



W.C. LITTLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
FEEL THE PRIDE
NEWSLETTER #6
February 1, 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

Family Day!



Principal's Message

It is looking like the cold weather is back! Big reminder to our families that students are outside unless the wind chill is below -25 as per Simcoe County District School Board protocols. Dressing in appropriate clothing is critical to enjoying the weather! Remember to be extra careful to and from school as the snow can obstruct sightlines.

Take care.

Sincerely,

Scott Young
Principal

Concerns or Questions?

Do you have any concerns or questions? Please start by discussing with the classroom teacher. Should you need to discuss further please contact Ms. Duffett and then Mr. Young in order that we may help you. Thank you.

Simcoe County District School Board Policy

ALL visitors must sign in and get a visitor sticker or lanyard.



End of Day Changes

Office staff need to be vigilant when a phone call is received requesting a change in a student's after school routine as there is no way to verify the caller's identity. These calls are often received at the school during dismissal time and impose an immediate response from the school at which time an error can be made. Parents/Guardians need to be encouraged to communicate after school arrangements to classroom teachers in writing.

Smile!

Don't forget to bring your smiles to school on **Thursday, February 9, 2017** as our photographer will be here to take Senior Kindergarten and Grade 8 graduation photos.

School Council Corner

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

Have your kids been talking about mindfulness? Have you wondered what that is? Council is excited to present another parent resource evening, as part of the PRO Grant that we received. Amber McAuley will be returning this year to talk to our parents about mindfulness and self-regulation. Amber presented an informative talk last year and we are excited that she will offer our families more resources and tools this year. Mark your calendar for the evening of February 22nd and watch out for a registration form that will be coming home with your students soon.

Thank you everyone who has participated in Council's fundraising programs this year! Your efforts have made a big difference at our school. We have approved a number of classroom enhancements, including upgrading equipment, technology and learning resources. We are supporting the school's athletic programs, clubs and extracurricular activities. We continue to work toward installation of the automatic water dispensers and our plans for improving our large playground area and building a walking trail are coming along. At our last meeting, Council approved \$2,000.00 to be allocated to support our Eat Well to Excel program. This program has seen a significant amount of use this year and our Council team is committed to ensuring that our children's nutritional needs are met so that they can engage effectively in their learning environment and school community.

Keep your eyes open this spring for our McMillan's frozen baked goods and meat fundraiser - just in time for the barbeque season!

Our Raise the Dough Fundraiser with Domino's Pizza will be on **February 1, 2017**. You can promote this fundraiser to your friends and family on social media and for every W.C. Little Special that is ordered during the fundraiser our school will earn \$5.00.

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!

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, February 6, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the school library. Please feel welcome to attend!

~ Emily Sararas, School Council

Gr. 7-9 Summer Camp, Midland July 10-14

Skills Ontario Summer Camp is a week-long day program for kids entering grades 7-9. Through hands-on activities relevant to the skilled trades, campers develop communication, problem-solving and teamwork skills. Campers take part in hands-on counselor and industry-led workshops in the industrial, construction, motive power and services and technology sectors; they explore careers in skilled trades through interactive games, industry tours and entrepreneurship programs. Schedules vary per location based on available volunteers and programming.

The camps are facilitated in partnership with colleges, industries and community volunteers who are committed to giving the campers an outstanding hands-on experience. For more information, please visit <http://www.skillsontario.com/camp>

Obtaining Important Personal Student Information

As student's 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 X111 of the *Education Act*. Please note that all information used for the transition process is limited, secure and protected at all times. Please Contact Mr. Chris Samis, Superintendent of Education for this area, if

you would like more information about the transition process at W.C. Little Elementary School.

Operations Appreciation Day - A Chance to Say Thank You!

February 8th, 2017 is

Operations Appreciation Day in the Simcoe County District School Board. We celebrate and recognize our custodians and operations maintenance employees for the great work they do every day to keep our schools safe and clean. We would like to say thank you to Mrs. Hadley, Mr. Thomson, Mrs. Fildey and Mr. Bakker. Thank you for all that you do in keeping W.C. Little running smoothly!



