

# ★ **Tecumseth South Times** ★

November 2017 \* Issue #3 \* Phone: 905-936-3711

Respect \* Responsibility \* Reaching for Excellence



**WE COMMIT TO COURAGE**

**“Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear – not absence of fear.”**

**Mark Twain**

Dear Families,

We have had an exciting month here at Tec. South. Our families raised over \$3000 dollars for the Terry Fox Foundation, and at our October Assembly we had a representative attend and accept the donation on behalf of the foundation. Staff also presented a fabulous rendition of “The Water Dance” to celebrate the teamwork of our students and families. To date, in the last 22 years, Tec. South has raised over \$70, 000 for Terry Fox- an amazing contribution to the fight against cancer. We would like to thank you for your ongoing support.

Our school council has several fundraisers on the go, including a wrap of our chocolate sales, wreath sales (due to the office by November 3) and our ongoing hot lunch programs. Our school council plays a vital role in supporting our school initiatives, including fundraising to purchase items such as technology for our classrooms. All proceeds from our fundraisers directly support our school initiatives and goals.

Here at school we are working towards setting clear expectations and success criteria for learning in each subject area. Our objective is to enable all students to read, think, apply, communicate and demonstrate understanding in all curriculum areas. Parents and guardians, we continue to seek your partnership in this objective. At this point of Term 1, students are required to demonstrate their learning through ongoing projects and some summative activities.

Specific information about your children’s progress to date will be shared with you when you receive the Progress Report Cards on Friday, November 10th. As in previous years, parents/guardians will be invited to student-led conferences to discuss their child’s progress and any questions that they might have resulting from the report card. Please join us the evening of Thursday, November 16th or the morning of Friday, November 17th, for our student-led conferences. Information regarding setting up a conference time with your child (ren)’s teachers will be coming home shortly. As partners, your ongoing participation in school events, parent- teacher meetings and communication by phone, agenda or notes is very important. At home, give your child an opportunity to talk about what is important to them and what they are learning. This reinforces their learning. Some guiding questions might be: “Tell me what you learned today that you did not know yesterday...” or “What can you do now that you could not do before?”

Our next School Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 4th, at 6:30 pm. We hope to see you there!

Yours very truly,

Mrs. M. Bongard, Principal

## **Picture Retakes & Sibling Pictures**

Green Apple Studio will be at our school on: **Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>** to photograph any family that wishes to have their children photographed together as a sibling group. There is no obligation to purchase photographs afterwards. This is simply a service that is being offered at our school, and participation is optional.

On Photo day children will be called down to have their sibling photographs taken. If you wish to participate and have your children photographed together, please sign up in the main office prior to photo day.

After Photo Day an order form with sample proof portraits will be produced by Green Apple Studio for families to view. If you wish to purchase these portraits instructions on how to order will be included on the form.

If you have any questions please email Green Apple Studio at [info@greenapplestudio.ca](mailto:info@greenapplestudio.ca).

## **Bus cancellation information reminder**

All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's bus information website at [www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca). Our school is in the South zone. When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, unless otherwise noted.

The Consortium and bus operators try to make the decision to cancel school buses before 6 a.m. and make every effort to post announcements before 7 a.m. Inclement weather cancellations are effective for the whole day and buses cancelled in the morning will not run at the end of the day. You can follow the Consortium on Twitter @SCSTC\_SchoolBus for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions>

For school event cancellations in case of inclement weather, follow our school's Twitter account @Tesouthps or listen to your local radio station for event cancellation information.

## **High school information nights coming to a school near you!**

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights happen this fall and 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 on February 8, 2018 at Banting High School. Check out the full schedule of info nights and more information at [www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool).

## **SCDSB online tool for reporting bullying, drug use or vandalism**

The SCDSB has an online Safe Schools Reporting Tool, which is available on our school website homepage, <http://tso.scdsb.on.ca>, as a Quick Access button. Students and parents can use this tool to submit a report online if they witness a student engaged in inappropriate behaviour such as bullying, drug use or vandalism. Students are still encouraged to speak to a trusted adult at school or home if they have any concerns. This form isn't a substitute for having a discussion with your teacher or principal. Student safety and well-being is our top priority. For more information, visit <http://scdsb.on.ca/ReportAnIncident>.

## **SCDSB's new Holy Days and Holidays Calendar now available**

The students and staff of the SCDSB represent a rich diversity of faith traditions. The Holy Days and Holidays calendar helps identify some of the important days of commemoration, however it isn't designed to be a complete listing of religious days. Students and staff from a particular faith background may or may not be absent from school on these special days. If they do attend, certain accommodations may be required.

To view the July 2017 - December 2018 calendar, visit [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca), click on 'Schools,' 'School Year Calendars' and then 'Holy Days and Holidays Calendar.' You can also learn more the significant faith dates that the SCDSB recognizes.

