## **Thunderbird News**

Aurora
Middle School

May 10-14, 2021

## **Happy Mothers' Day!**



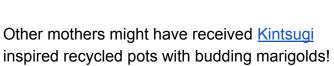
Grade 4 students created acrylic paintings on canvas for their mothers.























Speaking of budding, look at the wonderful budding green thumbs, as students germinated bean seeds at school to plant at home. Science outcomes combined with useful skills! Spring is in the air, and we couldn't be happier to see the sun shining and young minds growing!

Thank you to all the parents and teachers who are supporting our students learning remotely until after the May Long weekend! Our students need connection now, more than ever! Take care and connect with your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns!

Friday May 21 - Monday May 24: Victoria Day Long Weekend May 25 - Students Return to In-person Learning June 25 - Last Day of School for Students

## **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 <a href="mailto:conal.donovan@nlsd.ab.ca">conal.donovan@nlsd.ab.ca</a> 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 <a href="AHS's Info for Close Contacts">AHS's Info for Close Contacts</a> 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: 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 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 Google Meet!