



Lions Pride Press

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Upcoming Dates

November 4th - Elementary Report Card Day

November 11th - Remembrance Day

November 12th - PA Day

November 16th - FI Family Information Night 6:00pm

November 19th - Picture Day

November Character Attribute

Courage - we do the right thing even when it's difficult.

More information about Character Education can be found here:
www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education



Administrators Message:

Happy November WC Little Families!

October was a busy month and both our in-school and Learn@Home classes have settled into productive learning communities. On the October 22nd Professional Activity Day, our staff engaged in some important learning on Human Trafficking in Ontario and Trauma and Equity Informed Leadership. We all continue to grow and improve to better serve our students and their families.

This month, progress reports are coming home on November 4th. You may find that the rate of progress described in these reports differ from previous years due to the ongoing impact of Covid-19 on student learning. Also new this year are virtual student conferences. Staff are using Zoom or Google Meet to conduct video conferences with families during the week of November 8th to 12th. For families who require translation services during conferences, the Language Line is available. Contact your child's teacher for details. For more information about these conferences, see Page 4 of this newsletter.

I want to introduce you to the School Council executive for 2021-22. Thanks to all those who gave their time and energy to kicking off the year! You will begin to see some information coming home about some limited fundraising activities for the year. Please reach out to the council or myself if you have any questions.

Co-Chair's: Rhonda Adams / Heather Wilson
Social Media Co-Ordinator: Gillian Drabble
Treasurer: Laura Starret

Recorder: Beverliann Marles
Volunteer Co-Ordinator: Irina Gurevich
Fundraising: Dani Burbank

Looking forward to a great November!

Patrick Miller
Principal





FRIENDLY REMINDERS!

Emails & Communication

As W.C. Little Elementary School is growing, we rely on email communication to reach our community quickly and efficiently. It is important to have updated email addresses on file. Please ensure "School Messenger" is not a blocked incoming email recipient and that you read each email entirely as it likely contains important information for you or your child(ren).



Phone Calls

Students call home for a lunch, change of clothes, forgotten items, etc. Please be sure to have a voicemail set up on your phone and check all messages before returning calls to the school.



Safe Arrival

Parents and guardians, it is your duty to call the Safe Arrival line (messages can be left anytime) each time your child(ren) will not be attending school. If your student is marked as an unknown absence (i.e. no one called the school or communicated with the teacher) then an automated call service will call you and emergency contact numbers to direct you to call the school. To ensure all of our students are safe and supervised, please be sure to call 705-725-7970 then press #1 for the Safe Arrival line.



After School Pick Up Changes

Please do not call the office to make any changes to your child's pick up arrangements after 2 pm, unless it is a dire emergency. We do understand that changes to your schedule sometimes occur at the last minute, unfortunately the end of the day is very busy in the office, the classrooms may be in various locations (including outdoors), and staff are maintaining Covid-19 protocol to keep students in their cohorts. Therefore we ask for the safety of all our students, to please refrain from making any changes after 2 pm each day.



Kiss N' Ride

Please remember this lane (along the front of the school) is not for parking. It is designated for school buses and specialized transportation only. Please park in the parking lot or surrounding school areas when at the school. Kiss N' Ride is a quick drop off and/or pick up process with the driver remaining in the vehicle.



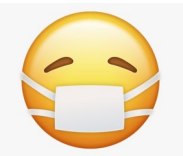
No Dogs / Pets Please

A reminder that dogs and/or pets are not permitted on school property. Please keep your pets at home when picking up and dropping off your child(ren), communicating at the front entrance for school needs and school events.



Self-assessment

All students and staff are required to complete the daily COVID-19 self-assessment prior to entering SCDSB schools and buildings, using the provincial self-assessment tool. Students or staff with symptoms must stay home from school. To access the COVID-19 self-assessment tool, please visit <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>



Instructions for when children become sick at school

Parents/guardians will be asked to provide multiple contacts who will be available to pick up their child(ren) in the event that they become ill while at school. Children who become ill while at school will not be able to travel on a bus home for the protection of the other riders.



No visitor access

As we transition into the return to school routine this fall, following the direction from our local health authority, the SMDHU, visitors are not permitted within SCDSB schools at this time. Parents/guardians may ring the doorbell at elementary schools to receive assistance (masks are required on school property). Parents/guardians will be asked to call the school's main office at secondary schools to receive assistance. School main office phone numbers will be posted on the doors of school buildings



Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Campaign

The SCDSB has a time-honoured relationship with our local Royal Canadian Legions through the annual poetry and poster competitions and the annual poppy campaign. For the 2021-2022 year, it is our intention to once again support the poppy campaign. Due to the health and safety protocols in place, we will not be collecting donations from students. Instead, families interested in making their own donations are encouraged to do so by visiting the Royal Canadian Legion’s poppy campaign at www.legion.ca/remembrance/the-poppy.



