



Megan Francis  
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>

Ken Wilson  
Vice-Principal

BUS CANCELLATION/SCHOOL  
CLOSURE: **CENTRAL SIMCOE**

**FEBRUARY 2022**

### **IMPORTANT FEBRUARY DATES**

17th – National Random Acts of Kindness Day  
21<sup>st</sup> - Family Day – No school  
22<sup>nd</sup> – I Read Canada Day  
23<sup>rd</sup> – Pink Shirt Day: Stand up to Bullying  
(Wear pink)

### **SOME IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES**

Mar. 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> - March Break – No school

### **PA DAYS & HOLIDAYS**

April 15<sup>th</sup>, April 18<sup>th</sup>, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, June 3<sup>rd</sup>

need to step back and re-evaluate the plan of action for your child. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions regarding your child's success, and do not hesitate to contact the office with any concerns or questions.

Happy February and keep warm.

Megan

### ***Communication to families regarding inclement weather days***

#### **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](http://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca). Our school is in **Central Simcoe** 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 SCSTC 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

### ***MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATION***



Happy February!

This month marks the official half-way point of the school year. This very important event allows us to pause and reflect on how your child has grown in the first half of the year. You recently received a report card for your child. Building success for your child is a team effort and it is at this point that we

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 SCSTC on Twitter @SCSTC\_SchoolBus for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications no here:  
<https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>.

**Keep connected with our school and with the SCDSB**

It's important to get accurate information about what's going on at your school and at the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB). Here are some ways to do that:

- Subscribe to our school's website by visiting the 'What's New' section at <http://for.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.
- Sign up to receive SCDSB media releases by clicking the 'Subscribe' button at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca).
- Follow the SCDSB on Twitter (@SCDSB\_Schools), Facebook ([facebook.com/SCDSB](https://facebook.com/SCDSB)) and Instagram ([instagram.com/scdsb](https://instagram.com/scdsb)).

**SAFE ARRIVAL**



**Please ensure that you call the safe arrival phone line (721-8300, press 1) if your student(s)**

**is/are absent or will be late.** Make certain that you ring the doorbell to sign your child in/out with the office to ensure your child's whereabouts is communicated clearly! We will be calling contacts for students with an unexplained absence.

Parents are asked to arrange appointments, transportation changes, and materials for drop off before school, as ***classes will not be interrupted until the nutritional breaks at 10:50 & 1:10.*** This is to protect instructional time. We appreciate your cooperation.

**COVID-19 SELF-ASSESSMENT**

Families are asked to ensure that their child(ren) complete and pass the COVID -19 self-screening tool daily prior to attending school. Based on the recommendation of the OCMOH, the [daily COVID-19 self-screening tool](#) has been updated and includes a more sensitive COVID-19 symptom list as well as the requirement for anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 to self-isolate and stay home, regardless of vaccination status.

***Interested in learning more about the ways that the SCDSB supports students with special education needs and their families? Join us for a virtual special education outreach series***

In 2022, the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is hosting virtual special education outreach sessions to assist parents/caregivers in learning more about programs, supports and ways that we work together to support students with special education needs.

**Supporting students with Autism Spectrum Disorder in SCDSB schools and within our communities – information for parents/caregivers**

Feb. 17  
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**Supporting students as they transition into school, from one school to another, and from school upon graduation – information for parents/caregivers**

April 12  
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**Working with families to create safe and supportive environments for children who have experienced trauma – information for parents/caregivers**

May 10

6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Participants are asked to register in advance. Information to access the sessions will be shared via email with individuals who have pre-registered. Learn more about each session and how to register on the SCDSB website at <https://bit.ly/3s8OBm8>.

***Supporting All Readers at Home***

Supporting reading at home can be rewarding, but also challenging. Students may excel at reading, but some may require extra support, whether it be extra practice, or trying different strategies to help address a learning disability. There are various resources online where parents can access tools to help their child decode words, build fluency and encourage active reading overall.

[All About Reading](#) not only provides resources to support decoding strategies, but also provides parents with a readiness checklist so that they can see what level their child is at.

[Raz-Kids](#) has levelled readers, and is a program that is familiar to a lot of primary aged students. Some will have an account through school, but individual annual memberships are also available for purchase.

[Teach Your Monster to Read](#) is a game that focuses on sounds and words as a way to support early readers, and is available as an app on Android and Apple devices.

[Watermelon Works](#) is a company that supports learners, including those with dyslexia, to develop skills to support decoding and comprehension in French. More information and the creator's contact information is available through the website.

[The International Dyslexia Association of Ontario](#) has numerous resources to support your learners. While their focus is dyslexia, a lot of their supports and resources can be applicable to a variety of different learners, and they offer webinars that discuss various topics, including the most recent seminar entitled [Race, Class and Reading: Disrupting the Pedagogy of Low Expectations](#)

Supporting all readers is something that takes collaboration and knowing where to find resources. For more information, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

***ANOTHER REMINDER TO PLEASE LABEL ALL CHILD'S BELONGINGS***



We have an excessive amount of found clothing! Labeling your child's items is more important than ever right now. Mabel's labels can help us out with this. They make fun, functional and durable labels for all of

your kid's items. To order labels go to their website

[https://mabelslabels.ca/en\\_CA/fundraising/support/#](https://mabelslabels.ca/en_CA/fundraising/support/#). Please label everything your child brings to school. This includes backpacks, lunchboxes, and all clothing including jackets, boots, hats, etc.

***CHARACTER ATTRIBUTE FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY***

**Inclusiveness:** We include everyone in what we do and value their contributions. More information about Character Education can be found here:

[www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character\\_education](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education)

***Kindergarten Registration for September 2022 is open!***

Kindergarten is the beginning of a wonderful journey of learning and we want your child to begin their journey in a SCDSB school! Do you have a child who is turning four in 2022? If so, we invite you to register your child for kindergarten. To register online or for more information visit: [www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten).

***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 (e.g. sand, pea gravel or wood chips) required to minimize injuries. 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.