

Blazing Bulletin



Birchview Dunes Elementary School | 1315 River Road W., Wasaga Beach, ON, L9Z 2W6

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Website: <http://bir.scdsb.on.ca> | Follow us on Twitter! @BirchviewDunes

Principal: Mr. M. Giffen Vice Principal: Mrs. M. Mortimer Superintendent: Mrs. J. Kavanagh Trustee: Mr. R. North

Hi! I'm Blaze!

Important 'DUNE' DATES

Friday June 1 st	P.A. Day
Monday June 4 th	EQAO Last Day!
Monday June 4 th – 6 th	Grade 6 Overnight Mansfield Trip
Tuesday June 5 th	Grade 7 Ste. Marie among the Huron's Trip
Thursday June 7 th	Grade 2 Wye Marsh Outdoor Centre Fieldtrip
Friday June 8 th	Book Exchange Ends, Grade 6 OPP Kids Finale, Grade 3 Dun-troon Highlands Fieldtrip, Junior Div. Lip Sync during last Block 1, Tiessinga/McMann 'Kindie' Graduation
Monday June 11 th	Grade 5 Simcoe County Museum Trip
Tuesday June 12 th	Area 5 Track & Field Meet at Clearview Meadows ES
Thursday June 14 th	Grades 1-6 Earth Rangers Animal Assembly at 1:45 pm & Library Book Swap
Friday June 15 th	Community Crawl
Friday June 15 th	RETURN ALL LIBRARY BOOKS PLEASE!
Tuesday June 19 th	Right to Play
Wednesday June 20 th	Last Pizza Day!
Thursday June 21 st	Int. Co-Ed Baseball at New Lowell Sports Park
Friday June 22 nd	Spirit Day > SUNGLASSES DAY!
Tuesday June 26 th	Grade 8 Graduation Ceremony at 6pm & Kindergarten Play day
Thursday June 28 th	Last Day of School! Year End Assembly at 9:15 am
Friday June 29 th	P.A. Day!

Home of the...



This Month's Character

Trait is...

- RESPECT -

We treat ourselves, others and the environment with consideration and dignity.

“This little light of mine...”

News from our GOLD rated ECO-Team!

The Great Canadian Shoreline Clean Up was on May 11 (grades 4-8). It was a great day for students and staff to give back to their community.

We are pending approval of silver standing for our EcoSchools application.

During June the EcoTeam will be outside sprucing up the native species and butterfly gardens.

“I'm going to let it Shine!”

“Studies show that trees live longer when they are not cut down!”

Can you please help us reduce our paper use and provide your email address, if you have not already done so. This monthly newsletter and other correspondence will come directly to your phone, laptop or home computer!



----- ~ Please detach and return to the school ~ -----

Yes, I would I like to receive electronic school information.

Student(s) Name(s): _____

Parent Name: _____ My email address is: _____



NEW at the Dunes News from the Office -

There is a brand new face in the office! Mrs. Lindsay Sawyer has joined our extraordinary office team, Mrs. Gwen Loverock and Ms. Anne Rumney! Mrs. Sawyer will be the first face you see and likely the first voice you hear as our new full-time Secretary. She comes to us off a year of Maternity Leave and is excited to plant roots and make waves here at Birchview Dunes!

Also- We are seeking parent volunteers for our Breakfast Club! We are looking for Thursdays & Fridays between 8:15-9:00 am. Please see the office for more information!



Hello Mrs. Sawyer!

STOP! - 'Gleam and Glisten!'

School News from the Board -

2018-19 School Year Calendars Approved!

The Ministry of Education has approved the elementary and secondary school year calendars for the Simcoe County District School Board's 2018-19 school year.

2018-19 Highlights:

First day of school: Tuesday, September 4, 2018

First day of school for Junior Kindergarten students: Thursday, September 6, 2018

Winter Break: December 24, 2018 to January 4, 2019

March Break: March 11 to 15, 2019

Last day for elementary students: Thursday, June 27, 2019

You can view the 2018-19 calendars on the SCDSB website (www.scdsb.on.ca) by clicking on 'Schools' and then 'School Year Calendars.'

