

BIRCHVIEW DUNES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



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November 2017 Newsletter

November Character Trait: **Courage**

Our School Newsletter:

The school newsletter is on the website, but we thought we would try the hard copy for the first couple of months to see if school information reaches more families. The normal distribution of our newsletter is the last Thursday of the month. If you would prefer not to receive this or would like it electronically, see information below.

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

Student Name: _____

My email address is: _____

"PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE"



"DUNES DATES"

Nov. 1	Junior Boys Mini Basketball Tournament at Birchview
Nov. 1	Picture Yourself in Grade 9 Day
Nov. 2	Grade 5 walking trip to Municipal Office
Nov. 2	Assembly and Dunes Activities
Nov. 3	Photo Retakes
Nov. 6	Junior Girls Basketball Area Tournament SCI
Nov. 8	Junior Boys Basketball Area Tournament SCI
Nov. 10	Remembrance Day Assembly-Red Day
Nov. 10	Report Cards go Home
Nov. 13-30	Junior Dance Program
Nov. 17	PA Day
Nov. 21	Junior Field trip to Wonder Movie
Nov. 22	Author Eric Walter visit grade 6-8
Nov. 28	Area Intermediate Boys' Volleyball
Nov. 28	Intermediate Girls Area Basketball Tournament CCI

Around the School

Athletics –The Junior Boys Basketball Team continues to practice every Tuesday and Thursday in the gym during second break. They are looking forward to their mini-tournament on Wednesday, November 1 and their Area Tournament on Wednesday, November 8. Coaches Brooks and Osborn wish the boys well on their upcoming games.

Popcorn Sales – Pop, Pop, Pop corn will be on sale every Friday in the front foyer during second nutritional break. The cost is one dollar a bag and there are three flavors to

choose from - Dill Pickle, Kettle Corn and White Cheddar. Bring your loonies!

Lost and Found - Please take time to look through the lost and found. Our stand in the lobby is overflowing after less than 2 months. Small items like jewelry and keys are in the office.

Offence Declarations – Please ensure you have signed your annual offence declaration in order to keep your name on our approved volunteer list. Forms are available in the office and must be signed by the end of November. If you would like to volunteer at Birchview please drop by the office to pick up a package to take to the police station for screening.

Pizza Program – Pizza is available every Wednesday with the choice of cheese or pepperoni from Dominoes. Coupons can be purchased online at \$20.00 for a sheet of 10 coupons.

Milk Program – Both chocolate and white milk are available daily at second break. Coupons can be purchased online at \$20.00 for a sheet of 27 coupons.

Georgian Good Food Box – For those not familiar with our program, we are a monthly non-profit produce buying program. Our volunteer based program packs over 400 boxes of produce monthly for the residents of South Georgian Bay. Anyone can purchase our bags at any time, with no commitment. In each bag each month, you will receive carrots, apples, onions and potatoes. Then, depending on availability you will receive a variety of other items that could include lettuce, peppers, squash, beans, tomatoes, melons, grapes, oranges, cabbages, celery, cucumber, broccoli and other seasonal fruits and vegetables. The cost is \$15 per order. There is a \$1.00 surcharge for online orders. Orders are due the first Wednesday of each month with order pick up on the third Wednesday. All here at Birchview Dunes. Please come in to the office for more information.

Birchview has Instagram – a reminder to parents to follow us on Instagram (@birchviewdunes) to see what's happening around the school!

Caribou Math - Here are the results from October's Caribou Math Contest: Grade 5/6- First, Julia J. Second, Michael S. and Third, Noah M. Grade 7/8- First, Owen R. Second, Ryeland B. and Third Jade F. The next Contest date is Thurs. November 16th.

Vision Screening –Wasaga Beach Lion's Club are conducting Free vision screenings to students in JK on Monday, October 30th. This vision screening is designed to identify children who have poor eyesight, amblyopia or lazy eyes, misaligned eyes and significant farsightedness or astigmatism that would interfere with the child's ability to see.

School Council

Join us for our 5th Annual Ladies Night "Your One Stop Holiday Shop" (Men welcome!) at Birchview Dunes Elementary School in Wasaga Beach Thursday, November 9th from 5-9 pm. Open to the Public, our 5th Annual Ladies Night hosts over 60 local vendors, including artisans of all talents, direct sales and more. You are sure to find something for everyone on

your Holiday list!! Admission is \$2 and you get one free entry into our amazing door prize draws, you may purchase more door prize tickets at an extra fee, all proceeds are going towards the beautification of Birchview including signage, natural playground structures and more!

Once again, all grades have been given a theme for their door prize baskets they will be putting together for Ladies Night this year. Please ask your children what their grade's theme is this year and if you can contribute an item that would help make their basket a fantastic prize it would be much appreciated.

