



NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation and in the territory covered by the Williams Treaties.

Principals Message

Welcome to the Fall edition of our quarterly newsletter. Again, the school year has been busy with classroom academics and numerous co-curricular activities. I am pleased to say that we have made great gains with our four-year graduation rate. We have increased from 78% to 84%. Students may be coming home talking about what is happening with literacy and numeracy across all subjects. This is part of our school-wide approach. Students in Grades 9 and 10 having been practicing EQAO style questions in classes during November and continuing in January. For more information please contact the office or visit eqao.com.

As we enter the second half of semester one, this is a great chance to connect with our community resources in Our Place, a space for youth. The purpose of community hub spaces is to provide a safe and welcoming, youth centered environment that engages adolescents. The space will also provide community focused program that is tied specifically to the needs of youth and their well-being. Our current partners include the Town of Ajax, Carea Community Health Centre (formerly the Youth Centre), and Girls Inc. Check the listing in classrooms for more information on how to set up a time to meet with one of our professionals.

We also have the launch of our Food and Toy Drive during the month of December involving the whole school. Several activities will happen beginning November 25 running all through the month of December, so stay tuned and get involved. With the end of the calendar year drawing near, it is a time for reflection, pause and time with friends and families. On behalf of the staff here are

Ajax High School, we wish you a safe and pleasant winter

AJAX HIGH SCHOOL

E. McIntosh, Principal
R. Davidson, Vice-Principal
A. Russell, Vice-Principal

School Community Council:
Carolann Bell Prue
Superintendent: Margaret
Lazarus 905-666-6379
Administrative Officer:
D. Fitchett, 905-666-6366
Trustee: Donna Edwards,
905-426-7045,
donna.edwards@ddsbc.ca

105 Bayly Street East
Ajax, Ontario
L1S 1P2

Tel: 905 683 1610
Fax: 905 683 0856

E-mail: AjaxHS@ddsbc.ca
[http://www.ddsbc.ca/school/
ajaxhs/](http://www.ddsbc.ca/school/ajaxhs/)

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DECEMBER 2019



Set high expectations and provide support to ensure all students and staff reach their full potential every year.

Success

NEWS FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

Post-Secondary Application Seminars

Students interested in pursuing post-secondary education have attended one of the University or College Application Seminars. If you are planning on attending post-secondary next year and have not attended a seminar, please see guidance asap.

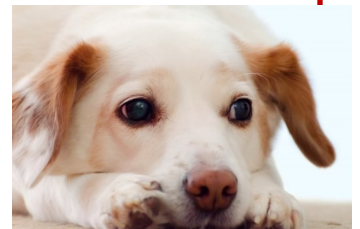


Application Deadlines

A reminder that the deadlines to apply to university and/or college are approaching. The Ontario Universities Application Center deadline for equal consideration is January 15th 2020. The Ontario College Application Service deadline for equal consideration is February 1st 2020. Don't delay!

Who Let the Dogs Out? Guidance Let the Dogs Out!

The Guidance Department has arranged to have visits from "Therapeutic Paws of Canada". This volunteer organization will bring dogs into our school in order to interact with our students and provide anxiety/stress relief and a whole lot of smiles. These visits will be scheduled over our lunch hour. Any student who wishes to participate in this doggone good time must pick up, complete and submit a parental consent form in guidance. Please see Mr. Farndon for further information.



Important information for students and their families regarding S-Trips

December 10, 2019

Please be aware that S-Trips is not affiliated with or endorsed by the Durham District School Board.

Recently, representatives of this company have been marketing graduation and other trips to DDSB students. Please be aware that these trips are not sanctioned by the DDSB and that these trips do not involve supervision or oversight of any kind by DDSB staff.

Please direct any questions about the trips directly to the provider.

Engage students, parents
and community members to
improve student outcomes
and build public confidence.

engagement

Food and Toy Drive

Great things to share regarding our contribution
towards our society. Thank you all who helped
making these projects successful.

