



# Tecumseth South Central Public School

2124 Sideroad 10, Tottenham, Ontario L0G 1W0

Phone: 905-936-3711

www.iso.scdsb.on.ca

twitter: @TecSouthPS

Principal: Susan Nixon

# April



*From the Desk of Mrs. Nixon*

This month, we are celebrating the character trait of **Optimism**. This is the perfect time of the school year to be thinking about continuing to work on the goals that students have set from the suggested next steps contained within their First Term Report Card, with enthusiastic *optimism*. I appreciate the *optimistic* effort and attitude of our **awesome Tec. South Staff** for the way they work so passionately to positively impact the learning environment at our school. Thank you parents for your partnership in nurturing students of character by being positive role models for your children.

**International Day of Pink** is being celebrated on **Wednesday April 14th** in schools throughout the world. As we will be on our Spring Break this year, we hope that our students will take some time with their families on this day to discuss the importance of doing the right thing, and taking a stand against bullying, even if it means standing alone!

On **Friday April 30<sup>th</sup>**, we will be holding a school wide virtual **Character Assembly**. We will be celebrating and recognizing students for demonstrating the character traits of Inclusion, Integrity, and Optimism at Tec. South, everyday.

We wish you all a fun filled, relaxing, Spring Break on **Monday April 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday April 16<sup>th</sup>**. We hope that our students are able to spend time outside, being active, and seriously reducing their screen time. Have fun pursuing your passions!

May this season of hope and renewal, fill your hearts with *optimism* as we welcome back the beauty and sounds of Spring! Enjoy the Easter long weekend with your family. “Happy Easter”, “Chag Same’ach” for Jewish families, “Happy Vaisakhi” to Sikh families, and HAPPY SPRING everyone!

Thank you for your commitment and partnership everyday, in helping us all to stay safe!

Sincerely,  
(Mrs.) Susan Nixon

“Kindness Matters @ Tec. South P.S!”



## Character Attribute for the month of April is Optimism

Optimism - We maintain a positive attitude and have hope for the future.

More information about character education can be found here:

[www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character\\_education](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education)



### Days of awareness & recognition taking place in April

Throughout the year, there are many awareness days that focus on different causes and recognition. The Simcoe County District School Board has developed a list of these days as a guide for schools. Schools may participate in recognizing some or all of these days in various ways. This list is not exhaustive. Following are the days of awareness and recognition that the SCDSB will recognize during the month of April:

April 6	World Autism Day
April 14	International Day of Pink
April 22	Earth Day
April 28	Administrative Professionals Day National Day of Mourning (World Day for Safety and Health at Work)

### Register now for summer child care

Child care programs for children in Kindergarten to Grade 6 are provided by independent, third-party child care operators in some SCDSB schools. To support your child care needs, some operators offer child care over the summer holidays. Registration in advance is required. Please contact the child care operator directly to discuss fees and to register. More information and contact numbers can be found at [https://scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning\\_for\\_school/childcare\\_before\\_after](https://scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/childcare_before_after).



### Participate in the first-ever SCDSB student census

At the SCDSB we are committed to identifying and removing barriers within our system that impact equity, achievement and well-being of students, and to ensuring that all students are offered supportive, inclusive and respectful learning environments. To support these efforts, we must learn more about our students.

In April 2021, the SCDSB will hold its first student census. The confidential SCDSB Student Census 2020-2021 will be used to collect identity-based student data so that systemic barriers can be identified. The results will guide our focus on programs, supports and resources to address inequities within our system.

Between April 1 and 30, 2021, students in Grades 7 to 12 and parents/guardians of students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 will be invited to participate in the SCDSB Student Census 2020-2021. Students in Grade 7 to 12 will be emailed a secure link inviting them to complete their census. For students in Kindergarten to Grade 6, parents/guardians will complete the student census on behalf of their child or children. Parents/guardians of these students will receive an email invitation which includes a secure link to their child(ren)'s student census. The email used for parents/guardians will be the primary contact email on file at their child's school.



For further information regarding the SCDSB Student Census 2020-2021, visit the SCDSB website or contact Lisa Newton, Manager of Research and Decision Support, at [census@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:census@scdsb.on.ca), or (705) 734-6363, ext. 11731.

## COVID-19 school screening tool

Each day, families are asked to ensure that their child(ren) complete the COVID-19 school screening tool prior to coming to school. Secondary school students are required to confirm with their teacher that the COVID-19 school screening tool has been completed at the beginning of each day.

The updated provincial direction states that students and staff with any new or worsening symptoms of COVID-19 (as indicated in the screening tool), even those with only one symptom, must stay home until:

- They receive a negative COVID-19 test result;
- They receive an alternative diagnosis by a health care professional;
- or,
- It has been 10 days since their symptom onset and they are feeling better.



In addition, all asymptomatic household contacts of symptomatic individuals are required to quarantine until the symptomatic household member receives a negative COVID-19 test result or receives an alternative diagnosis by a health care professional.

The COVID-19 school screening tool is available on the Ontario government's website here: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>. A printable version of the COVID-19 school screening tool can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3ulap6V>. More information is also available on the SCDSB website at [www.scdsb.on.ca/](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/)

## Family fun with multiplication facts!

Has your child been asked to practice their math facts at home? Math facts are best learned in a purposeful way that helps students make connections between the facts, as opposed to memorizing them individually.

