

Aberdeen Public School

580 Grey Street

London, ON N6B 1H8

<https://aberdeen.tvdsb.ca/en/index.aspx>

Twitter- @AberdeenPS

Check out our Facebook page!



Dyana Squire, Principal

Emma DeVooght, Vice-Principal

Melissa Zellas, Secretary (Temp)

Sheila Builder, Superintendent

J. Skinner, Trustee

(519) 452-8010

Message from the Admin Team

October has been a busy month around Aberdeen! Earlier this month our students participated in the Terry Fox walk where students did laps around our yard in cohorts to raise awareness about cancer. In many classes, the students learned about Terry's journey in his fight against cancer. Money was raised through online donations to support cancer research.

For Thanksgiving, classes were invited to decorate our "thankful" tree outside of the library. It was great to see all of the different things that our students are thankful for each day.

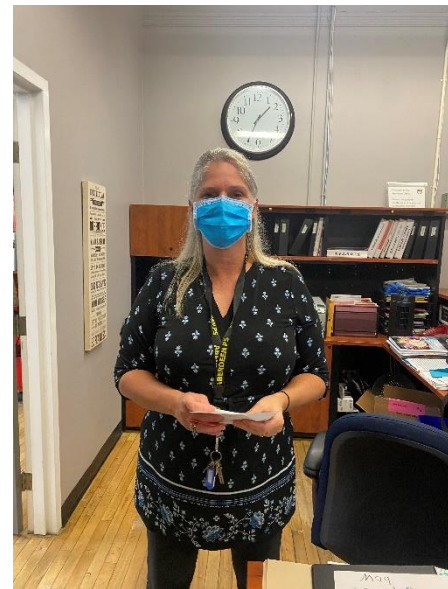


Here is our thankful tree!

On October 20, it was "Take Me Outside" day where teachers did some of their lessons with their classes outside.

Last week (October 18-22) was School Bus Safety week where students learned about ways to stay safe on a bus.

We've also had some changes in the office as, unfortunately, we had to say goodbye to Mrs. Livingstone our school secretary. Mrs. Livingstone accepted a job offer at another school that was closer to her home. We wish her all the best and thank her for all of her hard work at Aberdeen!



Goodbye and Good Luck Mrs. Livingstone!

We welcome Ms. Zellas who is covering the office for us until we have a permanent replacement for Mrs. Livingstone. We also welcome Ms. Hicks, a new Educational Assistant at Aberdeen, who is providing support to some of our students.

Clubs and Sports Update

We have been able to slowly start a return to clubs and activities. Currently, Ms. Pyka has started a library helper club where students help out in the library during recess breaks. We have also been able to start a grade 7/8 cross country team. The cross country team will participate in one meet at the beginning of November where they will compete against other schools. In order to participate in interschool sports this year, students must be fully vaccinated or participate in rapid testing until they have received their second dose of the vaccine. All participants competing against other schools must be fully vaccinated by November 30.



Breakfast Program



We have started a breakfast program that runs from 8:30-8:55 each morning at the back of the school. Students in all grades are welcome to come and grab a bite to eat before school starts.

Mask Update

Please ensure that your child comes to school with a face mask. We have a number of students arriving each day without masks and only have a limited number in the office to hand out. We are running out of larger-sized disposable masks for our older students. We suggest sending a couple of spare masks for students to use when they need to change their masks throughout the day.



As COVID cases increase in schools, the Government of Canada has also revised its recommendations on masks for students. The new recommendations state that Neck gaiters (also known as neck warmers) are no

longer recommended because they are likely to move or slip out of place and are not well secured to the head or ears. They are also difficult to remove without contaminating yourself. Scarves or bandanas are also no longer recommended because they are likely to move or slip out of place and are not well secured to the head or ears. Scarves and bandanas do not cover the nose, mouth, and chin securely without gaps.

COVID Daily Screening

Parents are reminded to ensure that they complete the online daily covid screening for their children before sending them to school. The screening will direct you on whether or not your child can attend school. In most cases, children experiencing the following symptoms will need to stay home (unless there is an alternate diagnosis from a doctor for these symptoms):

- Fever, chills
- Barking, croupy cough
- Shortness of Breath (not related to Asthma)
- Decreasing or loss of taste or smell
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

Be sure to read all of the details on the screening result because in many cases, siblings who are not vaccinated will also need to stay home. We've been fortunate at Aberdeen to not have any positive cases in our building, but we need everyone to follow the screening process to help keep everyone safe.

