



Ashley Oaks Public School

We make a difference through the 3 R's: Respect, Responsibility and Recognition

October 2020

Principal: J. Hicks

Vice Principal: D. Squire

Superintendent: P. Skinner

Trustees: S. Polhill and L. A. Pizzolato

Ashley Oaks P.S. Website: <https://ashleyoaks.tvdsb.ca/en/index.aspx>



From the Office...

Welcome back! Mrs. Squire and I want to thank all the staff, students and parents for the awesome start to the school year. Students have learned the routines quickly and are adjusting well to our new normal. As mentioned earlier, we have a number of safety measures in place including frequent hand washing, cohorted yards and the use of masks. Thank you for encouraging your student to physically distance while at school. As we begin the 2020-21 school year, staff will be administering a number of different diagnostic assessments to gain an understanding of students' learning strengths and needs. A diagnostic assessment occurs before instruction begins so teachers can determine students' readiness to learn new knowledge and skills, as well as obtain information about their interests and learning preferences. The information gained through diagnostic assessments is used by teachers and students to determine what students already know and can do with respect to the knowledge and skills identified in the overall and specific expectations, so teachers can plan instruction and assessment that are differentiated and personalized and work with students to set appropriate learning goals. Student achievement results gained from diagnostic assessments are not used for marks and/or evaluation purposes as the students have yet to be formally taught the content. The results gained from any assessments are to be used to design instruction

which is responsive to student learning needs. We are looking forward to a fantastic year at Ashley Oaks!

Mr. Hicks, Principal

Safety Reminders

Due to the large volume of students on the yard in the morning we respectfully request that **parents say their good-byes at the edge**



of our yard before 8:45. This will help to decrease the number of people on the yard in the morning allowing staff to better monitor the playground and keep our students safe.

A reminder that if you need to pick up a child early please call the office and we will arrange to meet parents at the front door. Please do not sign out your student between 3:10 and 3:30 as we may not be able to accommodate this request at the end of the day.

Playground

Staff supervision helps to ensure a safe play time before school, at noon and during recesses. Teachers and support staff are on yard and hall supervision from 8:45 - 9:00 a.m., during the recesses and at dismissal time. There is no supervision prior to 8:45 a.m. Please do not send students to school before supervised times.

Outdoor Breaks

All students are expected to go outside for recess. Parents should be certain their children come to school dressed properly for the weather. Students who are too ill to go outside are probably too ill to be sent to school. Help us prevent the spread of illness

by keeping your child at home until they are completely well.

Attendance Reporting

If your child is going to be late or absent you may report this to the school by calling 1-844-305-3756 or by using the App on your smart phone or online.

Medication

Did you know that the Thames Valley District School Board has a medication policy? If it becomes necessary for your child to take prescription medicine at school, please call the school in advance. The office provides a form requiring you to outline the details of the administration of the medication. This form must be completed and signed by a doctor before we can administer any medications.

Allergies

As you know, within our school community we have students who may have a life-threatening allergy (anaphylaxis) to peanuts and tree nuts (e.g., almond, cashew, hazelnut, pistachio, etc.). While anaphylaxis has the potential to cause severe reactions and death, risks can be significantly reduced through effective management strategies and emergency procedures. The best way to reduce the risk of accidental exposure to these students is to ask for the co-operation of the parents/guardians and students within our school community. We would ask respectfully that families enjoy peanut/tree nut-containing products at home only (please do not send to school in snacks or lunches). This includes peanut butter or products with peanuts/nuts listed in the ingredients.



IPOCS

Does your child have a potentially life-threatening medical condition? All students with asthma, epilepsy, anaphylaxis, diabetes or any other life-threatening condition are required to have an IPOC (Individual Plan of Care) outlining their condition and the necessary

steps that need to be followed in the case of an emergency. This year all IPOCS need to be completed online through the parent portal. It is crucial that this information is completed ASAP. If you do not have internet access to complete the forms, please contact the school and we can help you with it on one of our computers. If your child had an IPOC last year, please ensure that you review it and re-submit it online for the 2020-2021 school year. If you have any questions about the process at all, please call Mrs. Squire in the office.

Personal Items

Please be advised that students bring personal items to school at their own risk. Toys, electronics, items of clothing etc. are at risk to be lost, damaged or stolen. All items including clothing should be clearly marked with the student's name. Students are encouraged to check the Lost and Found regularly.

Meet the Staff

In order to adhere to safety guidelines, Ashley Oaks will be changing the format of our meet the staff evening. This year, we will be moving to a virtual meet the staff event that will span 3 days, October 13-15. More information will be sent out to families as we get closer to these dates.

School Council News

Elections for members of the School Council will take place at our first meeting online on Wednesday October 7th at 6:00 p.m. School topics such as E.Q.A.O. results, School Improvement Planning, Code of Conduct, etc. are reviewed. Please consider joining this worthwhile organization.

Emergency Procedures

Fire Safety

We will be reviewing many of the emergency procedures here at Ashley Oaks. Students have participated in a "walkthrough" fire drill



and will have 2 more before the end of the fall. Please review proper fire safety procedures with your family in case of a fire at home. This includes having a safe meeting spot for your family to gather as well as how to exit your home in the event of a fire.

Tornado Drill

We are required to practice how to respond in the event of a tornado. Students gather in the halls in the safety position 2 deep against the wall. Students are to be away from doors or windows with glass. We practice this drill so that students are comfortable and aware of the procedures.

Hold and Secure/ Lockdown

We have completed our Hold and Secure/ Lockdown drill. This drill simply involved students immediately returning to the closest classroom while teachers lock the door and await information from the office. At this time the Emergency Response Team would assess the situation and make any further calls or recommendations for either cancelling the Code Red, calling the police, or evacuating the school. In the case of an evacuation our evacuation location is **Sir Arthur Carty**.

Lunchroom

We have supervised lunchroom facilities for those students who must stay for lunch. Students who stay for lunch may not leave the school property without prior written notice from their parent. During rainy days or extremely cold winter days the students will be supervised indoors during the lunch period. If your child comes home for lunch during first break, please have them return before 11:50.



Adults on the Property

Parents and visitors are reminded that they should not be out on the yard during the school day after dropping off has occurred. All parents and visitors are required to check in at the office. Members of the community are asked to walk around the school property and not come onto it while school is in

session. We want to ensure the safety of our students throughout the school day.

School Messenger

This allows parents/guardians to communicate with teachers. If you have already signed up for attendance, then you will not be required to sign up again. Go to www.tvdsb.ca/schoolmessenger

Dates to Remember



- October 7 - School Council Meeting*
- October 12 - Thanksgiving (NO SCHOOL)*
- October 13-15 - Meet the Staff*

