

★ **Tecumseth South Times** ★

January 2018

* Issue #5

* Phone: 905-936-3711

Respect * Responsibility * Reaching for Excellence

WE COMMIT TO HONESTY

“If you tell the truth you don’t have to remember anything.”

Mark Twain

Message from the Principal

Dear Families,

Welcome back! We hope that you enjoyed a restful and happy holiday break. There are so many fantastic things that are going on here at Tecumseth South Central in January- Chess Club, In Moving Art, Scanlon Creek, visits from Banting High School staff as well as our December Assembly!

You did read that correctly...due to our inclement weather day on December 22nd, we will be hosting our December assembly on January 25th at 2pm- pajamas and all! Character awards for both December and January will be shared as well as some of our holiday performances. The assembly will take place at 2pm. Please remember that January 26th is a PA day and there will be no school.

We hope you enjoyed a restful break and are ready for the excitement in 2018. If you would like to become more involved in school life, please join us at our next school council meeting January 22 at 6:30 in our library.

As our winter weather continues, please make sure that your child is dressed to be outside. Please send extra clothes (socks, pants etc.) so if your child gets wet outside they have clothes to change into.

Thank you for your ongoing support and all the best for 2018!

Sincerely,

M. Bongard



Student Pick Up at the End of the Day

If you are picking up your child at the end of the day, please send a note in the agenda for the teacher. Calls at the end of the day may be difficult to coordinate.

Please remember that if you are picking up your child at the end of the day, you need to meet them in the front foyer. For safety reasons, students are not allowed to enter the front parking lot unless they are with an adult.

Provide input on proposed 2018-19 school year calendar

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) invites public school communities to submit input regarding the proposed school year calendar for next school year (Sept. 2018 to June 2019). Starting Jan. 9, input can be provided by visiting www.scdsb.on.ca, then clicking the link on the 'School Year Calendars' page under the 'Schools' menu. All stakeholders including staff, school council members, parents/guardians, students and members of the school community are invited to provide input. The deadline to submit input is Jan. 31.

Attend a French Immersion info night; registration opens in January

The SCDSB offers French Immersion (FI) at select schools throughout Simcoe County beginning in Grade 1. The goal of the FI program is to enable students to communicate in French with a high level of proficiency, enabling them to function with ease in both French and English. Upon graduation from the program, students will communicate in French with confidence in a wide variety of real-life situations.

Information sessions take place in January for parents of students in Senior Kindergarten. Information session dates are posted at www.scdsb.on.ca under Programs, French as a Second Language.

The FI online application form will be available from 9 a.m. on Mon. Jan. 22, until 9 p.m. on Wed. Jan. 24, 2018 at www.scdsb.on.ca under Programs, French as a Second Language. While every effort is made to accommodate all FI applications, available space and staffing will determine how many students can be registered. Applications will be processed in the order they are received electronically. Please contact the school if you do not have Internet access at home or require assistance accessing the online application.

Please note that the host sites for FI may change during your child's time in the program, and your child may need to move schools. This may also include splitting the program between two different sites.

Kindergarten registration starts this month

Do you (or someone you know) have a child who was born in 2014? If so, it's almost time to register them for Kindergarten in the SCDSB! Beginning Jan. 22, our elementary schools will register children for Kindergarten for the 2018-19 school year. Required registration documents include birthdate documentation, proof of address and immunization records. Visit www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten for more information.

High school information nights coming to a school near you!

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights are happening this winter. This event gives an overview of what's new, what to expect, as well as a chance to check out the school and ask questions. Attend our local high school information night to find out what's offered: Thursday, January 18th, at Tecumseth South – 6:30 PM. Check out the full schedule of info nights and more information at www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool.

On this night we will also have an information session for our grade 8 overnight trip beginning at 6pm.

School's in for summer at the SCDSB

Are you and your child planning their courses for next school year? Looking for a way to create flexibility in their timetable and earn a credit? Consider summer school!

Each year, the SCDSB offers a variety of summer programs to over 2,000 students. Summer school options include open, college and university level courses from Grades 9 to 12. Courses are offered in-person or online. Interested students can also travel and earn credits with the summer EduTravel program.

Summer school program details can be found on the Learning Centres website at www.learningcentres.com. Current SCDSB students should speak to their guidance counsellor for information and to register. Register now so that your summer school choices align with course selection for next year!

Parents invited to information sessions about special education

The SCDSB is hosting a series of information sessions for parents/guardians to learn about special education in the SCDSB, and how to support students with special education needs.

