

PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

We are pleased to welcome all our new and returning families to the 2017-2018 school year! Last year was certainly an exciting and challenging one, with many fun and inclusive activities in our school. We look forward to partnering with you as we provide the best learning opportunities for your child. Staff have been busy setting up classrooms and planning engaging programs for your children. Although all staff took some time to rest and relax, many also engaged in professional development learning opportunities. Personally, I spent a great deal of time resting, practising Yoga and visiting with family and friends. I hope that all of you had some time to enjoy all that the summer has to offer and that our students are ready to get back to learning! We are all looking forward to the exciting days ahead and I am thrilled to be a part of this warm and caring school environment!

We are very pleased to be welcoming new and returning staff. Welcome to our VP Mrs. Coomber, who will be helping in the office until the end of January. This year Ms. Frasson will continue to be with us full-time in the office and Ms. Posavad will be back with us fulltime as well! Included in this newsletter is a complete staff list.

September signals new beginnings and a fresh start! Our Virtues Program continues to be a powerful resource that guides our Character Education teachings. Education plays a vital role in each child's development and a strong partnership between home and school is essential. High expectations in the areas of homework completion, goal setting, attendance, academic achievement, the arts, athletics and citizenship are a focus here at Greenleaf. We encourage each child to be the best that they can be as we support them on this very important journey. We value the strong relationships with our families and community. We know that when a school works together, students benefit greatly. Thank you for partnering with us to support our children. We look forward to seeing you on **Sept. 14, 5:30-7:00pm for AAG Celebrates** (formerly Meet the Staff-see flyer in this newsletter) Staff will be meeting families outside and in classrooms between **6:00-6:30 only**. Greatness Grows at Allan A. Greenleaf!

Our very best wishes for a great year!

Mrs. S. Costa-Popovich & Mrs. R. Coomber



NEWSLETTERS ARE ON-LINE AT ALLAN A. GREENLEAF SCHOOL

As in previous years, we will not be distributing hard copies of newsletters after this one. Each month, during the first week a newsletter will be posted on our school website. Current subscribers do not need to re-subscribe. New subscribers can sign up by going to <http://schools.hwdsb.on.ca/aagreenleaf/> and following the instructions there. We share a great deal of important information and celebrations in our newsletters and receiving an email copy is a very convenient way to ensure that you stay up to date on all that is happening at Allan A. Greenleaf.



SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our school council has their own website at **www.aagschoolcouncil.com** Our first School Council meeting will be held on September 21 at 7:00pm in the library. School Council is a great way to learn about all of the initiatives happening at the school, to contribute to initiatives and offer suggestions to the administration about operations at Allan A. Greenleaf and all parent/guardians are welcome. Parents can nominate themselves by filling out a nomination form, available at the office and returning it to the school **by Sept. 18th**. We are always looking for new people with new ideas to add to our council that works at enriching the school experience for our students. Nomination forms are only completed for parents wishing to be voting members or hold an elected position.



STUDENT FORMS

Each year we must send home a number of forms to be filled out and up-dated for our students. With this newsletter your child has a number of coloured forms that we would ask you to fill out and return to school as soon as possible but not later than Friday of this week. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

The following enclosures must be returned to the class teacher:

- Student Code of Conduct for school buses
- Media consent (photo and internet)
- Emergency School closure
- Student emergency medical/contact information form (for school trips)

The following enclosures are yours to keep at home:

- 2017-2018 Elementary School Calendar
- AAG Celebrates Information Flyer
- School Council Information Flyer

SAFE ARRIVAL/CALL OUT SYSTEM



Please call 905-690-6813 (available 24 hours a day) to advise if your child will be late or absent. In the event that a child is reported absent and we have not received a call to explain the absence, our office administrators will call the primary contact number for parents/guardians to notify them of the unexplained absence. Late students must check in the office before reporting to class in order for us to update our attendance, and secure an admit stamp/slip. Please help your child get to school on time.

MEDICATION

Students who had medical forms filled out for our staff to distribute medication will have to have new forms filled out this year. These forms expire at the end of each school year. Please submit these to the office.



LIFE THREATENING ALLERGIES



While many of us have an allergy of some sort, a significant number of people have severe reactions to food, insect stings or products such as latex that can cause anaphylaxis—a life threatening swelling of the airways that can lead to suffocation. At Greenleaf we have both students and several staff members that have life threatening or severe reactions to one or more allergens. Below is a list of life-threatening allergies: Peanuts, Sesame Seeds, Dairy (milk, cheese, yogurt), Kiwi fruit, Eggs, Oranges, Pineapple, Tree Nuts (walnuts, cashews, almonds, etc.), Mango, Seafood (fish, crab, shrimp, bivalves), Peas. While there is a large range of foods that can cause allergic reactions, peanuts, nuts and dairy products often pose the most significant risk of causing anaphylaxis. Please check with your child's teacher to see if there are significant allergies in the class. Please keep in mind that students spend time in common areas such as our library, the gym, music room and our resource rooms. And, of course, there are the outside areas where all students play. Contact with an allergen on surfaces can be enough to cause a reaction (i.e. some children do not even have to eat a product containing an allergen to have a reaction). Thank you for your support in keeping students and staff safe.

