

MUSTANG NEWS!

MINESING CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2023

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Website: <http://min.scdsb.on.ca>

Twitter: @minesingtweets

Instagram: @minesingcentral



ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM:

PRINCIPAL: Allison Beecroft

VICE-PRINCIPAL: Jim Dewey

OFFICE TEAM: Natalie Kopacz & Shannon Priest

SUPERINTENDENT: Charlene Scime

TRUSTEE: Liz Grummett

ADMINISTRATION MESSAGE

As you know, Minesing P.S. is focused on the mental wellness and well-being of all of our students. We put a number of initiatives in place such as special days, sports, clubs, and more, in order to support our students and families. This year, our teachers have stepped up again and are giving of their time freely to develop a positive school climate here at Minesing. We have a Math team, Literacy team, Equity team, and a Healthy Schools/Mental Wellness team in place. This month our Intermediates will be partaking in a Building a Better Me Day that will include a variety of activities to explore their brain, mindful actions, as well as perspective taking, expressing gratitude, showing optimism and performing acts of kindness. Our hope is that in the future, these student leaders will teach our younger students about these topics.

As the cold weather begins, we typically see more students arriving late for school. I want to remind all parents and students that our school day begins at 9:10am. Children who arrive late miss important routines and the beginning of instruction and disrupt the learning of their classmates. Please ensure that you are making efforts to be at school on time so that your children can enter through their appropriate entrances when the bell rings at 9:10am. Our Behavior Trait focus for this month is "I follow the code of conduct. I keep my hands to myself." Students will be working on achieving this behavior trait daily. Our Character Education Traits for this month are listening, cooperation and sharing. Please help your child to work on these traits daily in their school work, co-curriculars and in life!

Last, thank you to all of the parents and guardians who have reached out and sent photos for our Remembrance Day Assembly. It is lovely to see the connections that we have in our community and this will make our upcoming Remembrance Day even more personal for our students.

I look forward to seeing our parents and guardians at the Interview Night and Vendor Fair on Thursday, November 17th. This is an opportunity for caregivers to connect with teachers about their child's progress to date in school. Make sure you ask the teacher about your child's Learning Skills on the front page of the progress report as these are the skills that will determine their success in the future. Thank you to the School Council for their organization of the vendor fair which will be a great fundraiser for the school while also building community and providing an opportunity to get some holiday shopping done early! Don't forget to visit our book fair in the library on this evening to get some new books for your children.

Thank you for all your support,

Allison Beecroft

Principal

ICE CREAM

ICE CREAM

GET YOUR ICE CREAM!

\$2.00



The Gr. 7 classes at Minesing Central will be selling ice cream sandwiches to fundraise for field trips.

The next ice cream day will be:

Thursday, November 16th.

You will be able to purchase your ice cream sandwich tickets on school cash online only.

Thank you for your support.



STUDENT ABSENCE

To report a student absence,

Please call

1-888-885-8065

IMPORTANT DATES:

***Every Monday is Mustang Monday-Wear blue & yellow!**

Nov 5—Daylight Savings—set your clocks back
Nov 6—School Council Meeting 6 PM
Nov 7—School photo retakes
Nov 7—Tiffen Centre field trip Gr. 4
Nov 8—Gr. 8's to King's Wharf—Peter Pan
Nov 9—Report Cards go home
Nov 10—Remembrance Day assembly
Nov 15—Skilled Trades trip for Gr. 7/8
Nov 11—Remembrance Day
Nov 16 & 17—Book Fair
Nov 16—Vendor Market + Book Fair
Nov 16—Teacher/parent interviews
Nov 16—Ice Cream sandwich day
Nov 17—PA Day
Nov 20—Building a better me day
Nov 21—Gr. 8's visit Barrie North



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.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

HELLO and HAPPY November!

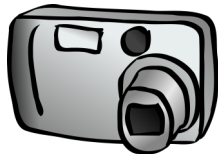
We are excited for the month ahead, which includes a fall vendor market in alignment with the school scholastic book fair and meet the teacher evening - space is still available if you or if you know of a local vendor wishing to sell and promote their product to our school community!

