



TRILLIUM WOODS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
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 Central Bus Zone

Jo-Ann White-McKenna
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PRINCIPAL’S HOLIDAY MESSAGE

The holiday season is a time of great excitement for our students and being surrounded by happy children makes everyone joyful. Attending school until December 23rd is probably something they haven’t experienced before. We will make the final weeks of school as celebratory as we can, knowing that our students are anticipating the holidays. This includes carol singing during the final week, a special live theatre presentation of “Jack” by Moving Arts on Dec 19th for all students/ staff as well as the typical classroom celebrations.

Dates to Remember

Dec. 7 - Author Visit
 Dec. 14 – Winter Concert 7 p.m.
 Dec. 22 – Char. Assembly 1:40 p.m.
 Dec. 23 – Crazy Holiday Sweater Day
 Dec.26 – Jan.6 Christmas Break
 Jan 9 – School resumes



There are as many ways to celebrate the holidays as there are families. Whether your family celebrates Christmas, Chanukah or Kwanza it is a time for families to come together to experience peace, hope and joy. We all look forward to the giving of gifts, the gathering of family and the celebratory meals. Memories to last a lifetime are made every December. On behalf of the staff, we wish everyone a safe holiday season, a Merry Christmas and the best for 2017!

The holidays can also be hard for members of our community. No one wants a child to miss out on the joy of Christmas, including our school community. Thank you for your donations to Christmas Cheer. All the food and new/unwrapped toys will be in the hands of a child on Christmas Day. To give all families an opportunity to donate, we will be accepting donations at the Winter Concert.

The Primary Division is happy to present their performance of Character Matters! Welcome to the weekly meeting of the Fairy Tale Advice Council. Led by Rapunzel, a Handsome Prince, and a Wicked Witch, the council offers help in character building to famous fairy characters and creatures. Please join us on Wednesday, December 14th, 2016 @ 7pm. in the gym to hear and see this great performance.

CHRISTMAS CHEER AT TRILLIUM WOODS

Our annual food and toy drive is underway at Trillium Woods for Barrie families in need. It will run until December 15th. Please bring in any nonperishable food items and new unwrapped toys, clothing and books. Look in the lobby at the growing pile of collected items! There is a friendly competition amongst the classes to encourage students to participate and support this very worthwhile cause. Ms. Chant's students are working hard to spread the word doing daily announcements and Mr. Peter's students are keep track of the class totals. We have a Christmas Cheer display in the front lobby of the school.

RESTOCKING FOR THE NEW YEAR

Please consider replenishing your child's supply of school materials for the new year.

By this time of year students often need more pencils, pens, markers, glue sticks and math sets (depending on the grade). It is also a good time to check the sizing of indoor shoes and gym clothing.

VOLUNTEER UPDATE AND APPRECIATION

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our volunteers who have been so giving of their time this fall. With the exception of field trips, it is important to note that volunteers who are helping at school are not facilitating student's needs in their own child's classroom. If you are interested in joining our team, we would invite you to obtain a letter from the school to proceed with a "Criminal Reference Check". If you have not been contacted to volunteer at this point, don't despair, teachers make these calls for support throughout the year.

HEAD LICE INFORMATION

Typically, the school is notified of confirmed head lice during the winter months. We thank everyone who is reporting cases of head lice, and we understand the calls from parents who want to prevent their children from getting head lice. To assist families, we will include more information about head lice prevention and treatment over the coming months.

According to the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, lice are a nuisance, but do not pose a public health hazard as they are not known to transmit any infectious diseases. Here are some things you can do to help prevent and treat head lice:

- Head checks at home on a regular basis
- If head lice are found, doing the treatment(s) right away

Please know that we are sensitive to the feelings of children and parents when head lice are detected at school. We respect the right to privacy for our students and encourage a quick return to school after treatment.

You may have received a pink notification stating that someone in your child's class had head lice. 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. Attached to this newsletter is the SCDSB Treatment Sheet for Head Lice. It is a detailed document for families that covers:

- a) Detecting/identifying head lice
- b) Treatment practices
- c) Treatment products
- d) Preventative strategies

The school will continue to inform parents of new cases of head lice to support ongoing efforts to manage head lice. Thank you for your help and understanding.

