



**ALLISTON UNION PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
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 allistonunion@scdsb.on.ca



*Greg Jacobs, Principal      Jennifer Carrick, Vice Principal      Len Dunkley, Vice Principal*

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**RAINBOWS PROGRAM**

Dear Students/Parents/Guardians

Alliston Union Public School will be offering a RAINBOWS PROGRAM this school year. Rainbows is a program of peer support group meetings for children in Grade One through Grade Eight, who are going through or have gone through painful transitions in their family such as divorce, separation or death of a parent. This event should have taken place at least six months prior to beginning the program.

Even though death or separation/divorce appears to be only a grown-up problem, it has a profound effect on the children as well. Both parents and children grieve in these situations. Because of their age and short life experience, young people find it extremely difficult to vocalize those feelings.

Rainbows facilitators who are trained Alliston Union staff, will be helping these children put their feelings into words, work through their grief, build a strong sense of self-esteem, and begin to accept what has taken place in their family. It is not a counselling program, but rather a time to share with other children who have had similar experience. Losing someone you love is difficult for both adults and children. Talking about your feelings with others who have had a similar experience can be really helpful.

Rainbows is not a crisis intervention program. It is a peer support group situation with an adult facilitator. It is designed to support children whose home situation has been stable for at least six months. If Rainbows sounds like a program you wish your child to participate in, please complete the permission form below. Both you and your child need to **sign the form and return it to the classroom teacher by Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017.** Please e-mail T. Bossence, Rainbows Coordinator, with any questions at [tbossence@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:tbossence@scdsb.on.ca).

Twelve sessions will take place after all forms have been received on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

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Please return by Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

I would like my child to be involved in the Rainbows Program at Alliston Union Public School, beginning in March 2017.

I understand that the Rainbows Program is a peer support program to assist children in talking about loss due to separation, divorce or death of a parent.

I understand that the Rainbows Program is not a counselling program.

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level of Student \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number of Parent \_\_\_\_\_