



**W.C. LITTLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
**FEEL THE PRIDE**  
**NEWSLETTER # 4**  
**December 1, 2016**

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**



This is a reminder that students will be going outside for nutrition breaks and it is critical that they are dressed for the weather. And along with the cold weather comes a reduction in parking spots in our parking lot. It is imperative that Kiss and Ride flows smoothly and safely. Please allow our Kindergarten parents to use the area closest to their doors. Other parents please park and wait farther down the Kiss and Ride closer to the main doors to meet your children. Thank you for your continued support of the Kiss and Ride procedures.

I am hopeful that the W.C. Little community has a safe and happy holiday. I look forward to serving the community as your Principal in 2017.

Sincerely,

Mr. S. Young  
Principal

**Making the Most of the School Day!**

In order to promote the best learning environment possible, we are asking parents to please keep school day interruptions to a

bare minimum. Please plan in advance and continue to make regular communications through the agendas.

- **Dropping off items** - parents are not permitted to go to their child's classroom to drop off items, check-in, etc. If you need to see your child for some reason or would like to drop something off during the school day, you **MUST** check in to the office.
- **Speaking with the teacher** - if you have questions, we encourage you to speak to your child's teacher, but we recommend that you arrange discussion for either before or after school hours. If you are making a change to your child's regular routine, please make these arrangements well in advance.
- **Last minute messages** - our office is extremely busy during the day and we urge you not to rely on us to get last minute messages to your child, unless it is an emergency. We cannot get to all of the last minute calls at the end of the day.
- **Messages on parents phones** - please listen to your voicemails first before calling the school asking why we have called. We always leave messages when voicemail is available. Encourage your children to leave messages as well when they call home.

**School Council Corner**

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

Thank you to everyone who attended our Read and Feed in November! It was a fun and successful

evening. As part of our Read and Feed nights, we have been collecting a variety of books for parents on topics such as parenting and mindfulness. Please feel free to stop by our Community Corner in the W.C. Little library. Our Librarian, Mrs. Odette, has helped us to create a beautiful section of our library where parents can come and sign out their own books, using their student's account. We parents are always learning too and we are happy to be able to support our families in this way.

Don't forget to stuff your stockings with W.C. Little logo water bottles! Priced at just \$5.00 and \$10.00 they would make great gifts and will help us to install automatic water bottle fill stations at our school this year. If you missed the recent order form, extra order forms and bottles are always available from the office.

Food Orders: If you use School Cash Online for your food orders, please do not send in paper order forms as well. If you are not using School Cash Online, please send exact change as we cannot provide change.

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the school library. Please feel welcome to join us!

E. Sararas  
- On behalf of W.C. Little School Council

### **Did you Know?**

Our school newsletter is now online! Go to [wcl.scdsb.on.ca](http://wcl.scdsb.on.ca) and subscribe to the newsletter where you will learn lots of valuable information! Subscribe now! As always, there are paper copies available in the office of our monthly newsletters.

### **Christmas Cheer**

Our Christmas Cheer campaign is up and running! Thank you to all of you who have donated generously to this worthwhile program for the Barrie and District Christmas Cheer. There is still lots of time to drop off food items, unwrapped toys and/or Canadian Tire money. The items will be picked up by Christmas Cheer on December 15, 2016. Thank you for your support!



### **Register Your Child 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](http://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](http://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.**

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.

### **Provide Input On Proposed 2017-18 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. 2017 to June 2018). Input can be provided by visiting [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://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. 13, 2017.**

### **High School Information Nights Coming Soon to a High School Near You!**

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights happen this winter. Information nights give an overview of what's new and what to expect, and are a chance to ask questions. High school is an exciting time—there are so many programs, clubs and activities for students to try. Attend an information night to find out what's offered at your local high school. See the info night schedule and more information on the SCDSB's website at [www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool).



### **Kindergarten Registration Opens in January**

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](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten) for more information.

