



# NOTTAWA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

81 Batteaux Road, RR#2, Collingwood, ON L9Y 3Z1

705-445-1827 Phone

Mr. Perry, Principal

705-443-4018 Fax

Mrs. Metheral, Senior Administrative Support

not.scdsb.on.ca Website

Integrity

Responsibility

Cooperation

Caring

Respect

Optimism

Honesty

Empathy

Courage

Inclusiveness

**School Notices** [Please make sure that you have subscribed to the website](#) as that is our most effective tool to communicate important information to our school community. Simply click on the subscribe link on the top of the homepage of our school website or go to <http://not.scdsb.on.ca/subscribe>



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Phone Number 705-445-1827

Safe Arrival Number 705-445-1827 #1

Nottawa Elementary School | 81 Batteaux Road, R.R. #2, Collingwood, ON, L9Y 3Z1

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## FIRST SAFE ARRIVAL CALL WILL BE AUTOMATED

Our Safe Arrival program has changed. On December 1st, the first Safe Arrival call became automated. Safe Arrival calls are made when a student is absent from school and we haven't been told of the absence. This system is in place to keep students safe.

- If your child/children will be absent or late, you need to call our Safe Arrival line at 705-445-1827 #1 and leave a message before **9:00 a.m.** Verbal from your child can not be accepted.
- On regular school days, if we don't hear from you, we will make calls to find out where your child is.
- The first call may now be made by an automated phone service. Automated calls will be sent to the home phone number and cell number (if available) for **the first parent/guardian listed in your child's file. Please listen to the whole message before hanging up.**
- The automated call will ask you to call our safe arrival line back.
- If we don't hear from you in 15 minutes, we will start to call other contacts, starting with other parents/guardians on file followed by the emergency contacts.

## Inclement weather/Bus Cancellation days-Safe Arrival

On inclement weather/bus cancellation days when buses are cancelled, our system will call the home and cell number of the first parent on file for **ALL** students who are not at school. On these days, the message will ask you to call us back **only if** your child should be at school. If we don't hear from you, we will assume you are aware your child is absent and we will not proceed with any other phone calls. **Please listen to the whole message before hanging up.**

## Inclement weather/Bus Cancellation Opt out options -Safe Arrival

There will no longer be the option to opt out of Safe Arrival on inclement weather days. It is an "all or nothing" program. Parents/Guardians do still have the option to opt out of Safe Arrival completely. We provide the option for parents to opt out in our back-to-school materials at the start of the year. If you would like to opt out mid-year, please send a written note to the school office with your request to have your student omitted from the program.

## Reporting absences-Safe Arrival

If you are emailing your child's homeroom teacher with regards to future absences please include the email address of [Nottawa@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:Nottawa@scdsb.on.ca). Communication is always preferred in writing via the agenda or email. All 3 consecutive absences requires a note from home.

The preferred method of safe arrival notification is always our Safe Arrival Telephone line. 705-445-1827 #1.

## **MAKE SURE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION IS ACCURATE AND UP TO DATE**

Every September we send home a Student Information Verification Form that includes the information we have in our database about your child. We use the parent/guardian and emergency contact information for our safe arrival program as well.

## **NOTTAWA ES IS GOING CASHLESS!!**

Nottawa ES, as with most other schools in our Board, is striving to become a "cashless" school in 2016/2017. We are encouraging everyone to please start using the School-Cash online. If you do not have access to a computer/wifi at home please know this program can be accessed at any public computer, such as those at our local libraries. Cheque/cash will be accepted as a last resort. Please contact the school office if you need any assistance.

## **HOST FAMILIES WANTED - LEARN A NEW CULTURE AND SHARE YOURS**

Would you like to become a host family for an international student? Learn more about another culture? Share yours? Make a new friend? There are different hosting programs available - several days, weeks, a month, semester or 10 months...it's up to you and your family. For more information, call 705-734-6363 x11211 or email: [studyinsimcoecounty@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:studyinsimcoecounty@scdsb.on.ca)

## **APPLY 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.

## **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.

## **THE GILBERT CENTRE OFFERS SUPPORT GROUP FOR PARENTING LGBTQ KIDS AND YOUTH**

The Gilbert Centre facilitates the Parenting LGBTQ Support Group, which is a drop-in meeting group for parents, caregivers, family members and friends. Meetings take place every other Wed. in Barrie. The group offers a safe and confidential space for you to share your experience, hear the experiences of others and grow in your abilities to support your LGBTQ child. Meetings are held every other Wed. at 7 p.m. at The Gilbert Centre, located at 80 Bradford Street (Suite 345) in Barrie. For more information, call 705-722-6778, visit [gilbertcentre.ca](http://gilbertcentre.ca) or email [info@gilbertcentre.ca](mailto:info@gilbertcentre.ca).

## **LIFE WITH KIDS IS MESSY - AND THAT'S OK!**

Ever feel like some days you have it all together, and some days you don't? Love your kids to bits, but sometimes feel like you're the only parent who has hard days? Want to connect with other parents who have those

kinds of days too? Come join the conversation on Facebook @lifewithkidsismessy. Laugh about the tough stuff, hear about what works for other families and to share the ways you give your kids your best. When the messy days pile up, call Your Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District 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 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 rub 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.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org). *Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*

## **THE FACTS OF LICE: HOW TO PREVENT AND TREAT THIS NUISANCE**

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 looks 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 side 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'll 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's 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](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org) or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520.

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*

## **HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S PHYSICAL LITERACY**

Physical literacy is the ability to move with competence and confidence in a wide variety of physical activities. Much like learning to read using the ABC's, it's important to start with the basics. The most important step in developing physical literacy is the mastery of fundamental movement skills.

