



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

**INCLEMENT WEATHER AND SCHOOL CANCELLATION:  
FHPS is "Central" Simcoe County**

BUS CANCELLATION/SCHOOL  
CLOSURE: CENTRAL SIMCOE

JANUARY 2019

## JANUARY DATES

- 21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> - Gr. 1 French Immersion Application (Registration) begins at 9 a.m. on 21<sup>st</sup> to 9 p.m. on 23<sup>rd</sup>
- 21<sup>st</sup> - Gr. 8 Grad - Parents' Meeting: 7 p.m. Library
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - Wendy's Night Fundraiser
- 25<sup>th</sup> - P.A. Day - No school
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Kindergarten 2019 Registration Begins (Ongoing from this date)
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Gr. 7 - Scientist in School (Presentation)
- 29<sup>th</sup> - Oro-Medonte School Meeting - 6:00 p.m. at Eastview S.S.

## LOOKING AHEAD ...

- Feb.** 1<sup>st</sup> - Character Ed Assembly: Honesty Jr/Int: 12:10 Kgn/Pri: 1:50
- 5<sup>th</sup> - School Council Meeting - 7 p.m.
- 11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> - Gr. 7 - Mansfield Outdoor Education Center - overnight trip
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Report Cards go home
- 18<sup>th</sup> - Family Day - No school
- 21<sup>st</sup> - Grade 8 Info Night at Eastview - 7 - 8 p.m.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Chess Tournament: Eastview Secondary 4 - 6 p.m.
- 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> - Dental Screening: JK, SK, Grs. 2 & 7
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Dance-a-Thon
- 28<sup>th</sup> - SK and Gr. 8 Grad Photos
- Mar.** 1<sup>st</sup> - P.A. Day - No school
- 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> - March Break
- Apr.** 7<sup>th</sup> - Applebee's Pancake Breakfast (Gr. 8 Fundraiser) - 8 - 10 a.m. Bayfield St.
- 19<sup>th</sup> - Good Friday - No school
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Easter Monday - No school
- May** 28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> - Grade 8 - Ottawa
- June 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> - Grade 6 - Camp Kitchikewana
- June 25<sup>th</sup> - Grade 8 Graduation - Details to follow

## **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

Happy New Year and welcome back!

We hope that everyone enjoyed the well-deserved break and had an opportunity to relax and enjoy time with family and friends. We know that this will be a wonderful year of learning.

Report cards will be coming home on February 15<sup>th</sup> this year, and as always, teachers will be using a variety of assessment practices, including tests, projects, conferencing and presentations. Teachers also use the provincial achievement chart categories of Knowledge and Understanding, Thinking, Application, and Communication to evaluate work. Special attention is given to the quality of work at the end of a unit of study or term. As well as looking at formal assessment pieces, teachers talk to and observe each student in the classroom to gather additional input for final grades.

To learn more about the assessment process, please contact your child's teacher or go to <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/success.html>.

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL**

Just a reminder that our next School Council



meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Library at Forest Hill. Everyone is welcome!

Come and find out about some of the events planned for 2019! We will be updating everyone

on the Midhurst Mile, Grade 8 Graduation plans and several other topics.

We will also be discussing ideas for the ProGrant. Hope to see you there!

Any adults interested in becoming volunteers at Forest Hill should email [debra.kapty@gmail.com](mailto:debra.kapty@gmail.com) in order to have an orientation set up.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION - BUS CANCELLATION MESSAGE



Please be aware that on bus cancellation days, **students who are eligible for transportation** will receive an absence code specific to bus cancellation. If your child/ren is in attendance (dropped off, walked etc.), this code will be removed.

