



THE HUSKY HOWLER

Mapleview Heights Elementary School Newsletter

October 2016

Please follow us on Twitter [@mapleviewhts](#) and see the exciting things that are happening within our day!! Se what's new in our library [@mhtlibrary](#)

MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE

September has proven to be a fantastic start to the school year as everyone has shown true caring and we have settled into routines. Thank you to everyone for making our new friends and staff feel welcome! Our students, parents and staff showed great character with a smooth re-organization. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we attempt to comply with Ministry and Board policies. We would like to wish Mrs. Brown and Mr. Flowers all the best in their new placements. A big thank you to everyone that made it to our Meet the Teacher on Thursday, September 29th so we can once again show what a great and highly involved community we work, live, learn and play in.

This year our learning will focus on mathematics (3 part lessons of inquiry-based learning), learning skills (what each looks like, sounds like and feels like), mental health (Zones of Regulation and Mind Up) and a school wide Restorative and Reflection Plan to provide consistency and tracking of student choices. Mixed in will be great opportunities for literacy (English and French) in everything we do as well as physical activity in gym and DPA, the arts to enhance our creative side, and uncovering the world through science, social studies, geography and history.

As we enter into the fall season we remind our students to keep track of their sweaters and jackets while temperature fluctuates so that our lost and found does not overflow. For those items that do end up in the lost and found we will work this year to donate them to other schools in our community that are in need. School Council will meet next Tuesday, October 4th at 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to join us to help share ideas, plan for other initiatives, and gain information on how to enhance student achievement and well-being for all of our students.

The staff and I would like to wish each and every one of you a safe and relaxing Thanksgiving weekend with family and friends. We certainly have a lot to be thankful for as you have amazing children which we get to observe learning and growing every day! Although a busy weekend we

do hope to see many of you at our Fuel Our School on October 7th and the Colts game October 8th as the funds raised will support our athletic equipment and mental health support purchases.

Yours in Education,
Mrs. Abernethy



FUTURE DATES

Oct. 3 – 5	Gr. 7 @ Camp Kandalore
Oct. 6	Picture Day
Oct. 7	Fuel Up Night @ Mac's on Huronia
Oct. 8	Barrie Colts Game
Oct. 10	Thanksgiving Monday holiday
Oct. 11	Gr. 3 Swim to Survive Program
Oct. 12	Cross Country Meet @ Innisfil Beach
Oct. 18	Gr. 3 Swim to Survive Program
Oct. 18	Cross Country Meet @ Mt St. Louis
Oct. 19	Caribou Math Contest
Oct. 25	Gr. 3 Swim to Survive Program
Oct. 27	Jr. Girls Volleyball Zones @ Holy Cross C.S. – am
Oct. 27	Jr. Boys Volleyball Zones @ Holy Cross C.S. – pm
Oct. 28	Immunization Clinic
Oct. 31	Happy Halloween

WORLD TEACHER'S DAY – October 5th

Wednesday, October 5 marks World Teachers' Day – an international event celebrating the work educators do every day around the world. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) established World Teachers' Day in 1994 to recognize the efforts of teachers worldwide. During the month of October, take the time to let your child's teacher know he or she is truly appreciated!

NEW BELL TIMES & SUPERVISION



Just a reminder that our morning bell rings at 9:15am. Students are not to arrive on school property until 9:00am when yard supervision begins. Our school day ends at 3:35pm.



SEPTEMBER CLASS REORGANIZATION

Re-organization balances class sizes to support your child's success

Each year, our school starts off with a certain number of classes and teachers - these numbers are based on estimates made the previous spring about how many students will be enrolled during the next school year.

As you may be aware, the Ministry of Education has class size goals that all school boards are required to meet. When the Simcoe County District School Board organized its schools in the spring, they adhered to this ministry expectation. Each September, the board compares actual enrolment numbers to the numbers projected by the board in the spring. At times it is necessary to re-organize classes.

After re-organization, some students may move to another class in order to balance class sizes. In some cases, it may be necessary to move teachers to a new school. If your child was affected by a change, you would have received a letter with details following re-organization. Please be assured that these changes will not affect the quality of education your child will receive at Mapleview Heights Elementary School. Our staff have the skills, training and resources to work effectively with students in a variety of settings.



