



# ORCHARD PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL

*Home of the Panthers*

24 Calverley Street, Orillia L3V 3T4

(705) 325-7772 Fax (705) 325-5522

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

Follow us on Twitter: @OrchardParkPS



**GREG JACOBS**  
Principal

**CYNTHIA MICHAUD**  
Vice-Principal

**October 2017**

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

At Orchard Park Public School for the month of October we will be focusing on **Cooperation** as our **Character Focus** and our **Learning Focus** for this first term we will be on **Learning Skills and Work Habits**. Responsibility and Learning Skills and Work Habits connect very well with each other and will be reported on with the Progress Report that comes out in November. On the last page of this newsletter, you will find a summary of the Learning Skills and Work Habits we wish to see with our students at school and we hope you are able to see these same Learning Skills and Work Habits with your child at home.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Oct. 2	School Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 4	First Sub day
Oct. 5	Picture Day
Oct. 6	First pizza day
Oct. 11	Cross Country at Mount St. Louis – all day
Oct. 16-17	Dairy Farmers
Oct. 31	Halloween Dance
Nov. 2	Picture re-take day
Nov. 6	School Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
Nov. 15	Grade 7 Immunizations

### **WE ARE A PEANUT FREE SCHOOL**

We strive to provide an environment free of peanuts and tree nuts to ensure the safety of our students with severe allergies. **Thank you for sending peanut-free sandwiches and nut-free snacks with your child(ren).**

## ORCHARD PARK SCHOOL IS IN THE NORTH ZONE FOR BUSSING

### **Parent Portal gives parents real-time access to attendance, grade information**

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 and includes the option to sign up for email notifications. To access the Parent Portal, parents/guardians will need their child's SCDSB Pupil ID Number, which can be found on the Student Information Verification Form, as well as an Access ID. The Access ID will be provided in a sealed letter this fall with instructions on how to create an account. If you lose the Access ID, visit us in the school office and we'll provide it to you after verifying your identity.

### **School Bus Safety Week and School Bus Driver Appreciation Day**



School Bus Safety Week takes place Oct. 16 to 20. To support schools in promoting school bus safety to students, the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC), in partnership with school bus operators, will offer bus evacuation training to all home-to-school transported students. During this week, school bus drivers will educate students on how to evacuate a school bus safely in an emergency situation.

Wed., Oct. 18 is School Bus Driver Appreciation Day in the province of Ontario. It's a great opportunity for the school community to thank our bus drivers for all their hard work transporting students to and from school safely. For more information, visit the SCSTC website at [main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/](http://main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/).

## New Path offering child and youth mental health walk-in clinics

In response to the increasing wait times for child and youth mental health services, and the increased need for such services, New Path has undertaken a service redesign that will provide more timely and responsive services to children, youth and families in Simcoe County. New Path now offers Child and Youth Mental Health Walk-In Clinics in five office locations throughout Simcoe County: Bradford, Alliston, Barrie, Collingwood and Orillia.

Children, youth and families requesting service from New Path no longer need to call and complete an intake; they can simply attend one of the local Walk-In Clinics and will receive a single session intervention that day. Should children or youth require further service, New Path will continue to offer a wide variety of community and school-based services as well as residential service and women's service. For further information, including the clinic locations, days and hours, visit [www.newpath.ca](http://www.newpath.ca) or contact New Path's central intake department at 705-725-7656.

## Fire Prevention Week is October 8 to 14: Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!

Fire Prevention Week runs from Oct. 8 to 14. This year's theme is "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!" Smoke and fire spread fast. There's no time to figure out how to escape AFTER a fire starts. All households should have working smoke alarms and practice a home fire escape plan with everyone in the family BEFORE there's a fire. Find out more at: [www.nfpa.org/fpw](http://www.nfpa.org/fpw).

## LGBTQI2S Junior Youth Connection for kids aged 12 to 15

The Gilbert Centre is offering a new drop-in and social program for LGBTQI2S identified youth to connect, explore and learn. Meetings take place on the first and third Friday of every month from 5-7 p.m. at 80 Bradford Street in Barrie. For more information, please call Ve Tao, Youth Support Worker at 705-722-6778 x109, visit [lgbtyouth.ca](http://lgbtyouth.ca) or email [vet@gilbertcentre.ca](mailto:vet@gilbertcentre.ca).

## Translating legal issues for frontline workers and members of the trans community

The Gilbert Centre, in partnership with The Community Legal Clinic, The Law Foundation of Ontario, and The Mediation Centre, is offering training on navigating human rights and the law for transgender people in Simcoe County. Topics will include trans inclusivity training, human rights, housing, employment, income support and family law. Register at [www.gilbertcentre.ca/translating-legal-issues/](http://www.gilbertcentre.ca/translating-legal-issues/). The training is offered in Collingwood Oct. 12 to 13.

