

Thunderbird News

October 5-8, 2020



Welcome to October!

A month went by so fast, as we navigated our safe re-entry plan and helped facilitate our students' long-awaited return to the routines and opportunities that school offers. On Wednesday September 30, we had hundreds of orange shirts in the building, as Aurora remembered the inhumane and prejudicial treatment of First Nations children who were forced to attend residential schools. Students listened to

stories through the week to build empathy for the experiences of our Indigenous families who still persevere through the wake left by the impact of residential schools. Every child matters!

We also had all students learn about Terry Fox and the commitment and altruistic passion he modeled for all Canadians. Every class at Aurora was able to get out in the fresh air and support a terrific cause! Please consider supporting our efforts for this very worthwhile cause. You can still donate on behalf of Aurora Middle School at

<http://www.terryfox.ca/AuroraMiddle> .



Mental Health and Wellness at Aurora



One of the goals of our division and of our school is to proactively support the mental health and wellness of our students and their families within our school community.

Most recently, students learned about how the brain works, stress responses, and using art and other relaxations strategies to help calm the brain. This coming week, our Successful Families Successful Kids (SFSK) team will begin programming for our grade 4, 5, and 6 classes with "Be Kind to Yourself", which will take place over the next several weeks. This program helps support the areas of the Alberta

Education Health and Life Skills Program of Studies that deal with mental health and wellness. Some topics will include: positive communication within our families, using physical activity and relaxation exercises to make us feel better, talking about how friendships change, using humour for health, bouncing back from hard times, and having a positive body image. For more info, go to <https://www.nlpsab.ca/mental-health/mental-health>



Pick-up Reminder for Parents: SAFETY FIRST !

Please follow the lineup of cars for pick-up and drop-off at the cafeteria. Some parents are parking and encouraging their children to leave our lineups to run through traffic to get to their vehicle. This is NOT a safe practice, and going forward your child will be asked to wait until you've entered the line of pick-up cars or when traffic has subsided after the buses are gone.

Volunteers Needed: Casino Workers for Oct 15-16! Bingo Oct 16!

Looking for a fun, two-day getaway? Look no further! The Aurora Thunder Parent Fundraising society is looking for casino volunteers to spend an exciting two days in Fort McMurray working at the Boomtown Casino to benefit the students of our school! The casino is scheduled for Thursday October 15 and Friday October 16. All meals are provided while working your casino shifts and your travel costs and hotel accommodations will also be free of charge! Support our students and have a paid vacation too! Please call or text Joyce Cloutier at (780)623-8203 if you are able to volunteer.



Are your Friday nights lacking excitement? How about volunteering at the Lac La Biche Bingo hall? The Aurora Thunder Parent Fundraising society is hosting a bingo on Friday October 16. Enjoy a free meal while watching the bingo action and helping out the students of our school! The shift runs from 5pm to about 9pm and we require three people to work the shift. Free food and wonderful people make for a great Friday night out. Please call or text Joyce Cloutier at (780)623-8203 if you are able to volunteer.

Pre-Order Lunch and Snack Cards - Saturday Night

All lunch orders must be made by midnight on the **Saturday before** that week of school. Go to <https://nlsd.schoolcashionline.com/> to order for lunches or for concession cards. We aren't using any physical cards for our 'concession cards', so note that each **Tuesday morning**, any funds you've added to your child will be added to your child's card in the cafeteria. The snack list should be now online and will be updated accordingly. If you need to register for this service, Please Register Online:

Step 1: Go to School Cash Online

Step 2: Register by selecting the "Get Started Now" and following the steps.

Step 3: After you receive the confirmation email, please select the "click here" option, log in and add each of your children to your household account. To do this, you need your student's last name and Alberta Student Number (ASN), which is listed on their report card and on PowerSchool (in the upper left hand corner of the screen).

Step 4: If you want to receive email notifications when new fees are added, please ensure the notification box is checked in the Manage Your Notifications section. If you have any questions during the registration process or while shopping online, please select the SUPPORT option in the top right hand area of the screen.

Important Dates:

Family Friday - Oct 9

Thanksgiving - Oct 12

Casino (FtMac) - Oct 15/16

Bingo (LLB) - Oct 16

System Day - Oct 26

Halloween Celebrations - Oct 30

Remembrance Day - Nov 11

Parent Teacher Interviews - Nov 17/18

Family Friday - Nov 20

Family Friday - Dec 4

Winter Break - Dec 21 - Jan 3