



FERNDALE WOODS E.S.

Joanne Merkley
Principal

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Safe Arrival 705-733-5636 Ext. 1
School website: <http://fer.scdsb.on.ca>

Kerry Butler
Vice Principal

MAY 2017

IMPORTANT MAY DATES

- May 1st - Swim to Survive Gr 3 - Mrs. Alcombrack, Mr. Ayres, Mrs. Poole (Last Day)
- May 2nd - Rugby Mini Tournament at Ardagh Bluffs Junior Girls Basketball at Nottawasaga Pines
- May 8th - Junior Boys Basketball at JOA
- May 9th - Intermediate Rugby Regionals at Andrew Hunter
- May 10th - Grade 4 FI Activities at Ardagh Bluffs
- May 15th - Swim to Survive Gr 3 - Mme. McNair and Mme. Mackenzie
- May 16th - Falcon Olympics
Rugby County Tournament
Ktgn's Trip to Round the Bend
- May 17th - Grade 7's Environmental ED Trip at Nordic Highlands
- May 18th - Swim to Survive Grade 7's
- May 19th - PD Day
- May 22nd - Victoria Day
- May 23rd - June 2nd - EQAO Grade 3's and Grade 6's
- May 25th - Swim to Survive Grade 7's
- May 26th - Jump Rope for Heart Event
- May 29th - Swim to Survive Gr 3 - Mme. McNair and Mme. Mackenzie

Grade 8 Graduation - Tuesday June 27th

HELP PREPARE YOUR CHILD TO WRITE THE EQAO TESTS

Education Quality and
Accountability Office



Students in elementary and secondary schools across Ontario write provincial assessments in reading, writing and mathematics

each year. The assessments are developed and scored by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO). They reflect regular school tasks. Each student that completes a provincial assessment receives an Individual Student Report (ISR) which describes the student's achievement. School and board achievement data is used to improve teaching practices and to support student learning. This year's EQAO testing for Grade 3 and 6 students at Ferndale Woods E.S. takes place from May 23rd to June 2nd. ***Please avoid scheduling appointments during this time and encourage your child to do their very best.*** Further information about the provincial assessments, including resources to help prepare your child for the test, can be found at www.eqao.com.

SCHOOL YARD DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

In ensuring safety and adequate space, please remember that the school yard is for students, staff and volunteers during the school day. With the warmer weather, parents are arriving early. The outdoor classroom is an important part of the school day.

UPCOMING DATES FOR SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

Pizza dates June 8 & 15 - Ordering starts May 19.
THERE IS NO PIZZA FOR JUNE 22 AND 29.

****THERE IS NO SUBWAY AND POPCORN IN JUNE****

CLASS PLACEMENTS FOR 2017-18



We will soon begin to organize students into classrooms for next year. This process is very complex and time-consuming. Several factors are taken into consideration in the careful placement of each child. Some parents have asked how classes are made up. We take into account the following: the professional view of the child's teacher from the previous year; Ministry of Education, Simcoe County District School Board and teacher contract guidelines about class size and staffing formulae; combinations of students related to social factors (friendships, number of years with the same teacher, etc.); emotional needs; academics; balance of boys and girls; number of students in each side of a split grade; degree of special needs; behavioural concerns; and, parent requests made on a legitimate basis (e.g. siblings, health issues). Placement options are very limited by the factors listed above.

FERNDALE WOODS FUN FAIR

Ferndale's Fun Fair is booked for
Tuesday June 20th, from 4:30-7:30 p.m.
SAVE THE DATE!

Watch for exciting events and spectacular activities at our annual Ferndale Fun Fair. This family event is activity based and there is plenty of food, including The Kiwanis Club of Barrie barbecue, Domino's Pizza and the Ice Cream Truck.

We will be having a Vendor Village, if you would like to participate please contact Alice Leach at aliceleach@rogers.com.

MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Shine green for Mental Health Week, May 1 to 7
The Canadian Mental Health Association invites us to wear green during Mental Health Week. Be sure to share online with the hashtag #GETLOUD. Going green for mental health is a simple way for all of us to recognize that we must make mental health a priority. Visit www.greenformentalhealth.ca for more information.

SUMMER SCHOOL AND SPECIALIZED SUMMER CO-OP

Summer childcare available at select SCDSB schools

In partnership with community child care operators, we are pleased to support your child care needs, offering full-day child care programs for children (JK to 12 years) in select schools across Simcoe County this summer. Registration in advance is required. Please contact the child care operator directly to register. A fee subsidy may be available to families who qualify. For more information, please contact 705-733-3833 or by email at jennifer_reynolds@ymca.ca.

Summer school registration is now available, including free math prep program for Gr. 7, 8, 9 students

Summer school options include a Grade 7, 8 and 9 math preparation program and math, science and English credit recovery courses for students in Grade 9 and 10. Grade 10 to 12 full credit courses are offered in a traditional classroom or online. The courses are available at locations throughout Simcoe County. Students can also travel and earn credits with the summer EduTravel program or experience camp at the YMCA's Geneva Park location while earning leadership credits.

