



# ARTHUR FORD PUBLIC SCHOOL HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2021

## ARTHUR FORD HOME & SCHOOL VISION

We Build Futures

### MISSION STATEMENT

Arthur Ford, a family school, a community where students, teachers, parents and families work together collaboratively to enhance communication and foster creative thinking in order to achieve the collective goal of laying the groundwork for students current and future successes.

### VALUES

Communication, Collaboration, Connection,  
Creative Thinking

### OFHSA MANDATE

The Best For Each Student



## HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

We want to start off by acknowledging the sad and tragic news for our community re the accident that occurred at Riverside and Wonderland on November 30<sup>th</sup> our sincere sympathy goes out to the injured and their families.

It is December! For many, the countdown to Winter Break is in full swing and there is so much to look forward to with happy and special days just around the corner! It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of another year. 2021 (like 2020) has been like no other and we are hopeful that the New Year will bring us closer to the end of the pandemic. Looking back as the year unfolded, who would have thought that this school term we are coming out the other end with our heads held high.

Our focus for the 2021/2022 school year is in supporting literacy initiatives and goals for the school. In the New Year we can look forward to bringing back the Hot Lunch Program, fundraising activities, volunteer opportunities (please see below for details) and hopefully some events for school and more!

As this is the last school newsletter for the year, the Home and School Association and School Council would like to express our thanks and appreciation to all parents/guardians and community members who have assisted us this year in what have been challenging times for us all. Your support and dedication toward our school community is very much appreciated.

We would also like to take a moment to acknowledge and thank the staff at Arthur Ford as they have worked incredibly hard this year under trying circumstances at times. They have juggled their own families, their classes, their students and their careers. Their energy and continued focus on what is best for our Arthur Ford Firebirds is enriching and energizing.

Our students are engaging in many quality learning activities and experiences each day because of our staff and families.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!!!** We would like to wish all students, staff, and their families a restful and rejuvenating winter break. Stay safe during the holiday season and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year, 2022!

Please be reminded that our next Home and School Association and School Council meeting is on Monday, December 6th and below are the details.

**Stay Safe, Be Well and Take Care!**  
**Your Arthur Ford Home and School Association**

*"Holidays—any holiday—are such a great opportunity to focus on bringing the family together."* By Lidia Bastianich



*"Winter, a lingering season, is a time to gather golden moments, embark upon a sentimental journey, and enjoy every idle hour."* –

By John Boswel



Join us for our next Joint School Council and Home & School Meeting

When: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the every month

Where: Via Microsoft Teams\*\*

Time: 6:30pm School Council and 7:30pm Home & School

If you have not attended a meeting in the past please send a request to

[afhomeandschool@gmail.com](mailto:afhomeandschool@gmail.com) \*\* If you have previously attended, an invite will be sent by e-mail.

## Meeting Dates for Home and School (and School Council)...

Wed, September 22, 2021  
Mon, October 4, 2021  
Mon, November 1, 2021  
Mon, December 6, 2021

**Mon, January 10, 2022** ●

Mon, February 7, 2022  
Mon, March 7, 2022  
Mon, April 4, 2022  
Mon, May 2, 2022 (AGM)  
Mon, June 6, 2022

● *Next upcoming monthly meeting date*

### Times:

Home and School Meeting starts at 7:30pm  
School Council meeting starts at 6:30pm

**Virtual Platform:** Microsoft Teams  
*(one link for both meetings will be sent via School Messenger by School Administration prior to the monthly meetings)*

**Check out the Arthur Ford Public School Calendar as it has all the PA days, holidays, school events and special days listed!**

<https://calendar-arthurford.tvdsb.ca/Default/Month>

In December 2021 a couple noted dates are  
December 1-15 – Food Drive  
And December 13-17 – Spirit Week  
*(please see below for details)*

## Highlights from December 6th, 2021 Home and School and School Council Meeting

### 2021/2022 School Council Executive Team Members:

Co-Chairs: Deanna Perks and Mary-Anne De Couto-Gatschene  
Treasurer: Kim Seguin Secretary: Sarah Kelly

### 2021/2022 Arthur Ford Home and School Association Executive Team:

President: Lana –Lisa Coombs-Jackman  
VPs: Gail Naraine & Robyn Johnson  
Treasurer: Sarah Ruddach  
Secretary: Erin Twist  
H&S Rep: Kim Seguin

- De-streaming presentation slideshow was shared (helpful info for students going into Grade 9)
- Elementary School and Child Care Screener - Letters were sent home along with a blue sticker. For our younger students, usernames and passwords were provided. For older students, they should know them. If you have issues, please contact your child's teacher or the office for help.
- Student rapid testing kits - Schools are receiving rapid test kits to be available for students during the holiday break. The school will be receiving more information from Senior Administration in regards to the distribution. This will be communicated through the parent portal by TVDSB and the school will provide updates.
- Fundraising info and ideas were shared. Hot Lunch will be starting back up in the New Year and a new fundraiser, FlipGive, was approved.
- There are many volunteering opportunities coming up *(please see below "supporting school needs" section for volunteer details)*.
- Various Request for funds were approved *(please see below "supporting school needs" section for volunteer details)*.
- School Council will be looking to create a Communication guideline and at updating their Bylaws *(please contact School Council for details)*.
- For more on Home and School please contact [afhomeandschool@gmail.com](mailto:afhomeandschool@gmail.com)
- For more info on School Council please contact [afschoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:afschoolcouncil@gmail.com)

