



Angus McKay School

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Principal's Report September 14, 2022

School Start-Up

- We have experienced an exceptionally positive beginning to our school year. Students are happy to be back at school and are adjusting to their new routines. Teachers are thrilled that teaching and learning has resumed without some of the barriers that have really challenged us over the past couple of school years.
- Teachers at Angus McKay approach everything they do from a place of care, and what is best for kids. I truly believe that our children are in excellent hands in this building.
- Our current enrolment sits at 119 students.

Behaviour Expectations

- We intentionally teach all students how to demonstrate positive behaviour in all school settings.
- Students have been exploring our 4, school-wide Behaviour Matrices with their teachers. These include expectations for lunchtime behaviour, hallway/bathroom, the playground, as well as healthy habits. These matrices will be shared with families in our next email communication.
- Class Treaties are another tool that we are using to establish shared expectations between teachers and students. Because a treaty represents a promise conceived between two parties, teachers have, or will soon be formulating these WITH their students.

Communication Home to Families

- We will communicate with families every second week to provide information about what has been happening at school and what can be expected in the weeks ahead.
- We are no longer using the e-memo system that was previously accessed through our school website. Instead, we are using our school contact base, which ensures that information is disseminated to all of our families.
- From time to time, there may be additional communication shared via email outside of the 2 week schedule if the division directs us to do so, or if timelines come into play. Classroom teachers will also communicate electronically or through a pouch or agenda book system.

First Assembly for Students

- We will be having a brief, whole-school assembly for students in our Gym this Friday morning.
- Topics addressed will include the following:
 - What is O'Canada and why do we hear it at school?
 - What is a Land Acknowledgement and why do we hear it at school?
 - Review of behaviour expectations as presented by our Grade 5 class.
 - A brief introduction to the upcoming Day for Truth & Reconciliation, (Orange Shirt Day).

September 30th – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

- A very new holiday. We are working as a whole staff to build understanding and cohesion around the importance of this day. (Defining Reconciliation & incorporating land-based learning. Upcoming staff Professional Learning through Workshops facilitated by MTS and RETSD).
- Library has gathered texts and will be adding to our collection. Teachers have been provided with resources to explore with students.
- Our hope is to have Grace Redhead come present to our students once again this year.

Early Numeracy Intervention Program (ENIP)

- Barb Judge will begin to provide Numeracy support to all students in our Kindergarten and Grade 1 classes on Monday, September 26th, right through until June.
- Barb's role as Lunch Program Coordinator means that she will have established relationships with students, and our hope is that this relationship will increase the efficacy of her work.
- As the year progresses, ENIP support will shift from universal to targeted, focusing on students who most require additional interaction and guidance with number concepts.

Patrols

- Our patrols are doing an incredible job for the following reasons: they are reliable, punctual, and incredibly diligent when it comes to keeping our students and our community safe. They take their role very seriously. We were lucky to begin the school year having all of our Grade 4's trained with experience on post in the spring. This has made for a smooth and confident start.
- Thank you to our Patrol Teacher Leaders: Mrs. Laurin-Clarke, Mrs. Hornung and Mrs. Morris.

Picture Day

- Lifetouch will be here on Monday, September 26th
- Return to class photos this year

Terry Fox Day

- We have selected the date of Friday, October 7th to conduct a whole school community walk to honour the memory and accomplishments of Terry Fox.
- The theme this year is, "I'm not a Quitter," which will spark some meaningful discussion.

Return of Clubs & Other Activities

- Run Club will begin next week for students in Grades 3-5: notes have gone home.
- There will be four lunchtime practices for students before the divisional event at Bird's Hill Park on September 28th. (Rain date is October 5th). Thanks to Mrs. Treffner for her leadership.
- Teachers are beginning to plan for other co-curricular activities to offer to students.

Respectfully Submitted-
Bailey McIntyre, Principal