

NEWSLETTER

Aurora Elementary Newsletter

November 2020

Term 2

Registration Due: At Home or At School

You should have received an email with a link to the registration form for Term 2. You must complete this form for each child so that we know if they will be learning from home or at school for Term 2 from November 23-March 19.

Once you have made your choice, it cannot be changed for the rest of the term.

Once your registration form is submitted, it cannot be changed even if the term has not yet begun.

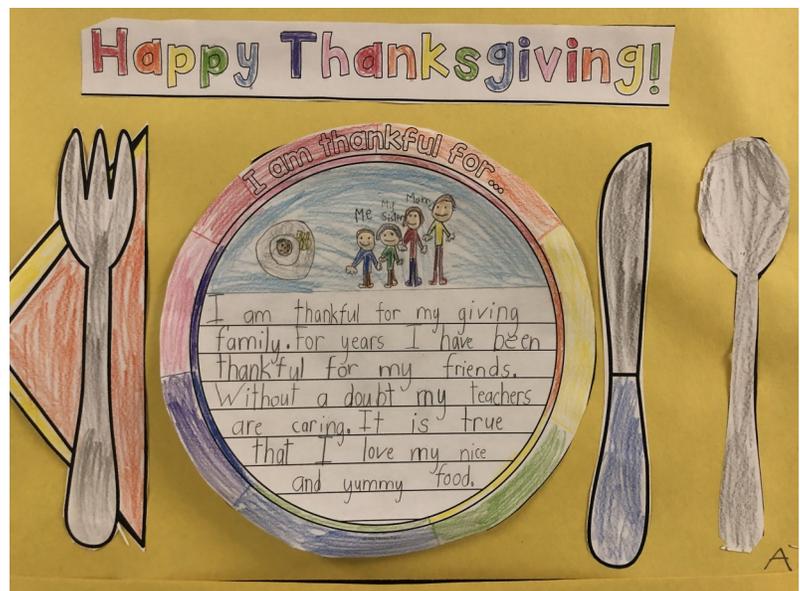
Please think carefully about your choice before submitting your form before the Nov. 6 deadline at 4:00 p.m.

Important Dates

November	4	Policy Meeting Online 4:00 p.m.
	10	Remembrance Day Assembly Online 10:50 a.m.
	11	Remembrance Day (no school)
	19	ADD Day: Pink Shirt Day
	16-20	Bullying Awareness Week
	20	Professional Development Day (no school)
	20	Term 1 Report Card (on-line only at 4:00 p.m.)
	25/ 26	Parent Teacher Interviews Online by appointment only 4:00-7:00 p.m.
	26	Annual General Meeting Online 7:00 p.m.
	27	Day in Lieu (no school)
December	2	School Council Meeting online 6:00 p.m.
	4	ADD Day: Let It Snow (Snowflakes: silver, white, grey, blue)
	17	ADD Day: Holiday Spirit (Red, Green, White)
	18	Professional Development Day (no school)
	21	Holidays start
January	11	School resumes

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Class Quarantine

Alberta Health Services can decide to isolate a class if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19.

1. Class is kept in for recess, etc. while parents are phoned

2. School phones parents

- Estimated Isolation Time—approximately how long they must stay home (AHS will confirm with you)
- Your child cannot go to daycare, school, friends' homes, stores, gatherings, etc.
- You and their family members CAN still go to daycare, schools, work, stores, etc.

3. Bus Students must be picked up at the end of the day

4. Classes will move online with your child's regular teacher

- Day 1: planning day to ensure you can get set up
- Day 2: Online Classes Begin
 - Teachers may send home emergency work or a chrome-book. Please wait for instructions.

What Can You Do to Prepare?

- Do you have a device they can use at home like a chromebook or computer?
- Is your wifi reliable?
- Do you know their school email address and password?
- Have you tried logging on to their Google Classroom account?
- Are your phone number and email correct on Familyzone so we can get ahold of you?
- Do you have a plan for babysitting?
- Do you have an emergency contact who can pick them up from school?

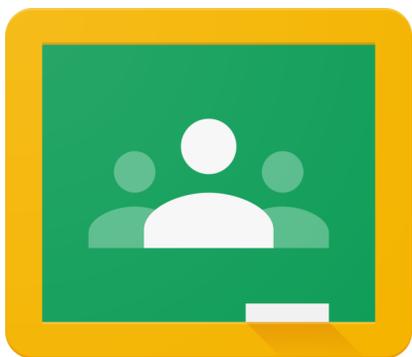
What Does “Isolation” Mean?