## Arthur Ford School Calendar for December 2021

December 1-15 – **Arthur Ford Holiday Food Drive** *(please see below for details)*

December 3 – [International Day of Persons with Disabilities](#)

December 6 – [National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women](#)

December 6 – **Grade 8 Graduation Photos**

December 10 – [International Human Rights Day](#)

December 13 – 17 – **Spirit Days** *(please see below for details)*

December 20 -31 – **Winter Break Holidays**

December 26 - [Death of Prophet Zarathustra](#)



**Arthur Ford**  
Public School

## Spirit Week

*(Click on link above for more details)*

Spirit weeks are weeks where various themed activities happen around school usually meant to hype up school spirit, or to bring awareness to a specific event or cause. Students (and staff) are also encouraged (if possible) to wear outfits that correspond with certain themes for the day to show school unity and spirit. Spirit Week activities will certainly inspire some laughter and it allows students (and staff) to participate in some fun events.

## Arthur Ford Spirit Days in December

<p><b>MONDAY 13TH</b></p> <p><b>Dreidel Dreidel</b></p> <p>Wear BLUE AND WHITE in honour of our friends who celebrate Hanukkah.</p> 	<p><b>TUESDAY 14TH</b></p> <p><b>Kwanzaa Fun</b></p> <p>Wear RED, BLACK and GREEN to honour our friends who celebrate Kwanzaa.</p> 	<p><b>WEDNESDAY 15TH</b></p> <p><b>Candy Cane Lane</b></p> <p>Wear RED and WHITE to look like this favourite winter treat!</p> 	<p><b>THURSDAY 16TH</b></p> <p><b>Deck the Halls</b></p> <p>Get decked out in your hippest Christmas or Winter Shirt / Sweater.</p> 	<p><b>FRIDAY 17TH</b></p> <p><b>Silent Night Pajama Day</b></p> <p>Stay in the pajamas you wore the night before and wear them to school today.</p> 
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**DECEMBER 13TH-17TH**



Each day leading up to the winter break all FIREBIRDS are invited and encouraged to show their school spirit by dressing up and participating in the daily activities!

**WINTER HOLIDAY SPIRIT WEEK ACTIVITIES**

## Advocacy Opportunity

Here is an opportunity for our School Community, School Council members, and Home and School Association members to provide public input into a TVDSB draft documents for various Policies and Procedures



## TVDSB Board Public Input Request

School Administration has asked us to share this information seeking public input for the following document(s):

- French as a Second Language: Immersion and Extended Elementary Independent Procedure (9044)
- Promotional Practices Selection Procedures and Appointment of Principals and Vice Principals (9038)
- Trustee Leave of Absence Policy (New)

For details, public input deadlines and contact information, please visit: [https://www.tvdsb.ca/en/our-board/public-input.aspx?\\_mid\\_=811](https://www.tvdsb.ca/en/our-board/public-input.aspx?_mid_=811)

## Here are some of the Arthur Ford School Calendar Info for January 2021

- January 3 – First Day Back from Winter Break
- January 10 – School Council and Home and School Association Meetings
- January 14 – Elementary PD Day
- January 16 – World Religion Day
- January 17 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 24 – School Photos
- January 27 – Family Literacy Day
- January 27 - Holocaust Remembrance Day

**HORRAY FIREBIRDS!!!!**

With everyone's kind generosity we have surpassed our original school goal to collect 400 items, surpassed the new goal of 600 items and we have reached 1000 items collected!

**ARTHUR FORD**

# Holiday FOOD DRIVE



**DECEMBER 1ST - 15TH, 2021**

**Families are invited to donate what they can if they can.**

## **Some examples of items:**

- Canned fish
- Meat-based canned soups/stews
- Nut butters
- Bags or cans of dried beans/peas
- Cereals and Crackers
- Meat based canned soups/stews
- Bags/cans of dried beans
- Spices
- Cooking Oil
- Sugar and Flour
- Boxed/Powdered Milk
- Tea and Coffee
- Can Opener

Donated items will go to St. Vincent de Paul Society by St. John The Divine Church.



HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR

**“New year — a new chapter, new verse,  
or just the same old story? Ultimately we write it. The  
choice is ours.”**

*- by Alex Morrill*

### **Supporting Student & School Needs:**

Highlights on what your Home and School has done so far for the year to support the School and Student Needs

The following various request for funds were approved by Home and School members:

- **Forest of Reading Program:**  
To support the Literacy goals for the school the Forest of Reading books were purchased for the school Library.