Halloween

We will be celebrating Halloween on October 29 at Aberdeen. Students are welcome to wear orange and black or dress in a costume if they wish. Please bring a change of clothing as we won't likely be in costumes all day. If your child is wearing a costume, there cannot be any blood/gore or weapons. Students will still need to wear



their face masks with their costumes. We are not responsible for any lost or damaged costumes. Treats can be brought in for class celebrations if parents wish. All treats need to be individually wrapped and pre-packaged from a store. (Sorry, no homemade treats allowed yet.) Please speak to your child's teacher if you have any questions about Halloween celebrations for their class.

Indigo Adopt-a-School Program

We are pleased to announce that we will be receiving **\$2,817.34** in new books for our library as a result of online donations and fundraising by the Indigo store in Cambridge from the Adopt-a-school program. We appreciate all donations from our Aberdeen families and community members. We are truly thankful to Indigo in Cambridge for all of their support too. We will use this money to enhance our library collection with books that focus on diversity and character education.

Kiwanis Donation

We are also very grateful to have received an \$870 gift card for Staples from the Kiwanis Club of London. We will be able to use this gift card to purchase technology and supplies for our classrooms!



A Kiwanis member presents the gift card to Mrs. Squire!

School Council

All parents are welcome to join us at this month's school council meeting. We will be meeting virtually on Thursday, October 28 at 9:30 in the morning. Please use the link below to join the meeting.

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ODk5ZmM1ZDUtNGVmMi00MjlhLThmYmUtYWMyY2YzNDAXZTVl%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%222024c5d6-bed5-4705-98ac-f83e64a78e99%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22c8f0de34-2067-449a-a837-ef3d4d9001fc%22%7d

The School Council is a group of parents in our community who come together with the Admin team to share updates about information that is relevant to our school. Parents can voice concerns, ideas and suggestions for our school. We hope that you will join us!

Lester B. Pearson School Information

Lester B. Pearson School for the Arts has opened the online registration for the 22-23 Selections Workshop. The link to the google form is on our website as well as here:

<https://forms.gle/JR5xaRRKpdWgesN9A>.

Students in Grades 3 - 7, with a passion for the arts, can register to attend our workshop being held virtually, in person or a combination of both (to be determined in February) sometime in March 2022. Students will participate in Music, Visual Art, Dance and Drama at the workshop and be observed and evaluated based on their participation in these areas. The registration to attend the workshop closes in January 2022. The cost this year is \$40 and the link for payment will be emailed to those that register with the Google Form. We offer 56 Grade 3 students the option to attend starting September 2022. The higher grades are placed on a waiting list and if we have a student leave our school, the first person on the waitlist will be offered the place in the respective grade. Students who are placed on

the waitlist stay on the waitlist until the completion of the following year's Selection Workshop.

About Pearson

Pearson runs on a 6-day cycle and a slightly longer day so we can rotate through the Arts as well as our regular curriculum. Our school hours are 9:35am - 4:05pm. We have 5 buses that cover most of the city, they are parent paid and not part of mybigyellowbus. Bus rides may be slightly longer and the walk to the stop may be further than usual in some cases. There is an option to pay monthly through SchoolCashOnline and this year's fee was \$1250 (or \$125/10months).

More information can be found on our website pearson.tvdsb.ca

Learning it Together Program

Learning it Together (LiT) is now accepting Child Registration for the 2021-2022 year! LiT is a student initiative from Western University's Faculty of Health Sciences. We are a dynamic, volunteer-driven health promotion program that aims to improve early literacy, numeracy, and healthy-living skills through mentorship and role modelling. As we are still navigating the COVID-19 pandemic, we recognize the importance of staying connected now more than ever. This is why we have made it our priority to support children and their families through a completely virtual LiT program! LiT pairs a university-aged mentor with a London elementary student in **grades one, two, or three** and guides them through a unique eight-week program. Each week consists of a 45-60 minute Zoom call where your child and their mentor will work on unique and engaging activities together. LiT is completely free of charge and we will deliver all the necessary materials, free of charge as well. If LiT sounds like an opportunity that your child will enjoy, please fill out the Child Registration Google Form at:

<https://forms.gle/xf8N7cEQ1A7ZW6CeA>.

For more information, we welcome you to attend a virtual parent orientation and Q&A session on December 1st at 7:30 pm by joining the following Zoom link:

<https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/93264212661> or Meeting ID: 932 6421 2661

The LiT team is so excited to see you all for our 2021-2022 program!