### Tips for supporting fact fluency at home

1. Practice the facts in a meaningful order:
  - Start with foundational facts like 2s, 10s, 5s, 1s and 0s
  - Move on to more challenging facts that can be found using combinations of foundational facts, like 3s, 4s, 6s, 7s, 8s and 9sThe Mastering Math Facts resource provides strategies to support each group of facts:  
<https://bit.ly/39cNzLE>
2. Help your child see that the order of the factors does not change the product:
  - Example,  $2 \times 5 = 10$  and  $5 \times 2 = 10$
3. Help your child practice by decomposing more challenging facts into known facts:
  - Example 1.  $7 \times 8$  can be thought of as  $(7 \times 4) + (7 \times 4)$
  - Example 2.  $5 \times 7$  can be thought of as  $(5 \times 5) + (5 \times 2)$
4. Help your child visualize the facts by building arrays and drawing pictures to represent them:  
<https://mathvisuals.wordpress.com/multiplication-division/>.
5. Play games such as:
  - Blockout! - <https://mathforlove.com/lesson/blockout/>
  - Math Flips - <https://mathvisuals.wordpress.com/math-flips/>
  - Stick and Split - <https://www.stickandsplit.com/>
  - Games to play with a deck of cards - [https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B\\_wlnPzXZBUZRk0yNXFBd3dqTDg/edit](https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B_wlnPzXZBUZRk0yNXFBd3dqTDg/edit)
6. Allow your child as much time as they need to find an answer for a fact. This will lower stress, support them with using the strategies they are learning, and they will soon become automatic with practice.



## Supporting student mental health and well-being

When students attend school, whether in-person or online, they engage in important routines and foster connections that can help them to feel more balanced amidst the uncertainties of the pandemic. Our school is committed to bolstering student mental health and well-being by teaching our students to practice strategies to increase their stress management and coping skills.

School Mental Health Ontario works together with Ontario school districts to support student mental health. Tecumseth South P.S. will be using a collection of resources for educators to support student mental health during the ongoing pandemic response. These resources are evidence-based. This month, we will be practicing various breathing strategies.

**Try the hand tracing exercise:** <https://bit.ly/2OWOAAAN>

- Starting at your wrist, trace the left side of your hand up to your middle finger while taking a deep breath for four seconds
- Pause at the top of your middle finger and hold in your breath for four seconds
- Breathe out while tracing down the right side of your hand for four seconds

Repeat four times



## The teenage brain



Did you know that the teen brain is still developing until about the age of 25? The part of the brain that powers a teen's ability to think, plan, solve problems, make decisions and control emotions is one of the last parts to mature. This may help explain certain teenage behaviour such as poor decision-making, recklessness and emotional outbursts.

Due to their brains still developing, young people are at greater risk from the harmful effects of alcohol and other drugs. Stay connected, keep talking with your teen and be a good role model.

For more information, visit the health unit's website at

[www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org)

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*

## Get outside and play!

Active play does more than help kids to achieve the 60 minutes of physical activity they need every day; it supports their development in many ways – especially when the play is outdoors, self-directed and fun. This allows kids to test boundaries and problem-solve, develop social skills, resolve conflict and learn to control their emotions and behaviour.

Active play outdoors in the fresh air and nature also helps to improve mood and lower stress. Support your child to play outside in the neighbourhood and at your local park as much as possible, while staying safe by maintaining COVID-19 prevention protocols for physical distancing and mask use.



## Kindergarten registration for September 2021 is open!

Kindergarten is the beginning of a wonderful journey of learning, and we want your child to begin their journey in a SCDSB school! Do you have a child who is turning four in 2021? If so, we invite you to register your child for Kindergarten. To register online or for more information visit: [www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning\\_for\\_school/kindergarten](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/kindergarten).



With COVID 19 a part of our daily lives, groups must adopt a new fundraising attitude.  
FundScrip is a totally contactless fundraiser!

Each time you buy groceries, put gas in your car, make improvements to your home, garden, give gifts, or shop for things which you are already going to buy, (both online and / or in person), much needed funds are generated for our group's fundraising goals. All you must do is pay for your purchases using gift cards bought from FundScrip, and a percentage of every gift card purchased is contributed to our group's fundraising efforts ... up to 10% back!

Over 240 national retailers  
100% gift card order fulfillment  
Fast delivery directly to you, using:  
- Canada Post Lettermail,  
- E Gift Cards  
- Reloadables.

# FündScrip™

Please log in and place your order soon, in support of Tec. South P.S.

# SCHOOL COUNCIL

### New Orleans Pizza Kits

**Family Friendly Pizza Kits — Everything you need to make a Large Pizza!**

**\$20.00/Large Pizza Kit delivered to your home OR pick up at New Orleans Pizza in Beeton!!**

Just call or text **Chrystal** (905-724-0051) to place your orders & let her know...

1. *How many Large Pizza Kits that you are ordering*
2. *Large Pepperoni or Large Double Cheese*
3. *Your Address (she will confirm delivery time & date)*
4. *Tec. South Family!*
5. *Make payment to New Orleans Pizza*



This month's pizza kits delivery dates:

**Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup> or Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup>**

*Our School Council thanks you and hopes that you have some fun family time in the kitchen!*

# April 2021

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 <i>April Fools Day</i>	2 <i>Good Friday</i> 	3
4 <i>Easter</i>	5 <i>Easter Monday</i> 	6 <i>World Autism Awareness</i>	7	8 <i>Yom Hashoah Remembrance Day</i>	9 <i>Remembering Vimy Ridge</i>	10 <i>Pizza Kit Delivery</i>
11 <i>Pizza Kit Delivery</i>	12 <i>Human Space Flight</i>	13 <i>Ramadan begins Vaisakhi</i>	14 <i>International Day of Pink</i>	15	16	17
S P R I N G B R E A K						
18	19	20	21	22 <i>Earth Day</i> 	23	24
25	26 <i>Remember to order pizza kits for delivery on May 8th or 9th</i>	27	28 <i>Administrative Professionals' Day</i> <i>Nat'l Day of Mourning</i>	29	30 <i>Lag Baomer</i> 