## **Treaties Recognition Week takes place Nov. 5 to 11**

Did you know we are ALL treaty people? Treaties Recognition Week is the first week of November every year - this year it's Nov. 5 to 11. The Simcoe County District School Board is located on territory covered by several pre-confederation treaties - Treaty 5, 16, 18, 19 and 82, as well as the 1923 William's Treaty.

Treaties Recognition Week was introduced in 2016 to honour the importance of treaties and to help Ontarians learn more about treaty rights and treaty relationships. Take some time this week to learn about the treaty in your area. To learn more about the treaties and how we can honour them, visit [www.ontario.ca/page/treaties](http://www.ontario.ca/page/treaties) and [www.anishinabek.ca/education-resources/gdoo-sastamoo-kii-mi/](http://www.anishinabek.ca/education-resources/gdoo-sastamoo-kii-mi/).

## **Voluntary self-identification of First Nation, Métis or Inuit ancestry**

Self-identification is a personal choice to disclose First Nation, Métis or Inuit ancestry. The choice to self-identify is up to you and does not require proof of documentation (i.e. no status card), regardless of where you live. Self-identification is confidential, securely stored and used only to support First Nation, Métis and Inuit student success. Self-identification helps schools support the needs of First Nation, Métis and Inuit students and their achievement. Student achievement data is collected and protected with other confidential data used to help improve student achievement.

To self-identify your child as First Nation, Métis or Inuit, check off the First Nation, Métis or Inuit box on the school registration form and write in details if applicable. The SCDSB is committed to meeting the learning needs of First Nation, Métis and Inuit students through responsive programming and services. Past activities have included: the inclusion of First Nation, Métis and Inuit focused resources in schools; school based pow wows; dedicated First Nation, Métis and Inuit student advisors and cultural awareness training for school staff. To learn more about First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education, visit [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) > Programs > First Nation, Métis & Inuit Education.

## **November 12 to 18 is National Addiction Awareness Week**

Nov 12 to 18 is National Addiction Awareness Week. The SCDSB will be marking this week by providing schools with a variety of resources to increase awareness and education among staff and students. We hope that your child will share some of what they are learning this week and we have included some helpful resources to support you in conversations you might be having with your kids:

- [www.participaction.com/en-ca/programs/unplug-and-play](http://www.participaction.com/en-ca/programs/unplug-and-play)
- <http://parentactionondrugs.org>
- [www.drugfreekidscanada.org](http://www.drugfreekidscanada.org)
- [www.camh.ca](http://www.camh.ca)

## **Eye See...Eye Learn program offers free glasses for Junior Kindergarten students**

The *Eye See...Eye Learn* program provides comprehensive eye exams by local optometrists to Junior Kindergarten (JK) students. The eye exams are covered under the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) when parents show their child's health card. There is no out-of-pocket cost for the eye exam and if the child requires a pair of glasses, they will receive them free of charge courtesy of a participating optometrist. For more information, visit [www.Eyeseeyelearn.ca](http://www.Eyeseeyelearn.ca).

## **Volunteer with Big Brothers Big Sisters and our schools**

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Barrie & District is proud to partner with the SCDSB to run three mentoring programs for students. Volunteers are welcome to apply to mentor students for as little as one hour per week. Call BBBS Barrie at 705-728-0515 or visit [www.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/barrie](http://www.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/barrie) to find out more. The Orillia (705-325-3151), Georgian Triangle (705-445-2330) and North Simcoe (705-526-5051) BBBS locations also welcome volunteers for their in-school mentoring programs.

## **OHIP+ provides free prescription drug coverage for children**

Beginning Jan. 1, 2018, 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. Enrollment 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](http://www.ontario.ca/page/learn-about-ohip-plus).

## **Nutri-eSTEP can help your family encourage healthy eating habits**

Are you a parent of a Kindergarten student? Do you sometimes worry about your child's healthy eating? Nutri-eSTEP can help! Check out [www.smdhu.org/Nutri-eSTEP](http://www.smdhu.org/Nutri-eSTEP). You answer 17 questions to find out what's going well and what to work on to keep your child healthy. Nutri-eSTEP is a questionnaire for parents with children aged 18 months to five years of age. When you help your children learn how to eat healthy, move more and limit time spent sitting, you make a difference to their lifelong health. For more information, call Health Connection weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 705-721-7520 or toll free 1-877-721-7520.

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*

## **It's time to update your child's immunization records**

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. It's easier than ever to update your child's immunization status. Go to [www.smdhu.org/immsonline](http://www.smdhu.org/immsonline) to update your child's record, or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520.

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*

## **Celebrate peace in your community: Peace Week is Nov. 18 to 25**

November is a month of reflection and gratitude. The sight of poppies and wreaths serve as a reminder of the brave men and women who have fought for peace and freedom.