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, school staff determines who these students are through the gifted screening process.

The gifted screening process consists of three components:

1. Teacher Rating Scale;
2. Parent Questionnaire;
3. Standardized Test Results

Parents of students, in or above Grade 3 this school year (2016-2017), who wish the school to consider their child for gifted screening, are asked to contact Mrs. Mitchinson at jmitchinson@scdsb.on.ca or leave a message with the office by Friday October 7, 2016.

NO DOGS ALLOWED

Please keep in mind that dogs are not allowed on school property at any time. Please help us keep our school yard clean and safe for all students. Some students have pet allergies.

WHAT'S THE SCDSB DIFFERENCE? WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We need your help developing the new strategic plan for the Simcoe County District School Board. The purpose of a strategic plan is to set goals and directions that will guide the work of our organization and help us realize our vision of a community of learners achieving full potential.

We want to know:

- What does the SCDSB do already to help us realize our vision of a community of learners achieving full potential? (What are we doing well?)
- What is the most important thing that we can begin to do to help us realize our vision? (What else can we do to improve?)
- What role do you think SCDSB schools play or should play in your community?

Get involved:

- Visit www.scdsb.on.ca/difference to take our survey and complete the Where should we invest? sorting activity to help identify priority areas.

- Follow our @scdsb_schools Twitter account and join our #SCDSBDifference Twitter chat to share your ideas on Thurs., Oct. 6 at 8 p.m.

Other consultation activities:

- We had community outreach booths at Collingwood Downtown Farmers' Market (Sept. 17), Orillia Downtown Farmers' Market (Sept. 24) and Alliston Downtown Farmers' Market (Oct. 1).

- We are conducting on-the-spot interviews with parents and students at select schools across Simcoe County.

- We've invited randomly selected representatives from various stakeholder groups to workshops on Oct. 4 at the Education Centre. We'll use the input to identify the key areas stakeholders think the SCDSB should focus on. We will also review research on effective practices in education, our own data and the expectations we receive from the Ministry of Education. This information will help the Board of Trustees set our priorities. The strategic plan will outline how— together—we inspire and empower learning for life. Ultimately, our strategic priorities should move us toward our vision of a community of learners achieving full potential.

FUEL UP OUR SCHOOL

On Friday, October 7 from 4 - 8pm, please fuel up at the Mac's on Huronia Road and Mapleview Drive. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to our school and will be used to purchase new athletic gear and self-regulation materials.

Please submit your receipt to the office (clearly mark your name on it) for your chance to win a \$50 Mac's gift card.

STAY UPDATED, GET INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SCHOOL AND SCHOOL BOARD

Want to ensure you are receiving up-to-date, accurate information about what's going on at your school and our school board? Here's how:

- You can subscribe to our school's website by clicking on 'Subscribe' at the top of our school website: <http://mht.scdsb.on.ca>. You can sign up to receive emails about school news updates and information during emergency situations. When you fill out your email and click Subscribe, an email will be sent to your inbox with a link to click to confirm that you want to subscribe. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link at the bottom of each email.
- For Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) media releases and event information, visit the 'News' section under 'About Us' at the SCDSB's website: www.scdsb.on.ca. You can also subscribe to receive board media releases, event information and/or job postings via email by visiting www.scdsb.on.ca and clicking on 'Subscribe' at the top of the page.
- Follow the SCDSB on Twitter (@SCDSB_Schools), Facebook ([facebook.com/SCDSB](https://www.facebook.com/SCDSB)) and Instagram ([instagram.com/scdsb](https://www.instagram.com/scdsb)) and follow our school on Twitter/Facebook/Instagram @ (include your school social media account information here if you have active accounts)
- Check out our Sharing Simcoe blog (www.sharingsimcoe.com), where we share stories of our amazing students, staff and community members.
- For school bus transportation information, visit the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s website at: main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. And remember to bookmark the school bus information page at: www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca for bus delay and cancellation information on inclement weather days. Notifications of bus delays can be emailed to families and students that subscribe to receive their specific bus delay notification through the SCSTC website. Subscribe here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/>.

