



W.C. LITTLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FEEL THE PRIDE

NEWSLETTER # 8

April 4, 2017

Principal: Mr. Scott Young
Telephone: 705-725-7970

<http://wcl.scdsb.on.ca>

Vice Principal
Mrs. J. Duffett
Safe Arrival: 705-725-7970 ext. 1

Principal's Message

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the school community for all of their support and trust they demonstrate to the staff at W.C. Little, We are in the last three months of school, but rest assured we will continue to deliver educational opportunities and curriculum to improve academic outcomes for your children.

At this time I would like to remind all visitors to W.C. Little Elementary School that dogs are not permitted on school property. In the last few weeks a number of dogs have been spotted on the property. Please refrain from bringing your pets to school. We appreciate your understanding in this matter.

Sincerely,

S. Young
Principal

School Council Corner

Follow W.C. Little Elementary Parent Council on Facebook or @WCL_Council on Twitter for updates, news and important reminders!

Thank you to EVERYONE who has supported our School Council's fundraising efforts. We have been successful in seeing the tower garden and our first water bottle filling station installed this month.



Everyone is very excited about watching the veggies grow in the tower garden, and our students are learning so much in the process! We are happy to be able to support the use of refillable water bottles in our school. If your child doesn't already have a reusable water bottle - make sure to order your W.C. Little Logo water bottle from us. Order forms will be coming out soon.

Mr. Young and a sub-committee from Council took a tour of local school playgrounds recently, and are working with SCDSB Facility Services in developing a plan to improve our large playground area, including developing a new 'walking trail'. We are excited to see that your fundraising efforts will see this project get underway this year as well.

Information about our **McMillan's** frozen baked goods and meat fundraiser will be coming out soon- just in time for the barbeque season! Orders will be due back by April 21st, 2017 with delivery on May 11th, 2017.

Our next **Raise the Dough** fundraiser with Dominos Pizza will be on April 12th. Let Dominos take care of dinner for your family that night! You can help us by sharing this fundraiser with family and friends on social media, by re-posting the notices from our Council social media sites. Our school earns \$5 for every WC Little Special ordered during Raise the Dough. Every order counts!

Our Council team is working hard to plan for this year's **Fun Fair** scheduled for June 8, 2017. We will **need volunteers and silent auction items** to make it

a success. Please contact us at wclparentcouncil@gmail.com if you can help. Does your family eat at **BOSTON PIZZA**? Write our school name on the back of your receipt and deposit it in the box provided at Boston Pizza, and we will receive a portion of the receipt sales back for our school.

Over the past few years, Council members have been working hard to improve the safety of our children in our parking lot and on our streets. This has included working collaboratively with our school administration and staff to improve our **Kiss N Ride** procedures, and advocating for street safety improvements with City Council. As a result, you may notice that a speed radar sign was recently installed on Mapleview Drive West, approaching the intersection at Lougheed. This is a reminder to all our families to be mindful that **WC Little is largely a walking school**, and many of our students need to cross busy streets, like Mapleview Drive to get to and from school safely. **The safety of our students is a community effort**, so please abide by the Kiss N Ride and parking lot procedures, and be mindful of your driving practices. Thank you!

Food Order Reminders: If you submit your orders through School Cash Online, please note that we **DO NOT** need you to send in paper forms. If you are not using School Cash Online, **PLEASE SEND EXACT CHANGE**, as we cannot provide change.

Have you ever been curious about what Council does? Our **NEXT MEETING** will be held on Monday, May 1st at 6:30 pm in the school library. Please feel welcome to attend!

Dance-a-Thon

Thank you to all of our Grades K-6 students



for coming out and participating in our annual Dance-a-Thon. The students had a fantastic time! Total money raised was **\$988.70** to go towards our Grade 4 Medieval Times trip! Thank you!

Parent Workshops to Help Understand Individual Education Plans

The Simcoe County District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committee and Special Education Department are offering informational workshops for parents/guardians to enhance collaboration between parents and schools in the development of a student Individual Education Plan (IEP). These workshops are free to attend and open to all interested parents/guardians.