Jan. 22

Assessments in Special Education: Psych Ed and Other Assessments

Feb. 19

Transition Planning Grade 8 to 9

March 19

Accessing Supports in the Community

April 16

Understanding Alternative/Non-Academic IEP Goals

All sessions take place from 6 to 7 p.m. at the SCDSB Education Centre, located at 1170 Highway 26 in Midhurst. No registration required.

Reminder about sledding safety at school

Student safety is our first priority, and although we do allow “crazy carpets” and soft sleds at our school, we do not allow hard sleds, two-person sleds or snow racers. We do supervise sledding and we remind students of safety rules on a regular basis.

We want to inform parents that if students are sledding at school, Ophea (the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association) recommends that they should wear a properly fitted (as per manufacturer's guidelines) and properly worn CSA-approved hockey helmet or snow sport helmet certified by a recognized safety standards association.

If you send a sled and helmet (optional) to school with your child, you are giving permission for your child to take part in this activity.

RVH Film Festival welcomes student submissions

Barrie's Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) has partnered with the Simcoe County District School Board, the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board and Unity Christian High School to offer students, classes and schools the opportunity to participate in RVH's annual Film Festival in two external categories:

- Kindergarten to Grade 6
- Grade 7 and up

This year's theme is "Making mental health matter - how are you making a difference?" Students and classes are invited to make a two-minute video showing how they promote mental health. The deadline for submissions is Feb. 5. Voting will take place from Feb. 16 to 26 and those with the winning entries will be invited to an awards ceremony on March 8. Find out more and submit your video at: www.rvh.on.ca/SitePages/rvhfilmfestival.aspx.

Changes to Ontario Early Years Centres effective Jan. 1

In February 2017, the Ontario government announced the transformation of the delivery of early years programs for children and families. Starting in January, Ontario Early Years Centres, Parenting and Family Literacy Centres, Child Care Resource Centres and Better Beginnings, Better Futures centres will collectively be known as EarlyON Child and Family Centres. These EarlyON Child and Family Centres will be open to all families across Ontario, and provide support, parenting programs, personal connections and a network of resources as well as play- and inquiry-based programs for young children.

Effective January 1, Child and Family Programs currently in schools will be relocated to the community. These four agencies will now manage EarlyON Child and Family Centres in Simcoe County:

- OEYC Simcoe North, www.oeycsimcoenorth.ca
- Simcoe Community Services, www.simcoecommunityservices.ca,
- E3 Community Services, www.e3.ca
- La Clé (Francophone), www.lacle.ca

For specific days and hours of operation, please contact your local lead agency. Information can be found by visiting www.scdsb.on.ca – 'Schools' – 'Before & After School Care.'

OHIP+ provides free prescription drug coverage for children

Beginning Jan. 1, the province will provide free prescription drug coverage for children and youth aged 24 and under, regardless of family income. Under OHIP+, Ontario children and youth will have access to over 4,400 medications and other drug products. Enrolment in OHIP+ will be automatic, based on age. There are no upfront costs, no co-payment and no annual deductible. Those who are eligible for OHIP+ will only need their health card number and a valid prescription from their doctor or nurse practitioner when they visit their pharmacist. For more information, visit:

www.ontario.ca/page/learn-about-ohip-plus.

Questions about your child's health?

Health Connection offers free, confidential health information from nurses and health inspectors on:

- how your child is growing, parenting tips, fast and healthy meals, safe food and water, common illnesses, keeping kids safe, fun family activities
- health unit programs such as vaccinations and dental care
- community resources for parenting, mental health, addictions, quitting smoking or financial help

Contact Health Connection at 1-705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or <http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/>. If English is not your first language, we have a telephone interpretation service.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Update your child's immunization record

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is required to keep up-to-date immunization records for all students who attend elementary or secondary school in the County of Simcoe and the District of Muskoka. Parents are responsible for reporting immunizations to the health unit each time their child receives a vaccine from their health care provider. The immunizations that the health unit requires records for include: diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, meningococcal, pertussis and varicella (chickenpox) for those born in 2010 or later.

It's easy to update your child's immunization status. Go to www.smdhu.org/immsonline to update your child's record or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 (toll free).

