

February 1-5, 2021

Another 5-day week Aurora!

Parents might have noticed some signs that your young folks are struggling to make it through so many 5-day weeks in a row. The teacher-convention break is coming soon, but in the meantime, consider how pandemic precautions and restrictions along with all the time students have spent cooped up at home can take a toll on our stamina or endurance for so many long school weeks, resulting in both physical and mental exhaustion. Remind your Thunderbirds to drink enough water, eat healthy snacks, and get enough rest. When the weather allows, make sure they have some outdoor exercise time after school hours, and try to reduce the amount of screen time, especially close to bedtime, as it can interfere with a good night's sleep. Your child's physical and mental health is important to us, because it helps support good learning during the day and because we care about them! We want our students to grow healthy happy habits for healthy happy lives! Check out [NLPS Mental Health](#) resources for more!

Send Thunderbirds Dressed for the Weather!

Our [@AppleSchools](#) initiative for healthy eating and [wellness](#) remains a focus at Aurora. Please put down on your calendar that your child will be participating in [Winter Walk Day](#) on Wednesday February 3, 2021. Staff and students are asked to dress for the elements and strap on a pair of snowshoes for 30 or 45 minutes. This year's Winter Walk Day will consist of a warm-up snowshoe walking trail followed by a game of snowshoe dodgeball. Our school council has generously donated additional snowshoes to get more of us out and active! Teachers will sign up their class for a timeslot and we will have a COVID-safe serving of hot apple cider to end the walk. Please be reminded that schools will be closed from Wednesday February 10 through Monday February 15, inclusive, as teachers attend the annual [Endless Skies Teachers' Convention](#) and the following [Family Day](#) holiday.



Parent Pick-Up Reminder - Safety first! Staff parking lot (north side by playground) is NOT a safe place to drop off students. All students being dropped off or picked up MUST be at the cafeteria doors (south side). The staff parking lot is our entrance for grade 7 and 8 BUS students only. Grade 4, 5, 6 BUS students use the front entrance. Parents who are dropping off or picking up students OF ANY GRADE LEVEL after school at those cafeteria doors must **wait in the queue** for your child's turn to load; our staff want to ensure the safety of students as they load into vehicles. Please **DO NOT park and call your child over** to your vehicle, as that leads to students weaving and crossing between moving vehicles. It might take a few moments to wait for your child in line, but everyone wants to see all kids get home safe!



SAFETY
FIRST

Valentine's Day celebrations - Parents should note that any Valentine's Day related items should not be handed out in our typical fashion from student to students; every year at Valentine's Day, students bring cards or treats to their friends, classmates, and teachers. With COVID safety in mind, teachers will follow this procedure if their class wants to participate: Parents should ensure students send in their Valentine cards on or before Feb. 9 and each student will have an envelope, bag, box or otherwise safe spot to place items in. Please have students only bring items for the classroom cohort, as we cannot allow students to be handing items to one another. They will open their given Valentine's items when they return after Family Day on Feb. 16. This will allow the items time enough to negate the chances of spreading infection. Contact your child's teacher to see what their class has in mind!



Food Service at Aurora - All lunch orders must be made by midnight on the **Saturday before** that week of school. Go to <https://nlsd.schoolcashionline.com/> to order for lunches or for concession cards. Our breakfast program still runs with all safety precautions in place.

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: **Feb 19, Apr 29, 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 coordinator Joyce Cloutier at (780) 623-8203 if you are able to volunteer. Our next PAC Meeting is Wednesday February 17,

2021 at 6:30pm via [Google Meet](#).

