



W.C. LITTLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
FEEL THE PRIDE
NEWSLETTER # 2
October 17, 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

A big thank you to all staff, parents and students for a great start to our school year and welcome to our 2016-2017 W.C.

Little School Council. Thank you for supporting the W.C. Little Community.

I am very pleased with the Kiss and Ride and your support is appreciated. Please remember when staff identify a concern it is for the safety of our students and the effective use of our parking lot.

Please remember to make sure you sign up for the student led parent teacher interviews that will take place on November 17 and 18, 2016.

A range of exciting learning opportunities will be happening around W.C. Little during this school year. The W.C. Little staff are active participants in their learning and I am looking forward to how this impacts the students in their classes. Here are our three school goals in our school learning plan under the three pillars. More to follow during the school year.

Learning and Teaching

If we, as a community of learners, demonstrate grit through the concept that mistakes are our discoveries, then students will embrace and develop a shared understanding when problem-solving in learning and life.

Pathways, Planning and Programming

If we, as a community of learners, demonstrate grit through the concept that mistakes are our discoveries, then students will embrace and develop a shared understanding when problem-solving in learning and life, by leveraging technology for deeper learning.

Community, Culture and Caring

If we, as a community of learners, demonstrate grit through the concept that mistakes are our discoveries, then students will embrace and develop a shared understanding of self-regulation, mindfulness and problem-solving strategies to promote well-being as lifelong learners.

I would like at this time to wish Mrs. Dermott our office secretary a fond farewell as she leaves W.C. Little to work at Ernest Cumberland E.S. We thank Mrs. Dermott for all of her hard work here. We would like to give a big welcome to Mrs. Linda Parsons, as she begins here at W.C. Little from Trillium Woods.

Sincerely,

Scott Young
Principal

Message from Director of Education Kathi Wallace

At the Sept. 28 Board Meeting, it was shared publicly that I will retire as of December 31, 2016. As I'm sure you can imagine, this decision was

challenging for me. I love what I do—I have felt this way in every role during my 39 years in this board.

It's truly been an honour to serve the students and families of Simcoe County throughout my career. I've had the privilege of working with fantastic staff, parents and community partners. I've been surrounded by skilled, passionate and caring people.

My focus remains on our work as I complete my time here. The Board of Trustees have now started the search for a new director. We will also continue with our strategic planning consultation and analysis. The input provided by our staff, students, parents and community members will be invaluable to the board and senior administration, including the new director, as they move the system forward. If you haven't already, I encourage you to add your ideas by visiting www.scdsb.on.ca/difference.

I am also looking forward with optimism to this next stage of my life. It's a chance to spend some more time with my family. This includes my growing group of beautiful grandchildren who provide that daily reminder of life's wonder and simple joys. It's that same reminder I cherish from my days as a classroom teacher.

Safe Arrival

Please remember to call the safe arrival line at 725-7920, Ext. 1 if your child will be late or absent. Your child's safety is our number one concern.

School Council Corner

Follow W.C. Little Elementary Parent Council on Facebook or W.C. Little Parent Council on Twitter for updates, news and important reminders! There are lots of exciting ways

that your School Council is supporting the students of W.C. Little this year!

Our annual QSP FUNDRAISER has launched, offering magazine subscriptions, frozen cookie batter, gift items, and chocolate treats! There are even more options available online at QSP.CA! Did you know that orders can be placed from anywhere in Canada at QSP.CA and shipped anywhere in Canada?!?! This is a great way to send gifts to friends and family who live in other areas. Please share your flyers with family, friends, and coworkers. Our campaign ended on **Tuesday, October 11**, and we extended it to Friday, October 14 2016. We earn 30 to 40% on sales - SO EVERY ORDER COUNTS. All cookie dough will arrive frozen on November 17th, and will need to be picked up between the hours of 2:50 and 6:00 p.m. Other gift items will arrive at the school approximately 2-3 weeks after the campaign ends.

Does your family eat at BOSTON PIZZA? After you pay your bill, write W.C. Little Elementary on the back of your receipt, and deposit it in the box by the front door of Boston Pizza. We will receive 10% of the receipt sales back for our school! This is a year round fundraising opportunity.

Don't forget to order W.C. Little WATER BOTTLES online through School Cash Online. All proceeds will go toward the purchase of automatic water bottle filling stations for our school.

