



Peter McLean—Principal

# Codrington News

## FROM THE OFFICE

November 2017



We are fortunate that our weather has been so nice this far into November. Teachers and students have taken advantage of many beautiful days outside. However, knowing that it can't last, I would ask you to please remind your children of the importance of dressing warmly, including hats, mitts and boots. We expect to be outside for recesses on all but the very coldest days and want to ensure that everyone is comfortable and safe. As you are purchasing new winter wear, please remember to put your child's name in each item. We have a huge collection of lost and found items already this year.



Thank you to parents for your cooperation with the drop off routine in the morning. The pylons have helped to ensure the safety of students arriving by bus as well as those entering the school yard. I would also remind you that the parking lot is closed to cars entering and exiting after school until all buses have departed. Again, thank you for your support in keeping our students safe.

### Dates to Remember

- November 16th—Picture Re-take Day
- November 16th—evening Family Photo
- November 15-17th—Book Fair
- November 17th—PD day—no school for students
- November 28th—Electricity Safety—all students



### SCDSB online tool for reporting bullying, drug use or vandalism

The SCDSB has an online Safe Schools Reporting Tool, which is available on our school website homepage, <http://cod.scdsb.on.ca>, as a Quick Access button. Students and parents can use this tool to submit a report online if they witness a student engaged in inappropriate behaviour such as bullying drug use or vandalism. Students are still encouraged to speak to a trusted adult at school or home if they have any concerns. This form isn't a substitute for having a discussion with your teacher or principal. Student safety and well-being is our top priority. For more information, visit <http://scdsb.on.ca/ReportAnIncident>.

### SCDSB's new Holy Days and Holidays Calendar now available

The students and staff of the SCDSB represent a rich diversity of faith traditions. The Holy Days and Holidays calendar helps identify some of the important days of commemoration, however it isn't designed to be a complete listing of religious days. Students and staff from a particular faith background may or may not be absent from school on these special days. If they do attend, certain accommodations may be required.

To view the July 2017 - December 2018 calendar, visit [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca), click on 'Schools,' 'School Year Calendars' and then 'Holy Days and Holidays Calendar.' You can also learn more the significant faith dates that the SCDSB recognizes.

### Eye See...Eye Learn program offers free glasses for Junior Kindergarten students

The Eye See...Eye Learn program provides comprehensive eye exams by local optometrists to Junior Kindergarten (JK) students. The eye exams are covered under the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) when parents show their child's health card. There is no out-of-pocket cost for the eye exam and if the child requires a pair of glasses, they will receive them free of charge courtesy of a participating optometrist. For more information, visit [www.Eyeseeyelearn.ca](http://www.Eyeseeyelearn.ca).

## School Council

1. Family Photo Night-Thursday, November 16th. Appointments get booked online at: [edgeimaging.ca/bookedge](http://edgeimaging.ca/bookedge) with school code: COD. Please see more details in a separate newsletter to follow.
2. Wreaths for sale-look out for details to follow soon.
3. Hot lunches-it's a great idea to write down what days you have pre-purchased in your child's agenda so they know when to expect a hot lunch.

Next PACT meeting is on Monday at 6:30pm-November 6th. All are welcome!

## **Voluntary self-identification of First Nation, Métis or Inuit ancestry**

Self-identification is a personal choice to disclose First Nation, Métis or Inuit ancestry. The choice to self-identify is up to you and does not require proof of documentation (i.e. no status card), regardless of where you live. Self-identification is confidential, securely stored and used only to support First Nation, Métis and Inuit student success. Self-identification helps schools support the needs of First Nation, Métis and Inuit students and their achievement. Student achievement data is collected and protected with other confidential data used to help improve student achievement

To self-identify your child as First Nation, Métis or Inuit, check off the First Nation, Métis or Inuit box on the school registration form and write in details if applicable. The SCDSB is committed to meeting the learning needs of First Nation, Métis and Inuit students through responsive programming and services. Past activities have included: the inclusion of First Nation, Métis and Inuit focused resources in schools; school based pow wows; dedicated First Nation, Métis and Inuit student advisors and cultural awareness training for school staff. To learn more about First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education, visit [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) > Programs > First Nation, Métis & Inuit Education.