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Five healthy New Year's resolutions for your family

Some of the top New Year's resolutions across all age groups for 2017 were eating healthy, getting in shape and reducing stress. So, how do you set and achieve a resolution to be healthier? It's been proven that the key to success is setting small goals which require steps towards a larger goal. Here are some New Year's resolutions that families can work on together in 2018:

- spend 30 minutes outside playing together as often as possible, regardless of the weather
- find a place that provides opportunities for the entire family to be physically active together or offers child care and after-school programs
- add physical activity or play time to the calendar, such as scheduling an evening walk or fitness class, with the same commitment as other important meetings
- pick a fun run/walk or 5K to do as a family – sign up, train and participate together
- have more family dinners together and involve children in preparing meals as much as possible

For more information about programs offered at the Y for the whole family, please visit www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca.

Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka (www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca)

FREE DENTAL PREVENTIVE SERVICES

The Preventive Services Stream of Healthy Smiles Ontario (HSO), through the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, offers Sealants, Fluoride, and Teeth Cleaning. These services are free of charge for children who qualify. The dental screening has now been completed at your school, so please check your child's backpack or agenda. If there is an "HSO-PSO" application please read, sign/date and return the completed application to the Health Unit in the attached postage paid envelope, or fax. Should you have any questions, require further information, or need assistance completing the application please call 705-721-7520, ext. 8804, or toll free 1-877721-7520, ext. 8804.

These services will be completed at a school clinic after March 2018, pending a sufficient response.
THANK-YOU!

The facts of lice: How to prevent and treat this nuisance

Like everywhere else, there are head lice in Simcoe County. Lice are a nuisance, but do not pose a public health hazard as they are not known to transmit any infectious diseases. Anyone can get head lice but kids tend to get them more often because they can have head-to-head contact with other children during school and play. The best way to keep head lice in check is to work together to prevent the spread.

Schools are required to inform parents when a case of head lice is confirmed, to provide parents with timely information to begin their own checks at home. Head lice management and treatment is a responsibility of parents/guardians.

Here are some tips to help prevent and treat lice:

- Teach your child not to share personal things like hair brushes, combs and hats
- Set a schedule to check your child's head regularly. Use an area with bright light and look carefully for nits (shells containing eggs) and live lice in the hair, behind the ears and around the neck and hairline. Nits looks like half the size of the head of a pin, shaped like a teardrop and stick to the hair so you can't blow, flick, or easily side them off. Lice are about the size of a sesame seed and are very hard to see because they can crawl and hide but they cannot hop or fly.
- If you find nits or live head lice, you'll need to use a head lice treatment to kill them. Make sure to follow the directions, and then to do a second treatment 7 to 10 days later to help stop the lice from returning. Head lice are not likely to live in clothing, furniture or bed linen but it's a good idea to wash bed linen and hats in hot water and dry them in a hot dryer just in case.

For more information, visit the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit's website

www.simcoemuskokahealth.org or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting will be at 6:30 PM in the school library on Monday, January 22nd. All are welcome to join us for the meeting.

Hard Copies of the Newsletter

If you wish to receive a hard copy of the newsletter you must notify the office in writing.

GRADE 8 Information Night at Tecumseth South

January 18th, 2018

5:45 Mansfield Outdoor Centre - 6:30 Banting High School

All families of our grade 8 students are invited to join us for a presentation from Mansfield Outdoor Centre at 5:45 to answer questions about our Grade 8 trip which will be from May 15-16.

Following the Mansfield presentation, representatives from Banting High School will join us at 6:30 pm to give an overview of course selection and the transition to high school.



Early ON
Child and Family Centre
(formerly Ontario Early Years Centre)

Alliston Main Site:

13 Wellington Street West, Alliston

Stay Play and Learn:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday – 9 am to 4 pm

Thursday – 1 to 6:30 pm

Friday – 9am to 1 pm

Saturday – 9 am to 12:30 pm

**Starting January 9th satellites in
Beeton and Tottenham!**

Beeton:

DA Jones Branch of the NTPL, 42 Main St. W.

– every Tuesday and Friday 9 am to Noon,
1 to 4 pm

Tottenham:

Tottenham United Church, 26 Mill St. E.

- every Wednesday and Friday 9 am to Noon,
1 to 4 pm

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

January 2018

	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Welcome Back! Pizza	9	10 Subs	11 FI info night	12	13
14	15 Pizza	16 In Moving Art	17 Subs In Moving Art Scanlon Creek here	18 In Moving Art Grade 8 trip and Banting Info session	19 In Moving Art Int Debaters forum	20
21	22 Pizza School Council 6:30 Kindergarten registration starts	23	24 Subs	25 Assembly 2pm Pajama day!	26 PA DAY	27
28	29 Pizza	30	31 Subs			

