



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**

NOVEMBER 2021

IMPORTANT NOVEMBER & DECEMBER DATES

November is Financial Literacy Month as well as Movember!

- 1st – 5th – Treaties Recognition Week
- 1st – 7th – Canadian Down Syndrome Week
- 4th – Elementary Progress Reports go home
- 10th & 11th – Nov. Caribou Contest – Round 2
- 11th – Remembrance Day
- 13th – World Kindness Day
- 15th – 19th – Bullying Awareness Week
- 20th - Trans Day of Remembrance
- 22nd – Picture Day
- 29th – Dec. 10th – Elmvale Food Bank Drive

SPIRIT DAYS

- Nov. 16th – Silly Sock Day
- Dec. 3rd – Anything but a Backpack Day
- Dec. 13th – Candy Cane Day (Red & White)
- Dec. 14th – Christmas Sweater Day
- Dec. 15th – Christmas Hat Day
- Dec. 16th – Grinch Dy

PA DAYS & HOLIDAYS

PA: Nov. 12th, Jan. 28th, June 3rd, June 29th
Holidays: Dec. 20th to 31st, Feb. 21st, Mar. 14th to 18th, Apr. 15th, Apr. 18th, May 23rd

PARENT COUNCIL DATES

Dec. 7th, Jan. 11th, Feb. 1st, Apr. 5th, May 3rd
Meetings begin at 7 PM

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

My name is Megan Francis, and I am thrilled to be joining the school community as the principal at Forest Hill Public School.

I have been an educator with the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) for 20 years. In this time, I have worked as a teacher and instructional coach for staff. I have a background in French Immersion and special education. Most recently, I have worked as an administrator at SCDSB schools, including Orchard Park E.S. and Couchiching Heights P.S.

I have heard wonderful things about the school community at Forest Hill and am excited to join the team. I am really looking forward to working with Mr. Wilson and the entire staff on making this a positive and rewarding year for students. I am excited and eager to bring my skills as an educational leader to Forest Hill Public School and work with you as a partner in education to ensure your child's success.

PERSONAL TOYS AND EQUIPMENT

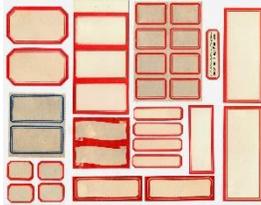
Please ensure that students are not bringing in their own personal hand sanitizer to school, even if it is labeled

UNSCENTED. We have a few staff as well as students, that are highly scent sensitive, and have noticed that a few Forest Hill students have been bringing in their own to keep at their desks. Please remind your child (ren) to use the provided hand



sanitizer. In addition, due to Covid, please remind child(ren) not to bring toys and/or equipment such as footballs, soccer balls, etc. as we are to only use properly sanitized shared items.

REMINDER TO LABEL ALL CHILD'S BELONGINGS



jackets, boots, hats, etc.

Please label everything your child brings to school. This includes backpacks, lunchboxes, and all clothing including

CHICKEN ON THE RUN FUNDRAISER

We are pleased to partner with Chicken on the Run, a locally owned and operated small business, to offer fresh and frozen high-quality meats and prepared foods! They offer fresh chicken products, AAA steaks, chicken fingers, bacon, burgers, salmon, lasagna, and more! Forest Hill PS has been offered **FREE CONTACTLESS DELIVERY** to our families and friends with no minimum orders! Please click on [FHPS Chicken On The Run](#) for details.

SPIRIT DAYS



We have a fun and exciting day planned for mid-November. Please wear your silliest socks on

Tuesday, November 16th.

SPIRIT WEAR!

Did you know Forest Hill has Spirit Wear that can be ordered online and shipped right to your home!? Our Spirit Wear company, Entripy, offers a large variety of designs that can be completely customized to your preference. This includes a variety of clothing options



and colours, brand names, different logo locations, adding your child's first and/or last name, and more. Purchases are made directly from the Forest Hill Entripy website, and items are delivered right to your door. Place your order today and show your Thunderbird pride! To order and create your customized design, please visit our Entripy shop at:

<https://foresthillsps.entripyshops.com/>

Spirit wear is currently discounted 15% with free shipping for orders over \$85.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Mark your calendars! The fun and excitement of a **Scholastic Book Fair** is coming to our school! So, save the date! Our **Scholastic Book Fair** will take place on Tuesday, November 23rd to Monday, November 29th. Students will visit the Book Fair with their classes during a scheduled time. Watch for more news leading up to our **Scholastic Book Fair!** *Happy Reading!*



FlipGive Fundraiser

Join our FlipGive team and help our school raise funds when holiday shopping and making everyday purchases. Download the FlipGive app from the Apple or Google store, or join online: www.flipgive.ca/join. Enter our "team" join code: 7NYFR. Thank you for your support!