Lunch Box Lunch Program

The lunch program has started up once again! Orders are made on-line through the School Cash Online portal. So if you haven’t already, be sure to create your School Cash account to have access to this opportunity.

Available to order:

Wednesdays—Subway Subs (ham, turkey or veggie with gluten free options)
Thursdays—Cheese Pizza



Candy Apple Fundraiser

Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory Candy Apples will be on sale through the School Cash Online portal. Orders can be made starting November 1st. Candy apples are on sale until December 2nd at 1 pm.

Available to order:

Classic Red Candy Apple
Caramel with M&M’s
Caramel Chocolate Swirl

The distribution day will take place Thursday, December 9th at the school, orders will be sent home with students. Students not present on this day or remote student orders can be picked up at the school until December 10th.



Hole-y Moley! It’s November already.

But Donut worry be happy, because we have a super tasty fundraiser that starts November 1st. I know I donut want to miss out on Mmm Donuts! Don’t forget Deilmans is open for a bit longer, so if you haven’t checked out the great selection of treats, seasonal gifts and wrapping paper (I’m a sucker for the nutcrackers!) be sure to do so soon!

Beverliann Marles
School Council Secretary



Progress Reports are coming home November 4th and student conferences are scheduled for the week of **November 8th through 12th**. Once again, all our student conferences will be virtual – either using Zoom, Google Meet or telephone. Click on the below link for Conference Booking Instructions to learn how to book your child’s conference and to schedule your booking.

Should you have any difficulty in navigating the booking site, please call the school and book through your child’s teacher or the front office.

Thank you for supporting an important opportunity for our students to communicate their learning and outline their goals for the year. Our staff will be in touch with details about the agenda and content of the conferences.

Patrick Miller
Principal

[Conference Booking Instructions 2021.pdf](#)



Attention WC Little Families,

Please review the parking lot procedures and for your support in keeping our students, families and staff safe.

1. We recently had our parking lot lines and signage repainted. This included directional arrows, crosswalks, no parking signs and a highly visible Bus Zone. This Bus Zone is also marked with traffic cones and is for busses only. Please do not drive through, stop or park in this zone before or after school. This space is for our school busses and vans and it is an important part of a safe entry and exit for our students. We have also had reports of a By-Law Officer ticketing cars in this zone.
2. Please use the directional arrows for our ‘Kiss and Ride’ drop off and pick up. We continue to encourage walking where possible but understand that some of our families need to drive to and from school. There is also a City of Barrie parking lot behind the school on Holly Meadow Road available for drop off and pick up.
3. Slow down. With so many cars coming and going, it is vital that we all use extreme caution when driving through our parking lot, out onto Bear Creek Drive and through the streets in our community.
4. Our staff are on duty before and after school to support the arrival of our students arriving by bus and van and to supervise the front of the school area for our walkers. If they approach you about a parking lot safety issue please know that they are doing so with student safety in mind. Please follow their direction and direct any concerns to me.

Thank you for your support in keeping our parking lot and the streets around the school safe for students and their families to come to school and get home.

Patrick Miller
Principal

Updates to the School Screening Tool for the 2021-22 school year - International travel

Recently, the [COVID-19 school and child care screening tool](#) was updated to reflect the return to school requirements for students who are returning from international travel. Individuals who are unvaccinated and returning from international travel, may not attend school or child care for 14 days upon their return. For further clarity, while unvaccinated children and those under the age of 12 are exempt from federal quarantine if they travelled with a fully vaccinated companion, they may not attend school or child care for 14 days upon their return. Individuals with all other quarantine exemptions (e.g. travelling for cross-border custody arrangements, travelling for medical treatment) may continue to attend school or child care.

Inclement weather and bus cancellation information reminder

All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s bus information website at www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. Our school is in the **CENTRAL ZONE**. When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, unless otherwise noted. School staff are expected to plan for such emergencies in order to transition students who are unable to attend due to inclement weather, to their online platforms Google Classroom and/or SCDSBhub [Brightspace by D2L] and continue with academic programming. It is always a family decision whether or not it is safe for their child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions. The Consortium and bus operators try to make the decision to cancel school buses before 6 a.m. and make every effort to post announcements before 7 a.m. Inclement weather cancellations are effective for the whole day and buses cancelled in the morning will not run at the end of the day. You can follow the Consortium on Twitter [@SCSTC_SchoolBus](#) for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>.

High school information events for Grade 8 students

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information events will take place this winter. Student leaders and staff at the school will give an overview of what's new and what to expect. Different pathways and courses offered will be explained, as well as information about teams and clubs. Please visit your high school's website for more information.

SCDSB census

In early 2021 the SCDSB held its first student and workforce censuses. We had almost 27,000 students and over 3,700 staff participate! In October 2021 the initial data from the censuses was released, along with some next steps and areas of focus for the SCDSB. To learn more, visit www.scdsb.on.ca/census.