ARE YOU MOVING?

Just a reminder to advise the office if you have any plans on moving over the summer and will not be returning to Ferndale Woods E.S.



LOST AND FOUND

Our lost and found is overflowing with lots of items. Please feel free to come in and check it out as the items will be cleared out by May long weekend.

HAITI DONATIONS

On behalf of our Global Citizenship Group and the staff and students of Ferndale Woods, thank you for all your generous donations for the students of Haiti. We look forward to when Ms. Walker, a Ferndale mom, returns from her adventure working with a local medical team. She promises to share her experiences with our Ferndale Family.

SCHOOL TIME CHANGES FOR 2017-18

Each year the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) and Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) review the transportation services provided to SCDSB students. In order to ensure the safe, efficient and cost-effective delivery of transportation services, bus routes and school start and end times are reviewed on an annual basis.

As a result of this review, Ferndale Woods E.S. start and end times will be changing. Beginning in September 2017, our first bell will ring at 9:10 a.m. and school will dismiss at 3:30 p.m.

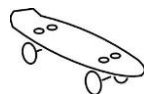
Our school day schedule will be updated to reflect this change. We will provide further information on the full school day schedule for 2017-18 when it is available.

These changes have been made in accordance with SCDSB Policy 2410, Transportation of Students.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the school.

BICYCLES, HELMETS AND SKATEBOARDS

Now that our nicer weather has arrived, many of our students enjoy riding their bikes or skateboards. We ask students to keep skateboards at home. We remind everyone that bikes are to be locked safely in the bike racks. After school, bikes are not to be ridden through our school yard. Instead, we ask that students walk their bikes to the sidewalk/roadway area and then ride them safely and properly home. Please remember to **ALWAYS WEAR A BICYCLE HELMET. WE**



HAVE HELEMTS IN THE OFFICE TO GIVE TO STUDENTS. PLEASE HAVE YOUR CHILD STOP BY RIGHT AWAY IF THEY REQUIRE A NEW HELMET.

LOST AND FOUND

Please be sure to drop by our lost and found (located in the old milk room), or ask your child to check the lost and found before the end of the month to see if you can locate any lost items. The remainder will be donated to a local charity.

SPRING INTO CLEAN

Thank you for any and all students, staff, parents and volunteers who helped clean up our yard and surrounding neighbourhoods.

Health Unit- Immunization Records

By law, all students need to have an up-to-date immunization record on file at the health unit. Since starting Kindergarten, your child may have received new immunizations. A reminder – you must send your child's updated immunization records to the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit for:

- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Polio, and Pertussis
- Measles, Mumps, and Rubella
- Two-doses of a Chickenpox (Varicella) containing vaccine

If your child will not be getting these vaccines, you will need to give the health unit a valid exemption (medical or affidavit). If the health unit does not have an updated record, students could be temporarily suspended from school. Follow these steps to help us:

1. Check your child's yellow immunization card
2. Contact your health care provider to obtain records, or to get missing vaccinations
3. Share the complete record with us at www.smdhu.org/immsonline or fax the record to the health unit at 705-726-3962 Questions? Contact Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or toll-free at 1-877-721-7520.

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED
Bring the world to your front door!

Would you like to become a host family for an international student? Learn more about another culture? Share yours? Make a new friend? Short-term, a semester or 10 months...it's up to you and your family. Hosts get 24/7 support and a generous allowance to offset expenses. For more information, visit whyihost.ca/simcoe, call 705-481-7571 ext. 2072 or email simcoeinfo@canadahomestaynetwork.ca.

ARTRAGEOUS

Thank you to Mrs. K. White and Ms. Subotic for organizing a fabulous night of art and music. Artrageous entertained parents and students with live music by Tori Hathaway and interactive art demonstrations. The halls were lined with beautiful artwork from many different grades. Thank you to all of the staff who supported by selling popcorn, cards and contributing artwork.

FALCON OLYMPICS

Our Falcon Olympics is being held on May 16th due to the winter weather. Please wear your Falcon house colors and come and have fun.

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Netflix series *13 Reasons Why* – information for parents/guardians

Recently there has been significant media coverage of the Netflix series *13 Reasons Why*. The show is a fictional account of one teen's suicide and the factors leading to it.

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) has advised staff that they are not to use the series as a teaching tool. This decision is based upon the advice of mental health professionals from across the province, who have stated that the material is graphic and potentially triggering for vulnerable young people. While the themes in this series may not pose a risk or potential harm to most students, for those struggling with mental health issues and/or suicide ideation, this series includes graphic content, glamorizes suicidal behaviours and portrays helpers (school guidance counsellors) in a negative way.

We recognize that your children may watch the series on their own. If they do, we encourage you to talk with them about their thoughts and feelings.

The SCDSB has supports in place for students and staff, and there are many community resources you can access as well. More information and contact details are available on our website.

The National Association of School Psychologists has also developed information regarding the series [LINK - <http://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources/school-safety-and-crisis/preventing-youth-suicide/13-reasons-why-netflix-series-considerations-for-educators>]. You may also find this helpful in discussions with your children about suicide and mental health.