



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

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I am excited and optimistic that the 2016/2017 school year will be a rewarding and enjoyable year for all W.C. Little community members. I was so happy to get back to work this August. I had a number of great opportunities with my family over the summer but truly missed the staff, parents and especially the students. I hope you all made some wonderful memories with the people you care about. Welcome to all the new families to the W.C. Little school community. We at W.C. Little have continued to make some tremendous strides in a number of areas related to improved outcomes for your children a.k.a. our students. Some examples are:

- improved and varied mode of communication such as timely updates to the W.C. Little web-site and school sign, the structure of the web-site is expanded, revamped school newsletters are sent to you by your preferred mode of communication in print, via your personal e-mail or downloaded from the school web-site, a school Twitter account was a huge success last year and a range of staff initiated opportunities are options for

you to receive the needed information and communicate with the staff.

- Increased use and access to innovative technology like over 70 iPads and Chrome Books school wide.

I would like to extend a thank you to W.C. Little School Council and SCDSB for their continued funding support.

Our W.C. Little School Learning will continue to focus on high yield numeracy practices, innovative approaches to learning and meeting the Wellness needs of our community. I am always open and available to discuss our plans with any community member.

In this newsletter we have once again placed the rules and procedures for the W.C. Little parking lot and kiss and ride. Safety is paramount!! This information was sent out for the past two years and all has been going really well. The positive feedback from the community was tremendous and I would like to thank you! We have a number of new families to the school community and I wanted to make sure they receive the same information and feel welcome. Please remember that compliance connected to the parking lot and kiss and ride are critical to the safety of all the community members of the W.C. Little.

Thank you in advance for your continued support

Mr. Young  
Principal

## **KISS AND RIDE PROCEDURES**

Please enter via the first entrance on Bear Creek Drive and cue up to drop off your child at the drop off zone leading up to the front doors of the school. PLEASE DO NOT PARK ANYWHERE ALONG THIS ROUTE. Once your child has been dropped off (no leaving your vehicle) you are to immediately exit via the path and out the second driveway. If you need to park or would like to park and walk your child to their yard you will need to see the supervisor at the first set of pylons and they will move them for you to allow you to park. The first row of parking spaces (closest to the flag pole) have been designated as "visitor" parking. The second driveway to the school is a "DO NOT ENTER" (that is the driveway closest to the park. This procedure will be repeated at the end of the day for pick up. We are always concerned for the safety of our students and staff. Should these procedures not be followed the next step would be to close the parking lot altogether.

Thank you for keeping all of our children safe.

## **STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE 2016-2017**

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 Board or its insurance company. While every precaution is taken to provide a safe learning environment, accidents can and do happen. It is essential that all students participating in extra-curricular activities have adequate insurance coverage for all instances of injury. The Simcoe County District School Board has selected the "insure my kids" program through Old Republic Canada as an option for students/parents/guardians to consider with regards to purchasing student accident insurance coverage for the upcoming school

year. The coverage is for 24 hours a day. This insurance offers a variety of plans and benefits at reasonable annual prices. Coverage can be purchased online at [www.insuremykids.com](http://www.insuremykids.com).

Please watch for your student accident insurance package along with a letter about requirements for extra-curricular activities and out-of-province or out-of-country trips.

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**

Our first School Council Meeting will be held on September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - in our School Library at 6:30 p.m. Everyone welcome!

## **QSP FALL FUNDRAISER COMING SOON!**

Look for our QSP Fall Fundraiser coming soon! You will be able to order gourmet cookie dough, magazines, digital subscriptions, e-Books, and so much more! And new this year - the QSP online store. Online ordering available for cookie dough, magazines, garden bulbs, kitchen gadgets, giftware, wrapping paper and accessories plus 100's of other items. Go to [www.QSP.ca](http://www.QSP.ca), click SHOP NOW and search for our school. Every item you order it will support our school! Thank you in advance for your support. We look forward to a successful campaign.

## **PROCEDURES HELP KEEP OUR SCHOOL SAFE**

The safety and well-being of students is our top priority. We have a number of procedures in place to keep our school safe. You can help your child understand and feel safe by:

- talking to them about the situations below
- reminding them that emergencies are rare
- telling them it's important to follow staff instructions in these situations

Parents should talk about the following emergency drills with their children:

- **Shelter in place** is used when there is an environmental or weather-related situation, like a chemical spill outside the building, or a major storm. Activities continue inside the

school. Students and staff are not allowed to leave the building. The ventilation system may be shut off.

