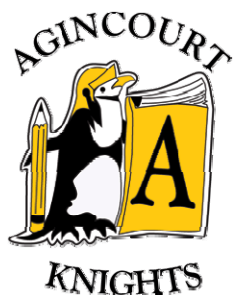


# Agincourt Road Public School Newsletter

November 2009  
Volume 50, Issue 3

Agincourt Road Public School  
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Ottawa, ON K2C 2J2  
(613) 225-2750  
www.agincourtps.ocdsb.ca



## Mark your calendars!

- Remembrance Day Assembly (Morning)  
November 11
- P.A Day: No School  
November 13 & 16
- School Council Meeting  
7:00 PM  
November 17
- Lockdown Practice  
10:15AM  
November 18
- Paris/Symington Field Trip to National Gallery  
November 19
- Parent-Teacher Interview forms go home  
November 23
- Parent-Teacher Interview forms returned  
November 25
- Photo Retake Day  
November 26
- Spirit Day "Twin Day" & "Empathy" Assembly  
November 27
- Report cards go home  
November 30
- Parent-Teacher Interviews (Evening)  
December 3
- Parent-Teacher Interviews (Morning)  
December 4
- P.A Day: No School  
December 4

## Principal's News

Things are settling down after our re-organization in October. Portable 2 is being scrubbed and brand new furniture is being set up for Mlle Courneya/Mme Marchand and their students. Most likely, the move will take place the second week of November.

Much of the PD Day in October was spent meeting in grade teams discussing teaching and assessment strategies aimed at increasing student performance in mathematics and more specifically in linear measurement. Teachers have established another SMART goal and will focus on teaching concepts such as area and perimeter for the next 6-weeks. Ask your teacher how you can help at home.

Students are taking advantage of the wonderful opportunities afforded to them. Whether it be joining a club, playing a lunchtime sport, or going on a field trip, our students are very lucky to have such an enriched learning environment. It is a joint effort with a dedicated staff and supportive parents working together.

Shirley Brackenbury  
Principal

Elizabeth Doering  
Vice-Principal

## H1N1 Update

Parents and guardians have an important role to play in limiting the spread of the H1N1 virus among children. To ensure children's safe and healthy return to school, we ask you to take the following steps: Teach your children to **prevent illness** by: washing their hands frequently with soap and water for at least 15 seconds. A 60-90 per cent alcohol-based hand rub is also effective if hands are not visibly soiled; coughing or sneezing into their sleeve or arm - not their hands; not sharing things that go in the mouth, such as cups, juice boxes, water bottles, forks/spoons, musical instruments with mouthpieces, mouth guards, etc.

Ensure that your children **stay home when they experience flu-like symptoms** such as a fever over 38 C/100.4 F, a cough, muscle aches, fatigue, severe headache, sore throat, and lack of appetite. Make arrangements to have someone take care of your children at home when they are ill.

Report the absence to school officials and advise them of your children's symptoms. We are continuing to closely monitor attendance at the school and appreciate your assistance in this matter.

**REMINDER:**

*Please listen to the radio and dress the children for the weather.*

*We send the students outside in periods of light rain and find a few students are wearing light-weight hoodies.*

**Walk-a-thon**

The Walk-a-thon at Agincourt was held on a cold but sunny day. Hopefully, everyone had a good day. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who came out to make sure the routes were set up, help with the refreshments, and stamp the childrens' hands or cards. More specifically, thank you to: Julie Parker and Penny Mayo for picking the apples in the rain; Mme Tindale for the 1950's music selections; Mr. McDowell for setting up the sound system; Tony Young for bringing all other required supplies out to the school yard; and the children for participating so eagerly in

the event. The use of water bottles and the re-use of cups was appreciated. Maybe next year, we can make this a litterless event.

Most of the Walk-a-thon envelopes have been returned, but there are still quite a few missing. We would like to account for all envelopes, so please return them as soon as possible so we can sum up the final count.

**ECOKIDS Grade 1 to 3 News**

Ecokids were busy in October! They worked on their LOCO song (Lights off, Computers off!) and taught it to the school, as part of our October Ecokids initiatives. Ecokids coloured and prepared new LOCO signs for all classrooms to post, as a daily reminder, to all.

The Ecokids also looked after the announcements and advertising for our 50's Hair Spirit Day! Bravo, Ecokids! All Grade 1-3 primary students are welcome to join us on Tuesdays at 11:25, in the small gym, all year long.

Merci. Mme Anne/Mme Beatty

**Spooky-grams**

On October 28th and 29th, Mme Marcotte and Mme Beatty's third grade classes got together to sell Spooky-grams to raise money for their class trip to the NAC in December. For 50 cents, students purchased Halloween themed Spooky-grams to send to their friends. Spooky-grams were hand delivered by Grade 3 students on October 30th, along with a piece of candy.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our students, the third grade classes were able to raise money to go towards their December trip!