## October is International Walk to School Month

Did you know that October is International Walk to School month? It's a great way for children to get their recommended 60 minutes of physical activity each day and also gives parents and staff a chance to be part of a worldwide event that celebrates the many benefits of walking. Here are some ideas:

- Encourage your child to walk or cycle to and from school if you live close by and team up with others to make the trip more fun
- If you usually drive your child to school, try getting them to walk part of the way
- If your child takes the bus, walking to and from the bus stop is a great way to add physical activity minutes into the day

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

## Healthy classroom celebrations

Classroom and school celebrations are great opportunities for children to practice the healthy eating messages they learn in the classroom. Help teach the importance of healthy eating by choosing healthy foods to send in the next time your child's class is celebrating. Here are some ideas:



- Send a tray of watermelon slices, orange slices, apples or fruit kabobs
- Make homemade mini muffins with whole wheat flour and grated carrots or apple
- Send a tray of whole grain crackers, cubes of lower fat cheese and grapes
- Send a veggie platter - get creative by arranging it in fun shapes
- Prepare chocolate dipped strawberries for a sweet treat

Looking for more information to help keep you and your family healthy? Call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-5720 to speak with a public health nurse or visit the health unit's website at [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org).

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

# October Character Trait is **CO-OPERATION**

Let's work together towards shared goals and purposes.

## Tips for a healthy Halloween

The month of October is upon us and that means Halloween is just around the corner! For many children, this can be an exciting time of year as they get their costumes ready and their buckets out to fill with candy! Halloween can also be a tough time for parents to keep their kids' diets healthy and balanced. Here are some helpful 'tricks' to help you and your family have a healthy Halloween this year!

- Walk door to door when trick or treating. It will burn calories and also tire the kids out – potentially limiting the amount of houses you will hit before the end of the night. Try making a competition out of who can walk the most steps.
- Plan a party. Make the focus of your party fun activities instead of sugary treats. Include Halloween games such as a costume or dance contest, or pumpkin carving.
- Trade the candy collected for non-edible treats like books, small toys or arts and crafts materials. You can also consider offering to buy back some of the candy, providing your kids with some extra spending money as a reward.
- Before your kids venture out in their costumes, make sure they eat a healthy meal.

Visit your local YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka for some fun Halloween activities for the whole family to enjoy!

Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka ([www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca](http://www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca))

## ORCHARD PARK CONCERT BAND

Next Wednesday will be the sign up for the Orchard Park Concert Band. Listen for announcements on when and where to sign up! Please see Mrs. Connor and Mrs. Nicholson with any questions!

## OPEN HOUSE

Such a great turn out at the Open House last week! Thank you to all that came out and support our school!

## Thanksgiving food drive!

Thank you for all of the non-perishable items we have already received! As a whole, we can help many families in this community who need it most.

## Mental Health

Children, youth and families requesting service from New Path no longer need to call and complete an intake if they require counselling support. New Path is now offering **Child and Youth Mental Health Walk-In Clinics**. In Orillia, the clinic will be available on **Wednesdays at 169 Front Street South from 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.** Families can simply attend the clinic and receive a single session intervention that day. Should children or youth require further service, New Path will continue to offer a wide variety of community and school based services as well as residential and women's services. For further information about all of New Path services, please visit their website at [www.newpath.ca](http://www.newpath.ca) or contact their Central Intake department at 705-725-7656.

Join us on **Remind** for updates...

<https://www.remind.com/join/3eghae>

We will be using Remind for snow days, severe weather/shelter in place, etc., to all staff, community members.

Follow us on Twitter as well!



@OrchardPark

## SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS – drop off and pick up locations

Please help us keep unfamiliar faces out of our school hallways during school hours. When dropping your son/daughter off at school please do so before the 9 a.m. bell rings at the appropriate door at the back of the school. Also, the front doors are now locked until 3:40 p.m. every day. If your son/daughter is not a buser, please pick her/him up at the appropriate door at the back of the school. Please walk around the school for pickup – not through. Thank you!

## WASTE FREE LUNCH CHALLENGE October 16 – 22, 2017

Schools have long been sustainability champions that instill life-long environmental awareness and responsibility in students. Schools themselves act as important examples within their community by operating and managing their affairs while contributing positively to the environment.

That's why, on behalf of national sponsor Walmart Canada and partners across the country, we have been invited to take an active role in Waste Reduction Week in Canada.

By joining communities, businesses, organizations, and other schools across Canada and supporting Waste Reduction Week, we hope you will take this opportunity to support a national campaign that builds awareness around issues of sustainable and responsible consumption; encourages choice for more responsible products/services; and promotes actions that reduce disposal and conserve natural resources.

Please pack a waste free lunch with reusable containers and reduce the lunch time waste created at Orchard Park.