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 14-AAG Celebrates 5:30-7:00pm

September 21-School Council Meeting 7:00pm library

September 22-PA Day-No School

September 29-Student Get Acquainted Day/
Terry Fox Run



TRANSPORTATION



The Board has a very comprehensive Transportation Policy that we at the school are bound by. Any student who is eligible for transportation will have received notification from the bus company during the summer. If you did not receive details about transportation in the mail, your child is not eligible for transportation at this time. If your child received Courtesy Transportation last year you will be required to apply for Courtesy Transportation again this year. Each year we have a different number of available courtesy seats. Application forms for these seats can be picked up at the school office. Our Vice-Principal, Mrs. Coomber, will be assigning these seats throughout the month of September. Parents must make arrangements to transport their children to school until they are notified that there is a seat available for their child. We will not be able to accommodate all requests for Courtesy Transportation as we only have a limited number of seats available to us. Thank you for understanding the limitations of the transportation policy. If you have any questions about transportation please contact Mrs. Coomber.

STUDENT AGENDAS



Each student between the grades 1-8 will receive a student agenda. Our kindergarten children will receive the information pages so that all parents are familiar with policies and procedures. Although the first agenda is free of charge, if a student loses it they will be required to replace it at a cost of \$10.00. The front pages of the agenda outline many operational procedures at Allan A. Greenleaf. We would ask that parents read thorough this section carefully with their child that all are familiar with the contents. FDK students and families will receive these pages as well but not a full agenda. The agenda is a tool used to assist students with organization, and homework completion. Although it can be used to assist with home/school communication, if you have any questions, concerns or information to share with staff, feel free to connect by phone, anytime.

"VIRTUE OF THE MONTH: UNITY

You are practicing **unity** when you look at your prejudices and are willing to let them go. Unity doesn't mean being the same. Just as every leaf on a tree has a unique design, each person on this earth is someone special. When you practice unity, you see the specialness in each person, not as a reason to fight or be scared, but as a gift. Working in unity with others get things done efficiently. Unity is solving conflict peacefully by listening and finding solutions.



I am in unity with others. I appreciate differences. I do not support prejudice. I am a peacemaker. I care for the earth and all living things.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES & FIRE DRILLS



As you may recall from your own days in school, **FIRE DRILLS** are conducted regularly throughout the year to help ensure that students and staff understand clearly, how to respond in the event of a real fire. In addition to these practices, we are now required to practice Emergency Procedures (i.e., shelter in place, hold and secure, and lockdown). **HOLD AND SECURE** is used when the school is secured due to an ongoing situation outside, not related to the school, that requires all persons to remain in the building (e.g., bank robbery near a school). In these instances the school continues to function normally, with the exterior doors locked until the situation is resolved. **LOCKDOWN** procedures are used when there is a violent incident or threat of serious violence within the school, or in relation to the school. The threat is inside the school, or is on school property, and poses an immediate threat to the students and staff. In these instances all movement within school and into and out of the school is restricted. These procedures will be reviewed with students and practiced over the course of the school year. Should your child have any questions or concerns, please reassure them that these practices are intended to help keep everyone safe, and we hope to never need them.

INSTRUCTIONAL TIME

All public schools in the province follow curriculum prescribed by the Ontario Ministry of Education. Curriculum expectations are extensive and at Greenleaf, we aim to protect valuable instructional time. Please note that in order for students to be ready to learn, they must be in the building no later than 9:05 AM. Interruptions to the instructional day are to be limited to emergencies. If you need to communicate to your child's teacher through the day, please send a note in the agenda, or contact the office. If you must take your child out from the school during instructional hours, please sign your child out at the office with the Admin Team. We will then call your child down to the front lobby of the school. Try to minimize the need for dropping off forgotten items and lunches as this too interrupts class time as students need to be called down to office to get these forgotten items.

Thank you for your cooperation in protecting instructional time!



CALLING & VISITING THE SCHOOL

Staff are always willing to talk with you regarding any concerns you may have about your child's education. The best time to make contact is after instructional hours as it is almost impossible for staff to leave their classrooms unattended during the school day. Please also be observant of the fact that schools are very busy places. If you wish to see a teacher or administrator at the school, please call and make an appointment, and we will gladly find the time to meet with you. Dropping in to the school with the expectation that a teacher or administrator is available to meet with you may lead to disappointment if the individual is not available. Also, when visiting the school you are reminded that you must **report to the office and check in with the school Administrative Team. No adults are permitted to interrupt classroom instruction by visiting teachers or dropping off children at the classroom door after the 9:05 bell rings to begin classes for the day.** We thank you in advance for your cooperation with these very important items.