Workshops take place from 6:30 to 8 p.m.:

- April 11: Lions Oval PS - 25 Brant Street West, Orillia
- April 12: Bear Creek SS - 100 Red Oak Drive, Barrie
- April 13: Mundy's Bay PS - 340 Sixth St., Midland
- April 18: Chris Hadfield PS - 211 West Park, Bradford
- April 19: Alliston Union PS - 211 Church St. North, Alliston
- April 20: Admiral Collingwood ES - 15 Dey Drive, Collingwood

Starting School in the Fall? Kindergarten Orientation Session at W.C. Little

On June 1, 2017, we are hosting an orientation session to welcome new Kindergarten students and their parents to our school. Come experience what life is like in Kindergarten! Explore areas of the program, meet Kindergarten educators and have the chance to ask questions. Our school's session takes place on *June 1 at 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.* We look forward to welcoming you! For more information, visit www.scdsb.on.ca, click on 'Programs,' 'Kindergarten' and then 'Kindergarten Orientation.'

School start dates for September 2017 are as follows:

- Senior Kindergarten (Year 2) students will begin school on Tues. Sept. 5.
- Junior Kindergarten (Year 1) students will begin school on Thurs. Sept. 7.

Summer Childcare Available at Select SCDSB Schools

In partnership with community child care operators, we are pleased to support your child care needs, offering full-day child care programs for children (aged JK to 12 years) in select schools across Simcoe County this summer. Registration in advance is required. Please contact the child care operator directly to register. A fee subsidy may be available to families who qualify. For more information, please contact S.E.E.D.S 705-726-3770. For the full listing of childcare centres in the SCDSB, visit www.scdsb.on.ca and click on 'Schools' and then 'Before & After School Care.'

School Bus Evacuation Training Takes Place April 3 to 7, 2017

The Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC), in partnership with school bus operators, is offering school bus evacuation training to all home-to-school transported students the week of April 3 to 7. During this week, school bus drivers will educate students on how to evacuate a school bus safely in an emergency situation. For more information, visit main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/.

Moving to Find Balance: Free Parent Forum on April 25 Offered by Seasons Centre

Seasons Centre for Grieving Children is presenting an educational forum for parents called *Moving to Find Balance: Resilient Children and Youth Connecting Physical Activity to Mental Health*. This event, free for

all parents, will explore how you can incorporate more activity in your own life, how you can encourage children to get moving and how to access family-friendly local resources that are low or no cost. The event takes place on April 25 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Liberty North Events Facility (100 Caplan Ave. in Barrie). The evening forum is free to attend, but you must register. For details, visit <http://www.grievingchildren.com/events/signature-events/>.

Events at Eastview Secondary School in April Open To All Parents

On April 10 at 7 p.m., Eastview Secondary School will host a screening of the film *Screenagers*, a study of growing up in the digital age. Physician and filmmaker Delaney Ruston created *Screenagers* to probe into the vulnerable corners of family life to explore struggles over social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. This presentation will help parents learn how tech time impacts kids' development and offers solutions on how adults can empower kids to best navigate the digital world. On April 12 at 7 p.m., the school welcomes financial literacy expert Robin Taub, the author of the best-seller, *A Parent's Guide to Raising Money-Smart Kids*. Her presentation will cover why it's important to teach kids about money, as well as the challenge of being a good financial role model. She will explain how to address money-related topics with young kids, pre-teens, teenagers and emerging adults.

All parents/guardians are welcome to attend the above events. For more information, please contact Eastview Secondary School at 705-728-1321. The school is located at 421 Grove St. E. in Barrie.

Identifying School-Sponsored Trips

All field trip information will be sent home on school and/or Simcoe County District School Board letterhead. This is the best way for parents/guardians to identify supervised and approved trips. There may have been times when community or external groups have organized trips

that have been mistaken for school-sponsored field trips. Parents would be notified of individual circumstances if the school is aware that an external trip is being planned. When in doubt about any trip ask questions of the organizers, including "Who is sponsoring or in charge of this trip?", "Who will be supervising?" and "What are their qualifications?" You can also contact the school if you have any questions about a trip you see advertised that you think may not be school-sanctioned.