The following message will be received by ALL parents/contacts whose child/ren is absent due to bus cancellations, or if there is an Unexcused Absence (no phone call to Safe Arrival):

*"Hello this is an important message from Forest Hill Public School.*

*Although the school remains open, school busses have been cancelled due to inclement weather. A student in your household in grade (**student grade**) is absent from Forest Hill, on (**today's date**).*

It is a parental responsibility to contact the school office immediately at 705-721-8300 and press option 1 for the Safe Arrival line, **if you believe that your child should be in attendance.** Otherwise, the school will assume that you are aware of your child's absence."

You do NOT need to call the school if you are aware of your child's absence! Should you wish to be omitted from this phone call, you MUST request that your child/ren is NOT PART OF the Safe Arrival Program.

Sorry for the inconvenience this may have caused.

### SCDSB INFORMATION

#### French Immersion 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, empowering them to function with ease in both French and English.

Information sessions took place in January for parents of students in Senior Kindergarten.

The FI online application form will be available from 9 a.m. on **Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, until 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019** at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://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 Elementary School Climate Survey

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) aims to provide a safe, supportive learning environment that encourages student success. Between January 7 and January 25, 2019, all students in Grades 4 to 8 will be asked to complete a confidential on-line survey exploring how they feel about their school.

Teachers will supervise the class during the survey's completion and can answer any questions or concerns your child may have.

This year, parents/guardians of students in Grades 4 to 8 will also be asked to complete an anonymous online survey outlining how they feel about their child's school. The survey results will provide valuable feedback to staff related to our SCDSB Strategic Priorities and will help schools develop and refine their School Action Plans. Students, parents/guardians and staff will not be asked to provide their names and all responses will be combined to ensure confidentiality. Similar to prior SCDSB school climate surveys, the questions cover a range of topics, such as:

- the overall tone of the school, often referred to as school climate;
- mental health and well-being;
- equity, diversity and inclusion;
- experiences of school safety and bullying or harassment; and,
- questions to assist the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit in its Healthy Schools Initiative.

#### *Student Survey*

A sample version of the student survey is available at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca). A paper copy of the student survey is also available in your school's office. Please call your school if you have questions about how the student survey will be administered.

#### *Parent/Guardian*

To complete the SCDSB 2018-2019 school climate survey for parents/guardians, please go to [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) and click on the link to the survey. If you do not have access to the internet and/or prefer to complete a paper version of the survey, copies of the parent/guardian survey are available in your school's office. Questions about the parent/guardian survey can be directed to SCDSB's Research and Decision Support Services team at [research@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:research@scdsb.on.ca).

The information collected will be used to help guide our school in creating and maintaining safe and supportive learning environments for all students. Thank you for your support!

#### ***Provide Input on Proposed 2019-20 School Year Calendar***

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) invites public school communities to submit input regarding the proposed school year calendar for next school year (Sept. 2019 to June 2020). Input can be provided by visiting [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca), then clicking the link on the 'School Year Calendars' page under the 'Schools' menu. All stakeholders including staff, school council members, parents/guardians, students and members of the school community are invited to provide input. The deadline to submit input is February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

#### ***Kindergarten Registration for 2019***



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 28<sup>th</sup>, 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://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/> Planning for School, Kindergarten for more information.

#### ***High School Information Nights coming to a school near you!***

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights are happening this fall and winter. This event provides 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 S.S., 421 Grove St. E., Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.*

Check out the full schedule of info nights and more information at [www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool).

### **Parents invited to information sessions about special education**

The SCDSB is hosting a series of information sessions for parents and guardians to learn about special education in the SCDSB, and how to support students with special education needs. Topics include building a plan for the summer, understanding the Special Equipment Amount (SEA) and applied behavior analysis (ABA).

Sessions will take place at the SCDSB Education Centre, located at 1170 Highway 26 in Midhurst. Participants may also access the sessions online via Google Meet. More information, including dates, times and links to register, can be found at [https://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special\\_education](https://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special_education).

### **Is homework stressing you out?**

Throughout the year, your child may have homework or need to spend time studying at home. You can help make homework time less stressful. First, let your child relax with a healthy snack when they get home from school. Ask if they have homework, what kind, and how long they think it will take to finish. It's a good idea to set a regular time each day and decide on a specific place to do homework. Your child might need help for a couple minutes to get started.