BUS CANCELLATION INFORMATION

It's almost winter: Bus cancellation information for parents

Winter is just around the corner in Simcoe County, and with it comes the possibility of severe weather, challenging winter driving conditions and possible bus and school event cancellations.

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. Our school is in the CENTRAL zone. When buses are cancelled, schools are still 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 between 6 and 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 listen to local radio for event cancellation information.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TEAMS

After a brief season, the Junior Boys Volleyball team pulled together and showed great teamwork during our area tournament. After a few close fought games, the boys ended the division one tournament third in their pool!

The Junior Girls Volleyball team demonstrated great school spirit and support for their teammates during the area tournament which led to an exciting first place finish! Mrs. Robertson and Mrs. Ryan would like to thank both teams for a fun and exciting season!



Mr. Robertson had a great season with the Int. Boys Volleyball team. They played with confidence and skill through every game. At the time of publication Mr. Chenette and the Int. Girls hadn't played their tournament. We will provide an update on that event in January.

LIBRARY NEWS

Thank you for supporting our book fair that raised over \$1200 for library materials. We will be having a used book sale at the end of January. Books will be sold for 50 cents each! If you have any children's books at home (for any age level) that you would like to donate to our used book sale, please send them to the school in care of Mrs. Marling. The books will be accepted anytime.

Award winning Canadian author **ERIC WALTERS** will be visiting Trillium Woods and speaking to our junior and intermediate students on the morning of Wednesday, December 7th. Mr. Walters will be talking about some of the over 90 books that he has written. He is willing to sign any of his books, so be sure to bring them in on the 7th!

The 2017 Forest of Reading nominations have been announced. The winners are announced in May 2017. Books are nominated for readers ages 4 (Blue Spruce) to adults (Evergreen). These books make great gifts! To see the list of nominees, visit http://www.accessola.org/web/OLA/Forest_of_Reading/Nominated_Lists/OLA/Forest_of_Reading/Current_Program_Year

Our Battle of the Books team is being created as we speak! Battle of the Books is a reading program run in conjunction with the Barrie Public Library. Team members are given a list of books and are encouraged to read as many as possible before the "battle" against other schools in April. If you have a child who is in Grades 4 to 8 who enjoys reading, please encourage them to join our school team. We will meet bi-weekly in the library to discuss the books the students have read. Enjoy your holiday with your family, and remember that reading with your children is one of the greatest gifts you can give them!

CELEBRATING STUDENT WRITERS

To showcase the amazing writing that is produced in our school we will be adding this feature to our newsletters each month. We are excited to share a descriptive writing piece from Mr. Robertson's class.

Shore

September 9, 2016, 7: 30pm.

I did the same thing every night in the summer before it got cold and the snow started falling. I would sneak away and hope my father wouldn't notice. There was one place I would go every time I swam up here. I pulled myself out of the water and up on the sand.

The sand felt so soft beneath me, it was extremely warm. I could feel the gentle breeze upon my skin giving me goosebumps along my arms. I felt content, like nothing horrible could happen because moments like these were what I lived for. The splash of water against my face snapped me out of my trance, it was almost like they were calling me back but I did not want to go back, at least not right now. The second I looked up I was mesmerized. It was like nothing I have seen before. It was magical.

I was looking at the sunset that burst with color before my eyes. Different shades of dark and pastel purples, salmons, baby pinks, navy blues, oranges and blacks. It was incredible like something you would paint in art class, but it was real and I could see it. I watched as the waves crashed against the shore. I could see people having their anniversary dinner up on the black and brown tinted pier.

I took a whiff of fresh air and could smell what they were eating from here. I can't even describe how amazing it smelt, I could practically taste the variety of seafood in my mouth. There was crab, lobster, shrimp and different types of fish. Then that was all interrupted when the salt water I was so used to tasting flew in my mouth from the mist. I started smelling the flowers, it was like the bees polluted the air with the scent of pollen, while the trees lightly drifted in the background.

I could hear the couple's choice of classical music lightly playing in the background. The waves crashing against the shore and seagulls chirping were flowing through my head. The couple's laughing and talking lightly sounded, along with the tiptoe of people's feet and cars honking, then continuing along.

The sun was almost completely set now and I knew I had to start heading home. I dragged myself back along the sand and into the water. I took one last look at the unique sky surrounding me, before going under the water and making my way home for a peaceful night's rest. I would never forget that moment when I was up on the shore.

Ialie Stylianou