Events At Our School in Celebration of International Day of Pink

Our school will be hosting several events during the week of April 10 to 14 in honour of the International Day of Pink, which is Wed. April 12. This day celebrates diversity and promotes standing up to bullying. It is a day of action which started in Nova Scotia when two straight high school students saw that a gay student wearing a pink shirt was bullied. The two students intervened, but wanted to do more. They purchased pink shirts and within a few days got everyone at school wearing pink, standing in solidarity for diversity and standing up against discrimination, gender-based bullying and homophobia.

Use the Safe Schools Tool to Report Bullying, Drug Use or Vandalism

The SCDSB has an online Safe Schools Reporting Tool, which is available on our school website homepage, <http://wcl.scdsb.on.ca>, as a Quick Access button. Students and parents can use this tool to submit a report online if they witness 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 a teacher or principal. Student safety and well-being are always our top priority. For

more information, please contact the school or visit <http://scdsb.on.ca/ReportAnIncident>.

Students Invited to Share Their Work for Mental Health Awareness Week

In celebration of Mental Health Awareness Week (May 1 to 7), the SCDSB invites submissions from students or classes about the importance of well-being. Student work will be incorporated in a gallery of work that will be displayed at the SCDSB Education Centre during Mental Health Awareness Week. Submissions can be in the form of art, music, technology, literature and/or multi-media presentations. Entries must be received before April 14 at bit.ly/SCDSBwellbeing.

Vaccination Reminder for Parents of Grade 1 Students

All students must have an up-to-date immunization record on file at the health unit. Since starting Kindergarten, your child may have received new immunizations. If so, you must send their updated immunization records to the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit for:

- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis, and Polio
- Measles, Mumps, and Rubella
- Meningococcal disease
- Two-doses of a Chickenpox (Varicella) containing vaccine

If your child will not be getting these vaccines, you will need to give the health unit a valid medical exemption or affidavit. To complete either of these forms, you can call the health unit. Your child could be temporarily suspended from school if the health unit does not have an up-to-date record on file.

Follow these steps to help protect everyone in your school community:

- Check your child's yellow immunization card
- Contact your health care provider to get a record or to get missing vaccines
- Share the complete record with the health unit at www.smdhu.org/immsonline or fax the record to the health unit at 705-726-3962

For more information, visit the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit's website at: www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Five Ways to Make Family Fitness Fun

Fitness and Fun. Two words many families just aren't getting enough of.



Health Canada recommends adults should accumulate at least 150 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity per week, and children/teens require 60 minutes of physical activity every day. Getting our daily dose of exercise not only helps to prevent health risks, it builds strong muscles and bones, develops positive body image and supports mental health. Here are some great tips to making family fitness fun for everyone:

- Plan ahead - it's hard to have fun when you're rushed or overwhelmed. Schedule family time in your calendar and treat it like any other appointment you need to be prepared for.
- Put family first - make the focus of family fitness about family time. Use this time to connect with one another, share stories, discuss interests, check in on the day or just make each other laugh.
- Take turns - to ensure that family fitness stays fun for everyone, take turns choosing the activity.
- Bring on the music - adding a soundtrack to your favourite work out is a great way to turn up the fun.
- End on a high note - follow your fit-time with activities your family loves to

help make the habit fun for all. Plan a movie night at home after attending a fitness class together, or make it a tradition to share a healthy treat after your heart-pumping fun.

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

What's Happening at W.C. Little?

April 7 - Kindergarten to Gryphon Theatre

April 12 - Pink Shirt Day

April 12 - Raise the Dough Fundraiser

April 14-17 Easter Break

April 20 - Intermediates to Blue Jay Game

April 28 - Gr. 4 to Medieval Times

