



BIRCHVIEW DUNES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1315 River Rd W., Wasaga Beach, ON, L9Z 2W6 • Office: (705) 429 -2551 | Safe Arrival—Press 1

<http://bir.scdsb.on.ca> @BirchviewDunes birchviewdunes Birchview Dunes Elementary School

Bus Cancellation Zone: West

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Principal: Melissa Mortimer
Vice Principal: Lisa Saunders

Office Team:
Gwen Maguire-Loverock
Jennifer Dallman, Peggy Meeser
Superintendent: Michael Giffen

COVID-19 DAILY SELF-ASSESSMENT

Dear SCDSB Families, Each day, families are asked to ensure that their child(ren) complete the COVID-19 school screening tool prior to coming to school.

The criteria in the provincial COVID-19 school screening tool has been updated by the Chief Medical Officer of Health. The updated provincial direction states that students and staff with any new or worsening symptoms of COVID-19 (as indicated in the screening tool), even those with only one symptom, must stay home until:

- They receive a negative COVID-19 test result;
- They receive an alternative diagnosis by a health care professional; or,
- It has been 10 days since their symptom onset and they are feeling better.

The updated COVID-19 school screening tool is available on the Ontario government's website here: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

March Important Dates

- Mar. 5 National Employee Appreciation Day
- Mar. 8 International Women's Day
- Mar. 14 Pi Day
- Mar. 17 Irish Heritage Day
- Mar. 18/19 Grade 8 Grad Photo Days
- Mar. 21 World Down Syndrome Day
Int'l Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
- Mar. 26 Earth Hour (in schools)

Inclement weather and bus cancellation information

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 west zone.

When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, as in previous years. It is always a family decision whether or not it is safe for your child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions.

This year, please note that students who are unable to attend school due to bus cancellations will be able to access learning materials on the digital learning platform assigned by their teacher, either Desire2Learn (D2L) or Google Classroom.

Students in the Learn@Home program will continue with regular programming as scheduled.

The SCSTC 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>



Character Trait for March INTEGRITY

We act justly and honourably in all that we do.



Kindergarten registration for September 2021!

Kindergarten is the beginning of a wonderful journey of learning and we want your child to begin their journey in a SCDSB school! Do you have a child who is turning four in 2021? If so, we invite you to register your child for kindergarten. To register online or for more information visit:

www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/kindergarten.

Triple P courses for parents of children from birth to 12 years

Because parents all have different needs, Triple P has many different ways to get positive parenting help. From one-off seminars to ongoing courses, you choose what is best for you and your family. It's about giving you just the right amount of help you need – enough, but not too much! For a list of upcoming virtual sessions, please visit: www.triplep-parenting.ca/ont-en/find-help/find-a-session/



Virtual Learning Guidelines for students and parents

To ensure a safe, respectful and positive learning experience, all SCDSB students and families must adhere to the virtual learning guidelines while participating in virtual/remote learning environments.



Students must:

- Follow the Acceptable Use of Information and Communication Technology Policy•participate in classroom instruction and activities;
 - Follow established rules and routines (e.g. be on time, have learning materials ready, have all schoolwork and assignments completed);
 - Be punctual, as daily attendance will be taken in the morning as usual and all students who are not on time will be marked as late;
 - Dress appropriately and respectfully and adhere to the SCDSB dress code policy;
 - Respect the privacy of classmates and staff; - students are not permitted to video record or take screenshots in the classroom environment (in-class or online) without permission - the privacy of all students must be maintained at all times
 - Keep personal login information private - virtual learning environments are intended only for those individuals who have been invited to participate by the classroom teacher;
 - Use board-issued technology for education purposes only; and,
 - Find a learning space that is free from distractions. Virtual learners must also choose a learning space free of personal artifacts and attire that would not normally be shared with teachers and peers; this includes private spaces such as bedrooms and bathrooms. Failure to adhere to these guidelines could result in disciplinary action.
- Students are expected to follow the SCDSB Code of Conduct and the Information and Computing Technology – Appropriate Use Guidelines which outline the expected standards of behaviour.



Mental health and well-being resource hub

COVID-19 has, and will, impact the mental health of people everywhere. Kids Help Phone has seen an unprecedented surge of young people feeling more stressed than usual reaching out during this global pandemic.

