

GRIFFIN GAZETTE



815 Brenda Crescent

519 735-6260

@AVG_Griffins

October 2020

We are Doing Great!



Dear Griffin Community:

We are so proud of all of our Griffins. Everyone is working together to keep us all safe. The children have become very good at sanitizing and mask wearing.

We are sure you've been following the news and can see that Ontario is experiencing an increase in COVID cases. Thankfully, our area is doing very well so our school is staying safe. We need everyone's help to keep it that way. You can help by keeping celebrations within your own household and by not allowing children to spend time with friends, no matter how much they beg. We've made it to Thanksgiving! Let's see if we can band together to stay open until Christmas!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Moroz and Mr. Dawson

School Bell Times

8:25— Inside supervision begins, students enter school directly

8:40—School starts

10:20—11:00a.m. —First break

12:40-1:20 p.m. —Second Break

2:55-3:00— Dismissal—students will be met outside (see map)

Reorganization is Coming; Prepare for Changes

GECDSD will be offering all families an opportunity to change their current learning model choice. The request for change form will open Wednesday October 14th and close Monday October 19th. Only those wishing a change need to complete the form.

Based on the requests for change, enrolment will be re-evaluated and teachers will be reassigned to or from the Virtual School. This may cause a need to reorganize classes at AVG to ensure our class sizes remain manageable and safe. This could mean a change in your child's class placement. If this were to occur, we would be contacting you. We understand that this type of shift can be upsetting for your child and for your family. Please understand that we will only change placements if it is absolutely necessary.

We ask for your patience and flexibility during this time. Flexibility in the face of change is definitely going to be one of the lessons these students will learn this year. In our experience, we find that children accept change positively if the adults in their lives frame the change in a positive way.

We can acknowledge their feelings of sadness or anxiety as normal. Then engage them in looking for positives; like the opportunity to make new friends. We can also remind them of past changes and how they were successful in managing the change. Together, we can help them adjust quickly.



Follow us @ AVG_Griffins



2020 Terry Fox School Run

Thank you Griffin Community! You raised over \$1800.00. We are so proud of your efforts to help fund cancer research.

Provincial Screening Tool

Each day before your child comes to school, they must complete a self-assessment. Ontario has an online tool to assist you at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

It is essential that your child stay home if they are feeling ill. We thank you for your cooperation in keeping us all safe.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **New contact information?** We have been unable to send home verification forms due to issues with GECDSB's new information systems. If you have any changes such as address, contacts, phone numbers, alerts etc., please call the school office and we will make the changes manually.
- **Dressing for the weather!** Students are spending more time outside this year . It is important that all students come to school dressed to spend up to 2 hours a day outside. Griffins, please check the weather each day and dress appropriately.
- **Mobile devices at school.** We encourage the use of mobile devices at school. Under provincial legislation, mobile devices may only be used for educational purposes under the direct supervision of a teacher. Please do not text or call your child during school hours. If your child contacts you without teacher permission, they are doing so against the Provincial Code of Conduct. and may be disciplined. It is vital that we must know if a child is ill as they may need to be isolated due to COVID symptoms. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.
- **Keeping community spread low** is critical to keeping COVID out of our school. Please follow all recommendations and guidelines with respect to social distancing. We are counting on you to keep us all safe!

IMPORTANT DATES

October 12– Thanksgiving Holiday– NO SCHOOL

October 14– Request for Change form to switch learning model opens

October 14– Q&A with AVG Administration 7:00 p.m. online. Invitation to follow.

October 19– Request for Change form to switch learning model closes.

October 30– Black and Orange Day

November 9– effective date of change of learning model

November 11– Remembrance Day

November 16 -Progress Reports go home

Parent Council

We are having a parent council meeting and elections on **October 13th at 6:00 p.m.** virtually. Please check your email and Edsby for the link to attend the meeting. All are welcome. Nominations for executive positions on council can be found on the school website. <https://www.publicboard.ca/school/avgraham/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

Absences and Lates

Students arriving at school after 8:40 a.m. a.m. will be marked late. Please try to get to school on time so you don't miss any important learning. **Students who arrive late may need to wait outdoors for their turn to check into the office.** We are required to maintain social distancing rules in the vestibule.

If your child will be absent **please call the school** phone at anytime and leave a message stating your child's name, homeroom and reason for absence. You may also enter the absence in Edsby online. If you do not notify us, we are required to call all contacts until we can be sure your child is at home. This safe arrivals program is in place to protect your children so absence calls are greatly appreciated.



Riding the School Bus

This year, riders must sit in assigned seats to minimize the amount of aisle passing and for the purpose of contact tracing, should that become necessary. Student seating is assigned considering stop number, siblings and cohorts. Not all of these variables can be accommodated on each run. WESTs (*Windsor Essex Student Transportation*) works to ensure each run is as safe as possible. Students are not permitted to change seats on their own. If you have concerns about seating arrangements you may call the school.

A new seating chart is generated each week to account for any new or lost riders. If there have been changes on your child's run, they may have a new seating assignment. The bus driver will direct them to their new seat. All riders must follow the directions of the bus driver.

