



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>

Perry Iacobellis
Vice-Principal

BUS CANCELLATION/SCHOOL
CLOSURE: CENTRAL SIMCOE

DECEMBER 2018

IMPORTANT DECEMBER DATES

- 3rd - 12th - Christmas Cheer Food & Toy Drive
- 4th - Gr. 6-8 Chess begins (Tuesdays, first break)
- 6th - Gr. 8 Trip Info Night
- 6th - Gr. 3-5 Chess begins (Thursdays, first break)
- 7th - Red/Green Day
- 11th - Third Annual Spelling Bee
- 12th - LAST DAY for food & toy donations
- 14th - Grinch Day
- 14th - Ottawa Trip deposit due
- 17th - 20th - Festive Sweaters/Hats
- 21st - Pajama Day
- 21st - Primary - Polar Express in the gym - a.m.
- 21st - Character Assembly - p.m.
- 21st - Winter Solstice
- 24th - Jan. 4th - Holiday Break

... AND SOME JANUARY and FEBRUARY DATES

- 8th - School Council Meeting - 7:00
- 10th - French Immersion Information Night
@ 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. in Library
- 14th - FI Info Night - Inclement Weather date
- 21st - French Immersion Application (Registration)
begins for S.K. students - 9:00 a.m. on 21st to 9:00
p.m. on 23rd
- 23rd - Wendy's Night Fundraiser
- 28th - Kindergarten 2019 Registration Begins
(Ongoing from this date)
- 25th - PA Day - No school

Grade 8 Important Dates and other upcoming dates

- February 21st - Grade 8 Info Night at Eastview:
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
- June 26th - Grade 8 Graduation - Details to follow
- June 3rd - 5th - Gr. 6 - Camp Kitchikewana

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

New Oro-Medonte Elementary School Update

Planning for the new elementary school is well underway. In order to update our school communities, an information meeting is being scheduled for late January 2019. At this meeting information on the location, design and construction timelines and student accommodation process will be provided. Please note that no recommendations on future attendance areas or program locations are being made at this time. The meeting will be held to assist interested parents who wish to learn more about the new school. You will receive a notice in early January indicating the date, time and location for the information meeting.

A very heartfelt "thank you" goes out to the community support that you have shown towards our annual Christmas food and toy drive. 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. All hills are 'out of bounds' for student safety.

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 2019!

NEW ON-LINE VOLUNTEER PORTAL UPCOMING DEADLINE

Volunteers who received a letter indicating they were required to submit an updated CBC/VSS for review must complete their registration on the portal by December 31st, 2018. Volunteering at the school will not be permitted after this date until all steps in the approval process have been completed.

Volunteers who received a letter with a unique I.D. code for registration on the portal, must complete their registration on the on-line portal using the code by December 31st, 2018 at the very latest. The unique I.D. code will expire after this date. Current approved volunteers who did not register on the portal using the unique I.D. code by December 31st, 2018 will be required to submit a new CBC/VSS for review and register as a new volunteer. Volunteering at the school will not be permitted until all steps in the approval process have been completed.

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:
Eastview Secondary School
February 21st, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
421 Grove Street East, Barrie

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

STUDENT SAFETY

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.



Dropping Students Off in the Mornings



When dropping your child/ren off in the mornings, please **BE SURE** to use the Kiss 'n Ride, and **NOT** the parking lot! Winter weather can create low visibility, making this very unsafe for our students. Thank you for your consideration.

SCHOOL COUNCIL Interested Parents List

The School Council is made up of parents, a teacher representative, the school Principal and Vice-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 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 Tuesday, January 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the Library.

WINTER HOLIDAYS



The last day of school will be Friday, December 21st. Students return to school on Monday, January 7th, 2019.

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 for bus cancellation information.

DRESS FOR WEATHER

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

Christmas Cheer

It is that time of year again! Time to remember those who are not as fortunate as most of us here at "The Hill". In keeping with our Forest Hill tradition, we are once again collecting non-perishable food items, hygiene items and new, unwrapped toys (most needed are for babies and 8-10 year olds). 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.).



The food banks have requested that we do not send bagged pasta, and items in glass jars due to their fragility. Food items that are sold boxed (e.g., granola bars, etc.) must stay boxed. 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 12th.

Please know that students are not being asked to door-to-door to collect donations from neighbours and/or strangers. We realize that holiday time is approaching and families will give what they can, within their means. Both food banks that we coordinate with are so grateful for ANY donations that come their way.

Thank you for your generosity in the past and in the future.

GRADE 8 END-OF-YEAR OTTAWA TRIP



Plans are in the works for the annual Grade 8 Ottawa trip! A parent information night will be held on Thursday, December 6th at 6 p.m. Parents and students are welcome to attend to get an overview of this fantastic trip from our tour company, Temple & Temple. Those burning questions will be answered!

CHESS

Chess will begin in December. Students in Grades 6-8 are invited to come to the Learning Centre for some friendly matches on Tuesdays at first nutrition break, starting on December 4th. Grades 3-5 will face off on Thursdays at first nutrition break, beginning December 6th. Area tournaments for Grades 4-8 occur in late February/early March.

Intermediate Girls Basketball

Congratulations to the Intermediate girls' basketball team for coming in second at our zones tournament and making it onto the Regionals Tournament! Our coaches are very proud of the team and everyone's hard work. Go Thunderbirds!!

Polar Express!

All aboard! The Primary classes will be watching the Polar Express in the gym on Friday, December 21st, from 9:30 to 12:30.



Nutrition break and recess will take place, as usual!

Forest Hill's 3rd Annual Spelling Bee



Bzzz! Bzzz! Forest Hill's 2nd Annual Spelling Bee will be held on Tuesday, December 11th 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.

Gr. 6 - Camp Kitchikewana

The Grade 6 classes will be attending Camp Kitchikewana from June 4th to 6th, 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.



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!

... and a special mention to ...

Mrs. Walters for her maintenance of the garden up till now!



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 Night at Wendy's

Shake off the winter blues by coming out to Wendy's night on Wednesday, January 23rd. 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!



SOME NEWS FROM SCDSB

WELCOME TO A WONDERFUL JOURNEY OF LEARNING

Kindergarten Registration Opens in January



Do you (or someone you know) have a child who was born in 2015? If so, it's almost time to

register them for Kindergarten in the SCDSB! Beginning January 28th, 2019, Simcoe County's public schools will register children for Kindergarten for the 2019-20 school year. New this year, the registration process begins online! Visit

https://scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/childergarten for more information.

Attend a French Immersion Information Night

Application Window Opens in January

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.

Information sessions take place in January for parents of students in Senior Kindergarten. A letter was sent home to those parents with more details. Information session dates will be posted at www.scdsb.on.ca/secondary/program_options/French_as_a_second_language.

The FI online application form will be available from 9 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 21, until 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2019 at www.scdsb.on.ca under Elementary, 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. 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.

**2018-19 Holy Days and Holidays Calendar
now available**

Students and staff of the SCDSB represent a rich diversity of faith traditions. Our new 2018-19 Holy Days and Holidays Calendar helps identify some of the important days of commemoration. Access the calendar on our website at

https://www.scdsb.on.ca/about/equity_and_inclusion/holy_days_and_holidays_calendar.

