



# Ferndale Woods Elementary School Newsletter November 2020

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## Principal's News

November is a time for reflection. We start the month off by stopping to remember the men and women who fought to keep our country free on Remembrance Day.

November is also the time for communicating about academics. Individual student progress reports will go home on Nov 12th to share with parents/guardians important information on their child's progress in each subject. Also, there will be a chance to connect with your child's teachers through parent-teacher interviews. This will be done virtually this year. Families will have the option to meet online with teachers, or take part in a phone interview. More information on dates and how to sign up for parent-teacher interviews is included in this newsletter.



## Upcoming Events

**Nov 2 - 9th** - Virtual Book Fair.  
**Nov 2nd** - School Council Meeting  
**Nov 4th** - Safety Patrol Training.  
**Nov 11th** - Remembrance Day virtual assembly.  
**Nov 12th** - Progress Reports Cards go home.  
**Nov 17th** - MacMillan orders due.  
**Nov 19th** - Dominos Raise the Dough fundraiser dinner.  
**Nov 16 - 20th** - Parent Teacher Virtual Interviews.  
**Nov 20th** - PA Day.  
**Nov 9-27th** - Fundscript Fundraiser.  
**Nov 27th**-Ferndale House Activities

## House Colours

Our refreshed Ferndale house colours is up and running again. A letter stating your child's house colour will be sent home next week with students. Students will be participating in school community building House colour activities monthly for the rest of the year.

| Ferndale House Colours |       |        |
|------------------------|-------|--------|
| Black                  | Red   | Blue   |
| Yellow                 | Green | Purple |
| Orange                 | White | Pink   |

## Daily School Schedule

**9:10 - 10:00** Period 1  
**10:00 - 10:50** Period 2  
**10:50 - 11:30** Nutrition/Recess  
**11:30 - 12:20** Period 3  
**12:20 - 1:10** Period 4  
**1:10 - 1:50** Nutrition/Recess  
**1:50 - 2:40** Period 5  
**2:40 - 3:30** Period 6

## Our Virtual Book Fair is Almost Here!

Ferndale's **Scholastic Virtual Book Fair** starts Monday, November 2nd and ends November 9th. We are so excited to provide this opportunity for our families to shop together, from the comfort of home. Your investment in your reader also helps our school. All purchases earn Rewards that can be redeemed for books and Education Resources.

When it's time to browse or shop, visit our school's **Virtual Book Fair** site using this link: <https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5148658>



Before our Fair begins, click the link to:

- **SAVE** it to your browser
- **WATCH** videos of popular new titles

Happy reading!

## Fundscript

Have you started your holiday shopping yet? Do you have that one "impossible" person on your list? Look no further! From November 9th until the 27th Ferndale has partnered with Fundscript to offer a unique fundraiser for the school. Through Fundscript's site you will be able to purchase gift cards from over 230 leading retailers including Walmart, Dollarama, Winners, Zehrs, Shell and more. The cards are sold at face value and will be delivered to the school during the first week of December. Each purchase will contribute to a donation from Fundscript to the school and every little bit helps.

To find out more, or to support our fundraiser, please visit:

<https://www.fundscrip.com/support-a-group> and enter our group code:NY2RQ2

## MacMillans Fundraiser



It's that time of year again! Our MacMillans fundraiser has kicked off! An order form has been sent home, feel free to collect orders from friends and family! Funds raised will go directly to supporting school technology! All orders must be placed through School Cash Online. No cash orders will be accepted. Online orders are due **November 17th** and delivery will take place on **December 10th** from 2:30 - 5pm.

Please make arrangements to pick up orders that night as we do not have the facilities to keep orders overnight. Thank you for your support!

## Winter Outdoor Gear and Indoor Shoes



As we approach the winter season, we now have a plan in place that will allow our students to have their pair of indoor shoes at school. Starting on Monday November 2nd, outdoor boots/shoes, coats, hats and mittens worn to school will be placed by your child at their designated coat rack area, assigned by cohorts.

Our plan allows for appropriate physical distancing and cohorting while students utilize their designated area for storing their outdoor gear. Student's indoor shoes will be left behind at the school at the end of the day also at their designated coat rack area. Our teachers will be going over the details of the plan with their classrooms prior to the roll out on Monday, November 2nd.

## News from the Kindergarten Team

The colder weather has arrived. Please ensure that your child has appropriate clothing for their day at school; this may include splash pants, extra mitts or gloves and a hat.

Many classes have additional outdoor learning time during their day as well as their recess. Please ensure your child is properly dressed for the weather.

Also, given the weather and the possibility of accidents please remember to send in an extra set of clothing for your child to have at school as well as indoor shoes. Thank you if you have already sent in shoes and extra clothing.

