

ACES Newsletter

January 2011

Dear Parents,

The ACES staff hopes that you all had a good holiday season and wishes you and your family a happy and healthy New Year.

Monday Walks and Assembly

The Monday morning walks have been very successful at giving students an opportunity for physical activity that gets them awake and ready to learn. Be sure your child is warmly dressed for a winter walk on Mondays.

The assemblies have been used to model positive social skills and work on ways to make the school a better place for all. One key message is that positive changes need the effort of everyone: staff and students. At the first assembly of 2011 we looked at the recent survey results (see below).

Student Survey Last week, in our on-going attempt to make ACES better than it already is, we gave the students an informal survey to determine what aspects of school life they felt were going well, and which ones they thought we needed to improve. Your children's suggestions were well thought-out and interesting to say the least.

Some of the positive aspects included:

- *Having teachers who care for them*
- *Getting a good education*
- *Having a nice playground*
- *Having many varied activities offered throughout the year*
- *Having Phys-Ed four days a week*
- *Using laptops computers in class*
- *Making good friends*

Suggestions on how to better ACES included

- *Showing more respect for others*
- *Buying more sports equipment*
- *Being allowed to eat cold lunches in the classrooms*
- *Having some kind of music program at school*
- *Considering uniforms for ACES*
- *School dances*
- *Installing new stalls in the bathrooms*

Needless to say, implementing some of these suggestions would require much more in-depth study and discussions with parents, the governing board and the school board. There are

some suggestions, however, that we can look into now, and already teachers are tossing some ideas around. Look for more on these in the future.

Student Led Conferences

February 10th is the date to come and learn more about what your child is doing in school. At the student led-conferences, students will present a portfolio of sample work to their parent(s). Reserve this date now!

Sports

It is now Basketball season and the teams are practicing for the Galt tournament in February. Our ski days for Grades 5 & 6 are January 18th and February 15th, details will be sent home soon. We are planning another week for all students to go snowshoeing on trails set around the field and through the woods.

Skating

As part of Phys-ed class, students from Grade 2 up will go to the local rink for skating every week. Grade 2 & 3 on Fridays from 8:30-10:00am; Grade 4 & 5 on Thursdays from 10:20-11:50 am; Grade 6 on Fridays from 1:05 - 2:30pm. Parent volunteers will be needed to help with this event. Please be sure that your child has warm clothes, skates that fit and that they have a helmet.

ACES website <http://ayerscliff.etsb.qc.ca/>

General school information as well as the latest activity calendar, lunch calendar, and the Governing Board Highlights are always on the ACES website. Photos of school activities are there too!

Parkside Ranch

The tradition continues! On January 27-28 Grade 5 & 6 students will be going to Parkside Ranch. Snowshoeing, Cross-country skiing, sliding, and of course the skits will make this a great time for all.

2011-2012 School Registration

This is a reminder that all 2011-2012 signed Registration forms must be returned no later than Tuesday, January 18th.

RELEVÉ 24

This is also a reminder that in order to receive a Tax Receipt, it is required that you inform the office to whom the receipt should be issued. No receipt will be printed out without the person's Social Insurance Number.

Steve Weary
Principal

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Head Teacher