



ORCHARD PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Home of the Panthers

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School Web Page <http://orc.scdsb.on.ca>

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GREG JACOBS
Principal

CYNTHIA MICHAUD
Vice-Principal

June 2018

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

It's so hard to believe that another great school year is almost over at Orchard Park and we want to wish everyone a fabulous summer!

I hope to see everyone out to the fun fair next Monday, June 11th. We have had very dedicated people put so much effort into making this fun for all so come out and have some fun!!!!

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!



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 – click on 'Schools' then 'Before & After School Care.'



Garden Volunteers Needed

We have been developing a school vegetable garden to help our students learn about agriculture. We also have two flower gardens and a naturalized area. We are looking for volunteers to keep an eye on our school gardens over the summer. It would be great to have a family sponsor a week or two over the summer. All that would be required is to visit the school and check on the vegetable garden and flower beds, pull a few weeds and perhaps water during very dry spells. If you are interested, please contact Ms. Munro before the last week of school.

PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS IN GRADE SK – 8 IS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH. JK STUDENTS BEGIN ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH!

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. The program is available for current JK students until June 30, 2018.

GIFTED SCREENING

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.

2018-19 school year calendars now approved

The Ministry of Education has approved the elementary and secondary school year calendars for the Simcoe County District School Board's 2018-19 school year.

2018-19 Highlights:

- First day of school: Tuesday, September 4, 2018
- First day of school for Junior Kindergarten students: Thursday, September 6, 2018
- Winter Break: December 24, 2018 to January 4, 2019
- March Break: March 11 to 15, 2019
- Last day for elementary students: Thursday, June 27, 2019
- Last day for secondary students: Wednesday, June 26, 2019

You can view the 2018-19 calendars on the SCDSB website (www.scdsb.on.ca) by clicking on 'Schools' and then 'School Year Calendars.'

Updated criminal record checks required for volunteers

We appreciate the commitment of all who volunteer at our school. In an effort to ensure the safety and well-being of our students, and in accordance with the Education Act, the SCDSB requires a complete and up-to-date Criminal Record Check Vulnerable Sector Screening (CRC-VSS) for all volunteers across the system. If you are a current, approved volunteer and your CRC-VSS is more than five years old, you will be receiving a notification this month indicating that you are required to submit a new CRC-VSS. If you wish to continue as a SCDSB volunteer, please complete the following steps:

1. Contact the school principal to obtain a CRC-VSS request letter.
2. Bring your CRC-VSS request letter to your local police detachment.
3. Submit your original and complete CRC-VSS to the school office for review by Oct. 31, 2018.

If you are a current SCDSB employee volunteering in the system, you are required to submit an updated CRC-VSS to the school where you will be volunteering. If you have completed a CRC-VSS within the past six months of the start of the school year for another organization, you may submit that original CRC-VSS for review. If you have questions, please contact the school.

Register now for fall International Language Programs

The SCDSB offers children in Grades 1 to 8 an opportunity to learn and/or maintain a language other than French or English. Whether you enroll your children in this program to learn a new language, understand a new culture or to extend their knowledge of their first or second language, every student can benefit from this program. The Barrie Learning Centre (Bayfield Mall) offers Arabic, Farsi, Korean, Mandarin, Russian, Spanish, Ukrainian and Urdu. The Bradford Learning Centre (157 Holland St. E, Suite 200) offers Arabic, Dari, Farsi, Mandarin, Russian, Spanish, Tamil, Ukrainian, Urdu and Vietnamese. The classes take place Saturday mornings, 9 to 11:30 a.m. starting Sept. 15 (classes are dependent on student enrollment). There is no charge for this program. Most classes fill quickly on a first come, first served basis. Register your child by visiting www.thelearningcentres.com and clicking on 'Elementary Student.'

MOVING???



Please let the office know if you are planning to move over the summer. This way we can make your child's transition into our school or their new school a smooth entry this coming September!!!!

School's in for summer at the SCDSB

Are you and your child planning their courses for next school year? Looking for a way to create flexibility in their timetable and earn a credit? Consider summer school! Each year, the SCDSB offers a variety of summer programs to over 2,000 students. Summer school options include open, college and university level courses from Grades 9 to 12. Courses are offered in-person or online. Interested students can also travel and earn credits with the summer EduTravel program. Summer school program details are on the Learning Centres website at www.thelearningcentres.com. Current SCDSB students should speak to their guidance counsellor for information and to register. Register now so that your summer school choices align with course selection for next year!

SAFE KIDS WEEK IS JUNE 4 TO 8

This year's theme focuses on concussions at home, at play and on the road:

- Help reduce the likelihood of head injury, like concussions, during sports, recreation and unstructured play by encouraging your child to use correctly fitting protective equipment and to follow safety rules.
- Teach children about wearing the right helmet for the activity. For example: bike helmets can be used for cycling, in-line skating and scootering, but skateboarding helmets should be used for skateboarding as they cover the back of the head better.
- Recognize the signs and symptoms of a concussion, which can happen even without a direct hit to the head and without losing consciousness. If your child does have signs of concussion, remove them from the activity and seek medical care.
- Be sure to inform your school principal if your child sustains a concussion, either on or off school property.

Learn more at www.parachutecanada.org.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Keep your kids healthy, active and engaged this summer

Summer is the time for kids to get outside and grow. But for some kids, exposure to activities that stimulate the body and mind ends with the school year. Studies show 90 per cent of children ages five to 11 years old in Canada do not meet their minimal physical activity requirements. We know that having an active lifestyle in the early years is essential to healthy child development and has a positive impact on mental health. Here are a few tips on how to keep your child's mind and body active this summer:

- Learn a new skill! Over the summer months, there is a wide variety of programs to keep children and youth active. Whether outdoors or in a facility like the YMCA, swimming is a summer time favourite. Consider signing your child up for swimming lessons, giving them the confidence they need to be safe in and around the water.
- Unplug and enjoy the outdoors! Did you know that the average Canadian child spends almost eight hours a day in front of a screen? Research tells us that when children are connected to their environment, they are healthier and happier. Look for opportunities for your child to get connected with nature.

With some creativity and advanced planning, parents can keep their children's minds and bodies active this summer! To learn more about the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka, visit www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca.

Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka

DATES TO REMEMBER:

June 5	Sportapalooza – Hingley, Oliner
June 6	Farms Feed Families – Gr. 3
June 6	Springwater Park – Earle, Sopha, Connor
June 6 – 8	Camp Tawingo – Gr. 8
June 8	Raindate for Spotapalooza
June 8	Intermediate Track & Field
June 11	Annual Fun Fair
June 12	Jump Rope for Heart
June 15	Simcoe County Museum – Gr. 3
June 18	Scientists in Classroom – Gr. 1
June 22	Talent Show @ 9:30 a.m.
June 22	Last day of milk & food orders
June 26	Grade 8 Graduation – 6:30 p.m.
June 28	Last day of school – enjoy your summer!