- A **hold and secure** is used when there is a situation in the community, not related to the school, like a bank robbery nearby. Activities continue, but all doors are locked. No one is allowed to enter or exit the school.
- A **lockdown** is used when there is a major incident or a threat of violence related to the school. Students and staff move to secure areas, away from doors and windows. Doors are locked, lights are shut off and blinds are drawn. Students and staff remain quiet. We practice lockdown drills at least two times per year. In the unlikely event of an actual lockdown situation, police ask that parents do not go to the school. Information will be communicated through the school board social media sites ([www.facebook.com/SCDSB](http://www.facebook.com/SCDSB) and [www.twitter.com/SCDSB\\_Schools](http://www.twitter.com/SCDSB_Schools)) and website ([www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca)), through local police and local media.
- All schools have **evacuation plans** in case of gas leaks, bomb threats or fire incidents that would require everyone to leave the school. Each school has an evacuation site. Ours is *Bear Creek Secondary School*. We hold drills to practice our evacuation plan. In a real evacuation, students and staff may go to the evacuation site, depending on the situation. Parents will be informed about pick-up procedures by the school, school board and local media.
- Elementary school main doors are locked during the school day. Visitors must use the **intercom system** to enter the building. **Staff may not be available to answer the door immediately, please be patient.** All

visitors, including school volunteers, are required to **sign in** at the school office and wear **visitor identification**.

- Staff and volunteers must complete a **criminal record check** before having contact with students.
- We ask parents to contact us when their child will be absent from school as part of our **Safe Arrival** program. When we don't hear from a parent/guardian, and a student is absent, we will call home to find out the reason for the absence.
- At least two staff members in every school are trained in **first aid and CPR**. All Simcoe County District School Board schools **have Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)**.

When parents are at school during a drill or emergency event, they must follow direction from school staff, police, fire and/or emergency personnel. Parents may not have immediate access to their children during drills or emergencies. They may need to wait until the situation is resolved and school staff and/or emergency personnel release students into parent care.

It's important for you to know we'll always take whatever precautions are necessary to keep our school and students safe.

### **SAFETY REMINDER FROM THE SIMCOE COUNTY STUDENT TRANSPORTATION CONSORTIUM (SCSTC)**

A reminder to drivers as children return to school this fall, and school buses are back on the roads:

- Take caution - be extra cautious in the vicinity of school buses and around school bus loading and unloading zones
- Pay attention - Watch for school buses' distinctive chrome yellow coloring, flashing red lights and stop arms. **Drivers travelling in both directions on a road without a median must stop for a stopped school bus** that has its upper red lights flashing

- Know the repercussions - Any driver that fails to stop for a school bus with its lights flashing is subject to a fine of up to \$2,000 and six demerit points for a first time offence
- Be empowered - Anyone who witnesses a driver failing to stop for a school bus can report the incident to the police

Visit the SCSTC web site at [www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca) and click on the 'Home' button then the 'Safety' tab for more details.

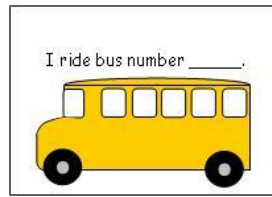
**THERE ARE LOTS OF WAYS TO DRESS FOR SCHOOL! LEARN ABOUT THE NEW STUDENT DRESS CODE!**

The SCDSB is introducing a new student dress code this school year. The dress code was developed in consultation with staff and students. Students are expected to respect the guidelines when dressing for school. Our school is a safe space. We work to be equitable and inclusive, and understand that students may choose to express themselves through their clothing choices. Student clothing cannot pose a safety concern or conceal identity. Exceptions are granted to students who wear head coverings or other garments/objects for the purposes of religious observance, medical or sensory needs, or other reasons protected by the Ontario Human Rights Code.

The SCDSB dress code is available in the student agenda and online at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca). If you have questions about the dress code,



you can contact the principal or the SCDSB Equity and Inclusive Education Team at 705-728-7570.



**SCHOOL BUS 'BUS TAG' PROGRAM HELPS STUDENTS GET TO AND FROM SCHOOL SAFELY**

The Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's Bus Tag program supports safety for JK/SK and other school identified students. The program helps match students to their assigned afternoon school bus and identifies that they must be met by a parent or guardian at their afternoon bus stop.

The program provides a colour coded Bus Tag with the assigned p.m. route number to be attached to the student's backpack and a colour coded route card with route number in the windows of the school bus that the Bus Tag is matched to. The program can also provide tags for students who are walkers and/or who remain at an on-site daycare to make sure they don't get on a bus in error.

For more information, visit [main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca) and click on the 'Safety' tab.

**PAY FOR FIELD TRIPS, LUNCH DAYS, ETC. WITH SCHOOLCASH ONLINE**

The SchoolCash Online program is available at our school. Parents can pay online for lunch days and other items. Parents who sign up will receive a notification when a new item becomes available for purchase. Items are personalized to each student. Parents use a secure online account to process payments, and can either make a one-time payment for each item as it occurs, or load money to carry a balance in the online account to make payments in the future. To create an online account, go to [simcoecounty.schoolcashionline.com](http://simcoecounty.schoolcashionline.com). Please contact the school office with any questions.

## **SCHOOLS ARE AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE**

Through our Community Use of Schools program, almost all of our schools are available outside of school hours for not-for-profit community groups. Our gyms, fields, auditoriums and classrooms are available for your sporting events, concerts, recitals and more.