Student voices on mental health

Ontario secondary school students, School Mental Health Ontario and Wisdom2Action have launched #HearNowON for 2021. Your voice and perspective is important! Share your ideas on mental health awareness, learning and wellness promotion in Ontario schools.

The #HearNowON 2021 online survey is live and closes Nov. 19, 2021. Contribute your perspective here: https://bit.ly/HearNowON2021_ONecoute2021.

Attend a virtual student consultation event and share your perspectives on student mental health with School Mental Health Ontario and Wisdom2Action. This opportunity will gain you volunteer hours and allow you to meet students across the province

Sign up for a virtual forum of your interest here: www.wisdom2action.org/hearnowon/.

Join us! A learning series for parents/guardians

Mental health and well-being continues to be a key strategic priority within the SCDSB. We are pleased to announce a new three-year partnership with Pine River Institute (PRI). The Centre for Family Initiatives at Pine River Institute (CFI@PRI) will provide several multi-part learning series focused on student mental health and well-being to SCDSB families, staff and within the SCDSB's broader school communities.

There are five webinars in the learning series specifically planned for parents and guardians during this school year.

Nov. 23, 2021	Parenting for Positive Mental Health, Part One
Nov. 30, 2021	Parenting for Positive Mental Health, Part Two
Jan. 25, 2022	Understanding and Managing Screen Time
March 29, 2022	Connection and Empathy in Response to Behaviour
May 19, 2022	Understanding Addiction and Addictive Behaviours

We hope you save these dates in your calendar and join us for these learning opportunities. For more information and to register, please visit the mental health and well-being page on the SCDSB website: <https://bit.ly/3jGaC74>.

Pine River Institute is a live-in treatment centre and outdoor leadership experience for youth aged 13 to 19 struggling with addictive behaviours and often other mental health issues. Combining therapy with a fully-accredited education program, PRI reinforces the healthy life skills required for a successful future. CFI@PRI extends PRI's knowledge, experience and evidence-informed treatment approach to families and care providers in the community to support youth mental wellness and prevent the need for more intensive interventions. Learn more about PRI by visiting their website at www.pineriverinstitute.com.

Treaties Recognition Week takes place Nov. 1 to 5

Treaties Recognition Week was introduced in 2016 to honour the importance of treaties and to help Ontarians learn more about treaty rights and treaty relationships. Treaties Recognition Week is the first week of November every year - this year it is Nov. 1 to 5. This annual event honours the importance of treaties and helps students and residents of Ontario learn more about treaty rights and relationships. By learning more about our collective treaty rights and obligations, we can create greater understanding and nurture these relationships. Take some time Nov. 1 to 5 to learn about the treaty in your area. To learn more about the treaties and how we can honour them, visit www.ontario.ca/page/treaties.

Grade 1 French Immersion information

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) offers French Immersion (FI) at select schools throughout Simcoe County beginning in Grade 1. The goal of the FI program is to enable students to communicate in French with a high level of proficiency, enabling them to function with ease in both French and English. Upon graduation from the program, students will communicate in French with confidence in a wide variety of real-life situations.

Historically, in-person Grade 1 FI Family Information Nights are held annually in advance of the application process for the following school year. This year, due to restrictions on large group public gatherings, Family Information Nights will be held virtually by the Grade 1 FI sites.

The SCDSB board-wide electronic application dates for the Grade 1 FI program for all sites will be **Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021**, beginning at **9 a.m.** and ending at **4 p.m.** on **Friday, Dec. 17, 2021**. Consistent with last year's process, the online FI application process will be a randomized lottery system.

mPower for extra practice

Are you looking for a way to provide extra math practice for your child at home in a fun and engaging format? [TVO mPower](https://www.tvompower.com) is a free digital tool that includes 65+ online games to support the mastery of tough-to-learn math concepts.

TVO mPower's goals are:

1. To provide Ontario students with opportunities to practice important math skills and to foster positive attitudes towards math by making learning fun and engaging.
2. To show students that math is everywhere by connecting math games to the big ideas in science and social studies.
3. To support students in developing 21st century global competencies by integrating skills such as metacognition, problem solving, creativity and citizenship.

TVO mPower is:

Ontario curriculum-based - aligns with the Ontario mathematics, science and technology and social studies curricula while also supporting the development of global competencies

Learner-centred - tracks student progress and responds to learners' needs

Assessment-driven - includes teacher dashboard and educator resources

Tested and trusted - developed in partnership with Ontario educators and students

Always free for Ontario students and educators, and now for Ontario families



Safe and advertising-free

Available for desktop and laptop computers and iPad tablets

Visit [tvompower.com](https://www.tvompower.com) for more information.

hello November



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4 ELEMENTARY REPORT CARD DAY	5
8	9	10	11 REMEMBRANCE DAY	12 PA DAY 
STUDENT/PARENT CONFERENCES THIS WEEK!				
15	16	17	18	19 Picture Day 
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			