

AMG Weekly Message

Sept 12th, 2022

Hope everyone had a restful weekend as we enter our first full week of classes. Read on for lots of start of the year information and events. You can also find more general information about routines at AMG in our parent handbook found on the school website:

<https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/alexandermuirgladstone/Information-for-Families>

Increased Enrollment

At AMG, we have seen a large increase in our student population. Back in May of 2022 we were projected to have 498 students enrolled from Kindergarten to Grade 8. On our first day of school, on paper, we had 552 registered students. The sudden increase has resulted in some larger than expected classes.

Students continue to register and demit from school so our numbers continue to fluctuate. The TDSB's official count day is Monday, September 19th, the number of students who have registered by that date will be used to determine our classroom organization for the rest of the year.

Based on Ministry of Education requirements and direction from TDSB Employee Services we may need to change class placements. These changes will be completed by October 3rd. Any and all changes will be communicated to affected families and students.

Office Staffing

We are currently short staffed in the office as we are looking to hire and train a new morning Secretary. Our office Administrator, Michelle Sheehan, who is used to doing the work of 4 people, is capably managing the office but will need a little extra time and patience when answering phones and responding to inquiries. Also please note that office staff are on lunch between from 11:30-12:30 PM. Students will be answering the phone and taking messages at that time.

Anaphylaxis – Taking the Necessary Precautions

Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that can be life threatening. This medical condition can cause a severe reaction to specific foods or other materials, and can result in death within minutes. Although foods such as peanuts, milk, eggs, and sesame seeds are the most common cause of anaphylaxis, insect stings, medicine, or latex can also cause a reaction. In recent years, anaphylaxis has increased dramatically among students.

Although this may or may not affect your child's class directly, we want to raise awareness about this life-threatening condition. Students who have severe allergies to such food substances are exposed to a severe health risk when such products are consumed in their environment or shared with them. As prevention is the best approach, we ask that you speak with your child about not sharing their snacks or lunches with other students and please do not send any snacks or lunches with your child that contain peanuts.

If your child has health problems of any kind, please inform your child's teacher or office staff immediately so that the necessary health protection steps may be taken and to ensure everyone's co-operation for a safe learning environment.

Start of Year Forms

This is a friendly reminder to complete the form, 'Start of Year Forms' as soon as possible. These important forms include Medical Information, Consent for Walking Excursions and Use of Online Devices among others. The forms are digital and sent to the email address on file with the school. Check your inbox and junk mail folders if you have not completed them. The email will say TDSB Online Form Permission Click.

AMG Snack Program begins Monday, September 26th

The AMG Snack Program will start on Monday September 26th. The snack program will adhere to all TDSB and TPH guidelines. We will be asking for contributions to help cover the cost of the program, shortly. This will be done through School Cash Online so it can be done safely without the collection of forms and money.

POPCORN! POPCORN! POPCORN! – Starts this Wednesday!

Our student leaders are pleased to announce that popcorn will be on sale on a weekly basis starting this Wednesday Sept. 14 and every Wednesday after that. It's only \$1. All proceeds from the popcorn sales are managed by our student council and will go towards school initiatives.

School Cash Online

AMG is cashless, the TDSB has an online system, School Cash Online, which allows for families to pay for school fees. If you haven't already signed up for School Cash Online, please use this link <https://tdsb.schoolcashonline.com/> All families new to Alexander Muir/Gladstone will need to sign up.

AMG Terry Fox Run

The annual Terry Fox Run (TSU-Two Schools United) will take place on Friday September 23. This year we have booked a virtual presentation with Fred Fox on Thursday September 24! Class specific details will be shared by teachers.

Curriculum Night and AMG Family BBQ

Save the Date – Wednesday, September 21st

First AMG School Council Meeting

Save the Date – Tuesday, September 20th – The first meeting will be Virtual.

Rainy Days

Please ensure your child comes to school with the appropriate rain gear as we will be going outside during recess when the rainfall is light. Students will also be lining up first thing in the morning to enter the building – so they will need protection from the rain. Umbrellas, rain boots, raincoats etc. would be ideal.

Toronto Public Health (TPH) Back to School Information

The [attached letter](#) was sent to all families on the first day of school. It outlines the health and safety procedures put in place by the Ministry of Education and Toronto Public Health.

Included is the [COVID-19 Screening Form](#). School staff use the same form to determine what to do in situations when staff or students are unwell.

EarlyOn at AMG

The EarlyON Child and Family Centre is excited to welcome you back for in-person programming on Wednesday, September 7. Our hours are Monday to Friday, 8:45 to 12 pm.

The EarlyON program offers a free, fun, play-based program designed to support your child's early learning and development and to help prepare them for their first school experience. We offer a safe, nurturing and stimulating program where children and parents/caregivers can play and learn together.

We are located at Alexander Muir Gladstone entrance door 8 off of Dufferin St.

AMG Information Links:

School Website <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/alexandermuirgladstone>

School Announcements <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1jIMYrYaFZZ4Fg6N-E4x9xWWFY0r9TF0ZDql37mRYd-A/edit#gid=0>

School Calendar <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/alexandermuirgladstone/School-Calendar>