

THE NEWS WAVE

Lake Simcoe Public School | 1701 Webster Blvd., Innisfil, ON L9S 4W2

Office Telephone: (705) 431 0668 | Safe Arrival - Dial 1. Website: <http://las.scdsb.on.ca/> / @LakeSimcoePS

Principal: Stephanie Haelzle Vice Principal: Tyler Cave SASE: Lindsay Sawyer

Superintendent: Lisa Coffey Trustee: Donna Armstrong

IMPORTANT DATES

DATE	EVENT
DECEMBER 2-15	"LEND A HAND—BRING A CAN!" Support Christmas for Kids and the Innisfil Food Bank. With food donations, unwrapped toys and new hats and mittens!
DECEMBER 16	SPIRIT DAY—COZY / COMFY CLOTHING DAY!
DECEMBER 18-26	HANUKKAH (FESTIVAL OF RE-DEDICATION / FESTIVAL OF LIGHT)
DECEMBER 23	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL BEFORE THE WINTER BREAK
DECEMBER 24- JANUARY 9	WINTER HOLIDAY BREAK NO SCHOOL!
DECEMBER 25	CHRISTMAS DAY
DECEMBER 26	BOXING DAY
DECEMBER 26- JANUARY 1	KWANZAA (CELEBRATION OF LIFE)
JANUARY 1	NEW YEARS DAY
JANUARY 9	RETURN TO SCHOOL FROM BREAK

— HOME TO THE WAVES —



This Month's Character
trait is...

— EMPATHY —



"We strive to understand and appreciate the feelings and actions of others."

More information about Character

Education can be found here:

www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education

SUBSCRIBE & FOLLOW LAKE SIMCOE

Subscribe to our school's website
at <http://las.scdsb.on.ca>

(Click Subscribe at the top of home
page and provide your email!)

WE LOVE BEING PART OF A SCHOOL BOARD THAT RECOGNIZES A VARIETY OF HOLY DAYS
AND HOLIDAYS! FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF WHAT WE CELEBRATE, CLICK THE LINK BELOW! :)

[CLICK HERE](#)

NEWS 'SPLASH'

Important Notes from the Office!

SPIRIT WEAR

Thank you to everyone that ordered Spirit Wear recently through our Cutting Edge e-store. The orders are set to arrive sometime on or following Tuesday November 29th. If you wish for your apparel order to remain a surprise from your child and/or you'd like to pick it up at the office and 'gift' it to them—call the office ahead of time and let us know.

SAFE ARRIVAL

NEW! As of November 4th, 2022 - Our Safe Arrival Attendance email!

We apologize for all of the complications we've had this year with our phone systems. We appreciate your patience as we've done our very best to navigate the safe arrival for our students. It continues to be a board wide issue and they are working on correcting it. We still encourage you to use our Safe Arrival line to call your child (ren) in absent, however we hope that this new email will make reporting your child's attendance easier and it will help lessen the frustration you have experienced.

NEW SAFE ARRIVAL EMAIL: lasattendance@scdsb.on.ca

As most of your emails don't indicate who your student is, please ensure you include the following information...

Student Name - First & Last:

Grade:

Teacher:

Length of Absence:

Reason for Absence:

EARLY STUDENT PICK-UP & STUDENT DROP-OFFS

We have noticed a significant increase in student pick-ups this year. While we understand that emergencies and appointments come up we are finding there are a lot of pick-ups happening just shy of the end of the day—for no specific reason.

Even with advanced notice to the office and/or notes to the teachers—it still creates multiple interruptions and communication within the school to have a child picked up early.

With almost 600 students in the school there are a lot of interruptions to the office and classrooms throughout the day. We simply can't accommodate last minute, spontaneous or early pick-ups unless it's absolutely necessary. The end of the school day is the busiest time of day and it's unsafe for all of our students if dismissal doesn't run efficiently.

We ask that families do their best to avoid picking students up early unless it's for a scheduled appointment.

We ask that parents NOT pick up their children from their routine bus line—as staff may not know the student has been picked up. This breeds panic among staff.

We ask that we reduce the amount of lunch or clothing drop-offs at the front door. Please help your child to understand the important of getting organized each morning with everything they need for school.