You can apply online. A Permit Clerk will process the application and advise if the facility is available at the requested time. Once an application is approved, a rental contract will be issued and the applicant will be invoiced.

For more information, visit [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca), click on 'Schools' and then 'Community Use of Schools.'

## **FREE INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES CLASSES - REGISTRATION FOR FALL PROGRAM AVAILABLE NOW!**

Would your child like to learn a new language or maintain their first language? These courses are FREE and open to any student in Grades 1 to 8. Classes run Saturday mornings from 9 to 11:30 a.m. beginning Sept. 17, 2016. Registration forms can be found at [www.thelearningcentres.com](http://www.thelearningcentres.com) or call 705-725-8360 x45151 or 45160 if you have any questions.

## **REGISTER NOW FOR ESL CLASSES**

Do you or someone you know want to improve English language skills? The SCDSB Learning Centres can help. English as a Second Language (ESL) classes for adults are offered at the Alliston, Barrie and Bradford Learning Centres. Visit [www.thelearningcentres.com](http://www.thelearningcentres.com) or call for more information: in Barrie - 705-725-8360.

## **REMINDER FROM THE SIMCOE MUSKOKA DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT: PACKING A HEALTHY SCHOOL LUNCH**

A school lunch should give children the energy and nutrients they need to be ready to learn, be more alert and perform better at school. When planning lunches keep these tips in mind:

- Include one serving from at least three of the four food groups from Canada's Food Guide
- Rather than buying pre-made lunch kits, make your own healthy lunch kit with divided containers and small 'bite-sized cheese cubes, left over chicken chunks, veggie sticks or fruit slices
- Get your kids to eat more veggies! Send cucumber coins, zucchini sticks and pepper strips with dip
- Fill whole wheat or multi grain wrap/pits/tortilla shells with your child's favourite foods such as hummus and grated carrot or sliced turkey with honey mustard.
- Water is the best option for hydration

Looking for more information to help keep you and your family healthy? Call *Health Connection* at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-5720 to speak with a public health nurse or visit the health unit's website at [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org).

## **ACTIVE AND SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL**

Walking or cycling to school is a great way to help your child get the 60 minutes of recommended daily physical activity. It also teaches them to be aware of their own safety, builds responsibility and independence, and helps them to feel more connected to the community. And it's good for their physical and mental health!

More walkers also means less car traffic around our school, which will help keep students safe and improve outdoor air quality too. Committing to even one day a week of walking or cycling to school can make a big difference!

To find out more about the recommendations for physical activity and how to make Active and Safe

Routes to School happen in your school community, visit [www.saferoutesttoschool.ca](http://www.saferoutesttoschool.ca).

### **SCHOOL GROUNDS ARE SMOKE FREE 24/7**

Protect yourself and your children from the health hazards of secondhand smoke. Remember, it is against the law to smoke ANYWHERE on school property at ANY TIME. This includes smoking in your vehicle while picking up or dropping off students. It is also against the law to smoke or hold lit tobacco in a vehicle carrying anyone under age 16. The fine for ignoring the law is \$250. For more information contact the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or visit [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org).

### **DAILY SCHOOL SCHEDULE**

<b><u>WCL Periods</u></b>	
<b><u>Period 1</u></b>	<b><u>08:30 - 9:20</u></b>
<b><u>Period 2</u></b>	<b><u>09:20 - 10:10</u></b>
<b><u>Nutrition Break</u></b>	<b><u>10:10 - 10:30</u></b>
<b><u>Outdoor Play</u></b>	<b><u>10:30 - 10:50</u></b>
<b><u>Period 3</u></b>	<b><u>10:50 - 11:40</u></b>
<b><u>Period 4</u></b>	<b><u>11:40 - 12:30</u></b>
<b><u>Nutrition Break</u></b>	<b><u>12:30 - 12:50</u></b>
<b><u>Outdoor Play</u></b>	<b><u>12:50 - 1:10</u></b>
<b><u>Period 5</u></b>	<b><u>01:10 - 2:00</u></b>
<b><u>Period 6</u></b>	<b><u>02:00 - 2:50</u></b>



### **WE'RE NOT "NUTS"!**

We wish to request that all parents/guardians help staff assist students/staff with potentially life-threatening allergies to nuts by ensuring that all lunch and snack items brought to school are nut-free. Thank you for your assistance in this important matter.

### **NOT PETS ALLOWED!**

An important reminder that pets are NOT



permitted on Simcoe County District School Board property. This is for the safety and well-being of our students AND our school grounds. Thank you!



### **BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES BY EDGE IMAGING**

Our School Photos will be taken on **October 3<sup>rd</sup>**. **Picture re-take day will be November 3, 2016.**

### **Dates to Remember**

- Sept. 6 - **First Day of School!**
- Sept. 13 - Kandalore Info Night
- Sept. 19 - School Council Meeting - 6:30 School Library
- Sept. 26 - QSP Kick Off
- Sept. 28-30 - Kandalore Trip
- Sept. 29 - Terry Fox Run
- October 3 - Picture Day - Smile!