MeToWe

We Scare Hunger was a big success with over 550 non
perishable food items being donated to the Salvation
Army and \$250 donation made to the Muslim Women's
Shelter in Whitby.

Food and Toy Drive

We will begin our Food and Toy Drive the last week in
November.

Monday December 2 Boston Pizza Fundraiser from 5:30
-8:30 pm - everyone is invited and 10% of all sales will
be donated to the Food and Toy Drive.

Thurs. December 5 Bake sale - WeBake during the grade
8 parent night with all proceeds going to the Food and
Toy Drive.

Herizon House

Toiletry collections are running from Nov. 1st to Nov.
15th. Each homeroom is asked to fill 2 lunch bags full of
toiletries.

J. Mavin



Engage students, parents
and community members to
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engagement

Special Effects Makeup



Ms Scirocco's Comm Tech class have been having fun learning about how to apply Special Effects Makeup. This is Gr 9 student Kalli Karlov.

Ajax Breakfast Club



Ajax High School proudly runs breakfast club every morning from 8:00am to 8:50am located in the HUB Room.

Everyone is Welcome!

Engage students, parents
and community members to
improve student outcomes
and build public confidence.

engagement



2019-2020

Ajax High School

Yearbook

**Will be sold exclusively online this
year.**

Please check School Cash Online.

\$45 per yearbook

**\$50 per yearbook with name
engraving.**

**They will be available until mid
November.**



Identify future leaders,
actively develop new
leaders and responsively
support current leaders.

Leadership

Ajax High School White Ribbon Campaign

This week the White Ribbon Campaign will be canvassing the school in order to create awareness in the fight to end domestic violence. The committee will be running a variety of activities to help raise awareness for this important community initiative. It will culminate with an assembly this Friday, December 6th, during am periods in the Caf. The White Ribbon Campaign is also encouraging the community to donate money to support Herizon House of Ajax, a non-for-profit shelter who offer confidential services 24 hours a day and provide a place of safety, support, and empowerment for abused women and their children.



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Leadership

TAMI CONFERENCE

On Wed Oct 23rd, 4 students and 2 staff were fortunate enough to attend the TAMI Conference at Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health. It was an awesome day to learn about how to stomp out stigma in our schools by encouraging everyone to talk about their mental health to eliminate fear and shame. We heard from keynote speaker Paul Ranger, a former NHL player who spoke about his battle with depression while in the NHL. We then got to participate in various seminars that will help us to promote positive mental health awareness in our school in the future. It was a great, positive day where we all learned valuable ways to take care of ourselves and others we care about.



J. Callis & J. Burnino



Reimagine learning and teaching spaces through digital technologies and innovative resources.

innovation



Music News



Music News November 2019

- Concert Choir (all grades) – Mondays 3:15 - 4:45pm
- Concert Band (all grades) – Tuesdays 3:15 - 4:45pm
- Music Council – Thursdays @ lunch
- Family of Schools Concerts – Nov 28 - 10:00am and 1:00pm
- Holiday Concert – Nov 28 @ 7:01pm
- Ontario Band Association Festival trip – TBA February
- Ontario Vocal Festival trip – TBA February
- Kiwanis Festival trip – TBA March
- Spring Concert – May 21 @ 7:01pm



CONCERT CHOIR

The Concert Choir is a group of grade 9-12 students who meet once a week on Mondays, from 3:15-4:45pm to rehearse a variety of genres of music. Rehearsals started in September. This group runs throughout the school year and performs at nearly every assembly and all concerts, as well as at the Ontario Vocal Festival (OVF) (Feb) and attends the Canada's Wonderland's Festival of Music (May). All are welcome to attend, learn, and enjoy making music together! Consistent

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Music News



CONCERT BAND

The Concert Band is a group of grade 9-12 students who meet once a week on Tuesdays, from 3:15-4:45pm to rehearse a variety of genres of music. Rehearsals started in September. This group runs throughout the school year and performs at all concerts, as well as at the Ontario Band Association festival (OBA) (Feb), Kiwanis Festival (March), and Canada's Wonderland's Festival of Music (May). All are welcome! Consistent attendance is required to attend concerts, trips and festivals.

