

UFA NewsFlash – September 1, 2016

Important Information for the Week of September 5 - 9

Monday, September 5 – Labour Day

- No Classes

Tuesday, September 6 – First Day Back

- Special Schedule

8:20 – 9:00 am	GRADE 9 timetable pick-up in main hallway
9:00 – 10:00 am	GRADES 10, 11 and 12 timetable pick-up in main hallway
9:00 – 10:00 am	GRADE 9 assembly in the gymnasium
10:10 – 12:45 pm	ALL GRADES participate in a short rotation of all eight classes
12:45 pm	GRADES 10, 11 AND 12 students are dismissed
12:45 – 1:15 pm	GRADE 9 students are provided with a pizza lunch and drink
1:15 pm	GRADE 9 students proceed to the gymnasium, where “ice breaker” activities will be played in organized groups, led by the P.A.L.S.
2:45 pm	GRADE 9 students are dismissed

- Used Uniform Sales 12:50 p.m. – 1:10 p.m.

Wednesday, September 7 – Condensed Day 1

- Classes begin at 10:15 a.m.
- Period A, B, C, D
- Used Uniform Sales 9:30 a.m. – 10:0 a.m.

Thursday, September 8 – Day 2 – Regular Day

- Periods E, F, G, H
- Used Uniform Sales First 15 minutes of lunch
- Celebrating Dr. Ursula Franklin - Planning Meeting 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Library (All Welcome)

Friday, September 9 – Day 3 – Regular Day

- Periods B, A, D, C
- Photo Day!

Other Important Information

Photo Day

On Friday, September 9 all students will be photographed for school and yearbook photos. Students will be provided information for ordering photos. All students will receive a school photo identification card, which can be used for public transit student purposes. As is always the expectation, students must be in uniform for school photos.

Grade 9 Retreat

The Grade 9 Retreat leaves UFA at 7:30 a.m. sharp the morning of September 14. Accompanied by teachers, PALS and Retreat Leaders all Grade 9s will participate in the 3 day transitions and community building tradition. Parents should plan to be at UFA at least 30 minutes prior to departure on September 14. We will be returning on Friday, September 16. Please follow us on Twitter (UFAOFFICEINFO@UFAOFFICEINFO) for arrival time back at the school. Typically we are back by 4:00 p.m. at the latest. Anticipate traffic due to the Ukrainian Festival on Bloor Street that begins later on Friday night.

Celebrating Dr. Ursula Franklin

As you are aware, Ursula Franklin passed away this summer. The school will be hosting a celebration of her life the evening of Thursday, September 29, 2016. The first planning session for this celebration will take place the evening of Thursday, September 8 at 6:30 p.m. in the library (pizza dinner provided). All are welcome. Note: Staff and students interested in participating in this celebration planning will meet afterschool on the 8th. The second planned meeting for all (students, faculty, alumni, parents, friends and community members) will take place the evening of Monday, September 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the library (pizza dinner provided). Any other planning meeting dates will be set after the Sept. 12 gathering.

Uniforms

Grade 9 back-ordered gym uniforms are now in. All gym uniforms will be distributed to students in class the first week of school.

Need a new uniform piece? Come to the main office to place an order. Cheques or cash accepted.

Limited stock of used uniform will be sold Tuesday to Thursday of the first week of school. After that, the used uniform room will be open the first 15 minutes of lunch on Thursdays for the month of September.

From the Spring ...

Girls' Night

On Friday, May 6th, 160 students participated in Girls' Night. Girls' Night is an event unique to UFA, which has been successfully held for the past 16 years. It is a night where all students who self-identify as female, girl, trans and gender non-conforming are invited to sleep over at the school to attend educational sessions focusing on empowerment and self-esteem. Girls' Night also promotes community, not just in the new friendships made between the participants, but also because it is an evening that is organized and facilitated by students for students. This year's event featured a Wen-Do self-defence workshop as well as a keynote address on intersectional feminism and how to work in solidarity with oppressed and racialized minorities through activism on social media and beyond. The students came together to enjoy a pot-luck feast, one of UFA's most celebrated traditions. During the evening, students registered for a variety of sessions that focused on body image and self-esteem, healthy relationships and

sexual health. Throughout structured free-time, students participated in karaoke, tie-dying, photo-booth, movie watching and music listening. We are grateful to all of the students and staff who volunteered their time and contributed to a successful event! Without this community support, the event would not be possible.

Rainbow Day

On Friday, May 27th, our school celebrated "Rainbow Day". This is time for our school community to take a united stand against discrimination, oppression and harassment. A "key" was posted on the second floor and posters were made that outlined the causes that students could choose to support by wearing an assigned colour. Once they had chosen a cause, the students were encouraged to wear a solid colour to stand-up for that particular cause. During the Rainbow Day announcement, students and staff spoke to each issue. Students were asked to stand to show their commitment to peace and social justice. They were then invited to pose for a yearbook photo outside of the school. In the spirit of community and social justice, classes were encouraged to take a few minutes following the Rainbow Day announcement to share the reasons behind why they selected the colour they wore. Student representatives from SASS (Students Against Stereotyping Sexuality) distributed a "Rainbow-gram" to all students. These were positive/supportive messages attached to a candy.

Ursula Franklin Academy has a long history of promoting safe and positive spaces within our community. Since we opened our doors, students and staff have been committed to providing each and every student with a safe, nurturing, positive and respectful learning environment. The SASS Wednesday session has been running since 2000 and continues to host meaningful and thoughtful discussions around issues of sexual and gender identity as well as how to confront homophobia, transphobia and other forms of discrimination.