Students who are Isolating can **NOT**

- go to daycare
- go to stores
- go to friend/family homes
- go to gatherings

Other family members **CAN** go to work, daycare, school, stores, etc. if your child is not positive.

If someone in your house is COVID POSITIVE, all people must stay home



Check out more information here:

- [Get Started with Classroom](#)
- [Google Classroom Youtube Tutorial for Students and Parents](#)
- [How to submit handwritten work on Google Classroom](#) (youtube tutorial)

Google Classroom

What is it? Why is it amazing?

All students have been invited to join their teacher's Google Classroom through the student's Aurora School email account.

Google Classroom has announcements and classwork that students can use to help complete their homework if they are sick at home or if they forgot their books.

There are also resources for parents, such as the phonogram videos by Ms. Woodman.

REMEMBER—the student must be logged into their school email account to log into google classroom.

National Bullying Awareness Week: November 15-21

What is Bullying?

Bullying is a repeated and hostile or demeaning behaviour intended to cause harm, fear or distress, including psychological harm or harm to a person's reputation. It often involves an imbalance of social or physical power.

Bullying Behaviours

Bullying behaviours are a form of aggression and can be:

- Physical – For example: poking, elbowing, hitting
- Verbal – For example: name calling, insults, racist, sexist or homophobic comments, put-downs or threats
- Social – For example: gossiping, spreading rumours, excluding someone from the group, isolating, ganging up
- Cyber – For example: social or verbal bullying through the use of email, text messages or social media.

Identifying Bullying Behaviour

Below are some warning signs to help identify if a person may be engaging in bullying behaviour:

- Not understanding or caring if someone is hurt
- Unexplained increase of money, clothing or other items
- Boasting about taunting someone
- Passing off teasing as a joke
- Laughing when others get hurt
- Demonstrating aggressive behaviour
- Grouping together with some individuals and intentionally leaving others out (e.g., isolating, shunning)
- Name-calling
- Bullying is the misuse of power intended to harm or humiliate someone else. People of all ages may engage in bullying behaviours.

What Bullying is Not

Bullying behaviour is not the same as hurting someone's feelings if there is no misuse of power or a deliberate intent to cause harm. It is important to support individuals to understand the difference between these behaviours as part of learning how to build healthy relationships.

Bullying behaviour is sometimes confused with conflict. Conflict is a disagreement about different beliefs, ideas, feelings or actions. It is a normal part of healthy relationships. For example, friends may disagree over which movie to see or what game to play. Learning skills to resolve conflict appropriately is very important for building and maintaining positive relationships.

Source: Alberta Education

For more information, visit: <https://education.alberta.ca/bullying-prevention/what-is-bullying/> or phone the 24 hour Bullying Prevention Helpline at 1-888-456-2323 (toll-free in Alberta) for advice and strategies on bullying prevention and building healthy relationships



Bus Drivers Needed

Regular School Route and Occasional Drivers needed for the School Bus Contractor for Aurora Academic Charter School

Pay is \$95 per school day (part-time before & after school); Single & Family Benefits Offered!

Class 1 or 2 drivers preferred. S-Endorsement Required

MELT & S-Endorsement Training provided if required. (must have valid Alberta Driver's License - no Graduated Licenses)

Please send resume to t.gratton@rentalbuslines.ca

Report Cards on Powerschool Nov. 20

The same as last year, report cards are available on-line at 4 p.m. on report card day.

Instead of receiving a printed report card, you will receive a code that you can use to not only view the report card on-line, but all of your child's mark for first term as well. Codes will go home the week before report cards.

We will be posting a "How-To" Guide on our website, as well as e-mailing a link. Our thanks to Mr. Gray for creating this guide!

If you need assistance, don't hesitate to make an appointment or phone for a help session. If you have a child in the Middle School, it is the exact same system—but each child has their own code.

We are here to help if you need anything!.

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Nov 25 & 26

Google Meet or Phone

Watch your email for instructions!

How Do I Access Elementary



<https://www.auroraschool.ca/powerschool-1>

Login with the username and password provided to you by the school.

If you have lost or have not received a username and password, please email your school secretary: nmykytiuk@auroraschool.ca

Phonogram Help

Do you struggle with phonogram homework?

There's an App for that!

