MINESING CENTRAL PURI IC SCHOOL



MINESING CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

DECEMBER 2023



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Website: http://min.scdsb.on.ca
Twitter: @minesingtweets
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ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM:

PRINCIPAL: Allison Beecroft VICE-PRINCIPAL: Jim Dewey

OFFICE TEAM: Natalie Kopacz & Shannon Priest

SUPERINTENDENT: Charlene Scime

TRUSTEE: Liz Grummett



ADMINISTRATION MESSAGE

It's beginning to look a lot like WINTER! With the drop in temperatures and snow upon us, we have been reminding our students to wear warm clothing – hat, mittens, coats and boots to school. Students spend a substantial amount of time outdoors with curricular activities and recess therefore dressing for our weather is advised. If we have an emergency evacuation of the school or a prolonged stop during bus times, warm clothing will be very important.

As always, our calendars fill up during the month of December with the many holidays that our community celebrates. Concerts, crafts, dance, art projects and a general feeling of good cheer fills the classrooms at Minesing during this month. We look forward to celebrating the upcoming holidays with our students and the community at our Wintertainment presentation on Wednesday, December 20th. We hope to see you there! In addition, thank you to all of the families who have supported our fundraisers this school term – we have been able to purchase a variety of learning items in literacy, math, science, coding and the arts that will enhance our programming. Thank you for your help and support as always.

With excitement, the Minesing staff and I would like to wish you and your family a pleasant holiday season. Whether you celebrate Hanukkah, Kwanza, Christmas, the Winter Solstice or nothing at all, we wish you a pleasant holiday and look forward to welcoming you back to school on January 8th.

Sincerely, Allison Beecroft—Principal

SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council would like to send our heartfelt appreciation to all our Mustang families who came out and supported our Autumn Vendor Market on November 17th. Special thanks to council members **Judy Mansfield** and **Deanna Allegranza** for their co-ordination and leadership the day of event!

Did you know our Bradford Greenhouse fundraisers provide gift cards back to the school that can be used to purchase plants for our school? Thank you for continuing to support this fundraising effort which enables the beatification of our school grounds. Thank you to council member **Carolyn Cameron** for leading our Garden Club and ensuring our school planters are updated as the seasons change!

The next school council meeting will be held on Monday February 5th, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the school library. We hope to see you there!

IMPORTANT DATES

Dec 6th – Recipes in a Jar pick up at school—Wed, Thurs or

Friday from 8:30 am to 4:15 pm

Dec 6th—Class photo retake day—morning

Dec 7th - Hanukkah begins

Dec 8th—Popcorn Day—order on school cash online

Dec 15th—Popcorn Day—order on school cash online

Dec 18th – Social Action Team visit to Foodbank

Dec 18th Fun Socks Day!

Dec 20th – Wintertainment show

Dec 20th - Scarf and Hat Day!

Dec 22nd—Popcorn Day—order on school cash online

Dec 22nd – Last day of school for students before winter break

Dec 22nd - Comfy Clothes Day. Wear your sweat pants, sleep-

wear, onesies, and hoodies to keep yourself warm, relaxed and

cozy today!

HOLIDAYS: Dec 23rd - Jan 7th

Jan 25th—Ice cream sandwich day—order online

WINTERTAINMENT SHOW

Our second annual Wintertainment Show will be held here in the school on Wednesday, December 20th.

There will be two performances: 11:30 and at 1:50.

Along with individual and small group performances, there will also be a few class cohort performances:

(Grades KG, 1, 2, 6)

Mark your calendars if you wish to attend.



SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

Dates:

Class Group Photo retake:

Wednesday, December 6, 2023



Wednesday, January 17, 2024



DAYS OF AWARENESS

2023/2024

Copy the link below to view the days of awareness for the current school year.

www.scdsb.on.ca/about/ equity and inclusion.



Minesing's 12 Days of Giving - Food Drive 2023

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Nov.27	Nov.28	Nov.29	Nov.30	Dec.1	Dec.4
MACARONI & CHEESE	CANNED VEGGIES & FRUITS	BOXED CEREALS	CANNED MEAT	PASTA and RICE	CANNED TOMATOES & PASTA SAUCES
Dec.5	Dec.6	Dec.7	Dec.8	Dec.11	Dec.12
CANNED DINNERS,	CANNED SOUPS	CAKE, COOKIE, MUFFIN,	NEW BOOKS FOR ALL AGE	Pancake PANCAKE MIX AND SYRUP	UNWRAPPED TOYS FOR ALL AGES
STEW, BROWN BEANS		JELLO, PUDDING MIXES	LEVELS, BABIES TOO	WILL GIVE	