As kids become more confident in their movements, they're able to progress their physical skills faster and more successfully than if they skip over the basics and jump right into recreational athletics. Physical literacy not only supports physical fitness and health, it's proven to support strong social skills, mental health, cognitive skills and educational success.

The best way for parents to support physical literacy is to start young providing safe, play-based activities. As they reach the age of four, be sure to support fundamental movements such as climbing, kicking, catching, throwing, dodging, twisting, skipping, sliding, running and jumping. Help your children master these fundamentals as they age by exposing them to activities such as swimming, gymnastics, running games and athletics. And most importantly, make sure that physical activity is always delivered in a fun, safe and supportive way to develop a positive outlook on active movement.

For more information on physical literacy and how organizations like the YMCA can help support your family's healthy lifestyle, visit your local [YMCA Health, Fitness and Aquatics Centre](#).

*Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe Muskoka*

## NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOL COUNCIL & NUTRITION COORDINATOR

Happy New Year's everyone! We hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season.

We wanted to thank everyone who supported our Poinsettia fundraiser. It brought in just over \$1200 for the school!

We are busy planning our next and final fundraiser, Fun Fair. Things are underway and we are looking forward to a great end of year celebration with our students and families.

In December we started a "Parents Corner" section on our agenda where parents/guardians can email regarding school wide issues. In December we discussed:

- Balls being thrown against the wall where the children walk across. This has been solved and is being monitored to make sure the children are not throwing balls against the wall.
- Dogs pooping in the yard. We have put up signs asking our community to scoop their pets poop and we are still working on other solutions to help with this. The issue now is not scooping it, but that the bags are being left on school property or thrown up on the solar panels on the roof.

If you have anything you would like to see discussed please email [councilchairnot@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:councilchairnot@scdsb.on.ca)

Have a great January!

School Council

## THE GOOD FOOD BOX

Orders are to be placed by the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Pick up date is the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Nottawa School and you can pick up between 2:00 and 4:00 PM.

***Regrettably, The Georgian Good Food Program has reached the decision that effective January 1, 2017, will no longer offer the Medium Food Box (\$10).***

They encourage you to try the Large Box (\$15) which offers the same amount of potatoes, onions, carrots and apples as the medium, while providing a greater variety of other produce with excellent value for your dollar.

## TO MAKE YOUR CHILD'S DAY AT SCHOOL A SUCCESS

A friendly reminder to make sure your child is arriving to school with all the items they will need to make their day productive. As the weather is ever changing it is wise to have your child dress appropriate for the weather of the day. As well as their lunches, backpacks and any school work. Also dismissal routines must be communicated in the agenda if there is a change in the usual way they depart for home. Please refrain with calling the school to give verbal instructions. A written note is required for all bus students that will not be taking the bus home at the end of the day.

## TRANSITIONING FROM ELEMENTARY TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

As students 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 XIII of the *Education Act*. Please note that all information used for the transition process is limited, secure and protected at all times. Please contact Jackie Kavanagh, Superintendent of Education for this area, at 705-734-6363 x 11638 if you would like more information about the transition process at Nottawa Elementary School.



## 2016-2017 Elementary School Climate Survey

Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) aims to provide a safe, supportive learning environment that supports all students in being successful. In January, *all students in grades 4 to 8* will be asked to complete an anonymous on-line survey at school about how they feel about their school. Your child's teacher will supervise the class during the survey and can answer any questions or concerns your child may have.

This year, *parents/guardians of students in grades 4 to 8* will also be asked to complete an anonymous on-line survey about how they feel about their child's school.

These surveys provide students and parent/guardians with the opportunity to say what is great about their school, as well as express their concerns. The survey results will provide valuable feedback to staff and will help schools to develop their Safe Schools Plans.

Students, parents/guardians and staff will not be asked to provide their names and all responses will be combined to ensure confidentiality.

Similar to prior SCDSB School Climate surveys, the questions cover a range of topics, such as:

- the overall tone of the school, often referred to as school climate;
- perceptions of peers in terms of the Board's 10 Character traits;
- involvement in extracurricular activities and academic achievement;
- experiences of school safety and bullying;
- equity and inclusion practices within the school;
- school responses to instances of student wrongdoing; and
- 3 questions to assist the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit in their Healthy Schools Initiative.

### Student Survey

A sample version of the student survey is available here <http://fluidsurveys.com/s/SCStudent1617Sample>. A paper copy of the student survey is also available at the school office. Please call the school if you have questions about how the student survey will be implemented in your child's school.

### Parent/Guardian Survey

To complete the *parent/guardian survey*, please go to the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) website (<http://scdsb.on.ca>) and click the link to the parent/guardian School Climate survey. The **password** for the *parent/guardian survey* is **ElementaryParent2017**. If you do not have access to the internet and/or you prefer to complete a paper version of the survey, copies of the parent/guardian survey are available at the school office. Questions about the parent/guardian survey can be directed to SCDSB's Research and Evaluation Services team [research@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:research@scdsb.on.ca)

Thank you for your support!

# January 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 New Piz- za orders begin	12	13	14
15	16 New Sub Orders begin	17 Popcorn Groove to Dance Work- shop all grades	18 Pizza	19	20 Muskoka Woods second payment due on SchoolCash Online	21
22	23 Subs JK registration begins	24 Popcorn Groove to Dance Work- shop all grades	25 Pizza Speeches-Gym	26 Honesty Assembly-11:20 am	27 PA Day No School	28
29	30 Subs	31 Popcorn	Feb 1 Pizza Dental Screening	Feb 2 Dental Screening	Feb 3 Muskoka Woods last payment due on SchoolCash Online	