

Dear Parents,

October is shaping up to be a busy month with plenty of activities aimed at keeping ACES students engaged and interested. Included in this letter is October's calendar, which we hope will provide you with all the pertinent dates.

Healthy Schools Update:

*Our new slide is now set up and being very much enjoyed by the children. Thanks to the playground improvement group, including Dale Pyle, Shannon Paxton, Wade Lassenba, Katrina Paxton, and Kris Stoddard for installing the slide. Thanks to Howe Products for donating the cedar chips as an absorbent material around the slide, and to the Healthy Schools Program and Kino-Quebec for funding half of the cost.

Also, thanks to everyone who sent in the playground survey. We will be in touch with you soon to start on the next part of this project.

*As most of you are aware, every Monday morning, students and teachers go for a thirty minute walk in the vicinity of the school. It is a great way to reconnect after the week and provides a positive start to the week ahead. We really appreciate having parents with us, so please join us if you can. Unless it's pouring, we'll be heading out, so it is important that your child has the necessary clothing and footwear.

*Our revised lunch schedule means that students can now go out and play sooner once they are done eating. To date, this new arrangement has been working well, but there is concern that some students are not finishing all their lunch. In order to help you monitor how much your children are or are not eating, we are asking them to take any leftover home. Unfinished containers of yoghurt, applesauce, juice boxes and other possibly messy foods are the only items students are allowed to throw in the cafeteria's garbage.

Harvest Meal

As a way of helping our students appreciate the Thanksgiving season, we are planning a communal meal! Teachers are providing the meat for a soup/stew and we are asking the students provide the vegetables. Any of the following would be great: onions, carrots, potatoes, turnips, green beans, or peas, **Please send a few of these vegetables with your child on Tuesday, October 5.** That afternoon, each class will do what they can to help peel and prepare them. If you are able, please provide your child with a peeler as well. As long as you have labelled it with your name, we promise to send it back.

(Anyone wishing to help the students prepare the vegetables Tuesday afternoon would be more than welcomed. You'll find us in the cafeteria anytime after 1:00.)

On Wednesday morning, the teachers will take turns cooking the soup in time for lunch, which we will be having together in our classrooms. Teachers have agreed to take care of bread and dessert, but would appreciate any offers from parents who are in a baking mood. (Just let them know. Thanks)

Report Cards

The interim report cards will be sent home on October 13th. These will give you an overview of how your child has been progressing these past few weeks. The first full report cards will be sent home November 22nd. Parent Teacher interviews are November 24th.

Visitors

To make our school as safe as it can be, anyone visiting the school, including a parent, must come directly to the office, sign in and get a visitor's pass. Like any new routine, it takes getting used to, but we need your help in providing a secure environment for our students.

We also ask that only people who have a scheduled meeting with a teacher go to the classrooms. Items such as forgotten lunches, books or clothing, can be left with our secretary, Mrs. Channel, who will see that it gets delivered to your child. We are in pretty tight teaching time right now, and it is important that we make the most of it. Small interruptions add up. Thanks.

Indoor and Outdoor Shoes and warm clothing

All students need a clean pair of shoes to keep at school and wear indoors. This will help to keep our school clean, especially on rainy days. Fall weather means that temperatures can change quickly, so, be sure that your child has a jacket or sweater, in case it's cold at recess.

**Lost & Found**

By June of last year, the school ended up with three huge bags of unclaimed clothes. This year we are going through the lost and found every week at assembly, and showing items to all students. Unclaimed clothing is offered to any student who wants it. Please write your child's name in all clothing and lunch boxes so found items can easily be returned.

Peanut allergy

A reminder that ACES has a student who is severely allergic to peanuts. Please make sure you send peanut-free snacks and lunches.

Thanksgiving

School is closed on Monday October 11th. Happy Thanksgiving!

**Electronic Communications**

The ACES website will be operational October 1st. This will be the place to go for up-to-date information on student activities, cafeteria menus, calendars, governing board information and more.
<http://ayerscliff.etsb.qc.ca/>



ELS In an effort to place computers where they will be most used, this year the ETSB required Grade 4 teachers to apply for laptops. Ms. McKelvey's application was accepted and so the ACES Grade 4 have laptops to work with again this year.

Ped Day

Monday November 1st is the next Ped Day. There is no school for students.

Lost & Found Jewellery

Sometime last year two ladies rings were found. Please contact the school for details.

Governing Board

The next meeting of the ACES Governing Board is Monday October 18 at 6pm. Susan Patenaude, Catherine Dolloff, Karen Robinson, Shannon Paxton and Scott Paxton are present members. All parents are welcome to attend the Governing Board meetings and there is always an open question period where anyone can ask a question.

Black and Orange Backwards Day

In keeping with our Halloween tradition, we are asking that on Friday, October 15 students wear black and orange. To add to the fun, we are making it backwards day. (For new ACES parents, this basically means having your child put his or her shirt backwards. It may sound like a small thing, but it's always a big hit)

Last but not least

Thanks to the Home and School Association for all their hard work raising money at the fair, as well as providing and cooking the food for the O House Corn Roast.

All of us at Ayer's Cliff School are eager to work with you and your child(ren) to make this a fun-filled and successful school year. Please do not hesitate to contact us with concerns or questions you may have.

River Street Elementary School

October, 2010

Steve Weary, Principal
Del Springate, Head Teacher