



TO LEARN, TO LOVE, TO SERVE.

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Tuesday, Sept. 7, 2021

We consider ourselves fortunate to be back at Avalon teaching again this year after being away, teaching and working in Nova Scotia for the past ten years. We've decided to write this introduction to the school year letter to you together as a script so it's both informative and fun!

Ward (apologetically): This was April's idea.

April: Yes, I do like scripts and getting students involved in a bit of drama.

Ward: The last thing I need in my classroom this year is drama. Oh, you mean teaching drama!

April: Exactly. I will be the Grade 5-6 homeroom teacher, but will be teaching some subjects to both Grade 5-6 and Grade 7-9.

Ward: And I will be the Grade 7-9 homeroom teacher, also teaching Grade 5-6 and Grade 7-9.

April: And even though Ms. Mendoza is the new Kindergarten teacher, she will also be teaching in the upper grades once a day.

Ward: Will she bring her Kindergarteners with her??

April (snickering): Good one. Her students will join the grade 1-2 class for PE and Bible while she teaches upstairs.

Ward: This is getting confusing. Can we just include a table to explain?

April: Good idea! How's this:

| Teacher | Subjects | | | Location |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Mrs. Cottreau | Math 5-6 Math 7-9 | Language Arts 5-6 Language Arts 7-9 | Socials 5-6 Music 7-9 | Grade 5&6 homeroom |
| Mr. Cottreau (Mr. C) | Science 5-6 Science 7-9 | French 5-6 French 7-9 Applied Arts 7-9 Bible 7-9 Socials 7-9 | PE 5-6 PE 7-9 | Grade 7-9 room & Gym |
| Ms. Mendoza | Art 5-6 Bible 5-6 | Art 7-9 Music 5-6 | | Music & Art room |

Ward: Better. So, let's talk about school supplies.

April: Let's.

April: Yes, but students should probably have their own water bottle and backpack.

Ward: I have a few spare water bottles if someone needs one.

April: And the fountains will be running this year, so that's good news! Let's mention food for a minute.

Ward: Okay, so if a student forgets to bring their lunch, I have various snacks they can buy.

April: Like what?

Ward: Well, we don't have microwaves in our classrooms, but the gr 7-9 class has a teakettle, so I sell noodles.

April: Can the grade 5-6 students buy and cook noodles?

Ward: They can when they get to grade 7! I also have goldfish crackers, nutrigain bars, granola bars, and juice boxes. I might add other items throughout the year.

April: How much do they cost?

Ward: Well, this acts as a classroom fundraiser, but I'm a reasonable person. The noodles cost \$1.50 and the rest of the items are \$0.50 each.

April: Sounds good. And parents are welcome to donate items to the gr 7-9 canteen. Remember, AACA is peanut free.

Ward (enthusiastically): Now, onto sports.

April: Yes, I understand the Football tournament in October had to be cancelled/postponed. How unfortunate!

Ward: True, but we can still do our own sports program in the meantime.

April: What are you thinking?

Ward: On Tuesdays, Gr 7-9 students are invited to stay after school in the gym for badminton. I'll be running the program until 4:15, so please be sure students are picked up by then. We'll do volleyball later in the year and I might do a couple of other sports now and then.

April: And what's happening on Friday?

Ward: As principal, you should probably not be asking these questions...

April (chuckling): You're right. But as a script writer, I AM!!

Ward (eye roll): Okay, on Fridays, Ms. Brand is going to be running a variety of games and sports after school between 1:00-2:00 for students in grades 3-9.

April: Sounds great! When will you guys be starting the after-school intramurals?

Ward: NEXT week. Okay, any class trip planned for your students this year?

April: I have tentatively booked my 5-6 class at Camp Homewood towards the end of the year; we're all hoping it'll be open again by then. How about you?

Ward: I'm working on something, but I don't have any info to share yet.

April: Okay, super! I think we're done here. See you around, Mr. C.

**Looking forward to a great year at Avalon!
April & Ward Cottreau**