MUSIC COUNCIL

The Music Council meets THURSDAYS at lunch in the music room. Any student involved in an extra-curricular ensemble is invited to join this group to help with all the behind-the-scenes details that are essential to keeping the music department going strong! Thank you to the Music Council for organising the fun and games to welcome our new grade 9 members at our annual Grade 9 Welcome Party!

TORONTO SYMPHONY TRIP

AHS's Music Department travelled to Roy Thompson Hall on OCTOBER 23 to attend another fabulous concert featuring music from "Pictures At An Exhibition." Students experienced a professional concert that included a Q&A with the symphony members. We had a fabulous lunch and a little free time at the Eaton's Centre for some team bonding. This event was open to all band, choir, and music classes. It was a fantastic day!

The concert band has already had a performance this year at the Awards Assembly on Thursday, October 10. They played selections from "James Bond Returns" as our academic award-winning students entered the cafeteria. There is a large band of 50 students this year with many grade 9 students, and it was a great first performance for this group! Congratulations to the band members and award winners!

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Music News



AWARDS ASSEMBLY

The concert band has already had a performance this year at the Awards Assembly on Thursday, October 10. They played selections from “James Bond Returns” as our academic award-winning students entered the cafeteria. There is a large band of 50 students this year with many grade 9 students, and it was a great first performance for this group! Congratulations to the band members and award winners!

GRADE 9 WELCOME PARTY!

On Wednesday, October 30, all music students were invited to participate in the 5th annual Music Department Grade 9 Welcome party: pumpkins, sugar, games, and fun! This was a musicians only event: the Grade 9’s really got in to the spirit of things, and battled head-to-head in a game called “shoelaces”, they made super creative pumpkins, ‘banded’ together to claim victory with their team, and won fabulous prizes! A BIG thanks to the Music Council for organising and running a successful event!

REMEMBERANCE DAY

The Concert Choir once again performed in AHS’s annual Rememberance Day ceremony on Monday, November 11. The choir presented a tribute to our own heroes by performing “Highway of Heroes” by the Trews. Our members really stepped up and took solos: congratulations to Owen W, John W, and Jennie M for their courage and skill! A special thank you goes out to Mme. Milot, Ms. Ireland, Ms. Porco, and the Rememberance Day student committee for their contributions to the assembly.

FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

Prior to each of our main concerts on Nov. 28, 2019, and May 21, 2020, AHS’s “Family of Schools” will be invited to watch our band and choir perform during the day, and they will also have a chance to win some great prizes to help them get excited about being involved in our Music Department! This year’s group of grade 9’s are a very enthusiastic group, and we can’t wait to inspire more young musicians to join us next year!

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Music News



SWAG

Music students are looking sharp in our new hoodies, polos, and jackets! This year's hoodies and sweat pants are particularly snuggly and will be seen throughout the school; traditionally, they have been worn on each student's rehearsals days. Any music student who placed an order for music 'swag' should have received it already.

CONCERTS

We are gearing up for our annual Winter Concert! The concert will be held on THURSDAY, NOV 28, and will begin promptly at 7:01pm. Entry is by donation of non-perishable food or a new, unwrapped toy for AHS's annual Food and Toy drive! Prior to the concert, complimentary coffee and tea will be available and baked goods will be sold in support of the Music Department. All students are asked to bring home-made baked goods for the bake sale.

FESTIVALS ARE COMING...STAY 'TUNED'!

Thanks for making the AHS Music Department awesome!

-Ms. J. Cresswell

jennifer.cresswell@ddsbc.ca

905-683-1610 x 2334312



“You are being charged with five counts of clapping between movements.”