## **Treaties Recognition Week takes place Nov. 5 to 11**

Did you know we are ALL treaty people? Treaties Recognition Week is the first week of November every year - this year it's Nov. 5 to 11. The Simcoe County District School Board is located on territory covered by several pre-confederation treaties - Treaty 5, 16, 18, 19 and 82, as well as the 1923 William's Treaty.

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) and [www.anishinabek.ca/education-resources/gdoo-sastamoo-kii-mi/](http://www.anishinabek.ca/education-resources/gdoo-sastamoo-kii-mi/)



## **Celebrate peace in your community: Peace Week is Nov. 18 to 25**

November is a month of reflection and gratitude. The sight of poppies and wreaths serve as a reminder of the brave men and women who have fought for peace and freedom

The month of November also celebrates a nationwide YMCA initiative called Peace Week, from November 18 to 25. This is a time when we can celebrate the presence of peace in our local and global communities. Peace Week offers activities and opportunities for people of all ages to explore peace from personal, community and global perspectives. Simple actions like sharing, being patient or smiling and saying hello can have a far greater impact than we think.

As an advocate for peace, the YMCA invites everyone to be part of the conversation. Share something you do to foster peace in your home, school, workplace or community. Join in spreading kindness throughout our community with "Be Kind Bells." These bells will be hidden in locations throughout our community. If you find one, perform one kind act, then hide the bell for someone else to find. Share on social media using #YMCAPeaceWeek with the location where you found the bell, your kind act and encourage someone else to do the same!

Visit <http://ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca/ymca-international/peace-week/> for more information.

## Bus cancellation information reminder



All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium'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.

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 for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions>

**Our school has moved to an automated safe arrival system. The first parent/guardian listed in the student file will receive an automated call on days when buses are cancelled if their child isn't at school. The recording will tell you that you do not need to call the school back unless your child should be at school.**



## Volunteer with Big Brothers Big Sisters and our schools

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Barrie & District is proud to partner with the SCDSB to run three mentoring programs for students. Volunteers are welcome to apply to mentor students for as little as one hour per week. Call BBBS Barrie at 705-728-0515 or visit [www.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/barrie](http://www.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/barrie) to find out more. The Orillia (705-325-3151), Georgian Triangle (705-445-2330) and North Simcoe (705-526-5051) BBBS locations also welcome volunteers for their in-school mentoring programs.

## It's time to update your child's immunization records

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is required to keep up to date immunization records for all students who attend elementary or secondary school in the County of Simcoe and the District of Muskoka. Parents are responsible for reporting immunizations to the health unit each time their child receives a vaccine from their health care provider. It's easier than ever to update your child's immunization status. Go to [www.smdhu.org/immsonline](http://www.smdhu.org/immsonline) to update your child's record, or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520.

## Nutri-eSTEP can help your family encourage healthy eating habits

Are you a parent of a Kindergarten student? Do you sometimes worry about your child's healthy eating? Nutri-eSTEP can help! Check out [www.smdhu.org/Nutri-eSTEP](http://www.smdhu.org/Nutri-eSTEP). You answer 17 questions to find out what's going well and what to work on to keep your child healthy. Nutri-eSTEP is a questionnaire for parents with children aged 18 months to five years of age. When you help your children learn how to eat healthy, move more and limit time spent sitting, you make a difference to their lifelong health. For more information, call Health Connection weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 705-721-7520 or toll free 1-877-721-7520.

## OHIP+ provides free prescription drug coverage for children

Beginning Jan. 1, 2018, the province will provide free prescription drug coverage for children and youth aged 24 and under, regardless of family income. Under OHIP+, Ontario children and youth will have access to over 4,400 medications and other drug products. Enrollment in OHIP+ will be automatic, based on age. There are no upfront costs, no co-payment and no annual deductible. Those who are eligible for OHIP+ will only need their health card number and a valid prescription from their doctor or nurse practitioner when they visit their pharmacist. For more information, visit: [www.ontario.ca/page/learn-about-ohip-plus](http://www.ontario.ca/page/learn-about-ohip-plus).