As families have begun to decorate for various seasons, please consider mentioning Minesing Central Public School as your charity of choice when you make your purchases at Bradford Greenhouses. Funds raised through this initiative help enhance our student's educational experience!

Our next meeting will be held Monday, November 6th, at 6 p.m in the school library - even if you have never attended, you are welcome - we would love to see you.

Please forward all questions to councilchairmin@scdsb.on.ca

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY



Dates:

Retake Photos:

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Graduation Photos:

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

Parent/teacher/student conferences are the week of

November 13-17

As previously communicated, the sign-up process is done through a digital system called *schoolinterviews.ca*

Link: <https://www.schoolinterviews.ca/code/jc9ep>

The interviews are in-person at Minesing. If you haven't signed up for an interview, please do so as soon as possible: it's imperative that both home and school "wrap around" each child regarding success, progress, and next steps.

November PA Day

Please note that Friday, Nov. 17 is a PA Day for all SCDSB students. Please refer to the 2023-24 School Year Calendar on the SCDSB website for more information: www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/school_year_calendar.

Below is a summary of the activities planned for the Nov. 17 PA Day:

Elementary

Length:	Full-day parent/guardian-student-teacher conferences
Topic:	Communication to parents/guardians about student progress through parent/guardian-student-teacher conferences
Host:	- Simcoe County District School Board elementary schools, including Grades 7 and 8 in Grade 7-12 secondary schools
Presenter(s)/facilitator(s):	Elementary educators

Elementary educators will meet with students and parents/guardians to discuss student progress thus far this school year, including areas of strengths and next steps for improvement.

Communication to families regarding inclement weather days

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 [@SCSTC_SchoolBus](https://twitter.com/SCSTC_SchoolBus) for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay

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

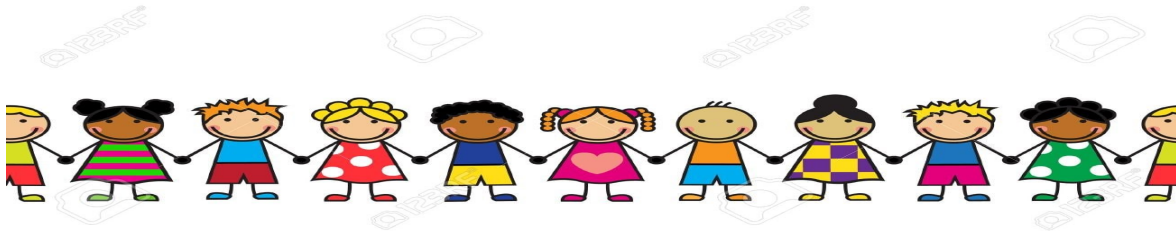
www.scdsb.on.ca/secondary/planning_for_high_school to find details on your high school's info night, and contact the school directly for more information.

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>.

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.



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!



Upcoming in-person Grade 1 French Immersion information sessions

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 English and French.

Information sessions for families who are considering entry into Grade 1 FI for the 2024-25 school year will take place at Forest Hill Public School on Tues. Nov. 21st at 6 PM in the library and online applications will open in December 2023.

Entry into the FI program will be determined through a digitally randomized lottery system. A link to access the Grade 1 FI online application form will be available on the SCDSB website starting at 9 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 1 until 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 15. For more information regarding French Immersion, visit www.scdsb.on.ca, then select 'elementary', and 'French as a Second Language'.

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 [Secondary Online Learning Graduation Requirement Opt-out Form](#). Exemption from the online learning graduation requirements may be requested by:

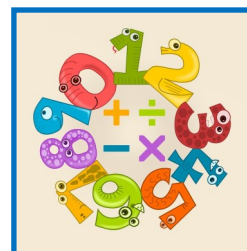
- the parent/guardian of the secondary student
- students who are 18 years of age or older
- students who are 16 or 17 years of age and have withdrawn from parental control