Items will be accepted at the school from Nov.27 - Dec.12, 2023. Our local food banks request that the non-perishable food items be CANNED or BOXED (NO glass containers) and be within their best before date. Although dates are specified for each type of food, ALL donations are accepted at ANY time over the course of the 12 day period. Last year, we donated food to Barrie Christmas Cheer, to the Elmvale Food Bank and to the Barrie Native Friendship Centre. Our goal is to make the same contributions this year. We have planned some fun challenges for our teachers if we reach our goals! Thank you so much for your donations! We have an amazing community who is always willing to help! THANK YOU!

The Social Action Team



STUDENT ABSENCE

To report a student absence,
Please call

1-888-885-8065

Inclement weather and bus cancellation information reminder

All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s bus information website at www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. Our school is in the **CENTRAL** zone. When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, unless otherwise noted. School staff are expected to plan for such emergencies in order to transition students who are unable to attend due to inclement weather, to their online platforms (Google Classroom and/or SCDSBhub [Brightspace by D2L]) and continue with academic programming. It is always a family decision whether or not it is safe for their child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions.

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 <a href="mailto:osciology.o

High school information events for Grade 8 students

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information events will take place in person this winter! Student leaders and staff at the school will give an overview of what's new and what to expect. Learn about courses offered, as well as information about teams and clubs. Please visit the SCDSB website at:

www.scdsb.on.ca/secondary/planning for high school

to find details on your high school's info night, and contact the school directly for more information.

Parents' Guide to Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting

Learn to navigate the world of assessment, evaluation, and reporting with this new guide for parents/guardians. Created to support parents'/guardians' understanding of assessment, this guide was designed to effectively empower you to actively engage in your child's educational journey. The guide has been posted to the Simcoe County District School Board's website and can be accessed at:

https://tinyurl.com/2urcm2tm.



COME TO OUR SCHOOL'S BARRIE COLTS GAME NIGHT!

OUR GAME NIGHT IS:

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH 2024 @ 7:00 PM

COME ON OUT, SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL AND WATCH THE NHL STARS OF TOMORROW!

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO WEAR SCHOOL COLOURS AND BE LOUD.

TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH SCHOOL CASH ONLINE TICKETS ARE \$23 EACH, INCLUDING ALL TAXES.

THE BARRIE COLTS WILL DONATE MONEY BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL PER TICKET!

COME OUT AND SUPPORT THE CAUSE!



Grade 1 French Immersion information

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) offers French Immersion (FI) at select schools throughout Simcoe County beginning in Grade 1. The goal of the FI program is to enable students to communicate in French with a high level of proficiency, enabling them to function with ease in both French and English. Upon graduation from the program, students will communicate in French with confidence in a wide variety of real-life situations.

The SCDSB board-wide electronic applications for the Grade 1 FI program for all sites will open Friday, Dec. 1 at 9 a.m. and close at 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 15. Entry into the FI program is determined through a digitally

randomized lottery system. To learn more, visit the SCDSB website: https://www.scdsb.on.ca/cms/One.aspx?portalId=210982&pageId=12587752.

Online learning graduation requirement and opt out options

Students are required to earn two online learning credits to graduate from secondary school, beginning with every student who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year. The online learning graduation requirement also applies to adult learners that will be entering the Ontario secondary school system starting in the 2023-24 school year. The graduation requirement is intended to support students in developing familiarity and comfort with learning and working in a fully online environment, as well as developing digital literacy and other important transferable skills that they will need for success after secondary school, including in post-secondary education and the workplace.

Opting out

Parents/guardians may choose to opt their children out of the mandatory online learning credits required for graduation. To opt out, a parent/guardian must submit the <u>Secondary Online Learning Graduation Requirement</u> <u>Opt-out Form</u>. Exemption from the online learning graduation requirements may be requested by:

the parent/guardian of the secondary student students who are 18 years of age or older students who are 16 or 17 years of age and have withdrawn from parental control

Check with your local school if you have questions regarding the registration or opt-out process.

Subscribe to Kindergarten Connections!

Will your child be turning four in 2024? If so, the SCDSB invites you to Kindergarten Connections! This is a monthly enewsletter informing families of everything they need to know about preparing their child for school, as well as registering them for Kindergarten in the SCDSB. To learn more and subscribe, visit the Kindergarten page on the SCDSB website:

www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning for school/kindergarten.

Subscribe to Community Connects!