CHRISTMAS CHEER

It is close to 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 and hygiene items. Collected items will be donated to the Elmvale Food Bank.

This year we will have a series of "ITEM DAYS." On every day of our collection period, there will be a theme. Students are encouraged to bring the highlighted item for that day.

- Nov. 29 - Toilet paper, paper towels
- Nov. 30 - pudding or gelatin mix, cake, cookie, brownie mixes (boxed is preferable)
- Dec. 1 - Hygiene items (toothbrushes, toothpaste, baby wipes, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, body wash, etc.)
- Dec. 2 - Hamburger or Tuna Helper
- Dec. 3 - Soda crackers or snack crackers
- Dec. 6 - Sidekicks or similar packaged side dish items
- Dec. 7 - Cookies
- Dec. 8 - Canned vegetables - green or yellow beans are popular
- Dec. 9 - Canned stew
- Dec. 10 - Canned soup - vegetable and cream of mushroom are popular

All items must be in the school by Friday, December 10th. Volunteers from the Elmvale & District Food Bank will be coming to Forest Hill the next week to pick up the food items.

Please know that students are not being asked to go 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. The area 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.

Some families prefer to send in a monetary donation to organizations. If you would like to donate to EITHER Barrie & District Christmas Cheer OR Elmvale & District Food Bank, a link to their fundraising web pages will be posted.

CARIBOU CONTEST

The Caribou Math Contest is a world-wide online math contest that is held 6 times in the school year. Contests are offered for Grades 2, 3/4, 5/6, and 7/8. Forest Hill completed the first round in the second week of October. The top 3 finishers for each level are:
Grade 2: Colton M., Julian Q, & Elise P.

Grade 3/4: Mitchell B., Carson M., & Marcus N.

Grade 5/6: Zalan G., Maelle G., & Max N.

Grade 7/8: Keele W., Regan G., & Loghan M.

The Caribou Cup is the cumulative results of ALL the Caribou Contests in one school year. Each student's ranking in the Caribou Cup is determined by their performance in their best 5 out of 6 contests through the school year. After the October contest, the rankings for the Caribou Cup are identical to the contest finish. Updated rankings will be available in the December newsletter. The next Caribou Contest is November 10 & 11. Good luck, Thunderbirds!

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 material 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.

NEWS FROM SIMCOE COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Character attribute for the month of November Courage - we do the right thing even when it's difficult. More information about character education can be found here:

www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education

Significant days, holy days, holidays and heritage recognition occurring in the month of November As you prepare your school's newsletter package, please review the Days of Awareness and

Recognition (NM1), Holy Days and Holidays Calendar and Heritage Recognition. Please include what is relevant to your school community in your November newsletter package.

Daily COVID-19 self-assessment All students and staff are required to complete the daily COVID-19 self-assessment prior to entering SCDSB schools and buildings, using the provincial self-assessment tool. Students or staff with symptoms must stay home from school. To access the COVID-19 self-assessment tool, please visit <https://covid19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>.

Updates to the School Screening Tool for the 2021-22 school year -

International travel Recently, the COVID-19 school and child care screening tool was updated to reflect the return to school requirements for students who are returning from international travel.

Individuals who are unvaccinated and returning from international travel, may not attend school or child care for 14 days upon their return. For further clarity, while unvaccinated children and those under the age of 12 are exempt from federal quarantine if they travelled with a fully vaccinated companion, they may not attend school or child care for 14 days upon their return. Individuals with all other quarantine exemptions (e.g., travelling for cross-border custody arrangements, travelling for medical treatment) may continue to attend school or child care.

Communication to families regarding inclement weather days Please note that APM A3020 – Inclement Weather, 3.1.2 states that “parents/guardians are to be reminded, in writing at appropriate times (October and January) each school year, that it is their responsibility to decide whether or not it is safe for their child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions.”

If you have not already shared this information with families at your school, please do so via your school newsletter, email or the communication method that you use to reach your families. Our

communications department has provided the following message:

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.simcoecountybus.ca. Our school is in the [insert zone for your school] zone. When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, unless otherwise noted. School staff are expected to plan for such emergencies 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 it is safe for their child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions.

The Consortium 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 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 Consortium on Twitter @SCSTC_SchoolBus for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here:

<https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>.

High school information events for Grade 8 students Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information events will take place this winter. Student leaders and staff at the school will give an overview of what's new and what to expect. Different pathways and courses offered will be explained, as well as information about teams and clubs. Please visit your high school's website for more information.

