



Lakehead
Public
Schools

Agnew H. Johnston School
145 Churchill Drive, Thunder Bay, ON P7C 1V6
Telephone (807) 577-6448 Fax (807) 577-9978

Mrs. Maureen Abbott, Principal
Ms. Maria Casasola, Vice Principal



FALL 2019 AHJ NEWS

Find the news on our website @ agnew.lakeheadschoools.ca/
Check out our Facebook Page @ <https://www.facebook.com/AgnewSchool/>

Agnew Bulldogs believe in Cooperation, Community, Commitment

Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2019-2020 School Year. This will be an exciting year as Agnew H. Johnston Public School and Edgewater Park Public School work toward transitioning to Ecole Elsie MacGill Public School in September 2020 on the grounds of the former Sir Winston Churchill Collegiate and Vocational Institute. As our building is at capacity, our Grade 6 and 7 students (English and French Immersion) are at Edgewater Park School, located 1 km. from Agnew. The French Immersion students may come to Agnew occasionally from Edgewater to use the library or for reading buddies.

We have two lunch blocks: Grade 1-8 from 12:10-1:00 and all four Kindergarten classes have a 50-minute lunch block between 1:00-2:00. We hope to see many of you at our Open House on Wednesday, September 18th from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Please come by that evening to visit your child's classroom.

The ON Ministry of Education mandated that all schools across Ontario use a system to account for the safe arrival at school of all students. The bookmark to the right of this column outlines many ways parents can use to let us know their child will be absent. If your child is absent, and you have not used this system to provide us with the reason why, you will receive phone calls to all your contact numbers, until we hear back from you that your child is safe. Please get into the habit of notifying the school through the 1-844 Phone #, through the Website, through the App, or by phoning the main office number (note: the mailbox does get full... so not the best choice!) Thank you!

Our Administration team this year consists of Mrs. Abbott - principal and Ms. Casasola - vice principal. Mrs. Petrick is continuing to fill in for Mrs. Abbott this fall until she is able to return to work. Do not hesitate to call us with your questions, comments and concerns as the year progresses. We want to work with you to ensure your child has the best possible learning and social experiences at school. We have access to resources and experience to help support our students with any issue they may struggle with, but we can't help if we don't know. If you are aware of something troubling your child, please let us know. Many educators provide you with website communication tools (Seesaw, Remind or Classroom websites), or use some form of home-to-school book bag or homework book as a direct communication tool. Make sure you know the routine your child's teacher prefers for open lines of communication. At any time, you can leave a message on the office answering machine for your child's classroom educator or an administrator, and we will be sure to give you a call back within 24 hours. During the school day, our focus is on supporting students. Administration tends to return phone calls after 3:00 p.m., and classroom educators have a certain time of day that they are free to call. We cannot meet with you without an appointment, so please do not come to school expecting to be able to immediately meet with a teacher or administrator. We may be already booked in a meeting, or responsible for the supervision of children. Working together, we provide the best possible environment for your children ~ our students.



8:05 a.m. is the earliest students may be dropped off at school. Students, and families, are to wait together in the front foyer until the 8:05 school bell is heard. At that time, JK and SK students are walked directly to their classroom, and all other students stay on the playground until the entry bell rings.

At the end of the day (2:40 Bell) we ask that JK and SK students are picked up directly from their educator teams, and all other students meet their parents in the foyer. Parents are asked to wait at the foyer until 2:40.

All staff wear photo ID in the school as part of our Safe School's Policy.

Anyone coming into the school must sign in at the office.

If you are picking up your children, you must sign them out at the office.



safe arrival Ways to Connect 24/7

Parents/guardians are responsible to contact the school when their child will be absent for part or all of the school day. An automated call-out system will try to contact the parent/guardian(s) if a child is late or absent and the school has not been informed.

Remember to contact us before 9:00 a.m.

- Here are four ways to let us know that your child will be absent or late.
- #1** Call the Safe Arrival toll-free number @ **1-844-288-7624**
- #2** Go to the Parent Portal @ <http://parents.lakeheadschoools.ca>
- #3** Download the School Connects Safe Arrival Android or iOS app to your phone. Please log into the portal at least once before you download the app.
- #4** Call the school directly and leave a message.