Are you signed up for School Cash Online? All your food orders can be made using credit card or authorized withdrawals from your bank account. It is easy and convenient - so you won't need to send cash or order forms to school with your children. If you are not using School Cash Online, PLEASE SEND EXACT CHANGE, as we cannot provide change.

Thank you to everyone who joined us on Monday, September 19th for our first council meeting this school year. We have elected a new council executive. Welcome to Michael McPherson as Chair,

Colleen Whale as Co-Chair, Kim Mimms and Cindy Jamieson as Co-Treasurers, and Korrie Doans as Secretary. We appreciate your time and effort on behalf of our school community!

Have you ever wondered what the School Council does? Our NEXT MEETING will be held on Monday, November 14th at 6:30pm in the school library. Please feel welcome to join us.



Friendly Reminder Regarding Watching After School Sports In our Gymnasium!

This is a reminder to parents and guardians that students who would wish to stay after school to watch sports in our gymnasium **MUST** have a parent present with them for safety sake. Thank you!

Dogs/Pets on School Property

This is a reminder to all visitors to W.C. Little 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.



S.E.E.D.S. Daycare

Welcome back to another wonderful school year!

The children have been exploring pulley systems in the outdoor environment and we have been comparing weights and systems for measuring weights of different objects. Outdoor play has been shown to be important to good health, increase levels of activity, decrease negative emotions and influence positive behaviour. We will be offering P.A. day care at Holly Meadows Elementary School this year, which is available for W.C. Little families. If you require care, please contact

Sheena Bardai at 705-726-3770. Before school spaces are available as well!

News from our Awesome Library!

We are looking for the following donations for our library:

- Lego
- Craft Items (sticks, beads, stickers, play dough, etc...)
- Leveled readers



Thank you very much!

Mrs. Odette ~ Teacher Librarian

Halloween Candy

A reminder with Halloween approaching we are asking parents not to send any treats in your child's lunch bag that contain nuts. Your co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

What's the SCDSB Difference? We Need to Hear from You!

We need your help developing the new strategic plan for the Simcoe County District School Board.

The purpose of a strategic plan is to set goals and directions that will guide the work of our organization and help us realize our vision of a community of learners achieving full potential.

We want to know:

- What does the SCDSB do already to help us realize our vision of a community of learners achieving full potential? (What are we doing well?)
- What is the most important thing that we can begin to do to help us realize our vision? (What else can we do to improve?)
- What role do you think SCDSB schools play or should play in your community?

Get involved:

- Visit www.scdsb.on.ca/difference to take our survey and complete the *Where should we invest?*

We'll use the input to identify the key areas stakeholders think the SCDSB should focus on. We will also review research on effective practices in education, our own data and the expectations we receive from the Ministry of Education. This information will help the Board of Trustees set our priorities. The strategic plan will outline how—together—we inspire and empower learning for life. Ultimately, our strategic priorities should move us toward our vision of a community of learners achieving full potential.

Reorganization Balances Class Sizes to Support Your Child's Success



Each September, our school starts off with a certain number of classes and teachers - these numbers are

based on estimates made the previous spring about how many students will be enrolled during the next school year.

As you may be aware, the Ministry of Education has class size goals that all school boards are required to meet. When the Simcoe County District School Board organized its schools in the spring, they adhered to this expectation. Each September, the board compares actual enrolment numbers to the numbers projected by the board in the spring. At times it is necessary to reorganize classes.

After reorganization, some students may move to another class in order to balance class sizes. In some cases, it may be necessary to move teachers to a new school. If your child was

affected by a change, you would have received a letter with details following reorganization. Please be assured that these changes will not affect the quality of education your child will receive at W.C. Little Elementary School. Our staff have the skills, training and resources to work effectively with students in a variety of settings.

Student Accident Insurance Available for Extra-Curricular Activities and Trips

Student injuries at school, during school events, and extra-curricular activities (athletics, clubs, and out-of-province/out-of-country trips) are not covered by the school board or its insurance company. While every precaution is taken to provide a safe learning environment, accidents can happen. It is essential that all students participating in extra-curricular activities have adequate insurance coverage. The SCDSB has selected *Insure My Kids* as an option for parents to consider. The coverage is for 24 hours a day and offers a variety of plans at reasonable prices. Coverage can be purchased online at www.insuremykids.com.