*Rachel Baran and Maya Stuart, Program Directors
Learning it Together 2021-2022 Western, Faculty of Health Sciences*

Website: <https://www.learningittogether.com>

Email: western.lit.team@gmail.com

Progress Reports

Progress reports will be coming home on Friday, November 5. These reports will indicate if your child is progressing well, very well, or with difficulty on their grade level curriculum subjects. We know that the return to school has been challenging for many students and we recognize that some of them are experiencing learning difficulties. Our staff are working hard to ensure that learning recovery occurs over the next few months. Ms. Pyka, Mrs. Lutchin, and Mrs. Elwood are all running small groups to help students improve their reading skills. Our Speech Pathologist, Ms. Lericos, is working closely with our youngest students to help them build their phonological awareness skills. Also, our School Support Counsellor, Mr. TeBrinke, is working with a number of our students to help them with being "available" for learning. We have also purchased a variety of software licenses (some that can be used at home too) to help our students improve their literacy and numeracy skills. If you have any questions about your child's progress after the report card goes home, please contact your

child's teacher for more information. Here are some other ideas that you can use to support your child's learning at home:

October 2021: Online Math Supports

Our children live in a digital world. How do we help them use technology to enhance their math learning? Below are some fantastic online resources that will help both parents and students to be successful in math while at home. All of these websites contain content that is based on the Ontario curriculum.

Homework Help for Students in Grades 6-11 and Parents/Guardians through Mathify



Help your child build math skills with FREE 1:1 Grade 6-11 math tutoring with Ontario Certified Teachers! To support learning at home, tutors are available online Monday-Friday 9am to 9pm ET and 3:30pm to 9pm ET Sunday. Boost math understanding and confidence with a personalized math coach that works with your child's schedule.



TVO mPower focuses on some of the tougher-to-learn math concepts, helping students build confidence and master the skills they'll need to succeed. All content is aligned with the Ontario math curriculum for Kindergarten through Grade 6. <https://mpower.tvo.org/#/login/>



<https://www.mathplayground.com/thinkingblocks.html> Math Playground is a free website that allows students of all ages to practice a variety of problem-solving strategies in a game-like setting.



Dreambox mirrors the work being done in your child's classroom. This site requires a membership. Ask your child or contact your child's teacher to see if they have a subscription. If they are using these in school, they are highly encouraged to also use it at home.



<https://www.knowledgehook.com/>

Knowledgehook is a Grade 1-10 Mathematical instructional guidance system which utilizes formative assessment to differentiate learning in mathematics. This year, every teacher has unlimited access to Knowledgehook which is a great way to practice math flexibility while harnessing problem solving skills. TVDSB educators and students have been provided with accounts this year. Parents can register for automated updates to monitor their child's progress.



<http://ca.mathletics.com> Mathletics is an online math learning space providing students with many of the tools they need to be successful learners, both in the classroom and beyond. Courses are aligned to provincial math curricula, from Kindergarten through High School. The program uses math similar to that your child is using in class. This program requires a subscription. Ask your child if they have one.

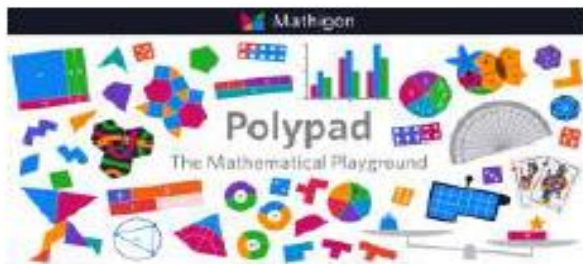


Scratch is an introductory programming language that enables young children to create their own interactive stories and games. Children snap together graphical programming blocks to make characters move, jump, dance, and sing. Students are encouraged to “start creating” when they arrive at the website and are advised not to enter their personal information. <https://scratch.mit.edu/>

Math Tools to Support Home Learning



The www.mathies.ca is a free Ministry site and supports students from Kindergarten to Grade 12. Here, you will find learning tools to help your child complete their homework and deepen their understanding of essential concepts.



<https://mathigon.org/polypad> is the best digital canvas for exploring mathematics: containing 50+ unique virtual manipulatives, dynamic geometry, graph plotting, powerful sharing features, and much more.



<https://www.desmos.com/> offers best-in-class calculators, digital math activities, and curriculum to help every student love math and love learning math.



Equatio gives your students the opportunity to show their mastery in math, in a way that best suits them. They can speak, draw or type problems and equations directly onto their device.



[Microsoft MakeCode](https://code.visualstudio.com/) is a free open-source block-based coding platform which fosters engaging computer science learning experiences that support a progression path into real-world programming. There are numerous tools available which contain a variety of tutorials to help students learn to code.

Technology is an easy way to increase your child's enjoyment and understanding of mathematics and for you both to learn together.

