



# APPLEWOOD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## November 2019

### Is it November already?!

October has been a FANTASTIC month! Athletics, academics, clubs, friendships...the year is well underway now and everyone has settled in!



October has been a month of catching random acts of kindness throughout the school...CHOCOLATE DONUTS #gatorgoals. Students and staff alike, have been recognized for the extraordinary things they do for each other without incentive...AND, THERE HAVE BEEN MANY! From holding the door for strangers (Darwin) to helping others with work (Mere), cleaning up someone else's spilled water (Owen) to bringing a hurt friend to the office for ice (Fatima)...Gators are GOOD! So proud to be one! **Did you know that the first Friday of November is Random Act of Kindness Day in Ontario?!** *What can you do to make someone's life better, this Friday...every day?!*



Thank you for your support of our Scholastic Book Fair! With your help, we raised over \$1000 to spend on books for our Learning Commons which we have been busily improving since the summer! In addition, we'd like to thank your Parent Council for their generous contribution to our Maker Space. With their help, we have purchased an Ozobot, Sphero Minis, Spheros, and Micro:bots for our students! Maker Space has been HUGELY popular, this year. Come and check out our space for MAKING! Students of all ages are welcomed into our Learning Commons to build, create, design, innovate, and explore. Thank you to Mrs. McPherson for her time and commitment to this endeavour. While it is new to all of us, it is giving our students the opportunity to develop the skills they will need in the future!



**Progress Reports will be coming home this week.** Please read them over with your children...set some goals and help them keep track of their progress! Our students, from Kindergarten to Grade Six, are working on a variety of goals...regular attendance, reading with greater fluency, using their math skills in real-life situations, working more cooperatively, punctuality. Together, let's help them achieve success! Last week a letter came home with instructions on how to use our online Parent Interview program to sign up for Parent Teacher Interviews. We truly believe that ongoing communication between school and home is an ESSENTIAL way to help students achieve their goals! If you require assistance with the online program, please contact the office. We look forward to seeing you during the week of November 11th - 15th! If you are unable to make it in to school, please make note of that in your child's agenda and their teacher will contact you to make alternative arrangements.

While October has been busy, we are already looking forward to the month ahead, as well as, some of the exciting things planned for the year...skating, the Remembrance Day Assembly, singing O Canada at the Ice Dogs game and the pre-game skate, Swim to Survive for the grade 3s, Discovery Day, our Summer Sizzler, fundraising through Little Caesar's, the Holiday Concert on December 18th...the calendar is filling up! **If you would like to volunteer for any of these things or have other ideas, please consider coming to one of our Parent Council meetings. November's meeting is on Tuesday, November 26th at 6:30 pm. Come for pizza dinner and bring your kids...there will be free childcare during the meeting! Please RSVP by Monday, November 25th to the office so we know how much pizza to order!**



*"I just love you all! Thank you for being such an awesome school for my daughter."*  
~ Sarah V-R via Facebook

Thank you, to our incredible staff for your ongoing dedication to our students...the number of hours you put in is countless and we greatly appreciate everything you do in and out of the classroom! And, thank you to all of you, our supportive families, that tirelessly send us your best children every day. Together, we make a great team!



### **Congratulations to our October Award Winners...**

Jay, Kiahna, Adrianna, Zoe, Amelia, Bridget, Kayson, Zoey, Daksha, Alyssa, Yaseen, Karson, Evie, Hunter, Meredyth, Maryam, Odin, Kaydenz, Summer, Allison, and Ryder...

**...from awards for Responsibility to Kindness, you have made us proud! Keep up the good work!**

Dear  
**NOVEMBER**

Be awesome!



