## **Thunderbird News**

May 3 - 7, 2021

### **Important Dates**

Welcome to the month of MAY at Aurora! We have only 8 weeks of school left in the 2020-2021 school year! And what a year it has been! Through a recent rise in cases, and with the weather teasing us with Spring and then leaving us making snowmen this past week, it is fitting

that this week is MENTAL HEALTH WEEK as we certainly need it now! We will have a variety of activities, lessons, and messages out to students to emphasize how important our own wellness is in leading a successful, healthy, happy, and productive life!

it starts with

### Monday, May 3 - Sunday, May 9: Mental Health Week (Signs of Hope, Messages of Hope, and Stories of Hope)

Monday, May 3 - Sunday May 16 : Virtual Book Fair! Friday, May 7 - District-Wide Dance Event Wednesday, May 5: Virtual Family Night Book Fair - Free Shipping! Friday May 21 - Monday May 24: Victoria Day Long Weekend (no school Friday and Monday)

June 25 - Last Day of School for Students

**DANCE!** Apple Schools, Mental Health Week, and the division's wellness priority merge this week, as we're excited to host a District-Wide Dance Event on May 7th. Teachers have dance choreography videos and lesson plans so we can get active, have some fun, and learn some for the moves! Students can participate in-school or remotely! Below, grade 7 students do some early choreographic practice!











**Our School's** Virtual Family **Night** Is Wednesday from 6-8pm

# Typical Symptoms of COVID-19 Infection

#### **Confirmed COVID cases at local schools**

We have seen a recent increase in COVID-19 cases at area schools, including Aurora. Please remind your child to follow school rules for masking, distancing, and hand-sanitizing. Students must properly wear masks whenever directed by staff, and students must comply in order to enhance our safety while at school. We have been sending home any students who do not comply with our safety guidelines, as they cannot continue in-person learning at Aurora without complying with our safety rules and staff direction.

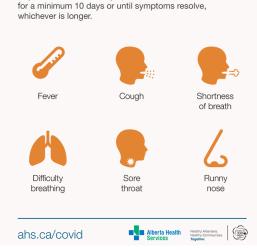
As most of you are well aware, our school has been affected by the recent rise in COVID-19 cases in our geographical area, as we have

now had more than one positive case connected to our school. If you or your child have received a positive test result, contact the school directly and immediately at 780 623 4129; after hours, please email <u>conal.donovan@nlsd.ab.ca</u> so we can begin our safety procedures and communication plan as soon as possible to reduce the spread.

If you hear rumours of a case, please know that every parent of a child identified as a close contact of a positive case is immediately phoned and notified with directions for their child's self-isolation. Following successful connection with all of those families, we then send a notification to the entire school community. If you did not receive a personal phone call from our administration, then your child is NOT a close contact of the positive case. That said, we respect every parent's wishes for their child's safety. If you plan to keep your child home, contact the school about the absence and clarify whether they are ill or are just staying home out of an abundance of caution. Also note that your child's teacher is ready to program for students remotely. Learning Together Everywhere (LTA) is not required, as your Aurora Middle School teacher will use the Google Classroom environment to program for your child as they miss in-class learning. Contact your teacher directly for more information about how you can connect your child from home if you haven't already done so. When a class is directed to self-isolate, the teacher will continue programming for the entire class, providing they are healthy enough to do so.

Last, we want to thank all the parents for the patience, understanding, and kind words in the face of the distressing news that their child may have been in contact with a positive case. We also appreciate when you book a COVID test immediately, as the sooner we have more information, the better we can plan to protect all our families in Aurora. Go to <u>AHS's Info for Close Contacts</u> for more information.

**Parent Volunteers Needed!** While BINGO operations are temporarily suspended due to the confirmed cases in Lac La Biche County, our future dates for BINGO worker days in 2021 are: **May 16, June 27,** and **Aug 28!** Enjoy a free meal while watching the BINGO action and helping out the students of our school! The shift runs from 5pm to about 9pm and we require three people to work the shift. Free food and wonderful people make for a great Sunday night out. Please call or text our amazing and hard-working BINGO Fundraising parent volunteer



Anyone who has these symptoms MUST SELF-ISOLATE

coordinatorJoyce Cloutier at (780) 623-8203 if you are able to volunteer. Our next PAC Meeting is Wednesday May 26 , 2021 at 6:30pm via <u>Google Meet</u> !