

OCTOBER 2021

ABERDEEN COMPOSITE SCHOOL

Principal's Message

Now that students have settled in their classrooms, staff members are learning the abilities of their students and planning lessons accordingly. It was great to connect with parents and students during our 3 Way Conferences this past month. Students and staff participated in various activities and attended speakers to listen, learn and reflect on our role with Reconciliation, as it was a timely topic with the new Federal Holiday added on Sept. 30th. Thank you for your patience as we continue to work through new COVID restrictions. Students continue to thrive and be excited to be IN our building. Our SLT is doing a great job and school spirit is at an all time high! After 23 years, Sherry Kirk has decided to retire as an EA at Aberdeen School. We wish her well as she embarks on her next journey of enjoying lake life, farm life, and being able to spend lots and lots of time with her grandkids and being their biggest fans at the hockey rink, gym, ball field, or horse stables! Congratulations to Howard Elgersma, our long-time bus driver, who also is retiring at the end of this month. We appreciate Howard's dedication and safe driving. He is looking forward to having more time for his other jobs and to pursue some of his hobbies.

SLT update

Our SLT (Student Leadership Team) have been busy planning activities and Spirit Days for our Grade 7 - 12 students. October has finished with a bang with a Spirit Week that included Jersey Day, Blackout Day, Plaid Day, Tacky Tourist Day and, of course, Hallowe'en. We also held a bump tournament in the gym during the week. Lastly, and most importantly, we ran our annual Scare Hunger food drive where all non-perishable food donations will stay in the community and be distributed at Christmas to families of need. The food drive culminated on October 31st when Aberdeen students went door to door to collect food in the community. To stay caught up with all spirit days and other school activities please consider following them on Instagram and Facebook at the handle below.



@slt.aberdeen



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

November 5th: Prep Day (NO SCHOOL)

November 9th/10th: Final Assessment Days for Q1 classes (Grades 9 - 12)

November 11th/12th: NO SCHOOL

November 19th: Progress Reports Go Home

December 8th: Parent Conferences for Q2 classes (Grades 9 - 12)

December 17th: Last Day of School Before Christmas Break



Go Crusaders!

As we wrap up a couple of sports, we want to thank Mrs. White for coaching the cross country team and Mrs. Walter and Mr. Rohrke for coaching the Sr. Girls Volleyball Team. Our football players, who play in Wakaw, are about to start their quest for a provincial title. As these sports finish up we are looking forward to starting curling and basketball. Mr. Males is our curling guru and will be coaching the curling team(s). We are still looking for more basketball coaches. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer to help coach a basketball team, please contact the school and let us know!



COVID update

We continue to ask for parents to monitor for COVID symptoms and to keep their child at home if they have symptoms or suspect a possible COVID case. We do have rapid test kits available at the office, please contact Crysta if you would like to have some on hand. We also know that the shifting COVID policies can be confusing. If you are ever in doubt, please do not hesitate to contact the school and we can help!

Emergency Preparedness Planning

Every year we examine and update our Emergency Preparedness Plan. This plan is always made in conjunction with the community and local law enforcement. In addition to conducting fire and bus evacuation drills, schools need to practice for other kinds of potential emergencies. Our two main drills are **lockdowns** and **hold and secures**. When it comes to these sorts of drills, staff and students will always know in advance when we will practice them as we know they can be stressful and possibly traumatizing for some individuals.

Lockdown: A lockdown is defined as the restriction of movement during the time of a potentially serious violent incident. Schools go into lockdown when there is a significant and immediate threat inside or in the direct vicinity of the building. During a lockdown students and staff take secured shelter, lock all classroom doors, and remain quiet.

Hold and Secure: Hold and Secure is for exterior emergency situations not related, but in close proximity, to the school. In this situation, any students outside the building come in. The exterior doors are locked and monitored by staff. Movement may be restricted depending upon the potential threat. School continues to function normally inside the building.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Bus Drivers

This month, we'd like to shine our spotlight on our wonderful bus drivers. They are the first staff members that so many of our students see in the morning, and the last that they see at the end of the day. Through good weather and bad, they make sure our students arrive safe and sound. Their patience is endless and the service they provide our students is immeasurable. October 18th has been designated School Bus Driver Appreciation Day but we want our bus drivers know that they are ALWAYS appreciated. Please do not hesitate to reach out and thank your bus driver for the excellent job they do!