What if you forget to let us know?

The Safe Arrival automated system will try to contact you. When you receive the call, listen and follow the prompts. School staff will follow up with families when automated contact is unsuccessful. If we are not able to determine the whereabouts and safety of your child, Thunder Bay Police Services may be contacted.

Student safety, success, and well-being are top priorities at Lakehead Public Schools. It is critical for achievement and success that students are at school on time, every day.



Your Children Our Students The Future

Agnew H. Johnston Staff 2019-2020

English		French Immersion	
JK	Mrs. Nett & Mrs. Hedlund	SK FI	Mme. Tyson & Mlle. DeAgazio
JK/SK	Ms. Muir & Mrs. Vlotaros	SK FI	Mme. Nancy & Mme. Momot
Grade 1/2	Ms. Restoule	Grade 1	Mme. Gerry
Grade 3/4	Mrs. Ozerkevich	Grade 1	Mme. Cullis
Grade 4/5	Ms. Murray	Grade 1	Mme Marion
Grade 8	Ms. Wolowich	Grade 1/2	Mme. Galipeau, EFI Mrs. McKay
Music and PR Planning:	Ms. Bowles	Grade 1/2	M. Beldjoud, EFI Mrs. McKay
Core French:	Mme. Bright	Grade 2	Mlle. Scocchia, EFI Ms. Syrja
		Grade 2/3	Mlle. Wiebe, EFI Ms. Stajkowski
		Grade 3	Mme. Benlamri, EFI Mrs. McKay
		Grade 3/4	M. Quirion, EFI Ms. Stajkowski
		Grade 4	Mme. Huot, EFI Ms. Syrja
		Grade 4	Mme. Menard, EFI Ms. Syrja
		Grade 5	Mlle Sutherland, EFI Ms. Bright
		Grade 8	Mme. Veneziaie EFI Mr. Weichel
		Music:	Mlle. Stajkowski

Note! Class organization is always in "DRAFT" form at the beginning of each school year.
Should any change in class organization effect your child's class placement,
you will be notified by a letter sent home as soon as possible.

Facilitators: Ms. Hyder, Ms. Bright, Ms. Casasola

Secretaries: Mrs. Mermans and Mrs. Arsenault

Student Support Professionals:

Mrs. Bouchard, Mrs. Bowes, Mrs. Fortier, Mrs. Grife, Mrs. Robinson

Informational Services Technician (Library): Ms. Hachey

Chief Custodian: Mr. Gardiman, and **Evening Custodians:**

Mr. Pascoe, Ms. Ranni

Lunch Supervisors: Mrs. Barnwell, Mrs. Buie, Mrs.

Dunbabin, Mrs. Greenwald, Ms Siniakova, Mrs. Watson-

Hovey, Mrs. Quadrilatero, Mrs. Young

Get Involved / School Council!

The first School Council meeting for this year will be held on Wednesday, September 25th at 6:30 in the Staff Room at Agnew. All are welcome!

If you are interested in an executive position on the 2019-20 School Council, fill in and return the School Council Nomination Form.

The transition to the new school for Sept. 2020, is a standing item. This is the forum for parents to be informed, and to be heard. Plan to attend!

Dates to Remember:

• **Sept. 25: School Council Elections 6:30, Staff Room**

• Sept. 18: Agnew Open House **5:30-6:30**

• Sept. 26: Terry Fox Run 1:00 p.m.

• Sept. 27: PA DAY no school for students



• **PIZZA FRIDAYS: OCT. 4, 11, 18 and 25**



• Oct. 14: HOLIDAY no school for students

• Oct. 7: School PHOTO DAY for JK to Grade 6

• **Oct. TBA : School Council @ 6:30, Staff Room**

• **PIZZA FRIDAYS: NOV. 1, 8 and 22,29**



• Nov. 4: School Photo Re-takes this morning

• **Nov.TBA : School Council @ 6:30, Staff Room**



• Nov. 11: Remembrance Day Assembly @ 10:30

• Nov. 8: Interim Report Cards go Home

• Nov. 14: PITA Lunch Day (pre-order a week ahead!)