Final day to get your Little Caesar's Pizza Kit orders in is Friday October 27th. Thank you to everyone who supported this fundraiser.

The next school council meeting is Monday November 6th at 6 pm in the school library, we welcome anyone who would like to join in on a meeting.

Breakfast Club

Thanks to all of our Breakfast Club volunteers who spend their morning making healthy breakfasts for students.

DENTAL SCREENING PROGRAM

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Oral Health team will be at our school on **November 21-24, 2017** to conduct dental screenings for JK, 2, 4, 6, 8 and anyone else that needs one. A dental screening is a quick look in the mouth using a sterilized tooth mirror. Don't forget to look for the information letter from the health unit, which will be coming home with your child.

Smartkidz Yoga Session

Nancy Cox, a certified yoga instructor, will be offering a Smartkidz Yoga Session at our school on Wednesdays immediately after school starting November 8th in the gymnasium. The program will run for seven consecutive Wednesdays and will run from 3:30 - 4:30.

WHY enroll your children? To help them feel better, improve focus at school, increase feelings of calm, learn how to regulate their emotions for better social interactions at school

HOW? Please register by contacting Nancy directly at 705-790-1626. Parents/guardians will need to sign a waiver. Payment for all seven sessions for \$69 can be made either by cash, cheque or email transfer to nancycoxcoaching@gmail.com
NEED MORE INFO? www.smartkidzyoga.com

Free Skate at Wasaga Stars Arena

The Signature Sold Team will be hosting Free Skates at the Wasaga Stars Arena on November 17th from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. We would like to invite you, your family and friends to join us! Snacks and drinks will be provided. Hope to see you there!

High school information nights coming to a school near you!

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights happen this fall and winter. This event gives an overview of what's new, what to expect, as well as a chance to check out the school and ask questions. Attend our local high school information night to find out what's offered: Elmvale District High School-Grade 8 Parent Night is Thursday, November 16th from 6 to 8 pm. *There will be draws for awesome prizes, yummy food, interactive stations for you to see all of the amazing programs EDHS offers, and get a glimpse of the incredible new renovation and addition happening at our school! We can't wait to meet you!*

Check out the full schedule of info nights and more information at www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool.

It's almost winter: Bus cancellation information for parents

All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium'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, unless otherwise noted.

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>

For school event cancellations in case of inclement weather, follow our school's Twitter account at <https://twitter.com/BirchviewDunes> or listen to your local radio station for event cancellation information.

Our school has moved to an automated safe arrival system. The first parent/guardian listed in the student file

will receive an automated call on days when buses are cancelled if their child isn't at school. The recording will tell you that you do not need to call the school back unless your child should be at school.

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.

Volunteer with Big Brothers Big Sisters and our schools

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Barrie & District is proud to partner with the SCDSB to run three mentoring programs for students. Volunteers are welcome to apply to mentor students for as little as one hour per week. Call BBBS Barrie at 705-728-0515 or visit www.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/barrie to find out more. The Orillia (705-325-3151), Georgian Triangle (705-445-2330) and North Simcoe (705-526-5051) BBBS locations also welcome volunteers for their in-school mentoring programs.

Voluntary Self-Identification of First Nation, Metis or Inuit Ancestry

Self-identification is a personal choice to disclose First Nation, Métis or Inuit ancestry. The choice to self-identify is up to you and does not require proof of documentation (i.e. no status card), regardless of where you live. Self-identification is confidential, securely stored and used only to support First Nation, Métis and Inuit student success. Self-identification helps schools support the needs of First Nation, Métis and Inuit students and their achievement. Student achievement data is collected and protected with other confidential data used to help improve student achievement.

To self-identify your child as First Nation, Métis or Inuit, check off the First Nation, Métis or Inuit box on the school registration form and write in details if applicable. The SCDSB is committed to meeting the learning needs of First Nation, Métis and Inuit students through

responsive programming and services. Past activities have included: the inclusion of First Nation, Métis and Inuit focused resources in schools; school based pow wows; dedicated First Nation, Métis and Inuit student advisors and cultural awareness training for school staff. To learn more about First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education, visit www.scdsb.on.ca > Programs > First Nation, Métis & Inuit Education.

November 5 to 11 is Treaties Recognition Week

Did you know we are ALL treaty people? Treaties Recognition Week is the first week of November every year - this year it's Nov. 5 to 11. The Simcoe County District School Board is located on territory covered by several pre-confederation treaties - Treaty 5, 16, 18, 19 and 82, as well as the 1923 William's Treaty.

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. Take some time this week 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 and www.anishinabek.ca/education-resources/gdoo-sastamoo-kii-mi/.

