

October 2016



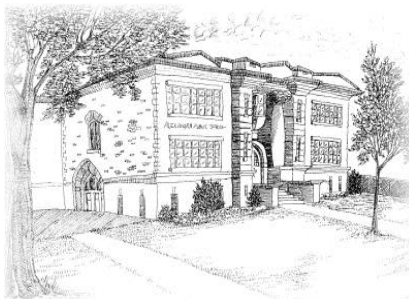
66 Sussex St. N.  
Phone:  
(705) 324-3313  
Fax:  
(705)324-2262



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



@infoAlexandraPS



*Of Whom Much is Given, Much is Expected*

N. Leeder, Principal  
K. MacIver, Superintendent  
D. Morrison, Trustee



## Principal's Message

We have certainly had some amazing fall weather! The vibrant autumn colours are now surrounding our beautiful neighbourhood!

Ms. Wasteneys was busy with our morning and afternoon runs with our Cross Country runners preparing for the meet that took place on October 4<sup>th</sup>. We are very appreciative of the many parents who also came out to assist so that we could be sure our runners were safe.

Meanwhile Ms. Versteeg and Mr. McGregor have begun the practices for the primary and junior soccer meets coming up later this month. It is always great to see the players learning new skills and applying them in game situations.

Picture day will be on Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>! We know everyone will be putting on their best outfits and biggest smiles for the photographers from Edge Imaging. Ms. Wasteneys' class will have their pictures taken before they leave on their Outdoor Education Trip.

Parents are welcome to join us for Parent Council on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 in the School Library. Babysitting will be available but we do encourage you to let the school office know in advance if you are bringing your children. New members are always welcome. We make a great effort to end our meetings by 7:30 so that everyone can be home in lots of time for bedtime routines on a school night.

We have had a great start to our year and this is due to the great partnership between home and school at APS. Always remember that if you have a concern regarding your child, the best place to start is with the classroom teacher. Please call the school to arrange a chance to meet with them in person or by phone.

*Mrs. Leeder  
Principal*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 6 - Gr. 5 Bike Ride  
Oct. 7 - P.D. Day  
Oct. 10 - Thanksgiving Monday  
Oct. 12 - Royal Recognition Assembly  
Oct. 13 - Junior Zone Soccer  
Oct. 18 - Primary County Soccer  
Oct. 19 - Gr. 5 to 140 William  
Oct. 20 - Junior County Soccer Tournament  
Oct. 21 - Picture Day

**October's**  
**Character**  
**Trait:**  
**Compassion**

*Compassion  
is the ability  
to combine  
sympathy  
and action in  
support of  
those  
suffering.*



### Staffing News

It has been an interesting fall in TLDSB as our enrolment in some schools exceeded the expectations. This meant that some schools were adding classrooms in September. While we did not have the need for a classroom, we did have some staff impacted by this. Ms. Dunford was placed at Leslie Frost for a half day, each day. As a result we hired Ms. Versteeg to share the grade one class with her. She is a lovely addition to our school and brings a positive energy to APS – a great fit for sure. We are glad that we still have Ms. Dunford here each afternoon. Also having to leave for another school was Mr. O'Neill who is now teaching at Bobcaygeon. We are pleased to welcome back Ms. Black (who just got married and will be Mrs. Coumbs now) who taught here last year. She will be here three mornings a week.

### Toys at School

We have had an increase in the number of toys coming to school. We see a wide range of small toys such as Shopkins, Littlest Pet Shop, Lego, Trucks, Cars and Pokeman Cards to name just a few. While we appreciate that the children love to have these at school, the staff have experienced a great deal of conflict between students and many, many tears as the items are lost or there are trades that are regretted. This often impacts instructional time as teachers work through the conflicts. **We are asking that parents support our request that the children not bring these small toys to school.**

### School Start/End Times

Our entry bell rings at 8:45 and our final bell rings at 3:10. We ask that you help us to protect the instructional time by leaving your child here for the entire day. When students arrive late or are picked up early, the learning in the classroom is interrupted. We realize that there are times when pick up during the day cannot be avoided (appointments, illness) however we hope to minimize these times. Please note that when you call the school office with last minute changes to pick up, it is often difficult to get the message to your child due to class schedules. Putting a note in the agenda in the morning will ensure that we can have your child in the right place at the right time!

### Terry Fox

We had a beautiful Friday afternoon for our Terry Fox run. Mrs. Brown did a fantastic job organizing this! Thank you to the many volunteers who came out to help with the day and to keep our runners safe as they ran the route. Our current total is \$1951.35! This is an amazing total! Special note goes to Riley Cunningham and Nick Mackenzie who were our top pledge collectors!!!! Well done boys!

### Parent Advisory Council

We had a great turn out at our first Parent Council Meeting. It was a great opportunity to reflect on all the accomplishments last year and to look ahead to this year. Our co-chairs this year are Amy Reeds and Nancy Newell. Our secretary is Megan Ward! A big thank you goes out to Amanda Walker and Julie Williams for being our chairs last year and we greatly appreciate all the work that they did. Our next meeting will be on October 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. New members are welcome.

### **Thank You Volunteers**

A special thank you is going out to our many volunteers who help us out in so many ways! Our breakfast program is just one example of how volunteers support our students. Each morning a crew of parents and their children come in and prepare delicious and nutritious snacks for our bins. Our co-ordinator this year is Janet Mackenzie-Cotton! We appreciate all of her efforts in this area. If you are able to assist in the mornings, or by baking, please let us know at the office. Volunteers are always needed.



### **Foot Wear**

Please ensure that your son/daughter has indoor shoes (all grades), preferably gym shoes with non-marking soles.



### **Dogs Visiting APS**

Although many of us are dog lovers, not everyone is. Some people have a real fear. This is a reminder that dogs should not be on school property. We ask that our four-legged friends wait in the parking lot or behind the fence.

### **Keep in Touch Through Social Media**

Our newsletter is very short! This is because our news is shared throughout the month via social media. Please take time to check us out (sites are at the top left side of the newsletter) and keep in the loop with all the great things happening at Alexandra.

*We wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving! Enjoy the splendour of the autumn colours and take time to enjoy family and friends.*

