



Linda Blom  
Principal

# FOREST HILL P.S.

16 Doran Road  
Midhurst, ON L9X 1L4  
Safe Arrival 705-721-8300 Ext. 1  
School Website: <http://for.scdsb.on.ca>  
**SNOW DAYS AND SCHOOL CANCELLATION:**  
FHPS is "Central" Simcoe County

Cindy McNeice  
Vice-Principal

BUS CANCELLATION/SCHOOL  
CLOSURE: CENTRAL SIMCOE

DECEMBER 2017

## IMPORTANT DECEMBER DATES

- 4<sup>th</sup> - Photo Proofs due
- 13<sup>th</sup> - Barrie Christmas Cheer Food Drive/  
Elmvale Food Drive - items due
- 19<sup>th</sup> - Kindergarten - Santa's Workshop/  
Open House - 2:00
- 21<sup>st</sup> - Winter Solstice
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Primary classes - Polar Express - 9:20 a.m.
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> - Holiday Break

## ... AND SOME JANUARY DATES

- 8<sup>th</sup> - School Council Meeting - 7:00
- 9<sup>th</sup> - French Immersion Information Night  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. in Library
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - **French Immersion Application  
(Registration) for S.K. students - 9:00 a.m. on  
22<sup>nd</sup> to 9:00 p.m. on 24<sup>th</sup>**
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Kindergarten 2018 Registration Begins  
(Ongoing from this date)
- 24<sup>th</sup> - Wendy's Night fundraiser - 4:30 - 7:30

## Grade 8 Important Dates

- February 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Grade 8 Info Night at Eastview:  
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
- April 28<sup>th</sup>** - Appleby's Fundraiser Breakfast  
(details to follow)
- June 26<sup>th</sup>** - Grade 8 Graduation - Details to follow

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

A very heartfelt "thank you" goes out to the community support that you have shown towards our annual Christmas food drive and the recent shoebox campaign. Every donation helps make the season a bit brighter for someone.

On the safety front, the snow will definitely soon be here: please be careful in our parking

lot and on Doran road, especially when conditions are icy. Also, please note that the 'snow hills' around our driveways get quite high from plowing, and visibility is reduced when making turns.

Finally, the staff at Forest Hill would like to thank you for your support, and to wish all of you a safe and happy holiday, and all the best for 2018!

## ***High School Information Nights coming soon to a High School near you***

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights happen this winter! Information nights give an overview of what's new and what to expect, and are a chance to ask questions.

High school is an exciting time—there are so many programs, clubs and activities for students to try. Attend an information night to find out what's offered at your local high school. See the info night schedule and more information on the SCDSB's website at [www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool).

## ***All School Playgrounds 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.

**WELCOME TO A WONDERFUL JOURNEY  
OF LEARNING**



Do you (or someone you know) have a child who was born in 2014? If so, it's almost time to register them for

Kindergarten in the SCDSB! Beginning January 22nd, 2018, Simcoe County's public schools will register children for Kindergarten for the 2018-19 school year. Required registration documents include birthdate documentation, proof of address and record of immunization. Visit [www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten) for more information.

**Register your child for French Immersion;  
Find out more at information session in  
January**

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) offers French Immersion (FI) at select schools throughout the county beginning in Grade 1. This program gives students a bilingual education and the opportunity to become fluent in another language.

Information sessions will be held on January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. for parents of students in Senior Kindergarten. A letter will be sent home to those parents with more details. Information session dates will be posted at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) under Programs, French as a Second Language.

The FI online application form will be available from 9 a.m. on Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, until 9 p.m. on Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) under Programs, French as a Second Language. While every effort is made to accommodate all FI applications, available space and staffing will determine how many students can be registered in the program. **Applications will be processed in the order they are received electronically.**

Please contact the school if you do not have Internet access at home or require assistance accessing the online application. Please note that the host sites for FI may change during your child's time in the program, and your child may need to move schools. This may also include splitting the program between two different sites.

**Land/territory acknowledgement introduced  
for SCDSB meetings, events and school**

Over the past few months, the SCDSB has worked with Indigenous partners, local elders and the First Nations Education Advisory Committee to develop a land/territory acknowledgement. A land/territory acknowledgement is an act of respect and reconciliation, based on the First Nations' tradition of acknowledging the land of others when they were guests in that territory. The statements will be used at SCDSB meetings and significant events, and daily in all schools to respectfully acknowledge the Indigenous people of this territory, their sharing of the territory and the benefits we have received, as settlers, from that sharing.

