

# The Avonmore ES Almanac

Volume 1, Issue 1

September, 2023

## **Welcome back!**

Welcome back to a new school year! We are going to have such a fantastic year, filled with fun and learning.

## **Volunteering Reference Checks**

All volunteers must have a Vulnerable Sector Check on file at the school. If you already had a Vulnerable Sector Check done to volunteer at Avonmore Elementary, an Offence Declaration Form has been sent home for you to complete and return to the office. If you have not received the Offence Declaration Form, then we do not have a valid Vulnerable Sector Check on file. If you would like to volunteer this year, we'd be happy to send home the Vulnerable Sector Check forms, which you would need to complete and take to your local police station. Please note this process can take up to 2 weeks, so get it done ahead of time! For questions on this process or to request forms, please contact the office.

## **Agendas**

All of our students have received an agenda. This is an important tool for communicating between home and school. Please check and initial your child's agenda on a daily basis. There is also a front pouch that will be used for important documents, such as permission forms and letters. Please remember to check this pouch as well! If you put something in the front pouch to return to the school, such as signed papers, please put a note on the day for teachers to be aware that there is something to take out of the pocket. In the front pages there is information about staff, the UCDSB, policies and procedures, and calendars for your reference. Please note, there is an error in the cover of the agenda, but the information inside is for our school.

## **Nut Sensitive and No Scents Environment**

We have students at Avonmore Elementary who have severe, life-threatening allergies to nuts. Please do not send any foods to school which contain or "may contain" nuts. This includes nut substitute products. Thank you for helping us to keep our school a safe environment in which to learn!

## **Safe Arrival and Departure Policy**

Please let us know if your child will be absent or late. As part of the Upper Canada District School Board's Safe Arrival Policy, we need to know that your child is home safe when he or she is not at school. Our answering machine is always available for you to leave a message regarding your child's attendance or you can enter the absence through My Family Room on the app or the website.

If you are dropping your child(ren) off for school, please park in the North Stormont parking lot. For grades 1-6, adults need to wait with their students until 9:30 a.m. and then the students may enter the yard through the gap in the fence (there is no supervision before 9:30 a.m.). For kindergarten students, parents need to park in the North Stormont parking lot and walk through our yard to the front path and bring the students over to the kindergarten enclosure. Adults need to stay with the students until 9:30 a.m. when our staff will be there to supervise.

If you plan to pick up your child at the end of the day, please notify the school by 2:30 p.m. You can do this by calling the school or writing a note in the agenda. Please park at North Stormont Place (the community centre beside the school) and wait at the gap in the fence. Kids will congregate there for pickup. Please make sure you check out with the staff in charge of pick-up before you leave with your child. Pick-up is at 3:50 p.m.

If you are picking your child(ren) up early from school, we ask that you come before 3:10 pm. In this case you come to the front door and buzz into the office.

## **Parking**

There is a lot of parking available, both at the front of the school, as well as at North Stormont Place next door. You are most welcome to park in either location; however, at the end of the day when you are here to pick up your children, please use pick-up procedure mentioned under 'Safe Arrival and Departure Procedure'. We ask that you do not park on the street, as foot traffic between the busses creates a safety hazard.

## **Social Media/Media Consent**

If you have not already done so, please 'Like' our Facebook Page, follow us on Twitter and subscribe to our YouTube Channel! We will post events, pictures and news on a regular basis. Please complete the Student Media Release Consent for those new to our school, this year. This form is to indicate your preference regarding your child's photo being posted or shared within the school and with media. If you completed a consent in a previous year for Avonmore ES, you do not need to do so again; however, if you would like changes made please contact the office.

## **Visits**

Often parents and guardians need to drop into the school, either to deliver a forgotten lunch or pick up a sick child. We ask that all visitors during the school day park in the front parking lot, use the Main Office entrance, press the intercom button at the front door and someone will meet you at the door. We work hard to protect the classroom learning environment, and limit interruptions as much as possible. Thank you for your help with this!

## **School Hours**

Our school hours are as follows:

School Starts: 9:30 a.m.

First Recess: 9:30 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.

Lunch and Recess: 12:10 p.m. – 1:10 p.m.

Second Recess: 3:40 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.

Dismissal: 3:50 p.m.

Please note there is no supervision on the yard or in the school before 9:30 a.m.

## **Open House**

On Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> 6:00-7:00 pm, we are holding an open house. This is a time for students to show their families their classrooms and for us to put faces to parent names. We look forward to welcoming everyone!

## **Terry Fox Run**

Avonmore Elementary School will be participating in this year's Terry Fox School Run for cancer research on Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. We are proud to continue the legacy of one of our country's greatest heroes. We hope you will join us and support this wonderful cause by donating to our Terry Fox School Run fundraising page at: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/AvonmoreES>. We are going to do our run as **Super Heroes**, so dress up as your favourite one! The future of cancer research has never looked brighter! Thank you! #terryfoxliveshere @theterryfoxfoundation #terryfoxschoolruns  
~ Mme Winters



## **WHAT IS MY FAMILY ROOM?**

Designed for busy parents in a digital age, My Family Room is a secure website that acts as a one-stop, single point of access to all electronic services provided to parents and legal guardians of students in the Upper Canada District School Board (UCDSB).

Its focus is to enhance Board-Parent communication and provide 24/7 access to useful information related to your child. All parents and guardians with legal custody can register for a My Family Room account.

## **WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?**

With this service, you can:

- Receive phone calls, emails or text messages pertaining to your child, such as absence notifications, school emergencies, bus cancellations, and school events.
- Easily customize your contact preferences to receive emergency notifications to one destination (example: your mobile phone) while receiving non-urgent notifications to a different destination (example: your home phone or email address).
- View key contact information for your child's school, such as phone numbers and email addresses for Principals, Vice-Principals, and office staff.
- View your child's transportation, address, phone, absence, and health information.
- View your child's school calendar online, including PD days, exam days and other calendar items entered by your child's teachers and school staff.

## **HOW DO I SIGN UP?**

You can register for a My Family Room account by contacting your child's school. Let the school office administrator know you wish to sign up for a My Family Room account. You will be asked to provide a valid email address to which your My Family Room account activation details will be sent.

## **HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT MY FAMILY ROOM?**

Go to [www.facebook.com/MyFamilyRoom.UCDSB](http://www.facebook.com/MyFamilyRoom.UCDSB) or follow [@UCDSB](https://twitter.com/UCDSB) or [@UC ITS](https://twitter.com/UC ITS) to receive tweets about My Family Room. [#myfamilyroom](https://twitter.com/myfamilyroom).