Thank you for your participation.

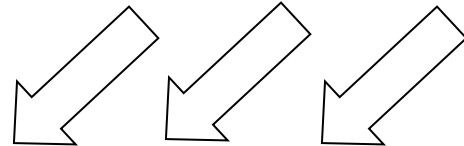
## HALLOWEEN COSTUMES AT SCHOOL

We welcome Halloween costumes at Orchard Park. Although, please follow these strict rules – you must not have a mask or makeup covering your eyes and/or face.





## ORCHARD PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL IS A DOG FREE ZONE

We would like to remind all pet owners that school property is a dog free zone. Thank you!

**If you would like your child to take part in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters programs, please ask them to see Ms. Michaud and pick up a registration form.**



### *Big Brother/Big Sister Programs:*

In-School Mentoring	Go Girls! Game On!	After-School Mentoring
<p>To provide girls and boys, aged 6-16 years, with a role model, a friend to talk to and share the experiences of growing up, within the school grounds. Mentors meet with their mentee and engage in activities such as board games, crafts, or just hang out in the school or on the playground.</p> 	<p>To positively shape the lives of young women and men, ages 10-14, by helping them build a positive self-image and life-long healthy lifestyles; setting them on the path to reach their full potential in life.</p>  <p>is a group mentoring program for girls that focuses on body image, physical activity, balanced eating, self-esteem and healthy relationships</p>  <p>is a group mentoring program for boys that focuses on non-traditional physical activities, healthy eating,</p>	<p>A free after-school program for children referred to our agency through elementary schools we serve within the City of Orillia and the surrounding remote communities. Co-op placement students through Lakehead University and Georgian College manage this intentional program geared towards, healthy eating, physical health and education, and positive peer to peer relationship building.</p> 

**Below is a summary of the Learning Skills and Work Habits we wish to see with our students at school and we hope you are able to see these same Learning Skills and Work Habits with your child at home.**

LEARNING SKILL /WORK HABIT	SAMPLE BEHAVIOUR
RESPONSIBILITY	<p>At school the student will and at home your child will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fulfil responsibilities and commitments within the learning environment and as a member of the family at home;</li> <li>• Complete and submit class work, homework, and assignments according to agreed-upon timelines as well as household chores;</li> <li>• Take responsibility for and manages own behaviour</li> </ul>
ORGANIZATION	<p>At school the student will and at home your child will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Devise and follow a plan and process for completing work and tasks;</li> <li>• Establish priorities and manage time to complete tasks and achieve goals;</li> <li>• Identify, gather, evaluate, and use information, technology and resources to complete tasks and household chores where appropriate.</li> </ul>
INDEPENDENT WORK	<p>At school the student will and at home your child will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Independently monitors, assesses, and revises plans to complete tasks and household chores and meet goals;</li> <li>• Use class and home time appropriately to complete tasks and household chores;</li> <li>• Follow instructions with minimal supervision.</li> </ul>
COLLABORATION	<p>At school the student will and at home your child will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accept various roles and an equitable share of work in a group or as a member of the family;</li> <li>• Respond positively to the ideas, opinions, values, and traditions of others;</li> <li>• Build healthy peer-to-peer relationships through personal and media-assisted interactions</li> <li>• Work with others to resolve conflicts &amp; build consensus to achieve group goals;</li> <li>• Share information, resources, and expertise and promotes critical thinking to solve problems and make decisions.</li> </ul>
INITIATIVE	<p>At school the student will and at home your child will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look for and acts on new ideas and opportunities for learning;</li> <li>• Demonstrate the capacity for innovation and a willingness to take risks;</li> <li>• Demonstrate curiosity and interest in learning;</li> <li>• Approach new tasks and household chores with a positive attitude;</li> <li>• Recognize and advocate appropriately for the rights of self and others.</li> </ul>
SELF-REGULATION	<p>At school the student will and at home your child will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set own individual goals and monitors progress towards achieving them;</li> <li>• Seek clarification or assistance when needed;</li> <li>• Assess and reflect critically on own strengths, needs, and interests;</li> <li>• Identify learning opportunities, choices, and strategies to meet personal needs and achieve goals;</li> <li>• Persevere and make an effort when responding to challenges.</li> </ul>

## **HALLOWEEN DANCE!**

**On Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> we will hold a dance for the students as follows:**

9:30 – 10:30 AM      Primary (K to 3)  
 11:20 AM – 12:50 PM      Junior (Grades 4 to 6)  
 1:50 – 3:20 PM      Intermediates (Grades 7 – 8)

Costumes will be permitted at the dance. We ask that students do not bring masks or toy weapons. We are asking for a minimum donation of \$2.00 as a school fund raiser to support environmental initiatives and school enhancement at the school. There will be snacks and drinks available for purchase which will go to the Grade 8 end of year trip.