Like and Follow us on Facebook @ApplewoodPS

### **NOVEMBER'S 'SAVE THE DATES'**

- 4th - 8th - Treaty Awareness Week
- 5th - Residential School Presentations to 5/6 classes
- 7th - Progress Reports go home
- 8th - Random Act of Kindness Day
- 11th - Remembrance Day Assembly
- 12th - Carousel Players Performance (students in grades 2-6)
- 13th - Parent Teacher Interview Night (3:15 pm - 7:00 pm)
- 15th - PD Day (no school for students)
- 18th - First Skating Trip
- 25th - Second Skating Trip
- 26th - Parent Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
- 29th - Celebration Assembly

## ALLERGIES - PEANUTS & PUMPKINS



Please ensure that all food brought into the school is PEANUT AND PUMPKIN FREE as we have students with life-threatening allergies in the building. Alternatives to peanuts and peanut butter are welcome in snacks / lunches. Please identify the type of alternative that is being sent in your child's agenda or lunch bag. If you have any questions, please contact the office.



## REPORTING ABSENCES

Mrs. Flora, our Administrative Assistant, is in the office from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each week-day. **Please inform the office of all absences using the School Messenger App which can be downloaded in the App Store of your cell phone and online.** If you have any questions about the procedure, please feel free to contact the office for assistance. We do recognize that from time to time it is necessary to contact the school to get a message to your child. Please try to make all of the necessary arrangements with your child/ren in advance to avoid any missed communication. Students are able to use the office phone and are not to be using their cell phones during the school day, unless they ask permission to come down and use it at the office.



## SCHOOL BELL TIMES & PUNCTUALITY

**BEING ON TIME IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FOR STUDENTS.** Children who arrive at school at 8:30 am, when outdoor supervision begins, have the opportunity to socialize prior to coming into their classrooms, can attend Breakfast Club if they would like, and receive ALL of the quality instruction of the day without interrupting the class when they arrive. Additionally, the office is able to address attendance concerns without being interrupted. Please consider the following bell times when planning your day...let's see if we can maximize student learning in October!

8:30 a.m.	Outdoor Supervision Begins
8:45 a.m.	Entry
8:45 -10:25 a.m.	Instructional Block 1
10:25 -11:05 a.m.	Fitness/Nutrition Break
11:05 - 12:45 p.m.	Instructional Block 2
12:45 - 1:25 p.m.	Fitness/Nutrition Break 2
1:25- 3:05 p.m.	Instructional Block 3
3:05 p.m.	Dismissal



## VISITORS & VOLUNTEERS



We welcome visitors and parents at Applewood! **A reminder that you must enter through the front door, sign in at the office and wear a visitor's badge.** If you are dropping off items for your child, please leave them at the office with Mrs. Flora and she will page the student to come down to the office. If you wish to communicate with your child's teacher, please do so through the agenda, call the school or make an appointment to meet. If you are interested in volunteering (and we'd love to have you!), please feel free to come to the office to receive a Volunteer Handbook and complete the DSBN Volunteer Information Form.

## STUDENT MEDICATIONS

All medication that is to be administered to students at school must have an authorization form on file in the school. **These forms are available at the school office.** This includes allergy medication, inhalers and epipens. **If your child requires an epipen or an inhaler, please contact the office immediately so we can send home the proper paperwork and put emergency procedures in place.**



## PARENT COUNCIL

On Tuesday, November 26, 2019, Parent Council will meet in the Learning Commons from 6:30 pm.

Please join us for one (or more!) of our meetings! There is no long term commitment required and we value everyone's input! We would love to have more people join us to discuss our school, ideas for the future, and questions you may have. We have a great time and are working together as a team to make the Applewood School community a positive place for our children / students to learn and grow up! **PIZZA AND CHILD CARE WILL BE AVAILABLE!**

**Please let us know by Monday, November 25th if you will be using this FREE service and having dinner at the school!**

"At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents."

Jane D. Hull

## BREAKFAST CLUB

### BREAKFAST



Breakfast Club is open Monday - Friday from 8:00 am - 8:30 am. It is located in the staff room and run by our greatly appreciated volunteer, Miss Hazel. Fruit, cereal, bagels, english muffins, cheese, and yogurt are available for ALL students.

**Students coming in for Breakfast Club should enter from the FRONT DOOR.**

## PIZZA & MILK ORDERS

All pizza and milk orders will be done through School Cash Online (in addition to all purchases made for school and permission forms for trips, etc.) one month at a time. If you have not registered for School Cash Online, please do so as soon as possible (no credit card is required) on our website ([www.applewood.dsbns.org](http://www.applewood.dsbns.org)).