Mrs. Woodman has created videos of all the phonograms we teach the children. Look on your child's Google Classroom for these phonics videos if you or your child needs help.

If you are looking for an educational app to keep the kids busy, we have included the links below. They are not the exact same program, but it is similar. You can check it out if you need a little help or are looking for something educational to keep the kids busy.

This is a third-party app that is NOT allied with the school or our Riggs' Phonogram and Spelling Program. Both the website and the App are free!

Our thanks to Mrs. Woodman for creating this amazing extra resource for our students.

Website: <http://phonogrampage.com/>

App: <https://www.allaboutlearningpress.com/phonogram-sounds-app/>

The screenshot displays the 'PHONOGRAM SOUNDS' app interface. At the top, the title 'PHONOGRAM SOUNDS' is centered. Below it, the section 'The Alphabet' lists individual letters in colored boxes: a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, qu, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z. The next section, 'Consonant Teams', lists pairs like ch, ck, dge, gn, kn, ng, nk, ph, sh, tch, th, wh, wr. 'Vowel Teams' includes ai, au, aw, ay, ea, ee, ei, eigh, ew, ey, ie, igh, oa, oe, oi, oo, ou, ough, ow, oy, ui. 'The Sound of /er/' shows er, ir, ur, or, ear, our. 'The Sound of /sh/' shows ci, si, ti, sh. 'Other Phonograms' lists ed, ar, or. At the bottom, there are logos for 'ALL ABOUT Reading' and 'ALL ABOUT Spelling' with a copyright notice for 2006-2014.

School Council and Aurora Fundraising Society Message

We are excited to announce that we have a new Vice President for the Aurora Fundraising Society:

Alison Goddard

Thank you Alison for volunteering we are excited to work with you!

Our November/December meeting will be held on **December 2, 2020 @ 6:00pm**. The meeting will be held through google meets, the link will be located on the Aurora Website under School Council.

<https://www.auroraschool.ca/school-council>

We hope to see you all there!

As parents, we have been asked to make sure that the kids who are attending school come to school wearing clean uniforms everyday. This can be a challenge for some. We have an abundance of different uniform pieces that were left at the school in the lost and found. If you are in need of some uniform pieces, please reach out to School Council and we will see if there is anything that can help!

Fundraising Updates:

We wanted to let you know that we will be removing the Cerebral Palsy bin from behind the school due to safety concerns. We appreciate all of the donations that parents have provided over the years!

We are thinking of some new ways of fundraising that are COVID safe, if you have any ideas please let us know! But we will have updates soon!

Please join our Facebook group for reminders and information that we post, just search
"Aurora School Council" and ask to join!

You can also email us if you have questions or concerns:

schoolcouncil@auroraschool.ca

or

fundraising@auroraschool.ca

Aurora Fundraising Society is excited to announce
a new fundraising initiative
FLIPGIVE!

Flipgive is an easy and effective way to earn funds for our school while purchasing items you actually need and gifts for the holidays! Shop your favourite brands and stores online, through the Flipgive app and in-store and the company donates a percentage of the item price back to the school.

The school will simply get paid whenever you shop, dine out, book hotels, and activities. Shop online or buy eGift cards with popular brands like Amazon, Sport Chek, Indigo, Starbucks, Esso, Superstore, and many more.

Best of all: it's free and easy to use!

How It Works From Your Computer:

- Visit www.flipgive.com/join
- Enter the team invite code: **XWK4X6**
- Select a subgroup: **elementary** or **middle school**
- Create your account: name, email, and password
- Sign up and start shopping!

From your phone:

- Download the mobile app and make purchases through the app for added convenience. Simply search "Flipgive" in your phone's app store - it's free!



Questions or concerns? Please contact fundraising@auroraschool.ca

Thank you for supporting the Aurora Fundraising Society!



November 2, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are happy to inform you that we have assembled a Health Support Team to provide services for referred students who attend our school.

This Team will include a:

Speech-Language Pathologist - Chloe Huygen, an experienced SLP, who worked in this capacity at our school last year.

Occupational Therapist- Michelle Curtis who has many years of OT service and comes highly recommended.

Psychologist- Sarah Gallagher who has experience providing consultative services and counselling and also comes highly recommended.

