



TRILLIUM WOODS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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WE INSPIRE OUR COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS TO ACHIEVE. WE BELIEVE!

Jo-Ann White-McKenna
Principal

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Kevin Stapleton
Vice-Principal

January 2017

OUR NEW YEAR THOUGHTS

Happy New Year and welcome back to school. We hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and are excited to be back at school.

Illness is more common in the winter months at school. Although we cannot prevent illness from spreading, we can do a few things to minimize the effects and to keep our school as healthy as possible:

- a) Healthy eating and plenty of rest are known as great preventative measures
- b) Dressing for the weather. Good boots, a warm hat and snow pants/coat are essential items for our active students. We strongly recommend every child have extra mittens, hats and socks. Items get wet at recess and having to wear wet mitts outside is not much fun.
- c) Show your child how to cough into his/her arm, to slow down the spread of germs.
- d) Use the hand sanitizers available throughout the school as needed
- e) Provide a good supply of tissues for a runny nose
- f) Although we strongly support school attendance, it's a good idea to stay home when you are ill. Rest and healthy foods help your body heal and it lessens the spread of illness at school.
- g) Anyone with a fever should remain at home until 24 hours after it passes.

We spend a lot of time outside learning and exercising during the winter months. Our students enjoy several outdoor activity times each day. Twice for recess along with DPA (daily physical activity breaks) and our Kindergarten classes use the outdoor classroom/forest each day. It is expected that students go outside for all recess breaks and DPA. There are times when it is may be too cold for outdoor activities. That occurs when the wind-chill is -28C or the air temperate is -25C without wind-chill. On those cold days, we all stay inside to ensure the safety of everyone.

Upcoming Events

- Jan 12: Bear Creek S. S. info session 6:30 p.m.
Jan 16: School Council, 6 p.m. in the library
Jan 16: French Immersion info session, at Ferndale
6:30 p.m.
Jan 27: P. D. Day

APPLY FOR FRENCH IMMERSION, FIND OUT MORE AT INFORMATION SESSIONS IN JANUARY

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) offers French Immersion (FI) at select schools throughout the county beginning in Grade 1. This program gives students a bilingual education and the opportunity to become fluent in another language.

Information sessions will be held in January for parents of students in Senior Kindergarten. A letter will be sent home to those parents with more details. Information session dates will be 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 Monday, Jan. 23, until 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2017 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 in the program. **Applications will be processed in the order they are received electronically**

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Do you (or someone you know) have a child who was born in 2013? If so, it's almost time to register them for Kindergarten in the SCDSB! Beginning on January 23, 2017, Simcoe County's public schools will register children for Kindergarten for the 2017-18 school year. Required registration documents include birthdate documentation, proof of address and record of immunization. Visit www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten for more information.

FULL STEAM AHEAD

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) has become a means of bringing math to life in our classrooms for the past year. By focusing on a hands-on, technology-based approach to learning, students are enthusiastically making connections between areas of interest, and the different subjects in school, especially Math and Science. On Wednesday February 1, 2017, our students will be showcasing their learning using STEAM to the parents and community. Please set this evening aside from 6 – 7:30 P.M. to attend our evening named "FULL STEAM AHEAD" to see how technology is enhancing learning and to interact with the newest technology that your children are using each day.

GRADE 8 TRANSITION INFORMATION

As students' progress from elementary school to secondary school, important personal student information is shared which eases each student's transition to secondary school. Sharing this information also improves our ability to program effectively to benefit all students. Select student information will be shared at different times as appropriate. The collection and use of personal student information for such purposes is authorized under sections 170, 171, 190 Part X and Part XIII of the *Education Act*. Please note that all information used for the transition process is limited, secure and protected at all times. Please contact Chris Samis, Superintendent of Education for this area, if you would like more information about the transition process at our school.

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. *Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*

STUDENTS AND PARENTS INVITED TO COMPLETE THE SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY

From Jan. 9 to Jan. 27, 2017, all students in grades 4 to 8 will be asked to complete an anonymous online survey at school about how they feel about their school. Your child's teacher will supervise the class during the survey and can answer any questions or concerns your child may have. As well, parents/guardians of students in grades 4 to 8 will be asked to complete an anonymous online survey about how they feel about their child's school.

These surveys provide students and parent/guardians with the opportunity to say what is great about their school, as well as express their concerns. The survey results will provide valuable feedback to staff and will help schools to develop their Safe Schools Plans. Respondents are not asked to provide their names and all responses will be combined to ensure confidentiality.

To complete the parent/guardian survey, visit the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) website at www.scdsb.on.ca and click the link to the parent/guardian School Climate survey. The password for the survey is **ElementaryParent2017**. If you do not have access to the internet and/or you prefer to complete a paper version of the survey, you can request one at the school office. Questions about the parent/guardian survey can be directed to SCDSB's Research and Evaluation Services team via email at research@scdsb.on.ca. Thank you for your support!