- **MunchALunch Platform Renewal:** This is the platform the school utilizes to run the Hot Lunch Program

- **School Music Program:**  
Purchases of Cello/Base End Pin rests and Portable Digital Tuners and Music Play Online Platform

- **Caribou Math Contest - School Wide Access:** This is a math platform that teach and motivate our students with fun puzzles, games, and challenges. Certificates for every student, and prizes for achievement and participation.

### **Supporting School Needs:**

One of the ways the Home and School supports the school needs is by volunteering and fundraising. This year the school has identified Literacy as one of their needs.

#### **Fundraising and volunteering at Arthur Ford:**

One of our more successful fundraisers is the “Hot Lunch” Program and in the New Year we will start back up the “Hot Lunch” program. Thank you to all those who have submitted their names to volunteer. If you are interested in volunteering for one of the volunteer roles (co-lead role, admin role or hot lunch days role etc.) please email [afhomeandschool@gmail.com](mailto:afhomeandschool@gmail.com). For details on the volunteer roles, requirements and time commitments please see our November 2021 Home and School Newsletter.

#### **Other Volunteer Opportunities At Arthur Ford:**

School Council is looking for volunteers to join:  
Bylaw Sub-Committee and/or  
Communication Sub-Committee  
For details and if you are interested to volunteer please email [afschoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:afschoolcouncil@gmail.com)

Home and School is looking for volunteers to join:  
2022/2023 Budget Sub-Committee and/or  
Fundraising Sub-Committee  
For details and if you are interested to volunteer please email [afhomeandschool@gmail.com](mailto:afhomeandschool@gmail.com)

In partnership with the school the **Strong Start** Reading Program happens when adults spend quality time with children on specially selected games and activities to develop literacy skills that position children for success. For further info please contact the school office at [arthurford@tvdsb.ca](mailto:arthurford@tvdsb.ca)

#### **Volunteering Requirements at Arthur Ford:**

To volunteer please see the [VolunteerLetter.docx](#) and [Offence&Declarartion&Volunteers\(1\).docx](#) for information. *Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to Mr. Bonello at [t.bonello@tvdsb.ca](mailto:t.bonello@tvdsb.ca)*

### **Supporting Community Needs:**

The winter break is fast approaching! Stuck on what to do with the kids? Create a kindness challenge and create ways to be present in your neighbourhood – at a distance of course  
Bake cookies for a neighbor or shovel the driveway for a friends or family members. Support others who may not have family nearby.

As the pandemic is now part of our everyday life, like last year, the holidays is going to look different again this year. On December 9, 2021, Huron Perth, London-Middlesex, and Southwestern public health units issued a [joint letter of recommendation](#) to the individuals and workplaces in our region that addressed the rise in COVID-19 cases in advance of the holiday season. Don't think of this as a bad thing but an opportunity to try something new. Stay positive- create new traditions and be creative about how you celebrate past ones. Stay and be safe however you decide to spend your break.

#WeBuildFutures #ArthurFordFirebirds #ArthurFordPS

*The four C's of Possible Dreams: Communication, Collaboration, Connection, and Creative Thinking*

#### **Website:**

<http://arthurford.tvdsb.ca>

**AF School Twitter:**  
[@ArthurFordPS](https://twitter.com/ArthurFordPS)

#### **Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/arthurfordfirebirds](https://www.facebook.com/arthurfordfirebirds)

#### **Email:**

[afhomeandschool@gmail.com](mailto:afhomeandschool@gmail.com)

# Winter Crafts for Kids

## Video on How to Make Your Egg Carton Snowman

Or

### **Steps on How to Make Your Egg Carton Snowman**

1. First, cut out three egg cups from your egg carton.
2. Next, paint your egg cups white. You may need a few coats of paint to fully cover the egg cups.
3. To stack your cups, you will need to add spacers in between to allow the cups to sit higher. In order to make the spacers, you will need to cut out a small strip from the egg carton lid. Fold the strip into a square. Glue this square to the top of one egg carton.
4. Glue another egg carton on top of the one with the spacer. Create another spacer with a strip of egg carton lid and attach this to the top of the second egg cup. Then, glue your final egg cup to the top.
5. To make earmuffs, cut a small piece of pipe cleaner and curve it into an upside down "U" shape. Glue this to the top egg cup. Next, glue two pom poms on either side of the pipe cleaner to make it look like earmuffs.
6. Draw a carrot nose onto a piece of orange cardstock and cut it out. Glue this to the top egg carton
7. Draw on eyes and a mouth with a black Sharpie.
8. Finally, glue one black button onto the middle and bottom egg cup



**Egg Carton Snowman**

### **Supplies to make an Egg Carton Snowman**

Here are the simple supplies you'll need to make your Egg Carton Snowman:

- Egg Carton
- White Acrylic Paint
  - Scissors
  - Paint Brush
  - Hot Glue
- 2 Black Buttons
- Orange Cardstock
- Black Sharpie or Black Marker
- Small Pom Poms (green and red)
- Pipe Cleaners (green and red)