**Randy
Chorney**



**Cindy
Beaulieu**



**Don
Levesque**



**Bert
Bussiere**



**Tammy
Lynchuk**



**Bernadette
Hiebert**



**Jeff
Lynchuk**



**Shaye
Porter**



**Peter
Mosterd**



**Howard
Elgersma**



THANK
YOU



The end of October also brings a retirement for one of our long standing bus drivers. We hope you enjoy your well deserved retirement, Howard!!

CLASSROOM SPOTLIGHT:

Grade 4



WE ARE VERY FORTUNATE AT ABERDEEN SCHOOL TO HAVE A DEDICATED GROUP OF TEACHERS THAT HAVE, OVER THE YEARS, BUILT AND NURTURED AN OUTDOOR CLASSROOM IN OUR COURTYARD. THE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES THAT THIS SPACE PROVIDES ARE ENDLESS AND SOMETIMES THE CHANGE OF SCENERY IS A PERFECT WAY TO SPLIT UP A BUSY SCHOOL DAY. BELOW ARE SOME IMAGES AND THOUGHTS FROM OUR GRADE 4 CLASS ON THE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM.

TOMATO HARVEST BY AUBREY
LAST MONTH WE HARVESTED TOMATOES IN THE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM. WE HARVESTED THEM BECAUSE IF WE DIDN'T, THEY WOULD ROT. WE GOT THEM OUT BY PULLING AND TWISTING. ME AND MY CLASS DID IT. SOME WERE GREEN AND SOME WERE PLUMP. SOME WERE VERY ROTTEN, ALL OF THE ROTTEN ONES WE LEFT IN THE TOMATO BOX. AT THE END WE PULLED OUT ALL OF THE STEMS AND ROOTS. THEN WE PICKED UP ALL THE LEAVES AND TOMATO STEMS AND PUT THEM IN GARBAGE BAGS.



TOMATO HARVEST BY SKYLAR
ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH THE GRADE 4'S HARVESTED THE TOMATOES. THERE WAS LOTS OF TOMATOES AND WE DID IT IN THE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM. THERE WAS BIG ONES AND SUPER TINY ONES. THERE WAS LOTS AND WE DID IT ON A SUNNY AND HOT DAY. EVERYONE IN THE CLASS PITCHED. WE HAD ABOUT 7 ICE CREAM PAILS AND 1 BOX FULL OF TOMATOES. WE GROW LOTS OF PLANTS AND HELP HARVEST LOTS OF PLANTS. WE DID IT BECAUSE SOME OF THE TOMATOES WERE GETTING ROTTEN.



EVERETT: I DON'T KNOW WHAT WAS THE MOST FUN PART BECAUSE IT WAS ALL FUN.

NOAH: WHEN WE HARVEST WE LEARN MORE THINGS ABOUT HARVESTING TOMATOES.

HARLOW: WE TASTED SOME TOMATOES, THEY WERE REALLY GOOD. SOME WERE SOUR. I HAD A LITTLE TOMATO, AND IT WAS SOOO GOOD. IT WAS THE GOODEST LITTLE TOMATO I HAVE EVER HAD. IT TASTED LIKE A CANDY. I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW IF I LIKED THEM, BUT I DID!



KORY TELFER

MS. TELFER HAS A WEALTH OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE FROM AROUND THE WORLD. IN HER 29 YEARS OF TEACHING, SHE HAS TAUGHT IN THE ISLE OF SKYE IN SCOTLAND, THE CAYMAN ISLANDS AND MOST RECENTLY IN AUSTRALIA AS PART OF AN EXCHANGE. AS A SCHOOL, WE BENEFIT FROM HER STEADY HAND AND CALM Demeanour. SHE IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF OUR ABERDEEN FAMILY.

THIS IS THE FIRST YEAR OF FULL TIME TEACHING FOR MRS. SPEIRS. HAVING DONE HER INTERNSHIP IN VANSKOY, SHE IS VERY FAMILIAR WITH PRAIRIE SPIRIT SCHOOL DIVISION. SHE LOVES THE OUTDOORS AND SPENDING TIME ROCK CLIMBING IN THE MOUNTAINS. KIANNE HAS DONE A WONDERFUL JOB FILLING IN FOR MS. TELFER, WE ARE SO LUCKY TO HAVE HER!



KIANNE SPEIRS