OUR BALANCED DAY

Supervision Begins 9:00 am

School Starts 9:15 am

Class Time 9:15-10:55 am

Recess/Snack Time 10:55-11:35 am

Class Time 11:35-1:15 pm

Recess/Lunch Time 1:15-1:55 pm

Class Time 1:55-3:35 pm

Dismissal: 3:35 pm

NEW SCHOOLS AND CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The Simcoe County District School Board has a variety of projects on the go, whether it's building new schools, renovating older schools, or completing additions on existing buildings. For more information about how new schools are planned and funded, visit the capital planning page on our website (www.scdsb.on.ca/about/capital_planning). If you are interested in information about recently completed projects, projects under construction and new projects, please visit the new schools page on our website (www.scdsb.on.ca/about/capital_planning/new_schools) or our Capital Priorities Overview (storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/bbeca797d75f4aef933c79047ff2a28c).



SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEBSITE TODAY!

<http://las.scdsb.on.ca>

You can sign up to receive emails about school news updates and information during emergency situations. It's easy to subscribe – visit our website and click the 'Subscribe' link at the very top of the page. Provide your email and click Subscribe, a message will be sent to your inbox with a link to click to confirm that you want to subscribe. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link at the bottom of each email.



GET SCDSB UPDATES TOO!

It's important to get accurate information about what's going on at our school and at the SCDSB. Here are some ways to do that:

Sign up to receive SCDSB media releases by clicking the 'Subscribe' button at www.scdsb.on.ca.



TRANSPORTATION UPDATES!

In order to receive delay and cancellation notifications, families can check the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) website at www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca or download the 'BusPlanner Delays' app from the Apple or Android app stores to receive delay notifications to their devices. Users would need to select Simcoe County STC as the transportation authority. The app will need to be forced closed, but you will be able to select your student(s) routes or school to receive delays.

The app will send a general notice for any cancellation in Simcoe County. You only need to know which 'zone' you're in, so you would know which one to look out for in the app. You can find your student's zone by visiting the School Bus Status page at www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca and clicking the dropdown for the area you live in.



MORE IMPORTANT NOTES...

Inclement weather and bus cancellation information reminder

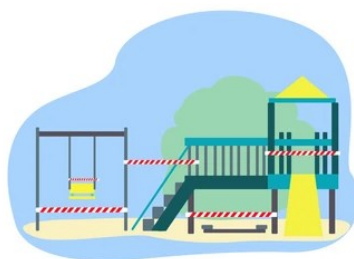


All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s bus information website at www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. **Our school is in the Central zone.** When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, unless 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](https://twitter.com/SCSTC_SchoolBus) for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>.

School playground structures are closed for the winter

Every winter, school playground structures are closed. Students are made aware of this during school hours through announcements and staff reminders during breaks. This may not be well known throughout the community, despite signs indicating that playground structures are a winter hazard and are closed. The Canadian Standards Association regulations make recommendations for the depth of ground cover required to minimize injuries (e.g., sand, pea gravel or wood chips). These surfaces cannot be maintained when the ground freezes. Injuries from falling would be more significant on frozen ground. We strongly recommend that you do not allow your children to play on any structures while the ground is frozen.



RIDING THE WAVE... FROM THE LIBRARY!



Thank you for another successful book fair. The funds raised will continue to support literacy at your school. Our next book fair is scheduled to take place in the spring of 2023. If you are looking for items from Scholastic you can reach out to your classroom teacher or Mrs. Yates for the Scholastic Book Club flyers.

LAKE SIMCOE'S ANNUAL COLLECTION! "LEND A HAND-BRING A CAN!"

Lake Simcoe is hoping to spread community cheer once again this year with our "Lend a Hand, Bring a Can" food and toy drive running from **December 2 - 15** to support Christmas for Kids and the Innisfil Food Bank.

1. Needed Food Items include:

Pasta
Pasta sauce
Boxed Mac and Cheese
Canned fish
Cereal
Canned vegetables
Canned soup
Canned fruit
Peanut butter
Jam



2. Unwrapped Toys (all ages)

3. Don't Forget to help us deck the halls with donations of new hats and mittens!

HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS...

Dear Lake Simcoe Families,

We are interested in learning more about the holidays and traditions you and your family currently celebrate, with a particular focus on this time of year. This information helps us get to know you and your child(ren) better and allow the community to be better reflected here at school. Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey and share your feedback with us.

[SURVEY LINK](#)

JUST CRUISING...