Updated Criminal Record Checks required for Volunteers

We appreciate the commitment of all who volunteer at our school. In an effort to ensure the safety and well-being of our students, and in accordance with the Education Act, the SCDSB requires a complete and up-to-date Criminal Record Check Vulnerable Sector Screening (CRC-VSS) for all volunteers across the system. If you are a current, approved volunteer and your CRC-VSS is more than five years old, you will be receiving a notification this month indicating that you are required to submit a new CRC-VSS. If you wish to continue as a SCDSB volunteer, please complete the following steps:

Contact the school principal to obtain a CRC-VSS request letter.
Bring your CRC-VSS request letter to your local police detachment.
Submit your original and complete CRC-VSS to the school office for review by Oct. 31, 2018.

If you are a current SCDSB employee volunteering in the system, you are required to submit an updated CRC-VSS to the school where you will be volunteering. If you have completed a CRC-VSS within the past six months of the start of the school year for another organization, you may submit that original CRC-VSS for review. If you have questions, please contact the school.

The Dunes Drift ;)

More News from the Office -

- A reminder that YARD SUPERVISION begins at 8:40am on both yards! Thank you for your cooperation!
- Milk will be sold until June 22nd—and after that until supplies last! Not to worry—if you have coupons left over you can use them in September!
- All pizza coupons must be ordered by **Monday - and by 6:30 pm** in order to have your coupons for the Wednesday. If you miss this deadline and require coupons please come in to the office or send money with the student to pick up pizza coupons.

A Healthy & Happy Summer!

Summer is the time for kids to get outside and grow. But for some kids, exposure to activities that stimulate the body and mind ends with the school year. Studies show 90 per cent of children ages 5 to 11 years old in Canada do not meet their minimal physical activity requirements. We know that having an active lifestyle in the early years is essential to healthy child development and has a positive impact on mental health.

- Learn a new skill! Whether outdoors or in a facility like the YMCA, swimming is a summer time favourite. Consider signing your child up for swimming lessons, giving them the confidence they need to be safe in and around the water.
- Unplug and enjoy the outdoors! Did you know that the average Canadian child spends almost eight hours a day in front of a screen? Research tells us that when children are connected to their environment, they are healthier and happier. Look for opportunities for your child to get connected with nature.

Burning Bright at Birchview

School News -

Gifted Screening Process

Some children who display an unusually advanced degree of general intellectual ability may require additional program support in order to reach their educational potential.

In consultation with parents, the school staff determines who these students are through the gifted screening process.

Parents of a student who will be in or above Grade 3 in the September 2018 who wish the school to consider their child for screening are asked to contact Jen Sims before June 8, 2018.

The gifted screening process consists of three components:

1. a Teacher Rating Scale;
2. a Parent Questionnaire;
3. standardized test results (usually the Otis Lennon School Ability Test)

After signing a permission form, parents/legal guardian will complete the Parent Questionnaire. Information obtained from this questionnaire will help the school gain a better understanding of your child's early development as well as his/her strengths, interests, needs and abilities, which the standardized test may not identify. The teacher will complete a Rating Scale, which examines areas such as learning, motivation, creativity and leadership, which he/she has observed in the classroom. Group testing will be completed and the results will provide a standardized measure of school abilities. The information gathered from all three components will assist the school in programming for your child.

If you require information about the gifted screening process, please contact the school.

Register now for Before & After School Programs for September 2018

Register now for child care at our school next school year. Your child's space in the program for September 2018 will be considered a priority if completed registration forms have been submitted to the child care operator by **June 30, 2018**. Please contact the YMCA at (705) 429-5999 to register your child(ren).

Summer child care options available

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) supports your child care needs by offering full-day child care programs in select schools across Simcoe County. Twenty schools offer child care programs for children from Junior Kindergarten age to 12 years old. Registration in advance is required. Please contact the child care operator directly to register. *** More information can be found on our website at www.scdsb.on.ca – click on 'Schools' then 'Before & After School Care.'

'Bright Lights - BIG... Bookworm!'

Latest from the Library -

A BOOK SWAP!!!