• Nov. 14: Parent-Educator Interviews



• Nov. 15: PA DAY no school for students

• **PIZZA FRIDAYS: DEC 6,13, 20th**

• **Dec.TBA : School Council @ 6:30, Staff Room**

• Dec. 23: WINTER HOLIDAY- return Mon. Jan. 6th 2020

Lunch Supervisors Needed!

Be a part of your child's day in a paid position! We are ALWAYS in need of extra staff to fill in shifts when our regular supervisors are absent. Lunch Supervisors care for our students while they eat their lunch and play outside for recess at their second Nutrition Break. Please call the school and ask to have an application package sent home with your child, or ask for an administrator for more information.

Things to Know:

Agnew is a "Fragrance Free School." When you are visiting, please avoid wearing any strong scents such as perfumes, deodorants and other scented products. We have students and staff who can react strongly and become ill.



Allergy Alert!
No NUTS or Nut Products
at school please!

Also watch for and respect
any allergy alerts specific
to individual classrooms.



Picture Day:

JK to Grade 6 and 8 student photos will be taken by Lifetouch on Monday, October

7th in the Gym. Re-take day will be Monday, November 4th at 9:00 a.m.



Pizza Days:

The first pizza day will be Friday, October 4th. Students in Grades 1 to 8 bring \$2/slice on the day of the sale to order pizza for lunch delivery. Kindergarten classes have their own lunchtimes and routines, and a separate note will be sent home from their classroom.

Agnew H. Johnston Bell Schedule

8:05	Playground is Supervised
8:20	Entry and Classes begin
10:20-10:50	First Nutrition Break
12:10-1:00	Second Nutrition Break
2:40	Dismissal

Microwave Use and Lunch Reminders:

Please note and adhere to the following guidelines for student use of the microwaves that are available in every classroom where our students eat:

1. Microwaves are only for lunch time re-heating.
The morning snack has a shorter eating time; therefore the snack needs to be ready to eat.
2. Food at lunch should be "re-heated" (as in pre-cooked at home and ready to quickly reheat).
We ask that you do not send items that take more than 2 minutes to reheat.
3. Food to be reheated needs to be in a safe and ready container for microwaving.



In addition, we also appreciate if you would send the necessary utensils needed (e.g. fork or spoon).

Thank you for sending healthy food to fuel your children / our students through the day.

PLEASE no pop at school, and limit sweets and treats!

Safe Drop Off and Pick Up:



Agnew does not have adequate parking, and no "drop off zone." Morning and end of day are hectic on Churchill Avenue, and our main concern is **SAFETY**. Children **MUST** use the crossing guard when being dropped off across the street. We urge parents to accompany younger children across the street. Crossing in the middle of the street, and in between the parked busses is very dangerous, and is made more hazardous by cars parked in no parking areas. You must obey City of Thunder Bay Parking signage. We need to follow the laws, proceed slowly, and work together to ensure safety, and to model safe practices for your children ~ our students.

.ly/parenngclass2019



Misbehaviour is Normal- FREE Parenting Seminar

Tuesdays, October 15 & 22
EarlyON Children & Family Centre
@ Confederation College
5:00 to 8:00pm



*Supper, bus tickets and **limited** free childcare available.*

To register call 625-8825 or
visit <http://bit.ly/parentingclass2019>



Find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter: @TBDHealthUnit
TBDHU.COM

Once a week, Take a peek

Anyone can get head lice. They crawl from head to head. Head lice is not a health hazard, but it can cause itching, extra work for parents and misuse of insecticides.

Check your child's head once a week for head lice. Check the whole head through clean, wet, untangled hair (especially around the ears and back of neck) using a fine-tooth comb or your fingers.

If you are not sure what to look for or how to deal with lice, visit TBDHU.COM/schools or call 625-5972.

Everyone needs to work together to fight the spread of head lice!



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TBDHU.COM