Finding accurate information and appropriate resources can be hard. Jack.org, School Mental Health Ontario and Kids Help Phone have partnered to bring you all the information needed in one easy-to-access hub so that youth mental health remains top of mind, and our communities are able to easily access the education, tools, support and reliable information they need. Please share widely with the young people in your life.

Jack.org is a Canadian non-profit organization focused on helping youth understand how to take care of their mental health and look out for others.



Grade 8 Graduation Photos 2021

will take place Thursday March 18 & Friday, March 19, 2021

Making 'cents' of money matters

All students need the skills and knowledge to take responsibility for managing their personal financial well-being with confidence, competence and a critical and compassionate awareness of the world around them. In the 2020 math curriculum there is focus on financial literacy learning in Grades 1 to 8, including understanding the value and use of money over time, how to manage financial well-being and the value of budgeting.

Students build their skills and knowledge about the value and use of money, how decisions impact personal finances, as well as develop consumer and civic awareness.

Students will:

- Learn how to manage finances responsibly, such as creating a budget to help save enough money to buy something they want such as a book, toy or a video game.
- Begin to develop a greater awareness as consumers and contributors in the local and broader economic system.

Wondering how you can support the development of your child's financial literacy skills at home? Check out some of these great tips and resources!

Tips:

- Find daily, real-world opportunities to talk about money in the contexts of earning, saving, spending and giving.
- Consider the financial habits you want to instill in your child and talk about them.
- Involve your child in making decisions about purchases for household items and compare the costs of different items. (e.g. We need to save money to repave the driveway, so we're going to cut down on spending. Do you have any ideas?)

Resources:

- A Parent's Guide to Financial Literacy
http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/financial_guide.html
- Peter Pig's Money Counter
<https://practicalmoneyskills.ca/games/peterpigs/>
- Help Your Kids Understand Money: A Parent's Guide
<http://www.themint.org/parents/parenting-guide.html>

Nutrition and self-regulation

Self-regulation is the ability to manage your own energy states, emotions, behaviours and attention in ways that are socially acceptable and help achieve positive goals such as learning at school, having good relationships and being well. Healthy eating may improve your child's ability to self-regulate.

Eat more:

- ✓ Plant-based foods: colourful vegetables, fruits, whole grains
- ✓ Healthy proteins: nuts, seeds, legumes, fish, seafood

Eat less:

- ✓ Sugar and sodium
- ✓ Highly processed, refined foods

Focus on:

- ✓ Water or milk to drink
- ✓ More than one type of food at every meal or snack
- ✓ Eating regularly
- ✓ Creating a calm, relaxing environment where you can enjoy your food and not feel rushed

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) to deliver first-ever student census in April 2021

At the SCDSB we are committed to identifying and removing barriers within our system that impact equity, achievement and well-being of students, and to ensuring that all students are offered supportive, inclusive and respectful learning environments. To support these efforts, we must learn more about our students.

In April 2021, the SCDSB will hold its first student census. The confidential SCDSB Student Census 2020-2021 will be used to collect identity-based student data so that systemic barriers can be identified. The results will guide our focus on programs, supports and resources to address inequities within our system.

Between April 1 and 30, 2021 students in Grade 7 to 12 and parents/guardians of students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 will be invited to participate in the SCDSB Student Census 2020-2021. To support the delivery of the SCDSB student census, the SCDSB is hosting information sessions in March. Details regarding the information sessions, including how to register, will be available on the SCDSB website.

For further information regarding the SCDSB Student Census 2020-2021, visit the SCDSB website or contact Lisa Newton, Manager of Research and Decision Support, at census@scdsb.on.ca or 705-734-6363 x11731.

FlipGive

School Fundraising Made Easy!



Birchview Dunes Elementary School

**Shop Almost
anywhere &
Give Back to
Our Primary
Classes!**

Did you know that you can save time AND earn cash for the Primary Division on the things you are already buying? FlipGive is a fundraising program that all the Primary classes are using to raise money for school technology. Help us reach our goal by signing up for FlipGive today!

Brands on FlipGive pay Birchview a small commission to the school whenever you shop with them via the app or website. There are hundreds of stores to choose from! Give it a try today!

Join Our Team

Download the Flipgive App or visit www.flipgive.com/join to sign up. You will be asked to enter our unique team code to join our **Blazers group**.

Enter Your Team Code:

DMWFL2



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