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is excited to launch Community Connects, a new bimonthly newsletter for the SCDSB community. Our shared goal with this new tool is to keep our community partners and stakeholders informed while nurturing relationships that are built on accountability, trust, and transparency.

To learn more and subscribe, visit the Community Connects page on the SCDSB website: https://www.scdsb.on.ca/community/community/connects.

EarlyON Child and Family Centres

The foundation for lifelong learning and health is built in the early years. EarlyON Child and Family Centres across Simcoe County offer programs for children prenatal to six years of age and their parents/guardians and caregivers. They offer access to play- and inquiry-based learning supported by *How Does Learning Happen?* Ontario's pedagogy for the early years, information on child development and developmental screening including Early Referral Identification Kits (ERIKs), parent/guardian education, referrals to community resources, nutrition information, and post-natal resources. Check with your local EarlyON provider: https://linktr.ee/earlyonsimcoe.

How is your infant, toddler, or preschool child developing?

Is your child meeting their milestones? Age-appropriate speech and language skills are critical to your child's ability to read, write, and be successful in school as well as to their ability to engage with their peers. Free services are available to support you with your child's development. Preschool speech and language programs are located across the County of Simcoe. Call 705-739-5696 or 1-800-675-1979 to complete a developmental screen. The earlier we work together the better!

Licensed Winter Break school-age child care programs

Child care programs for children in Kindergarten to Grade 6 are provided by independent, third-party child care operators in some SCDSB schools. To support your child care needs, some operators offer child care on PA days and holidays including over the Winter Break. Registration in advance is required.

Please contact the child care operator directly to discuss fees and to register. More information and contact numbers can be found by visiting:

www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning for school/childcare before after.















Join us! A learning series for parents/guardians with Pine River Institute

Mental health and well-being continues to be a key strategic priority within the SCDSB. We are pleased to continue our partnership with the Centre for Family Initiatives at Pine River Institute (CFI@PRI) to provide several curated learning sessions focused on student mental health and well-being to SCDSB families, staff and within the SCDSB's broader school communities.

There are eight webinars in the learning series specifically planned for parents/guardians and other caregivers during this school year.

Jan. 11, 2024 Sleep hygiene

Feb. 8, 2024 Self regulation for kids
Feb. 22, 2024 Self regulation for teens
March 28, 2024 Building parents' resiliency
April 18, 2024 Vaping, weed, and alcohol



learning opportunities.

We hope you save these dates in your calendar and join us for these For more information and to register, please visit the SCDSB website:

https://bit.ly/3jGaC74

Pine River Institute is a live-in treatment centre and outdoor leadership experience for youth aged 13 to 19 struggling with addictive behaviours and often other mental health issues. Combining therapy with a fully-accredited education program, PRI reinforces the healthy life skills required for a successful future. CFI@PRI extends PRI's knowledge, experience and evidence-informed treatment approach to families and care providers in the community to support youth mental wellness and prevent the need for more intensive interventions. Learn more about PRI by visiting their website at:



<u>Programs available through the SCDSB's Adult and Continuing Education Learning</u> Centres

The Simcoe County District School Board's Adult and Continuing Education department offers a variety of programming including day school, night school, summer school, correspondence, and co-op. Courses may be online, hybrid, or in-person and are based on sufficient enrollment. For current high school students, we offer travel for credit, summer school, and night school programs. For adults, we offer credit courses towards completion of an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) including credits granted for prior learning and experiences (PLAR). In support of many of the adult learners in our communities, we also offer non-credit classes in English as a second language (ESL) and literacy and essential skills (LES) both of which can support learners towards paths of employment, continued education, and citizenship. Please visit us at www.thelearningcentres.com to learn more.

School playground structures are closed for the winter

Every winter, school playground structures are closed. Students are made aware of this during school hours through announcements and staff reminders during breaks. This may not be well known throughout the community, despite signs indicating that playground structures are a winter hazard and are closed. The Canadian Standards Association regulations make recommendations for the depth of ground cover required to minimize injuries (e.g., sand, pea gravel or wood chips). These surfaces cannot be maintained when the ground freezes. Injuries from falling would be more significant on frozen ground. We strongly recommend that you do not allow your children to play on any structures while the ground is frozen.

Mental health strategy of the month - Emotion Charades

Well-being is a Strategic Priority in the Simcoe County District School Board, and our mental health and

well-being department provides monthly strategies to support student and family well-being. This month's strategy is *Emotion Charades*. This practice helps students practice expressing emotions with their whole body and recognize body language and facial expressions in others. To practice *Emotion Charades* at home, on slips of paper, write or draw different feelings depending on the age of your child. For instance, happy, sad, angry, scared, worried, sleepy, frustrated, etc. Place the papers in a bowl/container.