**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.Eyeseeyearn.ca](http://www.Eyeseeyearn.ca).

### SCHOOL COUNCIL Interested Parents List

The School Council is made up of parents, teachers and the school principal who meet approximately six times during the school year. Any parent/guardian is welcome to join council at any time or to attend any meeting without being a member. If you are unable to attend meetings but would like to know what the council is doing, you can find all meeting notifications, agendas and minutes on the school website under the Council tab. Or you can sign up to receive this correspondence via email. Just send an email to the council email address: [councilchairfor@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:councilchairfor@scdsb.on.ca) with ADD ME TO THE INTERESTED PARENTS LIST in the subject line. Include your name, email address, names of children and their current grade and teacher. Please note that if you are a member of council, you already receive all the information that is sent to the Interested Parents List.

The next School Council meeting will take place on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Library.

### WINTER HOLIDAYS



The last day of school will be Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Students return to school on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

### SNOWBALLS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Students have been reminded through the daily announcements that snowballing is not permitted at school. We are asking parents to discuss this potentially dangerous act with their children. It would be a shame to have a student suspended for causing injury to another student, but our Code of Conduct is clear about "causing physical injury



to others". Please help us to keep Forest Hill Public School a safe environment for our students.

### WINTER WEATHER

Just a reminder that if weather is severe in only part of the County, then the media will announce: "All school buses have been cancelled in **Central Simcoe County** weather zone", which is the zone for Forest Hill P.S. **Check our website to find out if buses are running.** Please remember that when buses are cancelled in the morning, they will **NOT** be running in the afternoon either. If you are dropping your child/ren off at the school on a bus cancellation day, please **DO NOT** do so before 9:00 as many teachers live out of town and may need extra time to get to school; therefore supervision on the yard does not begin until then. It is also important to pick your child/ren up at 3:30 so that staff can make their way home safely.

Another reminder that **all food and milk programs are cancelled** on bus cancellation days.

Tune into Rock 95, B101FM, FM93 or log onto [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) for bus cancellation information.



Parents are asked to ensure that their children come with proper clothing for the weather. We have had a few days where it has been raining, either a steady rain or merely a misty rain. On days where the rain is **NOT** heavy, students will go outside for their regular recess.

All students are expected to participate in outdoor recess. Rain gear, hats, mittens, boots and warm jackets make outdoor recess time comfortable and enjoyable for all. Please remember there are to be no drawstrings, as they are a safety hazard.



## GLOBAL ACTION UPDATE

In keeping with our Forest Hill tradition, we are once again issuing our 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Forest Hill Holiday Cheer Drive Challenge to help those in need! Forest Hill Public School has once again challenged all the elementary and secondary schools in Simcoe County to see who can collect the most non-perishable food items and unwrapped toys per student. Collected items will be donated to the Elmvale Food Bank and Barrie Christmas Cheer Food Drive.

The greatest needs are FOOD ITEMS!!! Most needed are canned food items (meats, fish, pork and beans, stew, vegetables etc.) and other boxed food items (macaroni and cheese, pasta, cereal, dry soups etc.). If you are sending pasta, please ensure it is the boxed variety as the bags split open. They have also requested that we do not send items in glass jars due to their breakability.



They are also collecting unwrapped toys (most needed are for 8-10 year olds), new books for all ages, cash donations, gift cards and Canadian Tire money. Some families prefer to send in a cheque for donation to the organization. If you are writing a cheque, please make it payable to EITHER Barrie & District Christmas Cheer OR Elmvale & District Food Bank. All items must be in to the school by **Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**.



It has become a Forest Hill tradition for interested families to send in a hat, pair of mittens, and/or neck warmer (these are safer than a scarf) **in lieu of a gift for the teacher** at Christmas. If you wish to join this tradition, please send these items by December 13<sup>th</sup> as well, and we will donate all the items to Christmas Cheer.

The generosity of Forest Hill families is truly inspirational, and as always, it is greatly appreciated. THANK YOU for making the difference in the lives of families in need!



