



FERNDALE WOODS E.S.

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School website: <http://fer.scdsb.on.ca>

FERNDALE WOODS WEATHER ZONE: CENTRAL

JANUARY 2018

IMPORTANT JANUARY DATES

Jan 15 - French Immersion Info Night @ 6pm
Jan 22 - Kindergarten Registration Begins
Jan 26 - PA DAY (NO SCHOOL)
Jan 31 - Bell Let's Talk for Mental Health- WEAR GREEN

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 for more information.

GETTING YOUR NEWS FROM THE SOURCE

For parents, it's important to get accurate information about what's going on at your school and school board. Please feel free to call the school at any time if you have questions or concerns. Here is our school

website: <http://fer.scdsb.on.ca>. There are also some helpful links on the SCDSB website that may be of interest.

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.

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHT

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights are happening this 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. Bear Creek's Information Night is Thursday January 11th from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Check out the full schedule of info nights and more information at www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool. If you can't attend Bear Creek information night, please call 705 725 7712 to book an appointment to visit.

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. 31, 2018.**

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.**

SUPPORTING THE CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY

Rylee Hogan, a Year 2 Kindergarten student cut and donated her hair in December in memory of her Great-Grandma. Her family decided to raise some money for the Canadian Cancer Society as well. Her goal is to get 100 people to donate \$5.00. A pledge form is available at the main office if you wish to make a donation. Thank you!!!
Happy New Year from Rylee and her family!!!

INFORMATION SESSIONS ABOUT SPECIAL EDUCATION

Parents invited to information sessions about special education

The SCDSB is hosting a series of information sessions for parents/guardians to learn about special education in the SCDSB, and how to support students with special education needs.

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.

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.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

The SCDSB vision is to nurture positive mental health and holistic growth, which enables everyone to flourish. Student well-being is extremely important to the staff here and Ferndale Woods and is critical to student success. When students are preoccupied with emotional concerns, they cannot participate fully in learning. Over the next month the staff and students will be hearing about different ways to care for their emotional well-being, as well as continue to break the stigma around the term "mental health". With "Bell Let's Talk"

initiative taking place on January 31, 2018 we are asking all staff and students to wrap up our month long journey with a **GO GREEN FOR GROWTH** day and see if we can make a difference in each other's lives.

RVH FILM FESTIVAL

RVH Film Festival welcomes student submissions

Barrie's Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) has partnered with the Simcoe County District School Board, the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board and Unity Christian High School to offer students, classes and schools the opportunity to participate in RVH's annual Film Festival in two external categories:

- Kindergarten to Grade 6
- Grade 7 and up

This year's theme is "Making mental health matter - how are you making a difference?" Students and classes are invited to make a two-minute video showing how they promote mental health. The deadline for submissions is Feb. 5. Voting will take place from Feb. 16 to 26 and those with the winning entries will be invited to an awards ceremony on March 8. Find out more and submit your video at: www.rvh.on.ca/SitePages/rvhfilmfestival.aspx.

ONTARIO EARLY YEARS CENTRES

Changes to Ontario Early Years Centres effective Jan. 1

In February 2017, the Ontario government announced the transformation of the delivery of early years programs for children and families. Starting in January, Ontario Early Years Centres, Parenting and Family Literacy Centres, Child Care Resource Centres and Better Beginnings, Better Futures centres will collectively be known as EarlyON Child and Family Centres. These EarlyON Child and Family Centres will be open to all families across Ontario, and provide support, parenting programs, personal connections and a network of resources as well as play- and inquiry-based programs for young children.

Effective January 1, Child and Family Programs currently in schools will be relocated to the community. These four agencies will now manage

EarlyON Child and Family Centres in Simcoe County:

- OEYC Simcoe North, www.oeycsimcoenorth.ca
- Simcoe Community Services, www.simcoecommunityservices.ca,
- E3 Community Services, www.e3.ca
- La Clé (Francophone), www.lacle.ca

For specific days and hours of operation, please contact your local lead agency. Information can be found by visiting www.scdsb.on.ca – ‘Schools’ – ‘Before & After School Care.’