



# Codrington News

Peter McLean—Principal

May 2018

May is a wonderful month at school, the weather has finally turned, (golf season) and classes are starting to enjoy the space and opportunities given to us by such a generous property. When looking at the school it must be noted that a great deal of time and effort goes into the upkeep of our gardens and property. Thanks so much to the volunteers and staff who work so arduously to keep our school looking so pristine.

Finally, classes will be preparing for year-end trips, and students will be provided with a wide array of opportunities in the coming month. Moreover, students will participate in events such as Track and Field, EQAO, board sponsored environmental trips, rugby, and three pitch softball. The grade three and six classes have been working hard to prepare for the EQAO testing and I know they will enjoy the experience – thanks kids for your hard work.

From myself and the staff at Codrington we would like to wish you a safe and healthy month of May, enjoy the weather and the time spent with family and friends.

*P. McLean*

## Dates to Remember



- May 17—JK,SK 1 & 2—Wye Marsh
- May 18—PD Day—No School for students
- May 21—Victoria Day—No School
- May 22-31—EQAO for Grade 3 and 6 students
- May 23— Welcome to Kindergarten - 6:30 pm
- May 24—Grade 1—Firefighter visit
- June 1—PD Day—No School for Students
- June 5-7—Grade 8 —City of Toronto
- June 6-7—Grade—6 Serengeti Bush Camp
- June 6-8—Grade7—Camp Kandelore
- June 8—Annual Fun Fair—3:30 pm—7:30 pm

## Bradford Greenhouses Fundraising Program:

Once again this year Codrington has been accepted to participate in this wonderful fundraiser from April 14th to October 14th, 2018. It so easy to help us with the fundraiser. When you purchase something from Bradford Greenhouses Garden Gallery and mention Codrington School at the check out a portion of the sales from your purchase comes back to the school in the form of a gift card in November. This enables us to purchase items for our school gardens to keep our yard looking beautiful.

Last year our rebate was \$312.55.

Thank you for your continued support!



Hello Codrington families!

The Forest of Reading results are in - for Codrington. And the winners are... in the Red Maple category, The Way Back Home by Allan Stratton. In Silver Birch Non-Fiction, there was a tie between, To Burp or Not to Burp by Dr. Dave Williams and Loredana Cunti and Meatless? by Sarah Elton. In the Silver Birch Fiction category, From Ant to Eagle by Alex Lyttle was our most popular vote by far. The Silver Birch Express winner was A Boy Named Queen by Sara Cassidy and Codrington's choice for the Blue Spruce category was Shark Lady by Jess Keating. We can't wait to learn the winners of the awards for all of Ontario when they are announced in Toronto at the Festival of Trees on May 15th, 16th and 17th. Students should be proud of themselves for reading outside their comfort zone and doing a variety of AMAZING projects to demonstrate their deep thinking. Great job to all who participated!

Even though the Forest of Reading is finished, keep on reading Codrington! For a change of pace, check out Tumblebooks online. The username is **simcoecdsb** and the password is **reads**.

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## School Council

- Thanks to everyone for supporting our Nicholyn Farm fundraiser- we raised \$400!
- Our Codrington Wendy's night was a huge success! It was wonderful to see so many Codrington families out enjoying dinner. Thanks to our awesome Codrington staff for volunteering to come and help serve coffee and frosty's. We Raised \$400!
- Requests and information regarding our annual "Classroom Themed Baskets" will be coming home shortly. These baskets are always a great addition to our Fun Fair and prove to be very popular with the students. Each classroom decides on a "theme" for their basket and families are asked to donate items to fill the basket. Parent volunteers assemble the baskets and add them to the Fun Fair silent auction. We also graciously accept baskets, wrap, tissue and ribbon to help display the items. We kindly ask if you are willing to contribute something to your child's classroom basket you have it to the school by **Thursday May 17th.**

Our next PACT meeting is **possibly Monday June 4th @ 6:30 pm**

## **Stay safe in the sun**

It only takes one bad sunburn in childhood to increase the risk of developing skin cancer later in life. As the weather gets warmer, follow these sun safety tips to keep you and your family safe:

- use a broad spectrum sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher and SPF 15 lip balm
- apply sunscreen 20-30 minutes before going outside (even on cloudy days) and always follow the label instructions
- apply sunscreen to any exposed areas of skin – nose, ears, back of neck, tops of feet, etc.
- reapply sunscreen every 2-3 hours and after sweating or swimming
- wear loose, long sleeved shirts and pants, a large-brimmed hat and sunglasses
- if possible, avoid being in the sun between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- when you're outside, look for shade

For more sun safety tips, visit [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org) or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 to speak with a public health nurse.