Thursday, June 14th

A great chance to build your summer reading collection!

HOW: Bring in your gently used, age appropriate books that you are finished reading. You can bring in Picture Books, Non Fictions Books and Novels (no magazines please). You will receive 1 credit for each book. The credit can be used at the Book Swap on June 16th.

For example if you bring in 2 novels and 5 picture books; you will receive 2 novel credits and 5 picture book credits.

WHEN: Bring your books to the library the week of June 7-13. On Thursday June 14th you can use your credits at the BOOK SWAP!

Reminder!



Friday June 8 will be the last day to borrow books from the library!

All books are to be returned by Friday June 15.

Shining Extra Bright!

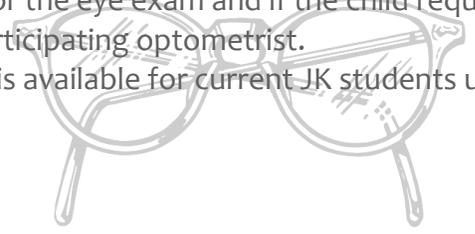
- Congratulations to Grade 3 & 6 for completing EQAO!
- Good luck to all the Blazers participating in Track & Field on June 12th!
- Thank you to our Grade 3 and 4 students for providing creative artwork for Tim Horton's CAMP DAY on June 6th! Visit the 'Macdonald' location to see our student artwork featured!

News from the Simcoe County District School Board

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 (JK) 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 courtesy of a participating optometrist.

*** For more information, visit www.Eyeseeyelearn.ca. The program is available for current JK students until June 30, 2018.



Register now for Fall International Language Programs!

The SCDSB offers children in Grades 1 to 8 an opportunity to learn and/or maintain a language other than French or English. Whether you enrol your children in this program to learn a new language, understand a new culture or to extend their knowledge of their first or second language, every student can benefit from this program. The Barrie Learning Centre (Bayfield Mall) offers Arabic, Farsi, Korean, Mandarin, Russian, Spanish, Ukrainian and Urdu. The Bradford Learning Centre (157 Holland St. E, Suite 200) offers Arabic, Dari, Farsi, Mandarin, Russian, Spanish, Tamil, Ukrainian, Urdu and Vietnamese. The classes take place Saturday mornings, 9 to 11:30 a.m. starting Sept. 15 (classes are dependent on student enrollment). There is no charge for this program. Most classes fill quickly on a first come, first served basis.

***Register your child by visiting www.thelearningcentres.com and clicking on 'Elementary Student'.

Canada Education Savings programs are available to help fund your child's education!

The Government of Canada encourages Canadians to use Registered Education Savings Plans (RESP) to save for a child's post-secondary education, which includes full- or part-time studies at a trade school, CEGEP, college, or university or in an apprenticeship program. Employment and Social Development Canada administers two education savings incentives linked to RESPs:

- **Canada Education Savings Grant** - a basic grant of 20% on the first \$2,500 in annual personal contributions to a RESP (this grant is available to all eligible Canadians regardless of their family income), as well as the additional amount of Canada Education Savings Grant.
- **Canada Learning Bond** - available for eligible Canadian children from low-income families born in 2004 or later and provides an initial payment of \$500 plus \$100 for each year of eligibility, up to age 15, for a maximum of \$2,000. Personal contributions are not required.

*** For more information, visit: www.canada.ca/education-savings.

News from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Safe Kids Week is June 4th to 8th!

This year's theme focuses on concussions at home, at play and on the road:

- Help reduce the likelihood of head injury, like concussions, during sports, recreation and unstructured play by encouraging your child to use correctly fitting protective equipment and to follow safety rules.
- Teach children about wearing the right helmet for the activity. For example: bike helmets can be used for cycling, in-line skating and scootering, but skateboarding helmets should be used for skateboarding as they cover the back of the head better.
- Recognize the signs and symptoms of a concussion, which can happen even without a direct hit to the head and without losing consciousness. If your child does have signs of concussion, remove them from the activity and seek medical care.

Be sure to inform your school principal if your child sustains a concussion, either on or off school property.

***Learn more at www.parachutecanada.org.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

