



ORCHARD PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Home of the Panthers



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EILEEN WISE
Principal

CYNTHIA MICHAUD
Vice-Principal

June 2017

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

As the June 2017 school year comes to a close, I would like to thank all of you for a wonderful five years. Orchard Park is a fabulous school with wonderfully respectful students, a staff that is always willing to help out in whatever manner they can and a community of parents that help all children.

There are a number of staff changes for September. I will be leaving and going to Severn Shores as Principal. Mr. Jacobs will be Principal here. He is coming with lots of experience and knowledge from Alliston Union.

Mr. Finney will be teaching grade 6/7 at Steele Street School in Barrie. Mrs. Hamel, Mr. Jones and Ms. Mercer will all be enjoying the world of retirement.

Ms. Chute will be doing another LTO yet to be determined.

New to the staff will be Mr. Hingley, Ms. Duncan, Mr. Downer.

We also welcome back Mrs. Casselman.

I am sure you will continue to support everyone at Orchard Park.

Letters Home

Today you will receive a letter in an envelope about the Parent Portal. The Parent Portal allows you access to your child's attendance, report cards and you will be able to set up email notifications. If you have a child in high school you can use all of this information as well.

PowerSchool: Parent Portal

The SCDSB Parent Portal is a secure online tool that provides parents/guardians (of students less than 18 years of age) with quick access to their children's attendance and grades. Parents and guardians can set up daily, weekly or monthly email alerts for attendance information.

To access the Parent Portal, parents/guardians will need their child's Pupil ID Number, which can be found on the Student Information Verification Form sent home at the start of every school year, as well as an Access ID.

The Access ID will be/has been provided in a sealed letter. If you lose the Access ID, you can visit us in the school office and we'll provide it to you after verifying your identity.

Each student has a unique Access ID and Student Number. Once a Parent/Guardian has created a Parent Portal account, all students can be linked to that single account.

Go to <http://ps.scdsb.on.ca> to create a Parent Portal account or login.

Please keep today's letter as you will be receiving a second letter with vital information on Thursday to access the parent portal. Each account is student specific, please share with all parents /guardians. Please set up your Parent Portal account by the end of June.

Thanks!

Have a great summer!



ORCHARD PARK VOLUNTEER'S

We would like to thank all of our wonderful volunteers who enrich the lives of our students and staff at Orchard Park on a daily basis. Your dedication and hard work makes such a difference at our school. Thank you for all you do!



GIFTED SCREENING PROCESS

Some children who display an unusually advanced degree of general intellectual ability may require additional program support in order to reach their educational potential.

In consultation with parents, the school staff determines who these students are through the gifted screening process.

Parents of a student who will **be in or above Grade 3** in the next school year, who wish the school to consider their child for screening, are asked to contact Laurie Bertils, Special Education Resource Teacher.

The gifted screening process, which takes place in the fall, consists of three components:

1. a Teacher Rating Scale;
2. a Parent Questionnaire;
3. standardized test results (usually the Otis Lennon School Ability Test)

After signing a permission form, parents/legal guardian will complete the Parent Questionnaire. Information obtained from this questionnaire will help the school gain a better understanding of your child's early development as well as his/her strengths, interests, needs and abilities, which the standardized test may not identify. The teacher will complete a Rating Scale, which examines areas such as learning, motivation, creativity and leadership, which he/she has observed in the classroom. Group testing will be completed and the results will provide a standardized measure of school abilities. The information gathered from all three components will assist the school in programming for your child.

If you require information about the gifted screening process, please contact the school.

Final Assembly

Our final house/award/spirit assembly will take place on Friday, June 23 at 9:30. The theme for this spirit day is Canada Day. Students may dress in red and white clothing, or wear Canadian decorations.

SCHOOL GARDENS!

We are in need of some gardening hands this summer! Are you available during this summer to help keep the gardens at Orchard Park looks beautiful! Please contact the school to sign up for a week period through the summer! Thanks in advance!



Orchard Park part of record number of certified Eco Schools in Simcoe County and the province



Congratulations to Orchard Park community for achieving a “GOLD” Certification for the 2016-17 school year. From energy conservation to environmentally-focused classroom lessons, students in SCDSB went for green. In the 2016-17 school year, SCDSB certified 44 schools with Ontario Eco Schools program, with a record number of over 1,830 schools certifying across the province. Ontario Eco Schools works with 56 school boards to nurture student leadership and foster environmental learning and action in school communities. Certification is based on a provincial standard established by twelve years of benchmarking: currently, the program certifies 37% of all schools in Ontario and reaches close to 850,000 students.

SCDSB is proud to be part of this growing network, and supports ongoing environmental practices in schools.

The Ontario Eco Schools program motivates and inspires school communities to take action. Certification provides a framework for integrating environmental learning and action in and beyond school walls and demonstrates a growing, student-led movement. This environmental education and certification program for grades K-12 nurtures environmental leaders, reduces the ecological impact of schools, and builds environmentally responsible school communities. Ontario Eco Schools operates with support from the Government of Ontario, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation, and is administered by York University.

Congratulations to the Orchard Park Eco Team, the dedicated staff and the supportive families and community members that contributed to the certification success.

PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS IN GRADE SK – 8 IS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH. JK STUDENTS BEGIN ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH!

*Enjoy your
summer
Orchard
Park!*