## November PA Day



Please note that Friday, Nov. 20 is a PA day for all secondary and elementary SCDSB students, both Learn@Home and in school. Please refer to the 2020-2021 School Year Calendar on the SCDSB website for more information:

[www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning\\_for\\_school/school\\_year\\_calendar](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/school_year_calendar).

## COVID-19 self-assessment



All students and staff will be expected to self-screen prior to attending school each day, using a self-assessment tool provided by the SMDHU. Students or staff with symptoms must stay home from school. To access the COVID-19 self-assessment tool, please visit the [SMDHU website](#).

## 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.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca). Our school is in the central zone. When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, unless otherwise noted. It is always a family decision whether or not 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](https://twitter.com/SCSTC_SchoolBus) for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>

## Treaties Recognition Week



Did you know we are ALL treaty people? Treaties Recognition Week is the first week of November every year - this year it is Nov. 2 to 6. 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. Take some time this week 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](http://www.ontario.ca/page/treaties).

## High School Information events for Grade 8 students



Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information events will happen virtually 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. Visit your school's website for more information.

## 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 to large-group public gatherings, in-person Family Information Nights will not be held. In lieu of this, an [information page on the board's public website](#) has been created to allow families the ability to access and learn about the program and the application process.

The online Grade 1 FI application form will be available from 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020 until 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 18, 2020. In Grade 1, enrollment in the FI Program is limited to a maximum of two classes of 20 students per class at each host site for the FI program. The electronic applications will be processed in the order determined by a digitally randomized lottery system.

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.

## Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Campaign



The SCDSB has a time-honoured relationship with our local Royal Canadian Legions through the annual poetry and poster competitions and the annual poppy campaign. For the 2020-2021 year, it is our intention to once again support the poppy campaign. Due to the health and safety protocols in place, we will not be collecting donations from students. Instead, schools are asked to work with their school councils to make a suitable donation through school generated funds.

Families interested in making their own donations can do so by visiting the Royal Canadian Legion's poppy campaign at [www.legion.ca/remembrance/the-poppy](http://www.legion.ca/remembrance/the-poppy).

## Parent-Teacher Virtual School Interviews



### Parent-Teacher Interviews

We are very excited to be setting up virtual parent-teacher interviews for families this year. Families will have the option to meet online with teachers, or take part in a phone interview. Using the following link <https://www.schoolinterviews.ca/code?code=dbpnf>, you can go in and sign up for all of your interviews for all of your children. You will need to know the name of the teachers you are setting up interviews for, as well as your availability for the week of November 16-20. If you need help setting interviews up, please feel free to contact us here at the office.

We will also be hosting a Ferndale Raise The Dough night at Dominoes on November 19th. This is a fundraiser to support General School Needs here. This can include technology, new gym equipment, musical instruments, and any thing else teachers and students need to enhance the learning environment. We are hoping families will sit down on November 19th and have a pizza dinner together and talk about how their children are doing at school! Stay tuned for more details about how you can order the Ferndale Special on November 19th.

## Get active Together

When you're active with your kids, it sends them an important message about healthy living. Get out for a walk, play outside or do a [family workout](#) from the comfort of your home. It's always more fun to exercise with a buddy! Looking for ways to keep your children active and healthy while in a remote learning environment? YGym offers free virtual physical activities from YMCA certified fitness instructors for children of varying ages and abilities. Visit [YMCAHome.ca/YGym](http://YMCAHome.ca/YGym) for free virtual physical activities for children and youth, anywhere, anytime! *Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka*

## Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) Clinical Services changes due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

**Vision screening** The SMDHU will not be offering the Vision Screening Program for JK/SK for the 2020-2021 school year. Eye exams are free, with an OHIP card, for children 19 years old and under. Visit the [College of Optometrists of Ontario](#) to find an optometrist near you.

**Oral health** Oral health screening at school will be delayed this year. The SMDHU will be looking for an opportunity to offer this screening later in the year if possible. Screening and fluoride varnish application continues to be available in our offices by appointment for children 17 years and under.

**Immunization** The SMDHU will not be holding immunization clinics at your child's school during the 2020-2021 school year. We are planning to have school-based immunizations offered in the 2021-2022 school year for Grade 7 and 8 students.

For families of current Grade 8 students who have not completed their immunization series of Hepatitis B (HB), Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and Menactra due to COVID-19, we are offering immunization clinics at our health unit offices throughout Simcoe County and the District of Muskoka. Immunization clinics start Nov. 2, 2020 and are by appointment only. No walk-ins will be immunized. Please call us at 1-877-721-7520 x8827 to book your child's appointment.

For more information on SMDHU clinical services for children, please contact Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520, or visit [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org).

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*