people. In order to ensure a smooth flow, we respectfully request that you remain for the whole concert and not get up to leave after your child has performed. This can be quite disruptive to the other guests and disappointing to the students performing. Thank you!

BAKE SALE AT THE CONCERT

There will be a pre mixed medley platter of baking available to purchase for \$10 each being sold at the Christmas Concert.

UP AND COMING EVENTS

| | |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| Feb19-22 | Carnaval Week |
| Feb 20 | Report Cards go home |
| Feb. 24-27 | Gr. 8 Quebec trip |
| May 27 –31 | EQAO testing for Grades 3 and 6 |
| June 26 | Grade 8 Graduation |

LET'S KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE

Please note that the bus loading zone in front of the school is a no stopping/no parking area. This includes the opposite side of the street on St. Brendan as well. Parking is available along St. Nicholas, Homewood and neighbouring streets.

Parents are required to drop off or pick up students at the lower playground (at the corner of St. Nicholas and Edmund Street) A teacher will be on duty at entry and dismissal times to greet the students. Although we realize this is not necessarily convenient, these rules will be strictly enforced for **student safety**. Crossing between parked busses is just too dangerous. The By-law officer often visits the site.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

CHRISTMAS DVDS

The concert DVD including classroom footage will be available for purchase at \$15 each. Order forms went home December 7th. Orders are due December 13th in order for the DVDs to be ready to go home by December 21st.

COUNCIL MEETING

Next Council meeting is Feb11th at 6:00 PM. The meeting will be held in the staff room. Please use the side green doors to enter the building. Day Care is provided.

STUDENTS MAKING AFTER SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

All after school arrangements with classmates need to be made the evening before not during class hours. Please provide a note to the classroom teacher explaining the new after school arrangements.

Students will not be able to leave school property with the new arrangements they've made unless they have a note from their parents or guardians. Students will not be allowed to leave the classroom to call parents to seek permission for after school plans. This will ensure the safety and the whereabouts of all of our students.

Please be aware that your child cannot get on a bus other than their own to go home with a friend. Bus drivers are only permitted to carry their regular passengers.

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WINTER WEATHER

Please ensure that your child is properly dressed for outdoor play. Fresh air and active play are required during the day!

The following discretionary guidelines are followed:

- 15 - 20° below - We normally go out for all recesses
- 20 - 25° below - We go out for recess or a shortened recess
- 25 - 30° below - with wind chill factor - Indoor recesses

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of inclement weather listen to the radio for cancellation of buses and classes.

In the interest of the safety and well-being of staff and students, buses will be cancelled when weather conditions warrant such action.

To find out if buses are operating, please listen to the radio. Every attempt will be made to announce bus cancellations on the various radio stations by 7 am.

When buses are cancelled, Rainbow District School Board staff are expected to report to work when it is safe for them to do so. In extreme conditions, there may not be anyone present to receive students upon their arrival. It's important for parents/guardians to note that students will only be admitted to school when a staff member is present. So please listen to the radio in the event of inclement weather. If classes are cancelled, please do not bring your child to school.

If schools are open but buses are cancelled and you drop your child off, please remember that you must pick your child up at the end of the day. For school bus cancellations and school closures, visit rainbowschools.ca and click on Transportation under Highlights.

LICE

Parents are asked to be vigilant and to check their child(ren) at least 3 to 4 times a week. Lice like clean hair. With sporting events occurring and travelling especially over the holidays it is easy to get lice.

If you detect lice on your child, please contact the school. A letter will be sent home to all students in the classroom where lice are detected, including the reading buddies classroom. Please keep your child home until they are nit free.

By working together, we are better able to control lice.

MORNING ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Arrival

Please be aware there is no supervision at the school until 8:35 AM. Children should not be in the playground prior to that time. Parents are asked to register for daycare if they need to bring their child to school before 8:35 AM.

Walkers

At the school bell all walkers must leave school property. There is no supervision for walkers. The supervisors on duty are focusing on the bussing students. If your child misses their bus, you will be contacted. Parents are encouraged to remind their child that it is important not to wander around the school yard, but to stay in their bus line.

End of Day Pick up

All students who get picked up at the end of the day must be picked up at the bottom of the school yard on Edmund St. There is a supervisor on duty. All students not picked up by 3:20 PM will be brought up to the upstairs playground or the office.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS ON CLASS EXCURSIONS

Parent volunteers are very important on our class excursions. Without our volunteers, students would not be able to enjoy hands on learning activities outside their classroom.

Our volunteers play an important role ensuring the safety and wellbeing of the students in their group. In order to maintain this, siblings/other children are asked NOT to be included on the class trip, as parent volunteers need to focus on the children in their group. Bringing other siblings or children could interfere with the safety of the other children.

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ALEXANDER PUBLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL FUNDRAISER

Basket Boulevard

Alexander School Council will be hosting a Basket Boulevard Silent Auction school fundraiser at the Holiday Concerts December 18th and 19th. We are asking students/families to donate basket items based on their class theme for the months of November and December. On **Monday, December 10th**, we will collect these items and arrange them in a large basket or bin and those attending the concerts will have the opportunity to bid on each basket (there will be 14 baskets in total).

Here are the basket themes for each class:

K1: Pina Mastoianni (Joséé Coté):

Relax/rejuvenation/spa

K2: Stephanie Preen (Lisette Labelle): Baby

K3: Courtney Beaudry: Lottery tickets/Scratch tickets

Grade 1: Maxine St. Pierre: Lego

Grade 1- 2: Nancy Beaulieu-Quenneville: Movie Night

Grade 2: Kelly O'Hara/Ashley Walker: Reading

Grade 2-3: Stephanie Bassis-Lazure: Picnic/ patio/ bbq

Grade 3: Darlene Pepin-Seccaspina: Coffee/tea

Grade 4: Katie Laframboise: Art supplies

Grade 5: Leanne Denis DiMarco: Sweet treats

Grade 6: Stacey Gianfrancesco: Baking

Grade 7: Stacey Spadafore: Game night

Grade 8: Norm Leblanc: Sports

Merci/Thank you for your support!

VOLLEYBALL

The volleyball season wrapped up this month after a busy season. Congratulations to the Boys who placed 4th in A division. Congratulations to the girls' volleyball teams! Both teams played in the RDSB B division championships. The girls exhibited team spirit throughout the day and persevered through some tough games. It was so nice to see them encourage each other and remain positive. Much progress was made throughout the season and we look forward to building on this year's foundations next year

FARM FRESH

A big MERCI to Alexander Families for once again supporting the Farm Fresh Fundraiser for the Grade 8 trip to St-Donat. A total of \$1466.40 was raised for their trip! Most importantly, fresh healthy food was delivered to our Alexander Community.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Congratulations to the junior girls basketball team who made it into the A pool and brought home the bronze medal against some tough competition!

Great work Kameron, Misaki, Izzy L, Izzy G, Hayden, Kate, Sarah, Lea, Ava and Dahlia! Mille mercis to coaches Andre and Chika.

JR BOYS BASKETBALL

Congratulations to the Junior Boys basketball team on winning silver during the Division B Board Finals. Players include Grant B., Carson C., Jacob H., Ethan O., Sam P., Zeb A., Brady R., Jake M., Lincoln L. and Robbie M. FÉLICITATIONS!!!!

FOOD DRIVE

Alexander Public School will be participating in the annual Edgar Burton Kids helping Kids Food Drive! Food will be collected in homerooms. The food drive will be wrapped up on Monday December 17th and the homeroom with the most points will be rewarded with a healthy activity! Items most needed are canned goods, cereal, pasta and sauce, canned fruits and vegetables, and personal hygiene items.