Friendly Reminders from the Office

- Yard Supervision begins at 9:00am. Please do not drop your children off before this—as there will be no staff to supervise them.
- Ensure you are respecting the safety and time frame of our Kiss & Ride program.
- We ask that parents remain off school property for the safety of all staff and students.
- We ask that dogs not accompany you to school for safety reasons.
- **We continue to offer our Subway Lunch Program on Wednesdays and we have recently put news out that we are starting our Pizza Pizza Program! Order now and have it delivered on Thursdays!**
- We ask that your children come with everything they need to be successful for the day. We appreciate your consideration in not creating interruptions to the office for midday drop-offs.

REGISTER FOR BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE AT OUR SCHOOL!

Register now for before and after school programs/childcare. The Before and After School Program is for students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 who need care before and/or after the regular school day hours.

Please contact (705) 726-5674



**Upper Canada
Child Care**

MAKING WAVES...

High school information events for Grade 8 students

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information events will take place in-person this winter! Student leaders and staff at the school will give an overview of what's new and what to expect. Learn about courses offered, as well as information about teams and clubs. Please visit the SCDSB website to find details on your high schools' info night, and contact the school directly for more information.

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.

The SCDSB board-wide electronic applications for the Grade 1 FI program for all sites will open **Thursday, Dec. 1 at 9 a.m. and close at 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 16.** Entry into the FI program is determined through a digitally randomized lottery system.



Ontario Ministry of Education tutoring services

The Ontario Ministry of Education is supporting tutoring services in schools and in the community until the end of March 2023. Schools offering after school tutoring services will advertise this service directly to parents/guardians. Community tutoring agencies provide free of charge tutoring to Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) students after hours in the community and online. Contact information for community tutoring agencies can be found at www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/tutoring_programs. Tutoring is available to all SCDSB students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12. The SCDSB is also seeking members of the community to act as tutors in our schools during the school day. All candidates must apply through Apply to Education Posting #3361243. Candidates are required to be interviewed by SCDSB administration, provide professional references and complete a Vulnerable Sector Screen through their local police service. For more information, please email tutoring@scdsb.on.ca.



Early Learning and child development

How is your infant, toddler or preschool child developing? Is your child meeting their milestones? Age-appropriate speech and language skills are critical to your child's ability to read, write and be successful in school as well as to their ability to engage with their peers. Free services are available to support you with your child's development. Preschool speech and language programs are located across the County of Simcoe. Call 705-739-5696 or 1-800-675-1979 to complete a developmental screen. The earlier we work together, the better!



Parents/guardians and students invited to learn about planning for the skilled trades at virtual event on Dec. 1.

Are you not fully sold on the skilled trades as a career? Not everyone is. On Thursday, Dec. 1 at 7 p.m., participants in What our school families need to know about skilled trades careers will learn about apprenticeship pathways and can hear how to best explore a career in the trades while still in high school. Parents/guardians and Grade 7 to 12 students can consider what one employment researcher has discovered about contradictory perspectives on skilled trades careers. He will share findings based on interviews with hundreds of tradespeople and reveal the results of surveying 500 parents/guardians.

This interactive virtual evening, presented by the Simcoe County District School Board, will feature Dr. Jon Callegher, Executive Director at Job Talks, and will include information about apprenticeship, tech ed in our schools, cooperative education, and a question-and-answer segment. Participants can submit questions in advance here: <https://forms.gle/K1fHeartoGYnDd3u8>. To virtually attend the presentation, visit the SCDSB Facebook event page for more information: <https://fb.me/e/21YLL7Pw4>.

INFORMATION FROM SIMCOE COUNTRY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Register now for night school (semester two) to complete high school, prepare for post-secondary education

Night school offers secondary school credits in a variety of subjects for students completing their Ontario Secondary School Diploma, and for students who are preparing for post-secondary education. Subjects include math, English, chemistry, biology, physics and social science. All night school courses this year are offered as teacher-led, synchronous online classes using Brightspace/D2L. Classes are held two nights per week from 6 to 9 p.m. on either a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday schedule, with online student attendance being mandatory. Night school classes run given sufficient enrolment. Learn more at: www.thelearningcentres.com.