The School Health Support Team may visit classrooms, work virtually, and collaborate with teaching staff to plan and support all learners. This may include large or small group activities. The school will contact you, followed by a call from a member of this Team, if any follow-up is required for your child/youth. If specific services are required, a Request for Service will be made and your consent will be required.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email Mary Healy at mhealy@auroraschool.ca

Sincerely,

Mary Healy
Elementary Assistant Principal
Student Health Support Team Coordinator

Aurora Health Support Team

What has Changed?

In the past, the Regional Collaborative Service Delivery (RCSD) has provided support services for our students needing additional support such as speech and language, occupational therapy and mental health support. As of June 2020, RCSD has been dismantled and, in response, Aurora School has assembled a Health Support Team to provide these contracted services to students at our school.

Who are the Health Support Team Members?

Aurora School has contracted specialists to work collaboratively with our staff to deliver needed services. All services, if provided on site, will be delivered with Covid Safety precautions in place.

We wish to welcome:

Speech and Language Pathologist -Chloe Huygen



Chloe Huygen worked with our students last year and we are happy that she is back in this role. As a member of the Health Team, the SLP will work with students in speech and language and will liaison with parents to ensure students receive optimum services. She will provide screening for speech/language, treatment and also support teachers through a consultative process.

Occupational Therapist-Michelle Curtis



Michelle Curtis will work with students who require assistance with fine and gross motor skills, organizational skills, and emotional regulation strategies. In addition, she will provide teachers with resources and strategies for individual and universal support in the classroom.

Psychologist- Sarah Gallagher



Sarah Gallagher is experienced in providing counselling support and assessment. She will provide services to referred students with Covid safety precautions in place. She will also be a valuable resource for teachers' professional development throughout the year.

How will students access the services?

Students who may need additional support will be referred by their teachers. If parent/guardian consent is given, the Health Team member will contact the parent/guardian with information about service delivery and the therapy plan. Any questions regarding these services can be directed to Mary Healy, Health Team Service Coordinator. Parents can opt out of services at any time with written notification.

Ms. Harman's Musing

Diligence, Respect, **Cooperation**, Attendance, and Accountability



Jacquie Harman

Principal
Elementary School
jharman@auroraschool.ca

Working Together

As we transition into winter, we are beginning to get used to dealing with cases of COVID-19. Considering the number of cases in the Edmonton community, chances are strong that you may know a friend, family member, or co-worker who has been exposed or is recovering from the virus.



Mary Healy

Assistant Principal
Elementary School
mhealy@auroraschool.ca

The important thing to remember is that we have prepared for this. Having a plan and knowing what to do keeps us safe—that is why we have Fire Drills at school! If your child has any illness, they must stay home from school. If they have fever, sore throat, runny nose, or difficulty breathing, then they must have a negative Covid test or stay home for 10 days. If they are staying home, send us an email and keep us informed—we worry about our little ones and want to help them (and you) through this. Make sure to use their Google Classroom and email the teacher for help and support with school work.

Your child will need to isolate if they have been in contact with someone who tested positive: someone in their family, daycare, etc. Even if they don't have symptoms, they must stay home for 14 days from their last contact with that person. AHS also recommends getting a COVID test.

If we need to isolate the entire class because someone at school tested positive, we will phone you to let you know the next steps. Please read the information in this newsletter for ways to be prepared and what to expect.

We are ready to help families and to support our children in their education and in their mental wellness. We are keeping students safe at school by increased cleaning, disinfecting surfaces, using hand sanitizer and masks, and not sharing items. Our bathrooms are cleaned 7 times a day!

We may have students who get COVID from the community, but our job is to make sure it does not spread at school. As of the date of this newsletter, we have had only 2 cases in the elementary. So far, our protocols have been working well! We ask that you continue to be diligent in staying safe in the community: avoid groups larger than 15 people, stay with 3 cohorts total (1 school, 1 work, only 1 extracurricular), and keep students home when they are sick.

This will be our world for the next year. We know how to stay safe and we are putting our plan into action every day. We are a family and we are prepared for this. Together, we can get through anything.

Aurora Academic Charter School
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Edmonton, AB T5L 1M8

780-454-1855

Email us at: elementary@auroraschool.ca
Visit us on the web at www.auroraschool.ca





COVID-19 does not discriminate.

Coronavirus can infect anyone, of any age.



Share Kindness

We can spread kindness further than the virus. By helping each other, both locally and across the world, we can get through this and build the foundations for recovery. Contact the lonely. Look after each other. And listen to your government's advice on isolation and hygiene.