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHTS

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights happen this fall and winter. This event gives an overview of what's new, what to expect, as well as a chance to check out the school and ask questions. Attend our local high school information night to find out what's offered: Innisdale Secondary School Information Night is Wednesday, December 7, 2016 7pm. Check out the full schedule of info nights and more information at www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH UNIT: ENSURE YOUR CHILD'S IMMUNIZATION RECORDS IS UP-TO-DATE.

The Ontario Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA) requires the health unit to have up-to-date immunization records for all students attending school. According to ISPA (2014), students are required to be vaccinated against the following diseases:

- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Polio and Pertussis (whooping cough)
- Measles, Mumps and Rubella (must have two doses after the first birthday)
- Meningococcal Disease (must have one dose after the first birthday & Men-C-ACYW in Grade 7)
- Varicella (chickenpox) - only for those born 2010 and after

The health unit does not receive immunization information directly from doctor's offices. Please contact the health unit each time your child receives a vaccine from their health care provider.

What you can do:

- check your child's yellow immunization card
- contact your child's health-care provider to obtain records or get missing vaccinations
- go to <http://www.smdhu.org/immsonline> to enter the complete record, or fax a completed record to 705-726-3962

MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH UNIT: SMOKE-FREE MOVIES SUPPORT HEALTHY CHOICES FOR OUR KIDS

Parents are always doing their best to protect their kids from harm. Have you ever wondered how movies influence our children? Research shows that seeing smoking in movies has a direct impact on youth smoking. In fact, the more often kids see smoking in the movies, the more likely they are to smoke. So why is smoking allowed in children and youth-rated movies? Movies influence kids. Make them smoke free. For more info visit the health unit website: www.simcoemuskokahealth.org or www.smokefreemovies.ca.

SCHOOL GARDENS

We are looking for volunteers to help in our school gardens. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Abernethy at labernethy@scdsb.on.ca



GIVING BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY
Volunteer In Our School

Volunteers are an important part of what makes our school a great place to learn and grow. We value and appreciate the support of our volunteers. There are many opportunities available, including school council, food programs, reading help, assisting in the classroom or library and much more. Everyone who volunteers in a school must have a criminal record check which includes a Vulnerable Sector Screening. Please call or visit the school office for more information about opportunities available or if you'd like to volunteer!

For present school volunteers

OCTOBER IS INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH

Did you know that October is International Walk to School month? It is 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. Get in on the fun and try these activities:

- Create a walking group/"bus" to and from school
- Create a fun walking challenge for your school community involving students, parents and teachers
- Create and sign a Walk to School pledge

Check out the website at www.saferoutestoschool.ca for more information. You can also call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 and speak with a public health nurse or visit the health unit website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK IS OCTOBER 9 – 15:
Join the Don't Wait, Check the Date Selfie Challenge

Fire Prevention Week is October 9 to 15, 2016 and local fire departments want you to join the Don't Wait, Check the Date! selfie challenge. Smoke alarms wear out over time and need to be replaced within the time frame indicated by the manufacturer, usually 10 years. The date of manufacture is indicated on the back of the smoke alarm and the expiry date is taken from that date. Smoke alarms are required on every floor of your home and outside all sleeping areas. Test all of your smoke alarms monthly by pushing the test button on the alarm, and replace batteries at least once a year or when the alarm's low battery signal begins to chirp. Families are challenged everyone to take a selfie of their family checking the expiry date of their smoke alarms and post it on social media using #checkthed8. For more information about testing and replacing your smoke alarms, visit: www.ontario.ca/firemarshal.

EYE SEE .. EYE LEARN PROGRAM
Offering free glasses for Junior Kindergarten students

The Eye See...Eye Learn program provides comprehensive eye exams by local optometrists to Junior Kindergarten 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 from a participating optometrist. For more information, visit www.Eyeseeyelearn.ca



STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE AVAILABLE FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND TRIPS

Student injuries at school, during school events, and extra-curricular activities (athletics, clubs, and out-of-province/out-of-country trips) are not covered by the school board or its insurance company. While every precaution is taken to provide a safe learning environment, accidents can happen. It is essential that all students participating in extra-curricular activities have adequate insurance coverage. The SCDSB has selected Insure My Kids as an option for parents to consider. The coverage is for 24 hours a day and offers a variety of plans at reasonable prices. Coverage can be purchased online at www.insuremykids.com.

