

December Newsletter

Principal's Letter

Dear parents,

Parental support plays an important role in helping your child succeed in school, especially at the Junior High level, however as students grow more independent during these years, it can be challenging for parents to know which situations call for involvement and which call for a more 'behind-the-scenes' approach.

Here are ways to keep your child on track for academic success school.

1. Keep open communication between yourself and the school.
2. Visit the school and take interest in your

child's learning

3. Ask your child what he/she is learning in Math, Science, Language Arts, and Social Studies.

4. Visit the school website, you can find, on the school website, long range plans, the [school calendar](#), what is happening at school.

5. Attend the Parent-Teacher interviews.

6. Attend special events like assemblies and field trips.

7. Attend the after school

sports activities. Our girls won the Gold Medal in volleyball.

8. Take your child to the public library.

9. Create an atmosphere at home in which there is an emphasis on effort rather than achievement and accuracy.

10. Take every chance to praise your child's attempts and progress so that they understand that you appreciate and are excited by their accomplishment.



Principal Ahmad Jamal ElRafih



Remembrance Day Assembly

On Friday, November 10, 2017, we had a Remembrance Day assembly at Almadina Ogden Campus.

Across Canada, and in many other countries, people gather on November 11 to honour the courage and devotion of brave men and women who made the supreme sacrifice of dying for their country. The hostilities of the First World War

ceased on November 11, 1918, at 11:00 a.m., the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. The following year marked the first observance of a day to remember and honour those who died, as well as to give thanks for the sacrifices of those who came back from serving their country. Since then, Canadians have fought in other conflicts and many have given their

lives so that we might enjoy freedom today. They too should be remembered. Therefore, once a year we stop for a minute and think about the people who have died for us as a result of war.

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Mr. Elladen's Note

Congratulations to our girls volleyball team for winning a Gold medal for the first time at Almadina. The girls displayed hard work, a positive attitude, and significant improvement to win it all. A special thank to Coach April Van Driel for keeping the girls motivated and prepared throughout the season. Great job Almadina Girls Volleyball team on an amazing season to remember. Keep the tradition going in the years to come! The boys volleyball team showed a lot of potential but fell

short in a close game in the first round.

Basketball season is underway as tryouts will be in November and the basketball games will officially begin on January 16th. Good luck to all the boys and girls on a successful season.

By Mr. Elladen



“Alerts will provide messages about delays, the reason for and an estimated length.”

First Student Canada App

Looking to ease the school morning rush? [FirstView™ Parent App](#) is your morning and afternoon resource for knowing the location of your student's bus, estimated arrival times at your student's stop and the bus's arrival or departure from school.

Live Tracking and Predictive Stop Arrival Times: Shows

location and direction of your student's bus, stop times for the day and times for school arrivals and departures.

Custom Alerts and Messages: Set up push or email alerts for when your student's bus is a chosen distance or number of minutes away from the stop. Alerts provide messages about

delays; the reasons for and an estimated length.

Additional User Notifications: Main users of the FirstView™ Parent App can connect three additional email accounts to receive email alerts.

By First Student Canada

Parent /Teacher Interviews

Thank you to everyone for attending parent/teacher interviews on the 23rd and 24th of November. This is an excellent opportunity to meet your child's teachers and communicate strategies for improvement and success. Ultimately, our goal as educators is to help students reach their full potential in a positive and safe learning environment.

The turnout for the interviews was a great success and we look forward to our next parent/teacher interviews in March 2018.



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Student Teachers

At Almadina Ogden Campus, we are excited to host student teachers from several universities. It is always exciting for students to be exposed to different teaching styles and a great opportunity for student teachers to get a hands-on experience with student in a classroom specifically, and the teaching profession in general.

One of our grade 6 students held an interview with a student teacher and was asked several questions:

H: What do you imagine as your perfect classroom?

Mr. Lyons: I imagine a perfect classroom as an interactive and fun atmosphere that fosters learning. I believe relationship building is an important part of the classroom. So having positive relationships with all students and each student having a positive relationship with each other is a perfect classroom.

H: Are you excited about teaching students you have never taught before?

Mr. Lyons: I am very excited and grade 6 students are very fun to teach. This is a great opportunity for me to be a part of the school that has a great culture.

H: Where did you get your education? What schools did you go to?

Mr. Lyons: I have a psychology degree from Mount Royal University and in April I will graduate from the University of Calgary

H: Thank you Mr. Lyons. Good luck in your future.

Students, ask to see Mr. Lyon's socks, he has the coolest socks in the school!

The interview was conducted by

with an education degree.

H: Why did you want to become a teacher?

Mr. Lyons: From my experience of coaching hockey, I have coached hockey for the previous 11 years, through coaching I have found a passion for helping the next generation reach their potential and their dreams.

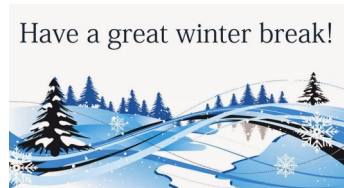
Haleema Taha in 6GS.

"I imagine the perfect classroom as an interactive and fun atmosphere."

Winter Break Chores

Here's a list of things you must do this Winter Break:

1. Sleep, Sleep and sleep
2. Sleep some more
3. Once you're done sleeping, relax
4. Review your material for the new year
5. Read a novel
6. Ask your parents if they need any help around the house.
7. Do something creative
8. Play outside
9. Minimize screen time!



Grade 9 High School Trips

In November, the grade 9's took three trips to Western Canada High School, Forest Lawn High School, and Crescent Heights High School to get a taste of the high school experience. We were introduced to the principal and staff, the atmosphere of the school, as well as getting to experience the arts in action. The band in each school put on a performance to kick off the orientation. Afterwards, we got to tour the school and see many of the classes in action. This also served as an opportunity to reunite with a few old Almadina friends.

The experience was, as some would describe it, intimidating.

The shift from Almadina to a public high school is one that will bring new obstacles and challenges that I'm sure we can tackle.

By Ashwaq Ahmed



Grade 9 Outdoor Ed Trip

We, Grade 9 Outdoor Option class, had the privilege to go on a camping field trip in McLean Pond, Kananaskis, with our amazing teacher, Mr. Peters. The experience there was fascinating. We were taught how to set up camp, cook and make shelter while in the wild.

I believe that the most valuable lesson I learned was how to start a fire with flint and steel, along with another method with a bow; however, we used flint and steel for safety reasons. Most students brought their own food, like marshmallows or hotdogs, which were easy to cook and all other equipment was supplied by Mr. Peters. All students acquired lessons on basic survival skills and

a hands on approach putting them into action on this trip. Due to this insightful field trip, I am confident that I can go out into the wilderness, set up my campground on my own or with my family, and be prepared for any situation. Thank you, Mr. Peters!

By Hisham Souraya

