



**ARTHUR FORD PUBLIC SCHOOL
HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 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 Fall and Thanksgiving!

Fall is finally here! The smell of fresh baked apple pies, pumpkin spice everything, hayrides, bonfires, corn mazes, pumpkin patches, colorful autumn leaves, and the beauty and bounty of nature are indisputable. This is the month to celebrate Thanksgiving, Halloween and more. Even with all the additional chaos 2021 has presented us with, there is still so much to be thankful for this Thanksgiving. We'd even argue one of the greatest gifts this challenging year has given us was a new perspective on the things we've been taking for granted all this time!

With Halloween just around the corner, there will be many kids and families excited to trick or treat this year. Not sure what to do...here are some [guidelines](#) from the province!

Whether you've already decorated your home for the season or just simply spending time with family or friends, we hope you and your family are having a great fall, had a wonderful Thanksgiving and will have a fun and safe Halloween!

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

Thanksgiving Is For Giving Thanks

by Margaret Sutherland, Sonja Lamut



***"It's not happy people who are grateful,
it is grateful people who are happy." –
Roy T. Bennett***



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

When: 1st 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 ** 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

Times:

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

Virtual Platform: Microsoft

Teams (*invites will be sent out either by the School Council and/or 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 September 2021 one of the noted dates was on September 30th Orange Shirt Day - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (*please see below for details*)

Highlights from September 22nd and October 4th Home and School 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 (starts Nov 1, 2021) and Brittany Hopkins (Interim to Oct 31/2021)
Secretary: Erin Twist
H&S Rep: Kim Seguin

- Our "Membership Campaign Drive" has been successful so far, as we have 27 members (including our Exec Team) who have joined your 2021/2022 Arthur Ford Home and School Association.
- We have committed to raise money to help support the school with their Literacy goals and focuses for this school year.
- Your Home and School will work along with school administration and other groups within our school community to start our 2021/2022 planning, with hopes that we can provide exciting opportunities for our Firebirds!
- We have updated our Home and School Standing Rules and Best Practices
- For more on Home and School please contact afhomeandschool@gmail.com
- For more info on School Council please contact afschoollcouncil@gmail.com

Days Celebrated in October 2021

October 1-31 – [Islamic Heritage Month](#) – [Did you Know?](#)
October 1-31 – [Women's History Month](#)
October 1 – Terry Fox Run (*please see below for details*)
October 2 – [National Custodial Workers Recognition Day](#)
October 6 – [International Walk to School Day](#)
October 9 – [PANDAS/PANS Awareness Day](#)
October 10 – [World Mental Health Day](#)
October 11 – [Day of the Girl](#)
October 11 – Thanksgiving (*please see learning activity below*)
October 15 – Fall School Picture Day - **POSTPONED** – this will be rescheduled at later date
October 17 – [International Day for the Eradication of Poverty](#)
October 22 – [Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day](#)
October 27 – [Child Abuse Prevention Day](#)
October 31 – Halloween (*please see math and colouring activity below*)



Orange Shirt Day and September 30

September 30th was chosen as the date for Orange Shirt Day because it represents the time of year when Indigenous children were forced to leave their families to attend Residential Schools.



Government of Canada
Gouvernement du Canada

Canada.ca > [Canadian Heritage](#)



National Truth and Reconciliation Day

September 30th The day honours the lost children and Survivors of residential schools, their families and communities. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process.



Terry Fox Run

The annual Terry Fox Run has become a fall tradition in Canada, with more than 650 communities, big and small, urban and rural, English and French, fundraising for cancer research. He ran close to 42 km (26 miles) a day through Canada's Atlantic provinces, Quebec and Ontario. However, on September 1st, after 143 days and 5,373 km (3,339 miles), Terry was forced to stop running outside of Thunder Bay, Ontario because cancer had appeared in his lungs.



“Gratitude helps you to grow and expand; gratitude brings joy and laughter into your life and into the lives of all those around you.”

- Eileen Caddy

Supporting Student & School Needs:

- School Improvement Plan - This year our Arthur Ford staff will continue to focus on our students' ability to read, and understand the text they are reading. Our Home and School is committed to support this goal and has purchased – Take Home Reading books for our students. The school, has also purchased some Reading licenses to support some of our students, and have Literacy Intervention kits that will also be used this year.
- We need YOU! In order to reach our OFHSA mandate of “The Best for Each Student”, we need parents just like you to be the voice for our Arthur Ford Students. Attend our monthly meetings and share your thoughts and ideas!
- As our children “[Return to Learn](#)”, here are some resources to help you with the [Mental Health and Well-being](#) for students and families!

Supporting School Community Needs:

Last year the **Home and School (and School Council)** had established the below **Equity Statement**:

“At Arthur Ford Public School, we support the [TVDSB](#) definition of equity as the fair, inclusive and respectful treatment of all people, acknowledging that equity does not mean treating people the same without regard for differences (equality). We understand that there are times that students and families may require different resources and supports to achieve equal access to and success in education. Therefore, School Council and Home and School will endeavor to do its part to reduce systemic barriers within the school to improve student learning, close achievement gaps, and to ensure equitable opportunities for students and families within the Arthur Ford School Community. As a school with a diverse community and two valued programs (inclusive of a standard TVDSB and the Alternative Parent Participation Learning Experience (APPLE) programs), we will attempt to not contribute to inequity within the school, but rather look for opportunities to promote a school community in which all of our students are supported by our parent groups to succeed in achieving their learning goals.”

Supporting Student, Community & Home Needs:

- To support the TVDSB “[Equity and Inclusive Education](#)” we recognize that our students and families come from a variety of backgrounds, identities, and cultures which enhance our school community. We hope to creatively break down barriers and create equitable and safe spaces all students, staff, families and community members feel welcome and accepted in order to learn and grow not just at school but in our homes.
- As the pandemic is now part of our everyday life, families have had the opportunity to spend more time together and get back to basics, increasing the time we spend with our children. Any time we change the “normal routine,” there will also be changes in other areas like “[Returning to School](#)”. All things considered, being forced to halt busy lives and spend time together has made many think about what’s important, including children, family and our community.

#WeBuildFutures #ArthurFordFirebirds #ArthurFordPS

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

Name: _____

Celebrate Thanksgiving in Canada!



Directions: In Canada, Thanksgiving Day is celebrated on the second Monday in October. What do you know about Thanksgiving in Canada? Explore the Web site provided. Then fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

Web Resource: Thanksgiving

http://www.craigmarlatt.com/canada/symbols_facts&lists/thanksgiving.html

1. Thanksgiving is a holiday on which people give thanks for a bountiful
_____.
2. In Canada, people celebrated the first Thanksgiving in
_____.
3. In 1879, _____ declared Thanksgiving a national holiday in Canada.
4. A _____ is a curved goat's horn filled with fruit and grain.
5. During the Revolutionary War, American _____ moved to Canada and spread the Thanksgiving tradition.
6. In _____, Parliament declared that Thanksgiving in Canada would be celebrated on the second Monday in October.

To learn more, go to <http://www.kidzworld.com/article/2614-canadian-thanksgiving#>. Then write about how your family celebrates Thanksgiving.

Name: _____

Addends up to 10

Write the answer for each problem. Then, color according to the key at the bottom.