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

Knowledgehook Math Tool

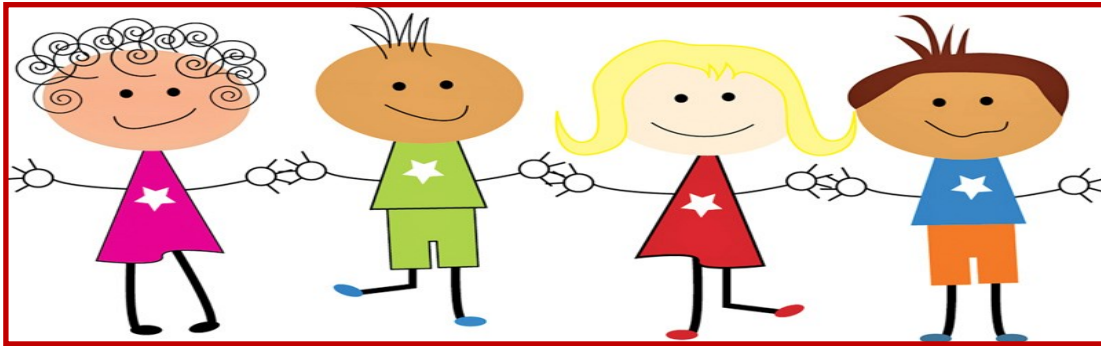
Knowledgehook is a digital math assessment and practice tool that has been purchased for all K-10 SCDSB classrooms. This tool is accessible to students at home so that they can practice math skills, either assigned by their teacher or on their own. Ask your child about how they use Knowledgehook in class and learn more at:

www.knowledgehook.com.



Licensed PA day and holiday—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, March Break, and during summer holidays. Registration in advance is required. Please contact the child care operator directly to discuss fees and to register.



Come join us on the evening of **Thursday, November 16th** for a special community event! There will be a book fair, vendor market, hot chocolate and beaver tails!!

Please drop by to check out our local community craft market featuring many local merchants including hand crafted and baked goods. All are welcome!!



Proceeds from this event will help support Literacy and Numeracy programming, General school needs, Technology, Character Education

Have you met Sora?

Our digital ebook/audiobook collection contains over 4,000 titles waiting to be checked out by our SCDSB students. Students simply download the app, use their SCDSB login and start reading for free on their phone or tablet. The collection can be accessed at:

meet.soraapp.com.



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.

Nov. 9, 2023	Understanding and managing screen time, part two - social media edition
Nov. 30, 2023	Helping parents align
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



We hope you save these dates in your calendar and join us for these learning opportunities. 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:

www.pineriverinstitute.com

Supporting oral language development at home

Within the revised language curriculum, there is a focus on supporting students to acquire the knowledge and skills relating to the foundations of language. Oral and non-verbal communication are foundational components of language skills. Over the years, students develop their listening and speaking abilities using a variety of strategies and skills, including word choice and syntax, to become effective communicators.

Here are some ways you can support oral language development at home:

- Engage your child in conversations about things that interest them
- Talk to your child and listen responsively
- Ask and answer questions
- Share oral stories
- Read aloud to your child
- Talk about the books you read together
- Singing and playing together



Dental screening and services for kids ages 0-17

Good dental health is an important part of your child's general health. The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit's Oral Health Community Program offers free dental screenings in daycares, schools, and health unit offices for children and youth aged 0 - 17 years. Dental screening can identify and inform families that their child has a dental concern.

Health unit staff can also help children/youth and their families access free preventive services and treatment through the Healthy Smiles Ontario (HSO) Program. For more information regarding these services visit:

www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Topics/Dental.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit



Mental health promotion strategy of the month

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 *Let It Go*. This practice helps students focus their attention, calm feelings of anxiety, and manage stress. To practice *Let It Go* at home, have your child/youth sit comfortably and take a deep breath. Share the following exercise with your child/youth:

- Use your fingers to gently massage the top of your head
- Still in massaging motion, bring your fingers to your forehead, eyebrows, temples, around your eyes, cheeks, and jaw
- If you notice tension anywhere – let it go
- Finally, massage each of your ears and end by gently pulling your earlobes

Keep in mind to take your time with each area, especially where you hold the most tension.

Practicing *Let It Go* can be done any time of the day or at regular times, such as at mealtime or before bed. You may try this technique on your hands using a massaging motion to focus on each finger, thumb, and palm. Consider doing *Let It Go* with your child/youth to model the strategy.