Looking for more parenting support? Speak with a public health nurse by calling 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or visit the health unit website at [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org).

### **Your Child's Immunization Record**

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is required to keep up-to-date immunization records for all students who attend elementary or secondary school in the County of Simcoe and the District of Muskoka. Parents are responsible for reporting immunizations to the health unit each

time their child receives a vaccine from their health care provider. The immunizations that the health unit requires records for include:

- Diphtheria, tetanus, polio and pertussis
- Measles, mumps and rubella
- Meningococcal
- Varicella (chickenpox) (for those born in 2010 or later)

It's easy to update your child's immunization status. Go to [www.smdhu.org/immsonline](http://www.smdhu.org/immsonline) to update your child's record or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 (toll free).

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*

### **Canadian Blood Services needs your help!**

During the winter months, hectic schedules and snowy weather often result in a decrease in the number of blood donations. Canadian Blood Services (and all those in need of donations) want to remind you to be part of Canada's lifeline this holiday season and give the gift of life. You can book online at [www.blood.ca](http://www.blood.ca). Look for a clinic in your area!

*Information provided by Canadian Blood Services*

### **Five Ways Families Can Improve Health and Fitness in the New Year**

It's that time of year again - time to focus on New Year's resolutions. Making your family better, stronger and healthier may require just a few simple tweaks. It's been proven that the key to success is setting small, attainable goals. Here are some New Year's resolutions that families can work on together to get healthy and fit in the New Year:

- **Play together.** Spend time outside playing together as often as possible, regardless of the weather. Go skating, build a snow fort or go tobogganing - fun for the whole family!
- **Join a family-friendly gym.** Find a place that provides opportunities for the entire family to be

physically active together or offers child care and after-school programs.

- **Pencil it in.** Add physical activity or play time to the calendar, with the same commitment as other important meetings. Schedule an evening walk or a fitness class – seeing it on the calendar will help motivate your family to stay on track.
- **Set goals.** Pick a fun run/walk or 5K to do as a family, like [YMCA Move to Give](#). Sign up, train as a family and participate in it together.
- **Make healthy meals together.** Allowing kids to participate in cooking healthy meals and snacks can make them more adventurous to try foods they may not usually eat. It's more satisfying to eat something you helped chop, stir or season! For more information about programs offered at the Y for the whole family, please visit [www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca](http://www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca).

Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka ([www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca](http://www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca))

### FAMILY DAY HOLIDAY



Please note that the Family Day holiday is on Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. Students do not attend school on that day. It's a great day to spend quality time with your

family!

### MARCH BREAK

March Break takes place from Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup> to Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. They will return to school on Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. Enjoy the break!



### 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.

### SAFE ARRIVAL AND BUS CANCELLATION DAYS

The decision to keep a student home on a bus cancellation/snow days rests with the parent. Our school is open, even when buses are not running on snow days,



unless a school closing has been announced on the radio (**Central Simcoe County weather zone**). **Please be sure to check our school website for bus cancellation information.** We provide a full program for students. Sometimes that program may vary from a typical day, depending upon how many students are in attendance; at times weather conditions also prevent some of our teachers from arriving safely. Students are welcome and encouraged to attend school on these days.

If your student(s) is a walker and there is a bus cancellation day, please be sure to call the safe arrival line if you intend on keeping him/her home.

There will not be any Kiss 'n Ride program on bus cancellation days.

The YMCA leases their space from the Simcoe County District School Board. Please contact them directly on bus cancellation/snow days with any enquiries regarding the operation of the program. **However, when schools are deemed closed, this program is also cancelled.**

### INTERRUPTIONS TO CLASSROOMS

It is well documented that classroom interruptions negatively impact student achievement. To this end, we are requesting that interruptions to classrooms do not take place

during instructional time unless it's an emergency. If you need your child to be at the office at a particular time before dismissal, please send a note and the classroom teacher will ensure that your son/daughter is in the office at that time.