Stay Updated, Get Information about your School and School Board

Want to ensure you are receiving up-to-date, accurate information about what's going on at your school and our school board? Here's how:

- You can subscribe to our school's website by clicking on 'Subscribe' at the top of our school website: <http://wcl.scdsb.on.ca>. You can sign up to receive emails about school news updates and information during emergency situations. When you fill out your email and click Subscribe, an email will be sent to your inbox with a link to click to confirm that you want to subscribe. You can unsubscribe at any

time using the link at the bottom of each email.

- For Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) media releases and event information, visit the 'News' section under 'About Us' at the SCDSB's website: www.scdsb.on.ca. You can also subscribe to receive board media releases, event information and/or job postings via email by visiting www.scdsb.on.ca and clicking on 'Subscribe' at the top of the page.
- Follow the SCDSB on Twitter (@SCDSB_Schools), Facebook (facebook.com/SCDSB) and Instagram (instagram.com/scdsb) Check out our *Sharing Simcoe* blog (www.sharingsimcoe.com), where we share stories of our amazing students, staff and community members.
- For school bus transportation information, visit the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s website at: main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. And remember to bookmark the school bus information page at: www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca for bus delay and cancellation information on inclement weather days. Notifications of bus delays can be emailed to families and students that subscribe to receive their specific bus delay notification through the SCSTC website. Subscribe here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/>.

Message from the Health Unit: Ensure your child's immunization record is up-to-date

The Ontario Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA) requires the health unit to have up-to-date immunization records for all students attending school. According to ISPA (2014), students are required to be vaccinated against the following diseases:

- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Polio and Pertussis (whooping cough)
- Measles, Mumps and Rubella (must have two doses after the first birthday)
- Meningococcal Disease (must have one dose after the first birthday & Men-C-ACYW in Grade 7)
- Varicella (chickenpox) - only for those born 2010 and after

The health unit **does not** receive immunization information directly from doctor's offices. Please contact the health unit each time your child receives a vaccine from their health care provider.

What you can do:

- check your child's yellow immunization card
- contact your child's health-care provider to obtain records or get missing vaccinations
- go to <http://www.smdhu.org/immsonline> to enter the complete record, or fax a completed record to 705-726-3962

Message from the Health Unit: Smoke-free Movies Support Healthy Choices for our Kids

Parents are always doing their best to protect their kids from harm. Have you ever wondered how movies influence our children? Research shows that seeing smoking in movies has a direct impact on youth smoking. In fact, the more often kids see smoking in the movies, the more likely they are to smoke. So why is smoking allowed in children and youth-rated movies? Movies influence kids. Make them smoke

free. For more info visit the health unit website: www.simcoemuskokahahealth.org or www.smokefreemovies.ca.

Giving Back to the School Community - Volunteer in Our School

Volunteers are an important part of what makes our school a great place to learn and grow. We value and appreciate the support of our volunteers. There are many opportunities available, including school council, breakfast clubs, reading help, assisting in the classroom or library and much more. Everyone who volunteers in a school must have a criminal record check which includes a Vulnerable Sector Screening. Please call or visit the school office for more information about opportunities available or if you'd like to volunteer!

October is International Walk to School Month



Month

Did you know that October is International Walk to School month? It is a great way for children to get their recommended 60

minutes of physical activity each day and also gives parents and staff a chance to be part of a worldwide event that celebrates the many benefits of walking. Get in on the fun and try these activities:

- Create a walking group/"bus" to and from school
- Create a fun walking challenge for your school community involving students, parents and teachers
- Create and sign a Walk to School pledge

Check out the website at www.saferoutestoschool.ca for more information. You can also call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 and speak with a public health nurse or visit the health unit website at www.simcoemuskokahahealth.org.



Eye See...Eye Learn Program Offers Free Glasses for Junior Kindergarten Students

The Eye See Eye Learn program provides comprehensive eye exams by local optometrists to Junior Kindergarten students. The eye exams are covered under the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) when parents show their child's health card. There is no out-of-pocket cost for the eye exam and if the child requires a pair of glasses, they will receive them free of charge from a participating optometrist. For more information, visit www.Eyeseeyelearn.ca.

What's Happening

October 20, 2016 - Barrie Colts Game

October 21 - P.A. Day

October 31 - Hallowe'en

November 3 - Picture Re-Take Day

November 11 - Remembrance Day

November 18 - P.A. Day

