



FERNDALE WOODS E.S.

Joanne Merkley
Principal

170 Ferndale Drive South
Barrie, ON L4N 8A1
Safe Arrival 733-5636 Ext. 1
School website: <http://fer.scdsb.on.ca>

Kerry Butler
Vice Principal

FERNDALE WOODS WEATHER ZONE: CENTRAL

DECEMBER 2017

IMPORTANT DECEMBER DATES

- Dec. 1st – Ferndale Family Movie Night
- Dec. 3rd – Mrs. Farquharson’s “Celebration of Life”
at Innis Brook Golf Course 1pm-4pm
- Dec. 7th - Intermediate Girls Basketball at
Bear Creek
- Dec. 25th-Jan. 5th - Christmas Break

- Jan. 8th - Back to school
Parent Council Meeting 6 p.m.
- Jan. 15th- FI info night for SK parents

CHRISTMAS BREAK

The last day of school will be Friday, December 22nd. Students will return to school on Monday, January 8th, 2018. Enjoy the holidays with your family and friends!

*Wishing everyone a very Happy Holiday from
Ferndale School Council and Staff.*

MITTEN and HAT TREE



Ferndale Woods is asking for new hats, mittens and gloves which will be used to decorate our tree in the front foyer. This annual tradition is in support of the Barrie Women and Children’s Crisis Centre. Each year they receive the donation of hats and mitts to outfit those in need. Please send in your donations by Monday, December 18th. Thank you for your Support.
Please help us warm a head and a heart today!

CHRISTMAS CHEER IS HERE!

In the spirit of giving during the holiday season, Ferndale Woods' staff and students are asked once again to think of those in our community who are struggling financially. The students have started adding their decorated "boxcar" to our annual Christmas Cheer Train that is waiting at the "station" (front hallway) to be filled up with non-perishable food items. All donations must be in by **Thursday December 14th**. Below is a list of some of the most needed products:

- Canned Fish & Meat
- Canned Juices
- Canned Fruits
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Stew
- Rice
- Pasta Sauce & Pasta Dinners
- Peanut Butter
- Cookies / Candies
- Hot Chocolate
- Cereal
- Mashed Potato Mix
- Pancake Mix & Syrup



Besides these food items, Christmas Cheer is also hoping to receive:

- New unwrapped toys**
- New books for all age levels**
- Pet items**

A detailed letter has already gone home with students outlining needs.

If you would like to make a cash donation, please visit the Christmas Cheer website at www.christmascheerbarrie.com.

KINDERGARTEN CELEBRATIONS

As we look forward to the upcoming holiday and winter season, the Kindergarten Team is inviting families to us for an afternoon of fun and activities. A small celebration will take place in your child's classroom at 2:15 p.m. during the last week before the school breaks for holidays. Children are asked to invite a maximum of 2 family members. Please see below for your child's date:

Monday, December 18th: Brown/Boasley

Tuesday, December 19th: Donaghue/Blackstock

Wednesday, December 20th: White/White

Thursday, December 21st: Sirola/McKernin

Parents are reminded to park on Gore or Nicholson Streets or surrounding streets due to the limited parking in the school lot. We look forward to seeing you there.

INFORMATION SESSIONS ABOUT SPECIAL EDUCATION

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.

Dec. 18

Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC) Information for Families

Jan. 22

Assessments in Special Education: Psych Ed and Other Assessments

Feb. 19

Transition Planning Grade 8 to 9

March 19

Accessing Supports in the Community

April 16

Understanding Alternative/Non-Academic IEP Goals

All sessions take place from 6 to 7 p.m. at the SCDSB Education Centre, located at 1170 Highway 26 in Midhurst. No registration required.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

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 on January 22, 2018, Simcoe County's public schools will be registering children for Kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year. Required registration documents include birthdate documentation, proof of address and record of immunization. For more information, visit www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten.

FRENCH IMMERSION

Attend a French Immersion information night, registration 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 will be sent home to those parents with more details. Information session dates will be posted at www.scdsb.on.ca under Programs, French as a Second Language.

The FI online application form will be available from 9 a.m. on Mon. Jan. 22, until 9 p.m. on Wed. Jan. 24, 2018 at 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. 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.

LOST & FOUND

Please remember to check our Lost and Found if your child has lost an item (maybe more!). Some smaller items, such as keys, jewelry, glasses etc. are turned in to the office. Any items not picked up are donated to a charitable organization by December 22nd, 2017.



INDOOR / OUTDOOR RECESS DURING WINTER WEATHER



Please ensure that students are appropriately dressed to spend up to 20 minutes outside at lunch time.

This may require sending an extra pair of gloves or mittens and socks. All students are expected to go outside for recesses and we cannot provide additional indoor supervision for those not wishing to go out. In general, a child who is too ill to go out for recess should not be at school. Students will stay indoors at recess if the temperature falls **below -25 degrees C, and regardless of the wind Chill factor if it is reported to be -28 degrees C or colder.**

SAFE ARRIVAL

When buses are cancelled but schools are open, it is a regular day of learning at Ferndale Woods. The decision to keep a student home when busses are cancelled rests with the parent/ guardian. If your child is not coming to school please **ensure that safe arrival is called. 705-733-5636 Option 1.**

Otherwise our secretaries are required to call the parents of all absent students.

As well, if you know that your child will be late or has a scheduled appointment please call safe arrival. If your child will be absent for 3 days or

more please send a note to your child's teacher and the office. Sometimes a classroom teacher may be away and therefore the supply teacher may still mark your child absent, even though the teacher was aware of this absence. Therefore, it's best to cover all bases by letting both the teacher and office know of the upcoming absence.

Thanks for your cooperation in helping us to ensure that our safe arrival system continues to work efficiently.

A reminder to all parents that students should not arrive at school prior to 8:50 a.m. as school yard supervision does not begin until that time.

RAINBOWS PROGRAM

We will be offering the Rainbows Program again this year. This is designed for children K-8 who are experiencing painful transitions such as divorce, separation or death in the family. Please email Rob Ford at rford@scdsb.on.ca regarding junior and intermediate student participation and Tara McKernan at tmckernin@scdsb.on.ca regarding primary participation.

SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR INPUT

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. 2018 to June 2019). Input can be provided by visiting 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 Jan. 12, 2018.**

***ALL SCHOOL PLAY EQUIPMENT CLOSED FOR
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.

MATH WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

Go to <http://nlvm.usu.edu/> and check out the many fun, interactive manipulatives to increase mathematical understanding! Great for kids and parents helping with homework!

“It’s not that I am so smart, it is just that I stay with the problem longer” – Albert Einstein