Then:

- Decide who will go first. Have that person pick a piece of paper from the bowl.
- Have them read the feeling to themselves, or, if needed, help your child read the feeling.
- Now they will act out the feeling without words while the other players try to guess what it is.

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Once someone gets the right answer, it's the next person's turn to pick a piece of paper and act out the feeling.

This is a fun activity that everyone in the family can play!

Emotion Charades link to School Mental Health Ontario parent sheet:

https://smho-smso.ca/online-resources/easy-and-fun-mental-health-activities-for-home/

Find more information to support your child's mental health here:

https://smho-smso.ca/parents-and-caregivers/

Emotion Charades:

Elementary -

https://smho-smso.ca/emhc/identification-and-management-of-emotions/recognizing/emotion-charades/

Secondary -

https://smho-smso.ca/emhcsecondary/identification-and-management-of-emotions/recognizing/emotional-awareness/

Follow the Mental Health and Well-being social media accounts (@SCDSB_MHWB) to see how well-being is being supported in our schools.

Math @Home parent and caregiver series

It's back! The SCDSB math team is pleased to offer three virtual sessions for parents and caregivers of SCDSB students. These sessions will focus on practical and fun ways to support children with their mathematics learning and engagement at home. The first 200 registrants will receive a Math @Home kit of resources to use at home. Participants must pre-register for each of the sessions.

Exploring the new SCDSB family math resources

Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2024, 7 to 8 p.m.

This session is for parents and caregivers. Join members of the SCDSB math team for a guided exploration of the new SCDSB family math resources. Participants will have the opportunity to explore the resources that are available to support their child's math learning at home. The guided portion of the session will be 45 minutes in length. During the final 15 minutes, the math team will be available to answer questions about the resources available.

Tips for engaging in math conversations with your child @Home

Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2024, 7 to 8 p.m.

This session is for parents and caregivers and will explore opportunities to discuss math with their child (ren) at home. Participants will learn about how events such as shopping, preparing food, engaging in a building project, or going for a walk can be used as a starting point for math conversations, and will receive prompts to get the discussion rolling. The guided portion of the session will be 45 minutes in length. During the final 15 minutes, the math team will be available to answer questions about the session.

Games to support your child's math learning @Home

Thursday, April 4, 2024, 7 to 8 p.m.

This session is for parents, caregivers, and their children. Playing games at home is a great way to support child(ren)'s math development. In this session, several games will be explored, and participants will have the opportunity to try the games with their children during the session. The guided portion of the session will be 45 minutes in length followed by 15 additional minutes for further game play or to ask questions of our math facilitators. Bring your child(ren) and your math kit to this session!

Participants must pre-register for the sessions they wish to attend. Registered participants will receive a kit of hands-on resources that will be sent to the school indicated on the registration form. Use this link to register: https://bit.ly/24MathAtHome.



Head lice treatment and prevention

Anyone can get head lice. Having head lice does not mean a person is unclean or lives in a dirty home. While they are a nuisance, head lice do not spread disease or cause illness. Head lice spreads easily, especially where people are in close contact and are very common among school-aged children or children in childcare.

Head lice spreads through direct hair-to-hair contact or indirectly by sharing hats, combs, hairbrushes, and headphones. To help prevent the spread of head lice, it's important to educate students about avoiding head-to-head contact and discourage sharing combs, hairbrushes, tuques, hats, or hair accessories.

Parents/guardians, caregivers, and families can visit https://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Topics/PP2B/RaisingChildren/YourGrowingChild/HeadLice for more information about head lice treatment and prevention. Or call Health Connection at 1-877-721-7520 to speak to a public health nurse.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Is bedtime stressing you out?



Kids need 10-12 hours of sleep every night but sometimes getting them to bed can be challenging. You can help create a regular sleep schedule for your child by setting a clear bedtime and sticking to the same time every night. Start getting ready an hour before bed; turn off the TV, computers, and phones. Spend quality time talking or reading stories to help them unwind. Agree on how many you'll read before you start! Keep their room dark, cool, and quiet - a nightlight is fine. Remember, making sure your child gets enough rest will help improve their mood, behaviour, and ability to learn.