SCDSB census In early 2021 the SCDSB held its first student and workforce censuses. We had almost 27,000 students and over 3,700 staff participate! In October 2021 the initial data from the censuses was released, along with some next steps and

areas of focus for the SCDSB. To learn more, visit www.scdsb.on.ca/census.

Student voices on mental health

Ontario secondary school students, School Mental Health Ontario and Wisdom2Action have launched #HearNowON for 2021. Your voice and perspective is important! Share your ideas on mental health awareness, learning and wellness promotion in Ontario schools.

The #HearNowON 2021 online survey is live and closes Nov. 19, 2021. Contribute your perspective here:

https://bit.ly/HearNowON2021_ONecoute2021

Attend a virtual student consultation event and share your perspectives on student mental health with School Mental Health Ontario and Wisdom2Action. This opportunity will gain you volunteer hours and allow you to meet students across the province! Sign up for a virtual forum of your interest here:

www.wisdom2action.org/hearnowon/

Join us! A learning series for

parents/guardians Mental health and well-being continues to be a key strategic priority within the SCDSB. We are pleased to announce a new three-year partnership with Pine River Institute (PRI). The Centre for Family Initiatives at Pine River Institute (CFI@PRI) will provide several multi-part learning series focused on student mental health and well-being to SCDSB families, staff and within the SCDSB's broader school communities. There are five webinars in the learning series specifically planned for parents and guardians during this school year.

Nov. 23, 2021 Parenting for Positive Mental Health, Part One

Nov. 30, 2021 Parenting for Positive Mental Health, Part Two

Jan. 25, 2022 Understanding and Managing Screen Time

March 29, 2022 Connection and Empathy in Response to Behaviour

May 19, 2022 Understanding Addiction and Addictive Behaviours

We hope you save these dates in your calendar and join us for these learning opportunities. For more information and to register, please visit the mental health and well-being page on the SCDSB website: <https://bit.ly/3jGaC74>.

Pine River Institute is a live-in treatment centre and outdoor leadership experience for youth aged 13 to 19 struggling with addictive behaviours and often other mental health issues. Combining therapy with a fully accredited education program, PRI reinforces the healthy life skills required for a successful future. CFI@PRI extends PRI's knowledge, experience and evidence-informed treatment approach to families and care providers in the community to support youth mental wellness and prevent the need for more intensive interventions. Learn more about PRI by visiting their website at www.pineriverinstitute.com

Treaties Recognition Week takes place Nov. 1 to 5

Treaties Recognition Week was introduced in 2016 to honour the importance of treaties and to help Ontarians learn more about treaty rights and treaty relationships. Treaties Recognition Week is the first week of November every year - this year it is Nov. 1 to 5. This annual event honours the importance of treaties and helps students and residents of Ontario learn more about treaty rights and relationships. By learning more about our collective treaty rights and obligations, we can create greater understanding and nurture these relationships. Take some time Nov. 1 to 5 to learn about the treaty in your area. To learn more about the treaties and how we can honour them, visit

www.ontario.ca/page/treaties

Grade 1 French Immersion information

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.

Historically, in-person Grade 1 FI Family Information Nights are held annually in advance of the application process for the following school year. This year, due to restrictions on large group public gatherings, Family Information Nights will be held virtually by the Grade 1 FI sites.

The SCDSB board-wide electronic application dates for the Grade 1 FI program for all sites will be **Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021**, beginning at 9 a.m. and ending at 4 p.m. on **Friday, Dec. 17, 2021**. Consistent with last year's process, the online FI application process will be a randomized lottery system.

mPower for extra practice Are you looking for a way to provide extra math practice for your child at home in a fun and engaging format? TVO mPower is a free digital tool that includes 65+ online games to support the mastery of tough-to-learn math concepts.

TVO mPower's goals are:

1. To provide Ontario students with opportunities to practice important math skills and to foster positive attitudes towards math by making learning fun and engaging.

2. To show students that math is everywhere by connecting math games to the big ideas in science and social studies.

3. To support students in developing 21st century global competencies by integrating skills such as metacognition, problem solving, creativity and citizenship.

TVO mPower is:

- Ontario curriculum-based - aligns with the Ontario mathematics, science and technology and social studies curricula while also supporting the development of global competencies

- Learner-centred - tracks student progress and responds to learners' needs

- Assessment-driven - includes teacher dashboard and educator resources

- Tested and trusted - developed in partnership with Ontario educators and students

- Always free for Ontario students and educators, and now for Ontario families

- Safe and advertising-free

- Available for desktop and laptop computers and iPad tablets.

Visit www.tvompower.com for more information.