Visit the links below for *Let It Go* posters from School Mental Health Ontario:

Elementary - <https://smho-smso.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/SEL-Posters-Let-It-Go.pdf>

Secondary - <https://smho-smso.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/SEL-Posters-Secondary-Let-It-Go.pdf>

Find more easy and fun mental health activities to do at home visit: <https://smho-smso.ca/online-resources/easy-and-fun-mental-health-activities-for-home/>

Follow the mental health and well-being social media accounts (@SCDSB_MHWP) to see how well-being is being supported in our schools.



Nov. 28 is Eat Well to Excel Day in Simcoe County

Eat Well to Excel is a Simcoe County non-profit community partnership that supports our school's student nutrition program. The funding provided by Eat Well to Excel allows us to supply students with access to healthy snacks during the school day.

The pandemic and increasing food costs have caused a significant financial strain on many families in our region and new data shows that 1 in 3 kids in Canada are at risk of going to school hungry. Kids that are hungry struggle to retain knowledge and keep focused throughout the day. They are also at an increased risk of experiencing poor mental health and a compromised immune system. With your support we can maintain and hopefully improve our program to provide a consistent supply of healthy food to our students.

You can make a donation by visiting eatwelltoexcel.ca. You can either support the county-wide program or direct your donation to our school. Please include our school name in the comment box to ensure the donation goes directly to our program. A tax receipt will be emailed to you.

For more information about Eat Well to Excel visit eatwelltoexcel.ca.

Looking for Employment? Join Our Team!

Curious about what employment opportunities are available at the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB)? The SCDSB is hosting several job fairs throughout Simcoe County during the month of November; come by and speak with one of our representatives at any of the following events!

YMCA of Simcoe Muskoka Employment Services (Midland)

Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

[Job Seekers | YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka \(ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca\)](https://ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca)

TRACKS Employment & Resource Service (Collingwood)

Thursday, Nov. 9, 2023

11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

[TRACKS Employment Services - One-stop resource centre for Employment Ontario Services | Located in Collingwood and serving Georgian Triangle communities of Clearview, Wasaga Beach, and Town of the Blue Mountains](#)

FOCUS Employment Services (Alliston)

Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023

3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

[Job Seekers - FOCUS Community Development Corporation \(focuscdc.on.ca\)](https://focuscdc.on.ca)

Agilec Employment Services (Orillia)

Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2023

12 to 5 p.m.

[Employment Services - Agilec](#)

For more information about employment opportunities at the SCDSB, visit: www.scdsb.on.ca/joinourteam.



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



RECIPES IN A JAR FUNDRAISER!

On November 1st our Recipes in a Jar fundraiser begins! This fundraiser will go towards purchasing new rugby jerseys for our school! We want to make sure our students are proud of our schools teams and it is time to refresh our jerseys. By purchasing Recipes in a Jar, we will generate funds for this cause. These will be great holiday gifts so you can get started on your shopping knowing that you are also helping our school. Stay tuned for more information - link goes live on November 1st!

<https://minesingcentral.recipesinajar.ca/>



THANK YOU!

SPRINGWATER LIBRARY



Springwater Library - Minesing Branch

Miss Amanda Storytime

Elmvalle 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: November 17th P.A day: Floppy Eared Puppy craft kits.



Pajama Storytime

Ages 6 and under and their families are invited to join Kaitlyn at the Minesing Library for a bedtime story time. This new monthly program will be a great way to calm down and get ready for bed. Wear your pajamas, bring a blanket or your favorite stuffed toy and enjoy a quiet story time in the library. Thursday November 9th, 6pm at Minesing Branch. Registration Required. Please call to register.



ESL Conversation Club

Come and join us weekly for a conversation group that will be working on English language basics. All are welcome! Meet new people, increase your fluency and vocabulary.

Mondays 1pm at Elmvalle Branch. This group will start Monday September 11, 2023.



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 November 9th, 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.

Salt Dough Turtle Program

The Library will be offering a fun drop-in craft after school at both its Elmvalle and Midhurst locations.

Participants will make their own Salt Dough Turtle and paint it. This program will be available as long as supplies last. Friday November 24th 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>