Your Top 8 Snow Day Questions Answered!



Bus cancellations and snow days are inevitable in Simcoe County. Each time buses are (or aren't) cancelled, the SCDSB and the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium

(SCSTC) receive many questions from students, parents and community members. Check out the Sharing Simcoe blog for the top eight questions and answers - visit www.sharingsimcoe.com and search for 'snow'. Remember to follow the SCSTC on Twitter @SCSTC_SchoolBus for bus updates and cancellations.

School Bus Safety Tip from the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)

Winter weather is here, so please be sure your child's clothing provides the appropriate protection against the weather while waiting or the bus. Students are requested to be at



their bus stop at least five minutes before their scheduled pick-up time. School vehicle delays of 15 minutes or more are posted under 'View Bus Delays' at the SCSTC website:

<http://simcoecountyschoolbus.ca>

Is Your Child Turning Four This Year?

Our school is now registering children for Kindergarten for the 2017-2018 school year. Required registration documents include birthdate documentation, proof of address and record of immunization. Visit www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten for more information.

Get the Flu Shot - Not the Flu!

Influenza (the flu) is a serious illness caused by a virus. Anyone can get influenza but your children, those over 65 and people who are pregnant or who have chronic medical conditions are more vulnerable and at higher risk of complications like pneumonia. By getting your shot you are protecting yourself as well as those around you. Flu shots are available at many pharmacies and from health care providers throughout Simcoe Muskoka. Protect yourself, protect your family - get the flu shot! For more information contact *Health Connection* at 1-877-721-7520 or visit the Health Unit's website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

The Facts of Lice

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 look 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 slide 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 will 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 is 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.

Kids fighting? Here are some tips for a more peaceful household

It is common for children to disagree or argue at times. They may fight or get aggressive with when things do not go the way they want

or if they feel jealous or competitive, especially with siblings. So what can you do to stop fighting before it starts?

- Let your child know what behaviour you expect by explaining rules for playing with others, such as "be gentle" and "keep your hands and feet to yourself."
- Praise your child when they are playing well with others.
- Help children to solve problems before fights start.

Remember, you and other adults play a big role in setting expectations and teaching children better ways of behaving. For more tips, call *Health Connection* at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 and talk to a public health nurse about the Triple P-Positive Parenting Program or visit

www.tripleontario.ca.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Developing leadership skills in your kids

There are many reasons why developing youth leadership skills at a young age is important - it builds confidence, perseverance, problem-solving and communication skills. While leadership skills can come naturally, children learn lessons along the way that significantly impact them later in life. The right words at the right time can make all the difference. Here are some ways you can teach your children how to develop leadership skills at a young age:

- Encourage team activities: Identify your children's interests and encourage their participation in group activities. Whether it's participating in afterschool sports or joining the school band, children learn valuable lessons about teamwork through these activities.
- Enrol in camp: Overnight and day camps are filled with opportunities to participate in team-building activities and build self-confidence. Once youth reach a certain age,

they can also become counsellors, where they'll be tasked with leading groups of younger children - the ultimate leadership experience!

- Find volunteer and community service opportunities: firsthand experience is one of the best ways to teach leadership skills to children. Look for local opportunities that will welcome youth helpers and volunteers in your community.

The YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka offers Youth Leadership Development programs for youth in grades 5 to 12. Participants in our leadership programs often adopt healthier lifestyles, become volunteers in their community, make new friends, earn volunteer hours for school, acquire training certifications, travel to other countries and gain an understanding of their potential impact on their community.

For more information about the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka Youth Leadership Development Programs and opportunities, visit <http://ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca/ymca-youth-leadership-development/>.

What's Happening at W.C. Little?

February 1 - Raise the Dough Fundraiser
February 6 - School Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.
February 8 - Custodian Appreciation Day
February 9 - SK Grad Photos
February 9 - Grade 8 Grad Photos
February 14 - Valentine's Day
February 20 - Family Day
February 22 - Wear a Pink Shirt Day!
February 22 - Amber McAuley presentation
March 3 - P.A. Day
March 13 - 17 - March Break