If you arrive earlier than expected, ***please be patient and wait until your child arrives, rather than having us call him/her out of class early.*** As well, we have had many phone calls with changes to end-of-day routines. These calls are also interruptive to classrooms and instructional time. If you need to make a change to the end-of-day routine, please also send a note to the classroom teacher. We appreciate your cooperation. Please keep in mind that teachers do not necessarily check their personal mobiles regularly throughout the school day; therefore, the best method of communicating these situations is by a note/agenda.

## FOREST HILL FUNDRAISING

### Wendy's Night

**Wendy's Fundraising Night is Wednesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019**



Come in and meet your celebrity teachers and other staff members! Get your friends together for a great night of fun, food and fundraising! 393 Bayfield Street location only.

10% of all in-store dining and drive-thru sales, sold between 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. go back to Forest Hill!

### Winter Reminder and Lost & Found



We would like to remind parents and students of the importance of bringing labeled hats and mitts and other winter apparel to school. Lost and found items will be removed

from the box at the end of each month. Items not collected will be sent to a charitable organization.

The number of items in last month's Lost & Found was unbelievable! There were numerous pieces of clothing and shoes that were brand-name labels, in almost brand new condition!

***Students and parents are encouraged to make note of this and check for lost items regularly.***

### Forest Hill Chess Club

The Primary, Junior and Intermediate Chess Clubs are having a phenomenally successful year! The turnout has been great and the enthusiasm is contagious! We will begin our playoffs after the holidays, and our school team will be competing in the Area tournament on February 26<sup>th</sup> at the Education Centre.

### Junior Math Road Rally

On December 12<sup>th</sup>, four of Forest Hill's finest junior mathematical minds went to the Education Centre to compete against twenty-eight other junior teams from across Simcoe County in the Junior Math Road Rally competition. After a day of grueling problem-solving tasks, Forest Hill's team of Josh V., Mira R., Sophie K. and Jake L. enjoyed tremendous success! Way to go, Junior Mathletes!



### HEALTH UNIT NEWS Dental Screening Program



The Oral Health team will be at our school on February 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> to conduct dental screenings for JK, SK, Grades 2 and 7 students. A dental screening is a quick look in the mouth using a sterilized tooth mirror. Don't forget to look for the information letter from the health

unit, which was sent home with all students in January.

### **BRAVADO! KIDS**

Want to run away and join the circus? Are you between the ages of 7 and 14? Then Bravado!Kids is for you!

Bravado!Kids is recruiting for our circus-themed spring show, May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Rehearsals are every Monday from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m., with extra help from 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. for those who want it. Get ready for a fun-filled adventure of music-making and circus acts! It could change your life!!

For more information about the choir and to register your child, contact [bravadokids1819@gmail.com](mailto:bravadokids1819@gmail.com) We'll welcome you with open arms.

### **Barrie Kempettes Gymnastics Club**



The Barrie Kempettes Gymnastics Club was formed in 1965. We currently provide gymnastics services to over 1,300 athletes on a recreational and competitive level. We have the highest trained coaches in Simcoe County, producing Provincial-Level athletes in both Tumbling and Artistic disciplines.

**Welcome gymnasts!** To new families, we wish to welcome you to the Barrie Kempettes Gymnastics Club. Our "top notch" coaches are nationally certified to provide safe supervision and instruction! We are a non-profit organization, which is not affiliated with the City of Barrie or government funded.

*Spring Registration - February 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> - 11 - 1 pm, and February 23<sup>rd</sup> - 11 - 1 pm.*

For more information, please visit our website at [barriekempettes.ca](http://barriekempettes.ca) or contact the Main Office at 705-726-0370 or email at [barriekempettes@csolve.net](mailto:barriekempettes@csolve.net).