## REUSABLE CUTLERY & STRAWS



As part of our commitment to eliminating single-use plastics in the school, we will not be giving plastic straws to students who have ordered milk. Additionally, we will not have plastic forks and spoons available to students during snack / lunch breaks. Please ensure that your child comes with reusable cutlery and a stainless steel straw (available at dollar stores) if they require one for drinking. If you are really ambitious, try eliminating litter from your child's lunch by packing food in reusable containers—we can all do our part...every bit counts!

## WATER BOTTLES

Hydrated students are happy students! Applewood has a water bottle filling station on each level. Students are encouraged to bring a re-useable water bottle to use at school. Please label the bottle with your child's name.



## WARM, DRY & SAFE @ APPLEWOOD



Fingers crossed, we will have a warm, dry fall however, as the weather changes and the temperature drops, please ensure that your child is coming to school with appropriate clothing and footwear. In addition to a rainboots and a jacket, for safety reasons, all students should have indoor shoes at school.

# HELPING YOUR KIDS AT HOME

## LITERACY

Your child has access to award-winning digital resources through Kids A-Z, Learning A-Z's website created for students. After your child logs in, each website your child's teacher has subscribed to is shown. Your child can work on assignments or select other resources for reading and writing practice.

You can access resources on mobile devices by downloading the Kids A-Z app from the app store.

Kids A-Z Login Instructions:

- Step 1: Go to [www.kidsa-z.com](http://www.kidsa-z.com)
- Step 2: Enter or choose the teacher's username
- Step 3: Your child finds his or her username on the class chart
- Step 4: Your child enters his or her password



How to Register for and Receive Progress Reports:

If you would like to receive activity and progress reports for your child and send him or her messages, you can register for parent access from your child's teacher. Once the teacher approves access, you can view reports and send your child messages by clicking on the parent link at the top of the screen at [www.kidsa-z.com](http://www.kidsa-z.com). Here are the three options for requesting access.

1. After your child logs in, click on the green parent button at the top right of the screen and enter your email address.
2. Send your email address(es) to your child's teacher at [firstname.lastname@dsbn.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@dsbn.org) (go to [www.applewood.dsbn.org](http://www.applewood.dsbn.org) for teacher email addresses).
3. Fill out the form that was sent home with your child and return it to his or her classroom teacher.

## MATH

Applewood School has purchased **DreamBox Learning**, a K-8 digital math program that independent studies have found to raise student achievement and better prepare children for future success.

**To Access DreamBox on a Browser:**

Your student can access DreamBox Learning from any computer, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. All you need is a high-speed Internet connection.

If you're using a browser, use this link: <https://play.dreambox.com/login/42cv/applewood>

**To Access DreamBox on an iPad:**

To download the DreamBox Learning Math app, go to <https://www.dreambox.com/ipad>, or search for "DreamBox Learning Math" in the App Store. If you already have the app installed, you'll want to make sure the latest version of the app has been installed so your student receives the most current experience and lessons.

When prompted in the app, enter this school code: **42cv/applewood**

Create your DreamBox Account to review your student's academic progress at home in your Family Dashboard. Please follow these steps to create your free account:

You will need your child's DreamBox school login information from their teacher to login for the first time.

1. Have your student login to their profile just as they would at school.
2. Click Setup Parent Access at the bottom of the page.
3. Follow the instructions provided to create a new login and password.
4. Read Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.
5. Click "Submit".

Log into your home account after setup:

1. Go to <https://play.dreambox.com>
2. Enter your email address and password.
3. To see student progress, click the "Family Dashboard" button.



If you have any questions, please contact DreamBox Support by calling them at 877-451-7845 (weekdays 5 a.m. to 5 p.m., Pacific Time), or emailing [support@dreambox.com](mailto:support@dreambox.com).

NOTE: The DreamBox Support team is unable to provide your child's login information and password for security reasons. Please reach out to your child's teacher directly for their DreamBox login information.