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Music News



Some of Our pictures from Grade 9 Welcome Party and Toronto Symphony Orchestra trip



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Music News



Create safe, welcoming,
inclusive learning spaces
to promote well-being for
all students and staff

well-being



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well-being

School Information

Drop Off and Pick Up Safety:

Ajax High School understands that some people must drop off and pick up students using vehicles. If you are driving, please consider the following to keep our students, staff and community safe:

- All drop off and pick ups are to take place at the back of the school in the appropriate lanes.
- Only busses are permitted entry to the lane at the front of the school between the hours of 8:30am-9:05am and 2:30pm-3:05pm
- At no time, are cars permitted to stop in the Public Transit bus lane at the front of the school. This is a traffic offense and you are at risk of being ticketed.
- During drop off and pick up, take your time. Practice safety over convenience. This will help to keep our school community safe.



AJAX HIGH SCHOOL - REVISED BELL SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER 2017

Warning Bell	8:58am	(Music)
Period 1	9:05am	- 10:20am
Home Room (attached to end of Period 1)	10:20am	- 10:25am
Travel time	10:25am	- 10:30am
Period 2	10:30am	- 11:45am
Lunch	11:45am	- 12:30pm
Lunch warning bell	12:23pm	(Music)
Period 3	12:30pm	- 1:45pm
Travel Time	1:45pm	- 1:50pm
Period 4	1:50pm	- 3:05pm
Dismissal	3:05pm	

Promote a sense of belonging and increase equitable outcomes for all by identifying and addressing barriers to success and engagement.

equity

Dates of Significance

Hindu Heritage Month-November



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Dates of Significance



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Important Dates - 2019-2020 School Year

Important Days to Remember

- December 1st: Rosa Parks Day
- December 6: National Day of Action on Violence Against Women
- December 10th: International Human rights Day
- December 19: Build a Snowman Day
- December 22—30: Hanukkah
- December 25: Christmas Day
- December 26—January 1, 2020: Kwanzaa
- December 31: New Year's Eve



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Important Dates - 2019-2020 School Year

SEMESTER ONE

Oct. 9	Photo Re-Take Day
Oct. 10	Interim progress reports issued
Oct. 10	Junior Awards Assembly in Cafeteria
Oct. 14	Thanksgiving Day
Oct. 17	Parent/Guardian - Teacher Interviews 1:30-3:30 & 5:30-7:30 pm
Nov. 6	Term 2 Begins
Nov. 6	Take Your Student To Work Day
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day Assembly
Nov. 12	Midterm Report Cards Issued
Nov. 15	P. D. Day (No School)
Nov. 15	Semester One Midterm Marks sent to OCAS
Dec. 5	Grade 8 Parents' Night
Dec. 23 – Jan. 3	Winter Holidays (No School)
Jan. 6	Classes Resume
Jan. 14	EQAO Math Assessment for Grade 9
Jan. 15	Application Deadline for OUAC
Jan. 20-23	Grade 12 Exams
Jan. 22-27	Grade 9, 10 and 11 Exams
Jan. 28	Last day for Semester Two optional course changes
Feb. 1	Equal Consideration Date for Colleges

SEMESTER TWO

Jan. 30	Semester Two begins (Week 1 Schedule)
Feb. 5	Semester One Final Marks sent to OUAC/OCAS
Feb. 10	Semester One Report Cards Issued
Feb. 14	P. D. Day (No School)
Feb. 17	Family Day (No School)
Feb. 24	Course Selections for 2018-2019 due
Mar 11	Interim Reports Cards Issued
Mar. 13-20	March Break
Mar. 23	Classes Resume (Week 1 Schedule)
Mar. 26	Parent/Guardian - Teacher Interviews
Apr. 3	P. D. Day (No School)
Apr. 10	Good Friday (No School)
Apr. 13	Easter Monday (No School)
Apr. 16	Term 2 Begins
Apr. 21	Semester Two Midterm Marks sent to OCAS/OUAC
Apr. 23	Midterm Report Cards Issued - Semester 2
May 1	Last Day for College offer to Admission
May 18	Victoria Day (No School)
May 27	Last Day for University offer to Admission
June 9	EQAO Math Assessment for Grade 9
Jun 15-18	Grade 12 Exams
June 17-22	Grade 9, 10 and 11 Exams
June 25-26	P. D. Day (No School)
July 6	Semester Two Report issued for pick up, starting at 10 am