For more bedtime tips, contact Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 to speak with a public health nurse. Visit www.simcoemuskokahealth.org for more information.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Chicken on the Run

We are delighted to announce that our Minesing Chicken on the Run fundraiser is back up and running! This fundraiser will run all year long and will support many different areas of our school (literacy, equity, presentations, character education) and all grades! Instead of buying all your items at regular grocery stores, why not have your groceries delivered right to your door while supporting our school at the same time! Chicken on the Run is a local, Canadian business that delivers your food FRESH WITHIN 24 HOURS FROM LOCAL FARMS! Please go to

<u>www.chickenontherun.ca</u> and use code **MUSTANGS24** to cash out. We appreciate your support!



<u>Did you know it's illegal to vape or smoke anywhere on school property, inside the school or outside within 20m of school property, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year?</u>

The law applies to everyone on school property, students, staff, and visitors. It also means it is illegal to vape or smoke on school athletic fields during afterhours activities or vape or smoke in school washrooms. There is a fine of \$305for vaping or smoking on school property.

But why do youth vape at school? Vapes contain nicotine, which is a highly addictive drug. Nicotine addiction is extremely powerful, develops quickly, and youth may not realize they are addicted. Once addicted, they need nicotine regularly or they will experience withdrawal, making it hard to get through the school day. Help them take back control – there are supports to help youth quit! Talk to your child about vaping, they listen more than you think. Learn more at NotAnExperiment.ca/parents.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions is seeking compassionate and skilled professionals with specialized experience to apply to become foster care providers

The goal of this program is to meet the needs of youth through a therapeutically supported parenting approach within a structured environment, where they are supported and guided by a multi-disciplinary treatment team. The youth will remain, or become connected to, their family/kin/community whenever possible. Treatment services will be individualized based on the needs of the youth, and the knowledge of those who know the youth best in collaboration with community partners. This will allow youth to reside in a family-based setting and remain in their home community of Simcoe Muskoka, staying connected to important relationships and supports that may already be in place.

The homes approved under this strategy are designed to create clinically informed care plans that will support the youth directly, in addition to the continued support of their care providers. Youth will be supported by a multi-disciplinary team and will be available to implement and design parenting and support to address the needs of the youth.

Compensation packages will be offered to experienced foster care providers, as well as clinical support to both care providers and youth.

If you or someone you know is looking for more information or would like to apply, contact Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions by email at bruna.figliuzzi@familyconnexions.ca or call 705-716.4664.

Information provided by Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions



Miss Amanda Storytime

Elmvale Branch: Tuesdays at 10:30am Midhurst Branch: Wednesdays at 10:30am



Join Miss Amanda for storytime in the library! We will be singing songs, reading stories and having fun! At the end of each storytime families will be given a craft kit to take home with them! Drop in! No Registration required! Free!

Kaitlyn's P.A Day Craft Kits

Cost: Free!

On the Thursday before a scheduled P.A day come to the Minesing Branch and pick up a cute craft kit.

This month: December 28th: Paper cup Hot Chocolate craft kits.



Holiday Craft Day

Come to the library for an awesome day and make a bunch of crafts, have some winter fun, and have some Hot chocolate.

December 14th, from 4 - 6:30pm. Drop in, no registration required. Cost: FREE

Santa Storytime



Santa is coming to the Library! He'll share some stories, answer your questions, sing carols, and you can even tell him what you'd like for Christmas this year!

Photos and Videos are welcome. A Christmas Craft will also be provided.

Saturday December 16th, 10:30am at the Elmvale Branch.

Saturday December 16th, 1:00pm at the Midhurst Branch.

Registration Required. Please call to register.

Parent & Child Book Club

For parents and children age 8 - 11, the "On the Same Page Book Club" will be starting this fall! Read the book together and then gather as a group to talk, play games and enjoy some snacks! Our first book will be, The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane. Registration required.

Thursday December 14th, 6pm at the Midhurst Branch.



Weekly Drop-in Games

Come on in after school to play some games with friends and family every Tuesday from 3pm-5pm at Minesing Branch. The library will provide the games or you can bring your own! All ages are welcome to join the fun! This is a drop in program, no registration required.

Yarn Wrapped Ornaments Program

The Library will be offering a fun drop-in craft after school at both its Elmvale and Midhurst locations. Participants will get to create a Yarn wrapped Ornament. This program will be available as long as supplies last. Friday December 22nd at Midhurst Branch.

This is a drop in program, no registration required.

Minesing Branch Hours

Tuesday - 10am - 5pm Thursday - 1pm - 7pm





Springwater Public Library

2347 Ronald Road Minesing, Ontario L0L 1Y0 | 705-722-6440 http://www.springwater.library.on.ca