



ARMSTRONG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Respect Self, Others, Property and Learning

November 6, 2023

Principal’s Message

November has arrived, and with it has come some snowy and slushy weather already! I’m hoping that the snow retreats back up into the mountains for another month 😊

The theme for November is “Stay focused on your job”. We will be talking a lot this month about making sure we know what our job is and staying focused on what we need to do in order to do our job well. Life provides plenty of distractions all the time, and learning to focus on what we need to do at any given moment is such an important life skill.

As I now enter into my third month at AES, I feel like I’m getting to know our school community much better and I can honestly say I’m delighted to be here. It is such a privilege to get to be part of your children’s lives.

As always, please remember that you are a valued and important part of our school community. The team with parents, students and staff is so important in helping children reach their potential and we are so appreciative of building those connections with families. Please know that staff really value communication with families.

Sincerely,

Val Edgell

Principal: AES

Our school goals:

Writing: Students and teachers have been working hard to develop writing skills. As a school we are working on getting details into our writing, and supporting our thinking with examples and evidence. Sometimes students find it difficult to write more than one thing about a topic. For example, they may say that a character in a book is very kind, but then find it difficult to give examples of how we know that they are kind. One way that you can support your child with this is through conversations. For example, if you ask them a question such as “what is the very best activity that you can do in the gym at school?” When your child answers, ask them to provide two or three reasons, or a detailed explanation of how to play the particular game.

Numeracy: Here is a great game that can be played by students in grades 1 to adult. Connect 4 requires a game board (which can be drawn on paper) and two regular dice. Player 1 rolls the dice and adds up the total. They then place two counters on numbers that add to that total. For example, if the total of the dice was 5, then you could place counters on 5 and 0, or 1 and 4 or 2 and 3 etc. The first player to get four counters in a row wins. Here is a sample game board:

2	8	10	4	12	3
9	5	6	11	3	7
6	4	7	8	5	9
5	2	5	3	4	2
3	8	9	9	8	12
6	4	10	2	10	11

Parent, Teacher, Student Conferences

Thank you to everyone for coming in for our Parent, Teacher and Student conferences in the past few weeks. If you have not yet connected with your child’s teacher, please reach out to them. This communication is so important in ensuring your child’s success. I’m hoping that people found the online booking for conferences fairly straight forward. We welcome feedback!

Remembrance Day

We will hold our Remembrance Day assembly on Thursday Nov 9 starting at 10:00 a.m.

Skating

Skating season has started! Many of our classes are heading to the arena over the next few months. We do have some extra skates here at the school if your child needs some to borrow. Please ensure you give the teacher some lead time to fit them to skates- last minute skate fittings are difficult. All skaters are required to wear helmets as well as hand protection. This can be mitts or gloves, but it is really important that fingers are protected. Please also ensure they are wearing snow pants as skating is so much more enjoyable when one isn’t wet 😊

Winter weather

Whether we are ready or not, winter seems to be coming. Please ensure your kids are coming to school with a warm jacket, boots, mitts, toque etc. I know that older kids might just want to wear a hoodie, but we really need to be warm and dry. If you need support with getting warm winter clothing for your child, please reach out. We will help wherever we can.

Winter concert

After much deliberation, we have a schedule of Winter Concerts to share with you. We fully realize how difficult it is for parents who have multiple children, but we really can’t find a way to reduce the number of concerts without limiting every child to one adult coming to watch. We continue to search for solutions, but for this year here is the plan:

Tuesday Dec 12	Wed. Dec 13	Thursday Dec 14
Mrs. Ramsey	Mrs. Dorward/Foster	Mrs. Scott
Mrs. Rempel	Mrs. Novakowski	Mrs. Monsigneur
Mr. Purdon	Mrs. Jacques	Mrs. Brown
Mrs. Neufeld	Mr. Belec	Mr. Weeks

Concerts will start at 12:45 each day.

School fees

This is a friendly reminder to please pay your school fees. When we order the supplies in bulk through the school we save quite a bit, and have been able to pass along the savings to you. However, we do count on recovering the fees as families pay them in the fall in order to make the system work. If you haven’t yet paid your school fees, we ask that you submit them as soon as possible. We realize that finances can be tough for families. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to Val Edgell, Principal, if you require assistance with covering the cost of your child’s school fees.



Parent Advisory Council (PAC) News

Our monthly PAC meetings are changing to Monday evenings. We will meet on Monday Nov 6 at 5:30 and again on Nov 27 at 5:30. This meeting will serve as the December PAC meeting.



Important Dates:

Nov. 6	PAC meeting 5:30
Nov 7	Photo re take day
Nov 9	Remembrance Day assembly
Nov. 10	Stat holiday for Remembrance Day
	Soup day! Bring your bowl and spoon and enjoy free soup!
Nov 22	Soup day: Remember a bowl and spoon
Nov 24	PRO D day: no school for students

AES: the School Where Everyone Belongs