### **All School Playgrounds Are Closed For the Winter**

Every winter, school playground structures are closed. Students are made aware of this during school hours through announcements and staff reminders during breaks. This may not be well known throughout the community despite signs indicating that playground structures are a winter hazard and are closed. The Canadian Standards Association Regulations make recommendations for the depth of ground cover required to minimize injuries (eg. sand, pea gravel, or wood chips). These surfaces cannot be maintained when the ground freezes. Injuries from falling would be more significant on frozen ground. We strongly recommend that you do not allow your children to play on any structures while the ground is frozen.

### **Leading Women/Leading Girls Building Communities Recognition Program**

MPP Ann Hoggarth invites nominations for outstanding women and girls for their community leadership contributions. To submit a nomination, please provide the completed nomination form, available from Ann Hoggarth's office (email [ahoggarth.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:ahoggarth.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)) and provide two letters of support from persons such as a community leader, mentor, employer, or another individual who has had experience volunteering with the nominee.



Support letters should address the following three areas:

- describe how the nominee's efforts improved the lives of women and/ or girls in her community

- explain how the nominee's achievements demonstrate her leadership
- specify the number of volunteer hours the nominee contributes annually

Nominations for Barrie residents can be forwarded to MPP Ann Hoggarth's Barrie office by Dec. 19.

**Message from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit: Healthy Celebrations**

Celebrations are great opportunities for children to practice the healthy eating messages they learn in class. You can help us teach the importance of healthy eating by choosing healthy foods to send to school the next time your child's class is celebrating. Try these ideas:

- send a tray of watermelon slices, box of clementines or fruit kabobs
- make homemade mini muffins with whole wheat flour and grated carrots or apple
- send a tray of whole grain crackers, cubes of lower fat cheese and grapes

For more ideas, tool and resources to support your healthy classroom celebrations, check out [www.brightbites.ca](http://www.brightbites.ca) - Reason to Celebrate.

**Message from the Health Unit: Is Bedtime Stressing You Out?**

Kids need 10 to 12 hours of sleep every night but sometimes getting them to bed can be frustrating. You can help create a regular sleep schedule for your child by setting a clear bedtime and sticking to the same time every night. Start getting ready an hour before bed: turn off the TV, computers and phones. Spend quality time talking or reading stories to help them unwind. Agree on how many books you'll read before you start! Keep their room dark, cool and quiet - a nightlight is fine. Remember, making sure your child gets enough rest will

help improve their mood, behaviour and ability to learn.

For more bedtime tips, contact Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 to speak with a public health nurse or visit the health unit website at [www.simcoemuskokahahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahahealth.org).

**Message from the Health Unit: Stay Healthy This School Year!**

Colds and Influenza spread easily from person to person. These germs can spread directly from person to person when someone coughs or sneezes, or indirectly when germs land on hard surfaces like door knobs, desks, keyboards, or wet tissues and then are touched by someone. These germs can then enter the body through the eyes, nose or mouth.



The most important thing you can do to keep from getting sick and stop the spread of germs to others is wash your hands with soap and warm running water for at least 15 seconds. If your hands are not visibly dirty, you can use alcohol-based hand sanitizer for 15 seconds. Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or cough into your sleeve or upper arm and stay home if you are sick. Teach your kids to do the same!

For more tips to keep you and your family healthy this school year, contact Health Connection at 1-877-721-7520 or visit the health unit's website at [www.simcoemuskokahahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahahealth.org).



**Visitors to the School**

Please remember while visiting our school to come in to the office first to sign in! Please do not enter the school or visit portables without coming in to the office in the morning, during the school day and/or in the afternoon. We appreciate your patience while waiting for the doorbell to be answered. If we do not answer the doorbell on the first ring it is because we are either on the phone, assisting at the

front desk or helping an injured student.  
Please do not continually ring the doorbell!  
Thank you!

**What's Happening?**

December 23 - Last day of school  
before Christmas Break

January 9 - First day of school 2017!

Welcome back everyone! **Happy New Year!**

January 16 - School Council Meeting 6:30

January 27 - P.A. Day

February 14 - Valentine's Day

February 20 - Family Day