Adult English as a second language program

Looking to improve your English skills? Join our adult English as a second language (ESL) classes to improve your listening and speaking skills through class discussions and presentations. Develop your English skills to advance in your current job or open the door to new employment opportunities. Learn more about your local community and explore Canadian culture and history. Adult ESL classes are offered year-round with a continuous intake. To register for the program, please contact the Barrie Learning Centre at 705-725-8360 ext. 45151, or email ganderson@scdsb.on.ca.

**Please note all students starting ESL for the first time must be assessed prior to starting the class. Fees apply for visitors to Canada and work/study permit holders.*

Join us! A learning series for parents/guardians with Pine River Institute

Mental health and well-being continues to be a key strategic priority within the SCDSB. We are pleased to continue our partnership with the Centre for Family Initiatives at Pine River Institute (CFI@PRI) to provide several curated learning sessions 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, guardians and other caregivers during this school year.

Dec. 8, 2022	How to Manage Another's Anxiety
Feb. 9, 2023	Guide to Attuned Limit Setting
March 2, 2023	Emotional Regulation for Kids and Adults
April 27, 2023	The Biology of Stress



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 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.

Support your child's mathematics learning at home

Looking for ways to support your child in their math learning at home? The Ministry of Education has a page with ideas on how to support your child and make math part of your day-to-day routine. There are general routines and grade-level ideas to explore. Learn more: www.ontario.ca/page/support-your-childs-math-learning.



INFORMATION FROM SCDSB COTINUED...

Right to Read inquiry report

Beginning in 2019, the Ontario Human Rights Commission conducted a public inquiry into human rights issues that affect students with reading disabilities in Ontario's public education system. The report (www.ohrc.on.ca/en/right-to-read-inquiry-report-), released this past spring, issued 157 recommendations. Among these recommendations is the need for an updated language curriculum that includes explicit, systematic, and direct instruction in foundational reading skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics and decoding, and word reading proficiency. The Simcoe County District School Board is committed to shifting our instructional practices to align with these recommendations.

What does this mean for my child? Primary educators are shifting from using leveled texts as they encourage reliance on guessing strategies to solve unknown words. Instead, educators are beginning to use a scope and sequence to systematically teach phonemic awareness and phonics. Students may apply the phonics skills they have learned by reading 'decodable' or 'phonetically controlled' texts. As a result, educators are moving away from using PM Benchmarks and moving towards assessments that measure foundational reading skills. To support your child at home, the following documents provide activities that may help foster these foundational skills:

Phonological awareness activities for families

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mrSSU-HhNzjSRv6_CKiJBue32B-n6ggy/view?usp=sharing

Supporting reading development at home

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/12jf50KLLzZP9q82HN-w39jrHFgYElf45/view?usp=sharing>



The season of giving

December marks the season of giving, and is a great time to teach your little ones about the benefits of giving back to their community and others. Many people think the only way to help their community or support their favourite charitable cause is with a financial donation – think again! While financial donations are integral to non-profits, there are many other ways that you and your family can give back, make a difference in your community, and have fun – all at the same time!

Here are three ways your family can make a difference this giving season:

Volunteer as a family

Volunteering is a great way to teach kids about empathy and compassion. It shows them that a simple act can make a big difference, and helps them practice valuable life skills. Start small, like spending an hour helping a neighbour, and work your way up to bigger commitments, like going to a shelter or animal rescue once a week. Some families pick a favourite project and make it a yearly tradition, like filling gift baskets for seniors around the holidays. You're never too young to help others!



Get crafty for a cause

A fun way to get the whole family involved is to make arts and crafts to share with others. Many retirement homes and long-term care homes collect handmade cards, drawings, and crafts from the community to share with seniors during the holidays. This is a fun activity that lets kids be creative, and brings great joy to those receiving the handmade items.

Give old clothes or toys a second life

Have your kids outgrown any of the items they used to love? Consider giving gently worn clothing or used toys a second life by donating them to a local nonprofit. Many shelters that support struggling families, refugees, or immigrants rely on clothing and toy donations. Have your family collect any items they want to donate, and explain to your little ones that their once loved items will be going to a new home to bring joy to other children that need it. Basic items that many of us take for granted can make a huge difference in a person's life.

Local charities, like the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka, run on the generous support of individuals and families like yours. If you'd like to learn more about the ways you can give back to the YMCA, visit www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca. No matter how you decide to give back to your community, you and your family can feel good knowing you are making a positive difference in the lives of others. Your giving changes lives!

Content provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka