



Lisa Cooke
Principal

FOREST HILL P.S.

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School Website: <http://for.scdsb.on.ca>

Perry Iacobellis
Vice-Principal

BUS CANCELLATION/SCHOOL
CLOSURE: CENTRAL SIMCOE

APRIL 2021

IMPORTANT APRIL DATES

6th – Raise the Flag for Autism
12th to 16th – April Break
14th – International Day of Pink
22nd – Earth Day
28th – Administrative Professionals Day
28th – National Day of Mourning (remembering those who have lost their lives, or suffered injury or illness on the job or due to a work-related tragedy)

A Few Other Important Dates

May 11th – Grad Photo Retakes
May 19th – Kindergarten Orientation – 6:30 p.m.
May 24th – Victoria Day – No school
June 24th – Elementary Report Cards sent home
June 24th – Grade 8 Graduation
June 29th – Last Day of School

We are grateful to have this week with your child(ren) and hope to re-open on the 19th. Communication will come from the Ministry, as well as SMDHU, SCDSB and myself should any news be announced during the Spring Break!

This month is optimism, and we wish you all good health as this pandemic is hopefully going to be under control after this wave. We have all worked so hard together to maintain such a wonderful learning experience for your child(ren) and we thank you and the staff for all you do!

Be well and stay safe!

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We do hope that you all had a fabulous Easter long weekend! We know it is hard to not have all of your loved ones with you but keeping those we love safe is key. In these uncertain times, when things are changing rapidly, we hope you had time to celebrate and honour traditions with your household.

We are in the final stretch of the school year. With that comes longer days, warmer temps, and signs of hope and spring that bring renewed energy. Please try and stick to routines, especially bedtime, so that your child(ren) are well rested and ready to learn.

If you have not done so already, please complete the permission form in School Cash Online if technology is required by your child(ren) in the event that we close.

COVID-19 School Screening Tool



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

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.

In addition, all asymptomatic household contacts of symptomatic individuals are required to quarantine until the symptomatic household member receives a negative COVID-19 test result or receives an alternative diagnosis by a health care professional.

The COVID-19 school screening tool is available on the Ontario government's website here: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>. A printable version of the COVID-19 school screening tool can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3uIap6V>. More information is also available on the SCDSB website at www.scdsb.on.ca/covid-19.

Participate in the First-ever SCDSB Student Census

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 Grades 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. Students in Grade 7 to

12 will be emailed a secure link inviting them to complete their census. For students in Kindergarten to Grade 6, parents/guardians will complete the student census on behalf of their child or children. Parents/guardians of these students will receive an email invitation which includes a secure link to their child(ren)'s student census. The email used for parents/guardians will be the primary contact email on file at their child's school.

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, ext. 11731.

Register Now for Summer Child Care

Childcare programs for children in Kindergarten to Grade 6 are provided by independent, third-party child care operators in some SCDSB schools. To support your childcare needs, some operators offer childcare over the summer holidays. Registration in advance is required. Please contact the childcare operator directly to discuss fees and to register. More information and contact numbers can be found at https://scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/childcare_before_after.

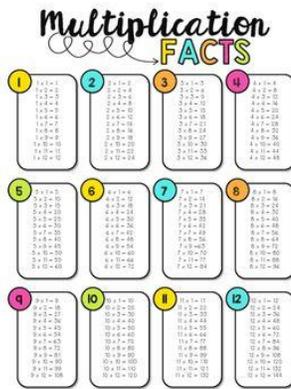
Character Attribute for April



Optimism - we maintain a positive attitude and have hope for the future.

More information about Character Education can be found here: www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education.

Family Fun with Multiplication Facts!



Has your child been asked to practice their math facts at home? Math facts are best learned in a purposeful way that helps students make connections between the facts, as opposed to memorizing them individually.

Tips for supporting fact fluency at home

1. Practice the facts in a meaningful order:

- Start with foundational facts like 2s, 10s, 5s, 1s, and 0s
- Move on to more challenging facts that can be found using combinations of foundational facts, like 3s, 4s, 6s, 8s, 9s and 7s

The Mastering Math Facts resource provides strategies to support each group of facts: <https://bit.ly/39cNzLE>

2. Help your child see that the order of the factors does not change the product:

- Example, $2 \times 5 = 10$ and $5 \times 2 = 10$

3. Help your child practice by decomposing more challenging facts into known facts:

- Example 1: 7×8 can be thought of as $(7 \times 4) + (7 \times 4)$
- Example 2: 5×7 can be thought of as $(5 \times 5) + (5 \times 2)$

4. Help your child visualize the facts by building arrays and drawing pictures to represent them:

<https://mathvisuals.wordpress.com/multiplication-division/>.

5. Play games such as:

- Blockout! –

<https://mathforlove.com/lesson/blockout/>

Math Flips -

<https://mathvisuals.wordpress.com/math-flips/>

- Stick and Split -

<https://www.stickandsplit.com/>

- Games to play with a deck of cards -

https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B_wlnPzXZBUZRk0yNXFBd3dqTDg/edit

6. Allow your child as much time as they need to find an answer for a fact. This will lower stress, support them with using the strategies they are learning, and they will soon become automatic with practice.

Supporting Student Mental Health and Well-being



When students attend school, whether in-person or online, they engage in important routines and foster connections that can help them to feel more balanced amidst the uncertainties of the pandemic. Our school is committed to bolstering student mental health and well-being by teaching our students to practice strategies to increase their stress management and coping skills.

School Mental Health Ontario works together with Ontario school districts to support student mental health. Forest Hill Public School will be using a collection of resources for educators to support student

mental health during the ongoing pandemic response. These resources are evidence-based. This month, we will be practicing various breathing strategies.

Try the hand tracing exercise:

<https://bit.ly/2OWOAAAN>

- Starting at your wrist, trace the left side of your hand up to your middle finger while taking a deep breath for four seconds
- Pause at the top of your middle finger and hold in your breath for four seconds
- Breathe out while tracing down the right side of your hand for four seconds
- Repeat four times

Get Outside and Play!

Active play does more than help kids to achieve the 60 minutes of physical activity they need every day; it supports their development in many ways – especially when the play is outdoors, self-directed and fun. This allows kids to test boundaries and problem-solve, develop social skills, resolve conflict and learn to control their emotions and behaviour.

Active play outdoors in the fresh air and nature also helps to improve mood and lower stress. Support your child to play outside in the neighbourhood and at your local park as much as possible, while staying safe by maintaining COVID-19 prevention protocols for physical distancing and mask use.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

PLACEMENT REQUESTS – September '21

Please be aware that a great deal of time and effort is spent in organizing class placements for the following year. There are many variables that are considered in the process. If there are unusual

circumstances for which you wish to make a request for class placement, please put your request and reasons in writing and give them to the Principal, Mrs. Cooke, by Friday, April 30th. These will be considered but ***we cannot promise that such requests can be granted.*** Class organization is finalized after the second week of school in September. Forest Hill P.S. remains closed to Out of Attendance Area students.

Are You Moving?



Please advise the school office if you plan to move out of the Forest Hill attendance area over the summer and your children ***will not*** be returning in September 2021. Thank you!

Signing Out Students

In keeping with our Safe Schools policy, please remember that if you are taking your child/ren out of school for an appointment, activity, lessons, etc., send a note to your child's teacher and/or contact the office. This will help cut down on the **numerous interruptions** to classrooms.



You must buzz the front door and make the office aware of who you are picking up. We will then have the student sent to the office and we will sign them out and dismiss them to you at the door.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter!

Welcome to Kindergarten



**Starting school in the fall?
Kindergarten Orientation Session is
on Wednesday May 19th, 2021.**

This year, a Virtual Welcome to Kindergarten Information session will be

held on Wednesday May 19th, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. This event will be held using Google Meet, with an access link available at a later date. Join our administration to learn more about the kindergarten program, what to expect next year and what can be done to prepare. For more tips on preparing for kindergarten, visit www.scdsb.on.ca, click on 'Elementary,' and 'Planning for School' and then 'Kindergarten.'

GRADE 8 GRAD UPDATE

Grade 8 Graduation

Save the date for Grade 8 Graduation! Ceremony is **Thursday, June 24th, 2021.**



Details on options will be shared with Grade 8 families as information becomes available.

Change to Lunch Off Property

Considering the provincial shutdown starting on Saturday, which includes no one in a home that does not live there and no outside gatherings greater than 5, we are suspending leaving property for lunch starting Tuesday, April 6th for our Grade 7 and 8 students. We will reassess this decision once the shutdown order is lifted.

Please ensure your child brings sufficient food for the day. If parents wish to pick up their child to take them home for lunch, they are welcome to do so, just please communicate this with your child's teacher in advance and have your child sign out and in each time.

SPRING BREAK

We hope our students and families have an enjoyable Spring Break! Stay safe and continue to observe the protocols to keep us all healthy; when you are out of your home, maintain your 2 m distance, wash and sanitize your hands regularly and wear your mask!

