

Dr. A.T. Leatherbarrow Primary School



Our Vision: Our School community will be encouraged and supported to be the best we can be!



Our Mission: We will work in partnership with families and the community to provide quality education in a positive learning environment

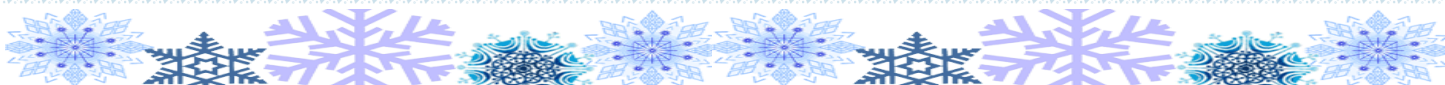
Kind Safe Responsible Respectful

Staffing Update

Mrs. Brenton is furthering her education and will be on Educational Leave for the remainder of the school year. Mrs. Sally Flynn will be teaching Physical Education for the rest of the year.

Mr. Steven Cutler will be our Literacy teacher for the month of January.

We welcome both Mrs. Flynn and Mr. Cutler to our Leatherbarrow family!



Welcome to Kindergarten 2016-2017

We are inviting next year's Kindergarten class to a "Welcome to K" session on January 14 from 3:00 to 4:00 pm. The children and parents will enjoy a short classroom experience and will be given a bag of learning materials and books to take home to use. One of the objectives is for parents to interact with their children using these materials to help support them as students with the kindergarten curriculum.

We look forward to meeting our new K students.



Supporting our Music Program at D.A.T.L.:

Sea Dogs Flex Tickets

We are proud to announce that our Grade 2 Choir will be singing our National Anthem at an upcoming Saint John Sea Dogs game on Saturday, February 13th, 2016 at 7:00 pm. We will be taking orders and collecting money for "Sea Dogs" Flex Tickets. If you choose to purchase a Flex Ticket, you will not only be supporting our Saint John Sea Dogs but, more importantly, you will be supporting Music at DATL. \$5 from every adult voucher sold will go directly to the Music Program at DATL. We will be selling the Flex Tickets at a price of \$10/student and \$15/adult. These flex tickets can be used for any regular season Saint John Sea Dogs game. We sincerely hope that you will consider joining us on Saturday, February 13th at Harbour Station!

Dr. A.T. Leatherbarrow Primary School

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Literacy Week at Leatherbarrow — January 25 to 29

As many of you are aware, Wednesday, January 27 is Family Literacy Day. Family literacy refers to the many ways families develop and use literacy skills; for example, enjoying a storybook together, playing word games, singing, writing to a relative or friend, sharing day-to-day tasks such as making a shopping list or using a recipe, or surfing the Internet for fun and interesting sites (Family Literacy in Canada: Profiles of Effective Practices, Adele Thomas, Soleil Publishing Inc.).



Reasons to Celebrate Family Literacy:

- Reading aloud to children develops their listening skills, vocabulary and language skills, imagination and creativity (Family Literacy Foundation).
- Establishing a culture of learning encourages an exchange of ideas, enriches family relationships, and bolsters confidence and independent thinking.
- Literacy affects all aspects of our daily lives. " Reading, writing, financial, and digital literacy are all essential skills Canadians require to live a fully engaged life." (~<http://abclifeliteracy.ca/flid/family-literacy-facts-stats>)

We are going to celebrate literacy for the entire week from January 25 to 29! Stay tuned for more details about the activities we have scheduled for this week!

Raz-Kids

Our staff is dedicated to promoting literacy learning and assisting your children in becoming more versed in the use of technology. For these reasons we have purchased the site license to 'Raz-Kids' for every child in our school!



Raz-Kids is an educational website where children can comfortably practice their literacy skills at school and at home. It offers differentiated reading instruction with hundreds of animated leveled books. Students can listen to books for modeled fluency and also read books independently. Teachers can access the students' reading logs to support them, recognize genres of interest, and praise their effort and progress.

If you have not yet taken advantage of this free opportunity to help your child grow stronger as a reader, please contact your child's classroom teacher for more information.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

Did you know: Research shows that missing ten percent of the school year, or about 18 days in most school districts, negatively affects a student's academic performance. That's just two days a month and that's known as chronic absence. The academic impact of missing that much school is the same whether the absences are excused or unexcused.

What You Can Do:

Set early bed times and start getting ready for bed at least 30 minutes before bed. Children are alert and ready to learn when they are well rested.

Set your alarm clock to avoid being late.

If you drive your child to school make arrangements to have someone take your child in case you are unable to.

Allow time for the unpredictable. Make sure clothes and backpacks are ready to go, and school work is complete the night before the next school day. Wake up and get moving in plenty of time to get ready for the school day.

Don't let your child stay home unless they are truly sick. You are the best judge of this.

Try to avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

Communicate with your child's school and let them know if you are having a hard time getting to school or have to miss a day. The school may be able to offer some assistance.