## **Applications open for 2018-19 Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants**

Parents/guardians play a vital role in public education, and Ontario's Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants are designed to encourage parents'/guardians' involvement in their children's education to support student achievement and well-being. PRO grants are provided to select applicants who develop projects, events or training in support of parent/guardian engagement. Applications are due by June 5. Find out more: [www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/).

## **Register now for Before & After School Programs for September 2018**

Register now for child care at our school next school year. Your child's space in the program for September 2018 will be considered a priority if completed registration forms have been submitted to the child care operator by **June 30, 2018**. Please contact Sara our YMCA coordinator at 705-734-4182 (Child to register your child(ren)).

## Summer child care options available

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) supports your child care needs by offering full-day child care programs in select schools across Simcoe County. Twenty schools offer child care programs for children from Junior Kindergarten age to 12 years old. Registration in advance is required. Please contact the child care operator directly to register. More information can be found on our website at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) – click on 'Schools' then 'Before & After School Care.'

## Parents invited to information session about special education on May 16

The Simcoe County District School Board is hosting a series of information sessions for parents/guardians to learn about special education and how to support students with special education needs. The last session takes place this month:

**Date:** May 16

**Time:** 6 to 7 p.m.

**Location:** SCDSB Education Centre, 1170 Highway 26, Midhurst

**Topic:** Understanding Alternative/Non-Academic Individual Education Plan (IEP) Goals

No registration is required. You can also join this session from home via Google Meet using this link: [meet.google.com/zfg-egau-wgp](https://meet.google.com/zfg-egau-wgp). Those joining via Google Meet will need to 'mute' while watching the session to avoid audio feedback. Parents are welcome to type in questions using the chat option in Google Meet during the event.

## Parenting Children with Anxiety

Cohosted by Maaike Canrinus, M.A., Clinical Psychologist and Christina Orfanakos, M.S.W., Clinical Social Worker

June 7th, 2018, 6:30-9:00 at the Creative Space in Barrie

Anxiety is one of the most common mental health challenges affecting children today. Children experiencing anxiety tend to worry frequently, struggle to control their worries, and avoid certain situations because of their worries and fears. If this sounds familiar to you, please join us for a workshop on parenting children with anxiety.

This 2.5 hour workshop will address:

- What is anxiety and how we can recognize signs in children
- Common patterns in families who cope with anxiety
- Practical parenting strategies
- Important do's and don't's for parents
- Resources for families

The fee for this workshop is \$50 and registration is required. Please email [maaike.canrinus@gmail.com](mailto:maaike.canrinus@gmail.com) for a registration form.

## Summer camp can be a life-changing experience

According to a recent study from the University of Waterloo, the positive development that children and youth experience at summer camp results in sustained behavioral changes at home, school and in the community. Friendships blossom, self-confidence emerges and independence grows – helping children and teens build resilience to help them face new challenges throughout their lives. Here are four life skills fostered at summer camp:

- **Increased independence and self-confidence** – Camp is the perfect place for kids to practice making decisions for themselves without parents and teachers guiding their every move.
- **Making new friends and being part of a positive group** – Free from the social expectations pressuring them at school, camp encourages kids to relax and make friends easily.
- **Increased environmental awareness** – When children are connected to their environment, they are healthier and happier. Summer camp provides kids with the opportunity to “unplug” from technology and enrich their perception of the world, while enjoying the great outdoors.
- **Improved attitudes towards physical activity** – Children spend so much time indoors these days and mostly sitting down. A recent Statistics Canada study found that only seven per cent of youth aged six to 19 got the recommended hour a day of exercise they need. Summer camp is a great way for kids to get outside and move.

The benefits of camp are plenty – from life lessons beyond the classroom to appreciating nature and building confidence and leadership skills. Learn more about the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka camps at [YMCASummerCamp.Ca](http://YMCASummerCamp.Ca).