**Drama Club**

The Drama Club is running again this year. They will begin practising a play titled Great Scientific Breakthroughs. It is a comedy about famous scientists and their discoveries. Interested students have had a chance to audition for both dramatic and dance roles.



*Early one morning at Agincourt...*

## Dressing for Winter Weather

With the colder winter weather now here, please check how your children are dressed when leaving for school. Children should be wearing a winter coat, hat, mitts, and boots.

They should also have a pair of indoor shoes for in-school use. Label your children's clothing items with their name; it will keep them together longer.

## Inclement Weather - School Transportation Cancellations

On mornings when the weather is bad and the schools may be closed or the buses may not be running because of poor road conditions, please listen to the radio. Announcements are made on local radio stations.



When the buses are not running and the schools remain open, teachers and staff will be in attendance. If parents choose to drive their children to school, it is important to remember that they must also pick them up at the end of the day or earlier if weather conditions worsen. When there are no buses in the morning, there are no buses for the rest of the day. When the school is officially closed due to the weather or other emergencies, students and staff will not attend.

## Bus News

We had quite a rough start to the year with the addition of a seventh bus, schedule changes, bus number changes, busses breaking down, new drivers, only a few empty seats available etc.

But, it looks like things are starting to settle down a bit. Thank you to the parents for your patience. It is very much appreciated. If you have concerns about the bus, please call the following numbers:

Stock Bus 613-820-0500...Bus # 5, #36, #83

First Student West (Cumberland) 613-0841-8600... Bus #30, #46, #71, #55, #56

## Drawstring Safety

We would like to remind parents that drawstrings on jackets, sweatshirts and other clothing items pose a danger to your child. Drawstrings can become snagged on school bus handrails or doors, on playground equipment, on escalators. Incidents of snagged drawstrings or toggles have resulted in injuries and even deaths.

We do not want this to happen to any of our children. We urge you to inspect all of your children's clothing and eliminate these hazards wherever possible. The simplest solution is to remove all drawstrings from clothing.



## Winter Clothing Drive November 16 to 30

Knitted articles  
Gently used outerwear  
(infant-adult)  
Hats  
Mitts  
Boots of all sizes

Let's work together to  
make this a warm holiday  
season for everyone!

*Your child's safety  
is our number one  
concern. Please  
use our Safe  
Arrival Line.  
613-225-2754*



Agincourt Road Public School  
 1250 Agincourt Road  
 Ottawa, ON  
 K2C 2J2

Phone:  
 (613) 225-2750

Fax:  
 (613) 225-5804

Safe Arrival Line:  
 (613) 225-2754

School Daycare:  
 (613) 224-0735

Superintendent:  
 Cathy Nevins  
 (613) 596-8211 x. 8821

Trustee:  
 Pam Fitzgerald  
 (613) 731-4976

We're on the Web!  
[www.agincourtps.ocdsb.ca](http://www.agincourtps.ocdsb.ca)

## Respect

This month's character trait is respect. At our kick-off assembly on Monday, we were treated to another fabulous video presentation and talk about becoming more respectful. We know that children are mirrors; they reflect back to us everything we say and do. We now know that 95% of everything children learn, they learn from what is modeled for them. Only 5% of all they learn is from direct instruction. Human beings are like tape recorders. Every word we hear, everything we experience, is permanently recorded in our subconscious.

Whenever adults speak, we are being role models for the children in our presence. What we speak is what we teach. Children record every word we ever say to them or in front of them. The language children grow up hearing is the language they will speak. Gandhi said, "We must become the change we want to see in the world." Joseph Chilton Pearce says, "We must become the people we want our children to be."

## Cross Country News

On a cold, sunny, and very windy morning, 91 students from Agincourt took part in the Southwest Division Cross Country Meet. With alacrity, many students achieved personal bests, some finishing in the top 10. It was a fun-filled day, full of laughter, cheers and sheer exhaustion. It was a very memorable day for staff and students alike.

Many thanks go out to our parent volunteers. Special congratulations goes out to the following students who all achieved top-10 results (with well over 100 in each age category).

- ❖ Clare L 1st
- ❖ Mano H 3rd
- ❖ Katie H 4th
- ❖ Jackson H 6th
- ❖ Shadae L 6th
- ❖ Dylan L 8th
- ❖ Ashley J 8th
- ❖ Cameron H 9th



## Primary Noon Hour Soccer

Primary noon-hour soccer continues throughout the month of October. The Grade 1s, 2s, and 3s have had an opportunity to play during one lunch-hour each week. Thank you to the primary teachers who have supervised these games.



“ children have never been very good at listening to their elders, ”  
 but they have never failed to imitate them. James Baldwin