Sources: Attendance Works; <http://www.showupstandout.org/get-the-facts/why-attendance-matters/>



SPEAKING OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE...

(FROM THE ASD-S SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY DEPARTMENT)

Noise-Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL)

by Amber Hodgson, M.A., CCC-SLP (<http://www.superduperinc.com/handouts>)

Did you know that prolonged exposure to any noise at or above 85 decibels can cause gradual hearing loss (National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), 2010)? But first, what are “decibels?” *Decibels (dB)* are what we use to measure noise levels, and 85 dB is probably not as loud as you think; the noise-level gauge on the right shows that 85 dB is slightly louder than heavy city traffic! The type of hearing loss that occurs from exposure to loud sounds is known as *noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL)*, and research suggests that NIHL is occurring much more frequently and at younger ages (American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), 2010). NIHL usually occurs painlessly over a period of time; however, it can occur from one exposure to an extremely loud noise. Luckily, NIHL can be prevented!

Effects of NIHL: Hearing loss due to noise exposure usually occurs in the high frequencies (itches). Speech sounds that give meaning to words, such as /ch/, /th/, /sh/, /f/, and /s/, are high-frequency sounds; therefore, NIHL can make it difficult to understand words and communicate successfully. This can lead to problems listening in different environments, including the classroom. Children with NIHL may be hesitant to answer in the classroom or have conversations with peers, and they may also demonstrate behavior problems.

How Can NIHL Be Prevented? The best way to prevent hearing loss due to noise exposure is to eliminate or reduce the noise. When noise cannot be eliminated, people need to protect themselves from the noise by wearing hearing protection like earplugs or earmuffs. Other ways to prevent hearing loss due to noise exposure are to limit the amount of time

around the noise or to increase the distance from the source of the noise. If, after leaving a potentially noise-harmful area, you experience *tinnitus* (ringing in the ears), or if the people talking to you sound like they are mumbling, you could be experiencing temporary hearing loss due to noise exposure, which may lead to permanent hearing loss over time.

It is important to educate your children about NIHL through discussion and by example. Wear your ear protection and encourage your children to follow your example. Also, do not overlook a potential risk of hearing loss from any device that children use with headphones. Remind them to keep their headphones at a reasonable volume *and* not to listen to them for too long.

How Loud is Too Loud?	
Decibels	Sound Source
150	Firecracker
120	Ambulance Siren
110	Chain Saw, Rock Concert
105	Personal Stereo System at Maximum Volume
100	Woodshop, snowmobile
95	Motorcycle
90	Power Mower
85	Heavy City Traffic
60	Normal Conversation
40	Refrigerator
30	Whispered Voice
0	Threshold for normal hearing

Guidance

A positive day at school begins and ends with a pleasant routine at home. Try these ideas for establishing success-building habits with your child.

A Fresh Start—A calm morning can help your child go to school with a positive attitude. Build an extra 10 minutes into his or her wake-up time to allow for mishaps like spilled food or for quiet time with family.

Screen-Time Limits—Large doses of TV, video games, and apps can affect a child's ability to focus using self-control. Encourage outside play and reading for pleasure. It is recommended that children have no more than two hours screen time a day.

Rest—A set bedtime helps kids fall asleep more quickly. Suggest that your child get in bed 15 minutes early to read, make up stories, or talk quietly with you.

Leatherbarrow Rocks on Provincial Literacy Assessment!

By the end of Grade 2, most students at D.A.T.L. meet or exceed the provincial standards in literacy. Provincial Assessment Results indicate that last year, **93%** of our Grade 2 students scored at an appropriate or above reading level.

This compares with the Provincial average of 76% and the District (ASD-S) average of 79%.

I congratulate the children on their progress, thank parents, volunteers and EAs for their support, and salute the teachers of Leatherbarrow Primary for their excellent teaching!



IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL GRADES 2 & 5 PARENTS

Information Nights, regarding program selection for September 2016, will be held according to the following schedule.

The information will be provided on options for the **Grades 3 and 6 students:** English Prime Program, Early French Immersion Program and the Late French Immersion Program.

Parents/guardians are invited to whichever meeting they wish to attend.

PROGRAMS INFORMATION MEETINGS 2016

HAMPTON EDUCATION CENTER		Johanne Austin & Paul Smith	
Date	Time	Location	Snow Date
Tuesday, January 12, 2016	6:30 P.M.	Sussex Regional High School-Theater	Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at Sussex Regional High School-Theater
Thursday, January 14, 2016	6:30 P.M.	Wesleyan Church	Monday, January 25, 2016- Wesleyan Church
Monday, January 18, 2016	6:30 P.M.	Hampton High School- Theater	Thursday, January 21, 2016 at Hampton High School-Theater



Outdoor Play

Please make sure that your child is dressed properly for the outdoors including snow pants, hats and mittens. We always have extra hats and mittens at school. If your child needs some, we would be happy to provide them.