VOLUNTEERS



Thanks to all of you who had the opportunity to volunteer last year. Your support was greatly appreciated. A reminder that new volunteers must be interviewed, provide a Vulnerable Sector Screening Criminal Reference Check (CRC) for review, and that documentation must be completed for each volunteer as outlined in the Policy Directive. All returning volunteers must sign an annual offence declaration and should begin updating their CRC's as the 3 year window closes on their last check. In addition, be aware that even to volunteer for the occasional school trip or driving to games, a CRC is required. Please do not allow these new policies to discourage you from volunteering. We are in great need of volunteers to support all aspects of student life. Grandparents, aunts, uncles are all welcome. Any time you can share is appreciated! Please contact Mrs. Coomber or Ms. Frasson.



Greatness Grows at Allan A. Greenleaf!

curiosity.

creativity.

possibility.

HWDSB

GO GRYPHONS

Another school year is upon us and once again Greenleaf will be busy with Phys. Ed. classes, intramurals and school teams!



During Phys. Ed., all students in K to 8 will be expected to wear proper running shoes to ensure safe and full participation. It is recommended that all students have a pair of indoor running shoes that are kept at school.

Additionally, students in Grades 6 to 8 will be expected to change for Phys. Ed. Shorts or yoga/sweat pants are good options along with a t-shirt. Greenleaf school t-shirts will be available for ordering at AAG Celebrates on Sept. 14 and are an excellent option for Phys. Ed. class.

Our first school teams this year will be 3 Pitch and Cross Country!

3 Pitch

Students in Grades 6 and 7 will be eligible to try out for our Junior 3 pitch teams and students in Grade 8 for the Senior 3 pitch teams. There will be announcements for try out information! 3 pitch consists of practises and a one day tournament (please note these dates are tentative):

Senior Boys	September 18th
Junior Boys	September 19th
Senior Girls	September 20th
Junior Girls	September 21st

Cross Country

Students in Grades 3 to 8 are eligible to participate in Cross Country. Listen to the announcements for information regarding sign up for the Cross Country team. The tentative date for the Cross Country meet for Grades 3 to 8 is October 12th.

All students who try out for a school team are required to fill out and hand in an Athletics Form (to their coach) **BEFORE** the tryout. Thank you in advance for filling these out!

Go Gryphons!

Ms. Marion

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



Each year, teachers volunteer many hours outside of the classroom to support our students. Students will be informed by sponsor teachers when sports, clubs, teams are to commence each term. Permission forms will be sent home with students who are interested in participating.

SCHOOL CASH ON-LINE

Did you know over 300 Allan A. Greenleaf students have already registered for School Cash On-line.



School Cash On-line is an easy to use and safe way to pay for your children's school fees. You can receive electronic notification for upcoming payments, no longer need to send cash or cheques to school, be able to obtain account receipts and have access to your payment history. We will provide you with an account number if you are new to the HWDSB. Look out for details soon. If you are not new to HWDSB, you can use the same pin number which was given to you, for all purchases offered via school cash on-line.

2017-2018 STAFF

Agnes, Nicole-.5 EA
 Anderson, Errol-EA
 Ashworth, Anna-5B
 Barringer, Gavin-8A
 Bell, Leslie-7A
 Bird, Jennifer (LTO)-Pr. LRT
 Blake, Raymond (LTO)-Sr. French 7/8
 Brooks, Doreen-1B
 Brouwers, Meghan-JSC
 Buttenham, Nancy-.5 Prep
 Cifani, Anaabella-EA
 Coomber, Rosemary-Vice Principal
 Costa-Popovich, Susanna-Principal
 D'Eon-Weis, Charlene-Caretaker (pm)
 DiPelino, Christine-Jr. French
 Downer, SariAnne (DECE)-JSC
 Duffield, Joyce-EA
 Dumont, Mike-Music/Art/Drama
 Ficzer, Adrienne-Jr./Int LRT
 Flood, Sherry-EA
 Ford, Kyle-CN
 Frasson, Sue-Office Administrator
 Gaudon, Jennifer-EA
 Greenspoon, Shelley-2A
 Hamilton, Susan-1A
 Heaver, Elaine-4A
 Hunter, Julie-5A
 Jarmuth, Kelly (DECE)-JSA
 Lewis, Deb (LTO)-EA
 Mairinger, Lisa-JSD
 Marion, Tannis-Physed
 McKenzie, Diane/Widdup, Penny-3/4B
 Milner, Jamie-3A
 Petrovic, Sandy-3/4A
 Posavad, Terry-Office Assistant
 Risdon, Niki (DECE)-JSD
 Robinson, Tracey-1/2
 Steinberg, Jan-6A
 Straatsma, Peter-8B
 Stuive, Henke-Caretaker (pm)
 Tilton, Aimee-2/3
 Urfey, Rhonda-6B
 Vernon, Laurie (DECE)-JSB
 Weller, Joy-JSA
 Wickson, Kristi-JSB
 Wijayasingha, Nirogi-Library/Computers
 Zess, Mark-Head Caretaker

