



Ashley Oaks Public School

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

January/ February 2021

Principal: J. Hicks

Vice Principal: A. Ingram

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

Principal's Message

Happy New Year! We hope that you had a safe and peaceful holiday season.

As the new year starts, I would like to welcome Mrs. Ingram, our new Vice Principal to the Ashley Oaks team. We are also pleased to have Mrs. Escobar (EA) as well as Mr. Webster (Grade 4) returning to our staff. We wish Mrs. Marquis the best of luck in her future teaching endeavours.

As I am writing this, I have just received confirmation that virtual learning will continue until at least January 22nd. There are so many questions and uncertainties that arise from this announcement. We all have questions and concerns as we navigate through this next chapter of the global pandemic. There is so much we do not know.

Here's what I do know: We are in this together and we will get through this! It has become such a cliché term, but there really is a lot of truth to this. Staff are working furiously to learn new programs and new teaching strategies to best support their students virtually and we appreciate your patience and support as we work through this together!

There may be some misunderstandings about In-School Learning (ISL) and Full Remote Learning (FRL). If your child was attending school at Ashley Oaks in December, they are considered "in-school" learners (ISL). These students are now learning virtually, with the same teacher and

classmates as they had in the Fall. When schools open to students again, all these students will resume at Ashley Oaks with the same teacher and classmates that they had prior to Christmas break. Full-Remote Learners (FRL) have been enrolled in a virtual school with a school community totally separate from Ashley Oaks.

The office has been busy distributing technology to those who have requested it. The first few rounds of tech have been deployed already and we are currently waiting for the IT department to configure devices for those families who requested technology after January 3rd. We have depleted all of our collection of devices here at the school for this cause and are awaiting the delivery of more devices. If you still require a device, please call the school at 519-452-8040.

In closing, I would like to share a checklist I found on social media that became a personal goal for me in September. I believe that it has become meaningful and relevant once again as we start 2021 in our virtual classrooms.

My Checklist for Every Class This Year:

1. Keep them safe.
2. Lower their anxiety.
3. Make them laugh.
4. Make them feel loved.
5. Teach them something.

All in that order!



A Message from Our New VP

My name is Mrs. Ingram and I am very excited to be your new Vice Principal. Many of the students, staff and parents I have spoken to in the last few weeks have made me feel very welcome - so thank you! When I was a teacher, I spent most of my years teaching French or the junior grades! Here's a few things about me: I love French bulldogs and have a 1-year old female named Jojo. My husband and I have 3 adult kids and 5 nieces & nephews. I love being outside and near or on water (boating, swimming and kayaking). I also love geocaching, decorating and essential oils. I'm looking forward to working with the staff, students and parents at Ashley Oaks!

From the Library Learning Commons

Students have access to different digital libraries through Mr. Henderson's VLLC website. They can be accessed online at <http://bit.ly/3sm3hfu>



Check out read aloud activities, coding and other reading opportunities online!

Follow us on Facebook!

Ashley Oaks is now on Facebook and Instagram. Please consider following us for the latest updates and news.



Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/ashleyoakslondon>

Instagram @ashleyoakspublicschool



Teacher Contacts

If you need to contact your child's teacher during the school closure, please reach out through email. All staff emails can be located at this link. <http://bit.ly/3buYWk6>

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration is now open for September 2021. In order to register your child for JK, they must turn *four* years old by December 31st. To be eligible for SK, your child must be *five* years old by December 31st. Students already attending Ashley Oaks do not need to re-register again. Please visit <http://bit.ly/35BZi8K> For more information and to complete the online registration form.

School Council

Please consider virtually attending our next school council meeting on Wednesday, January 20th at 6:00 PM. An email will be sent out closer to the date with a link to access the meeting.

From the ESL Department

The ESL Team sends you warm greetings in the cold weather! The arrival of the New Year encourages reflection. Please ask your child to reflect on how their reading, writing, and communication has improved. For example:

- 1) Are they reading books at a higher level?
- 2) Are they writing more complex sentences?
- 3) Do they communicate more clearly in English?

It's important that they recognize how far they have come and set goals for the future. Ask your child to document three goals for this term and help them monitor their progress. Encourage your child to share their goals with you and their teachers at school.

One of your child's goals might be to develop better online work habits. We encourage our students, staff, and parents to create habits that positively affect their lives and the lives of those around them. Be the change you want to see in your child.

Tips for Better Online Work Habits

1. Work in a quiet space that is as distraction free as possible (e.g. not in front of the T.V. or in a busy room).
2. Get moving. During breaks from your screen be active (e.g. go outside for a quick walk, do a quick GoNoodle video).
3. Be involved around the house (e.g. help in the kitchen, make a grocery list).
4. Use a cellphone alarm as a school bell to indicate when learning starts and when to take a break.
5. Create a schedule for device usage if sharing is required between multiple students in one household.
6. Prioritize your older siblings if you have to share a device.
7. Stay in touch with your friends online at least once a day so you don't feel lonely.
8. Reach out to your teacher for help – we are only a click away!

The infographic features a central yellow circle with a lightbulb icon and the text "Online Learning". Surrounding this central hub are ten circular icons, each with a corresponding tip. The tips are: "Be successful" (Acquire the knowledge and skill to attain your goals.), "Set your goal" (Have a clear direction to be motivated), "Write out a schedule" (Stay on top of the course material), "Do your research" (On the subject material), "Create a study space" (it's time to study), "Revisit old course material" (Review your studies), "Get involved in discussions" (The more you interact, the more you learn), "Engage with instructor" (Take instructor help throughout the course), and "Engage with instructor" (Take instructor help throughout the course). The infographic also includes a footer with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube, and the website URL www.avanti.in.



Dates to Remember

- PA Day- January 22nd NO SCHOOL
- Report Cards Go Home- February 12th
- Family Day- February 15th NO SCHOOL