SCDSB's New Holy Days and Holidays Calendar Now Available

The students and staff of the SCDSB represent a rich diversity of faith traditions. The Holy Days and Holidays calendar helps identify some of the important days of commemoration, however it isn't designed to be a complete listing of religious days. Students and staff from a particular faith background may or may not be absent from school on these special days. If they do attend, certain accommodations may be required.

To view the July 2017 - December 2018 calendar, visit www.scdsb.on.ca, click on 'Schools,' 'School Year Calendars' and then 'Holy Days and Holidays Calendar.' You can also learn more the significant faith dates that the SCDSB recognizes.

Celebrate Peace in Your Community: Peace Week is November 18 to 25

November is a month of reflection and gratitude. The sight of poppies and wreaths serve as a reminder of the brave men and women who have fought for peace and freedom.

The month of November also celebrates a nationwide YMCA initiative called Peace Week, from November 18 to 25. This is a time when we can celebrate the presence of peace in our

local and global communities. Peace Week offers activities and opportunities for people of all ages to explore peace from personal, community and global perspectives. Simple actions like sharing, being patient or smiling and saying hello can have a far greater impact than we think.

As an advocate for peace, the YMCA invites everyone to be part of the conversation. Share something you do to foster peace in your home, school, workplace or community. Join in spreading kindness throughout our community with "Be Kind Bells." These bells will be hidden in locations throughout our community. If you find one, perform one kind act, then hide the bell for someone else to find. Share on social media using #YMCAPeaceWeek with the location where you found the bell, your kind act and encourage someone else to do the same!

Visit <http://ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca/ymca-international/peace-week/> for more information.

Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka
(www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca)

November 12 to 18 is National Addiction Awareness Week

Nov 12 to 18 is National Addiction Awareness Week. The SCDSB will be marking this week by providing schools with a variety of resources to increase awareness and education among staff and students. We hope that your child will share some of what they are learning this week and we have included some helpful resources to support you in conversations you might be having with your kids:

- www.participaction.com/en-ca/programs/unplug-and-play
- <http://parentactionondrugs.org>
- www.drugfreekidscanada.org
- www.camh.ca

Information from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Are you a parent of a JK or SK student? Do you worry about your child's eating habits?

Nutri-eSTEP can help! Check out www.smdhu.org/Nutri-eSTEP. You answer 17 questions to find out what's going well and what to work on to keep your child healthy. Nutri-eSTEP is a questionnaire for parents with children aged 18 months to five years of age. When you help your children learn how to eat healthy, move more and limit time spent

sitting, you make a difference to their lifelong health. For more information, call Health Connection weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 705-721-7520 or toll free 1-877-721-7520.

It's time to update your child's immunization records

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is required to keep up to date immunization records for all students who attend elementary or secondary school in the County of Simcoe and the District of Muskoka. Parents are responsible for reporting immunizations to the health unit each time their child receives a vaccine from their health care provider. It's easier than ever to update your child's immunization status. Go to www.smdhu.org/immsonline to update your child's record, or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520.



SCDSB Online Tool for Reporting Bullying, Drug Use or Vandalism

The SCDSB has an online Safe Schools Reporting Tool, which is available on our school website homepage, http://**.scdsb.on.ca, as a Quick Access button. Students and parents can use this tool to submit a report online if they witness a student engaged in inappropriate behaviour such as bullying, drug use or vandalism. Students are still encouraged to speak to a trusted adult at school or home if they have any concerns. This form isn't a substitute for having a discussion with your teacher or principal. Student safety and well-being is our top priority. For more information, visit <http://scdsb.on.ca/ReportAnIncident>.

OHIP+ provides free prescription drug coverage for children

Beginning Jan. 1, 2018, the province will provide free prescription drug coverage for children and youth aged 24 and under, regardless of family income. Under OHIP+, Ontario children and youth will have access to over 4,400 medications and other drug products. Enrollment in OHIP+ will be automatic, based on age. There are no upfront costs, no co-payment and no annual deductible. Those who are eligible for OHIP+ will only need their health card number and a valid prescription from their doctor or nurse

practitioner when they visit their pharmacist. For more information, visit:

www.ontario.ca/page/learn-about-ohip-plus.

Scanlon Creek Nature Centre PA Day Camp

Adventure Day
Scanlon Creek Nature Centre
PA Day Camp (ages 6-12 years)
Join us for an exciting PA Day
full of exploration, fun and adventure!

PROGRAM DATES AND FEES

- Friday November **17th**, 2017
- Friday November **24th**, 2017
- Friday January **26th**, 2018
- Friday February **2nd**, 2018

HOURS: 9 am - 4 pm* FEE: \$45 per day

*Extended camp hours available until 5 pm sharp:

\$10 per participant per day

LOCATION

Scanlon Creek Nature Centre

2450 9th Line, Bradford

To register visit www.LSRCA.on.ca/education

Send inquiries to education@LSRCA.on.ca

Let the adventure begin!