The month of November also celebrates a nationwide YMCA initiative called Peace Week, from November 18 to 25. This is a time when we can celebrate the presence of peace in our local and global communities. Peace Week offers activities and opportunities for people of all ages to explore peace from personal, community and global perspectives. Simple actions like sharing, being patient or smiling and saying hello can have a far greater impact than we think.

As an advocate for peace, the YMCA invites everyone to be part of the conversation. Share something you do to foster peace in your home, school, workplace or community. Join in spreading kindness throughout our community with "Be Kind Bells." These bells will be hidden in locations throughout our community. If you find one, perform one kind act, then hide the bell for someone else to find. Share on social media using #YMCAPeaceWeek with the location where you found the bell, your kind act and encourage someone else to do the same!

Visit <http://ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca/ymca-international/peace-week/> for more information.

*Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka ([www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca](http://www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca))*

## **Safety First!**

Please remember that all food brought to school needs to be nut free. This is especially important after Hallowe'en as students bring snacks from their trick or treating. Please send a minimal amount of treats to school to help our students remain healthy and happy during the school day.

## **School Council News- Fraser Fir Wreaths**

Support our School and local tree nursery with premium quality Fraser Fir Wreaths. Hand-made by Drysdale's Tree Farm in Egbert, ON. Wreaths and garland will be delivered to Tecumseth South on Monday November 28<sup>th</sup> – parents that order will have to pick up their orders by 5:00pm. Order forms are due to the school by Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup>.

## **Library News-Book Fair**

Giddy-up!  
Aaaaaaaar you ready for the fall book fair?

The book fair has a pirate theme this fall, and will be here from November 15<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>.

Classroom teachers will sign up for times to bring their classes down during the school day, and parents are invited to stop by and do some shopping while in the school for student-led conferences on Thursday evening and Friday morning.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in the library to support this important fundraiser!

## **Remembrance Day Assembly – November 10<sup>th</sup>**

We will host a Remembrance Day Assembly on Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 AM. Please feel welcome to join us as we remember those that have served our country. Recess times will be from 10:00-10:40 to accommodate our assembly at 10:50. Poppies will be available at the office.

All students will receive a poppy – donations are greatly appreciated by the Legion. Thank you for your support.

## **Regional Cross Country Meet**

The Tec South X Country team attended the Area Meet at the Tottenham Conservation Area October 11, 2017. With 16 schools and close to 600 runners, our students withstood the chilly temperatures, pouring rain, as well as a slippery and muddy course. Congratulations to all of the runners for working hard at all the practices in preparation for this challenging course.

There were numerous outstanding personal efforts and each member should be proud of how well they represented them self and our school. Our top runners of the day were from Grade 4 was Grace, in Grade 6 Shaelyn and Wiggy, Grade 7 Griffin, and in Grade 8 Gigi . Griffin and Gigi both qualified for the Regional Meet at Mount St. Louis October 17, and ran personal bests in an exceptionally strong field of runners; finishing 125 and 16<sup>th</sup> respectfully.

## **Junior Girls Volleyball**

The Junior Girls Volleyball Team participated in the Zone tournament on October 19<sup>th</sup>. The girls played well as a team serving, volleying and bumping their way against 7 other schools.

Congratulations to all the girls: Shaelyn, Wiggy, Vitalia, Ruby, Hailey, Amelia, Payton, Emma, Jayme, Isabella, Sherridan and Kayla. And of course, a big thank you to our team's "tosser" Maverick.

## **Bradford Progress Childcare Centres**

*Before and After School Program – 905-778-8377*

[www.bradfordprogresschildcare.ca](http://www.bradfordprogresschildcare.ca) OR [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca)

Hours – Monday to Friday – 6:30 AM to 9:10 AM & 3:30 PM to 6 PM

Please contact Laura Swagerman (site supervisor) at 905-965-4896 for further information or pick up an information package from the office. There is now limited space available here for children in Kindergarten to grade 6.

# November

2017

## Tecumseth South PS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Grade 8s to Banting HS	2	3 Wreath forms due	4
5 Daylight savings- clocks go back an hour	6	7 Grade 6 Dare	8 Michael Mitchell concert	9	10 Reports go home Remembrance day assembly at 10:50 sharp	11
12	13 Book Fair all week!	14 Grade 6 Dare	15 Dental Screening	16 Conference night	17 Conferences (PA day today)	18
19 Bullying prevention week	20 Wreath pick up today	21 Photo retake day and sibling portraits Grade 6 Dare	22	23 Van "GO"	24	25
26	27	28 Rocks and Rings	29 Grade 7 Immunizations	30		*** Next School Council Meeting December 4, 2017 at 6:30pm

Please join us for our Remembrance Day assembly which begins at 10:50 sharp. Nutrition break and recess will be from 10:00-10:40 so that students can be assembled in the gym before 11:00a.m.