## 'I LOVE FIRST PEOPLES' SHOEBOX CAMPAIGN



Thank you to all our students and families who donated items for our 'I Love First

Peoples' shoebox campaign. These filled shoeboxes, with gifts of all kinds, let a child know that you care about their future!

## Polar Express!

All aboard! The Primary classes will be watching the Polar Express in the gym on Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 9:30 to 12:30.



Nutrition break and recess will take place, as usual!

## Forest Hill Chess Club

The Forest Hill Chess Club continues every Wednesday at second nutritional break and Friday at first nutritional break in the Library. Players in Grades 3 to 8 are invited to bring their lunches (and eat very carefully!) and join Ms. Watson for a game of chess. For students who earn a spot on our AREA team, the team will be going to the Education Centre for the Area Chess tournament.

## Forest Hill's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spelling Bee



Bzzz! Bzzz! Forest Hill's 2nd Annual Spelling Bee will be held on Tuesday, December 12th in the Library. Students will be competing in the English

Spelling Bee in the morning and the French Spelling Bee in the afternoon. Any questions can be directed to Mme Bock.

Good Luck to all participants! And stay tuned for the results.

### Ukulele Club

The Ukulele Club will be performing on December 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> in the gym during the Christmas Sing-a-Long. Performance will begin at 9:30 both days. Any questions can be directed to Mme Bock.



### Gr. 6 - Camp Kitchikewana

The Grade 6 classes will be attending Camp Kitchikewana from June 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018. A \$25.00 deposit is required for those attending, which can be paid by accessing School Cash Online. The remaining payments will also be posted on School Cash, with the final payment due sometime in the spring! More details will be provided as they become available.



### Beaver Computing Challenge



On November 15<sup>th</sup>, nine students in grades 6 to 8 participated in the Beaver Computing Challenge, which is an international math competition that relates to computer science. Congratulations to Blythe W. and Kierdan M. for placing in the top 25<sup>th</sup> percentile for their age group!

### Thank You to our FHPS Volunteers!

A very big "THANK YOU" goes out to all our FHPS volunteers, especially at this time of year. From photocopying to fundraising, to Kiss 'n Ride in all forms of weather, to Lost and Found, we appreciate you so much for all you do!



### FOREST HILL FUNDRAISING

#### Basket Raffle



The Basket Raffle is back! Please send in a NEW item that fits the theme your child's grade has chosen. We look forward to some amazing baskets again this year. Baskets will be on display, and

tickets for sale, during the second and third weeks of December. Thank you for your support!

### FOREST HILL CAMP FAIR & CAFÉ

The chill of winter is in the air, but it will be time to plan for summer holidays before you know it! To help Forest Hill families with planning their summer schedule, we are hosting our second annual camp fair and café on Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Numerous local organizations will be displaying their summer camps and events so you can peruse the possibilities for summer. There will be interactive displays and games for the kids, a silent auction as well as a café so you can grab a bite to eat while checking out the camps. [fhpsmidhurst@gmail.com](mailto:fhpsmidhurst@gmail.com).



If you would be willing to volunteer at the camp fair or if you have a favourite camp you'd like to see there, please email the camp fair coordinator at [fhpsmidhurst@gmail.com](mailto:fhpsmidhurst@gmail.com).

### Forest Hill Night at Wendy's

Shake off the winter blues by coming out to Wendy's night on Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. A percentage of all sales from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Bayfield location will come back to Forest Hill. This is always a fun night filled with school spirit!



### NEWS FROM OUR HEALTH UNIT

#### Stay Healthy this School Year!

Colds and Influenza spread easily from person to person. These germs can spread directly from person to person when someone coughs or sneezes, or indirectly when germs land on hard surfaces like door knobs, desks, keyboards, or wet tissues and then are touched by someone. These germs can then enter the body through the eyes, nose or mouth.



The most important thing you can do to keep from getting sick and stop the spread of germs to other is wash your hands with soap and warm running water for at least 15 seconds. If your hands are not visibly dirty, you can use

alcohol-based hand sanitizer for at least 15 seconds. Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or cough into your sleeve or upper arm and stay home if you are sick. Teach your kids to do the same!

For more tips to keep you and your family healthy this school year, contact Health Connection at 1-877-721-7520 or visit the health unit's website at [www.simcoemuskohealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskohealth.org).

