



THE HUSKY HOWLER

Mapleview Heights Elementary School Newsletter

April 2018

MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE

It is hard to tell whether Spring has arrived, some days the warm winds and sun feel like it has; however other days there is still a chill in the air. Please remember to dress according to the changing weather, with students wearing layers for the chilly mornings and warming afternoons. We are hoping for warmer weather soon so the back field can dry up for Spring time play at recess. Students are reminded to watch for cars as they ride their bikes and scooters, and drivers are reminded to be on the lookout for more children on the streets and sidewalks. Also, students are reminded to leave school property at the end of day bell, unless supervised by an adult. Parents/Guardians just a reminder that our parking lot is closed at 3:30 pm each day and that there is no parking on Esther Drive. There is also no parking on school property after hours or on weekends, unless there is a scheduled school event.

As snow melts, litter starts to become exposed and we all need to do our part. Please keep an eye open for further communication as to Mapleview Heights Spring Into Clean Day. The City of Barrie Spring Clean Up occurs April 20-21st and is a great event to participate in as a family. For more information, or to register, please visit www.barrie.ca/SpringIntoClean. There are a lot of exciting events happening throughout Mapleview Heights in the month of April. Please check email blasts and teacher communication for specific events and activities happening with your child(ren). Reminder that April 27th is a P.D day. While staff members will be working together to enhance their learning, hopefully it is a sunny day for families to get outside and enjoy all the activities that spring weather has to offer.

April is a month that brings new beginnings and growth in our natural environment, it also marks the start of us thinking forward to next year. If you wish to make a formal request for your child to be with certain friends, to avoid certain partnerships and/or other items to take into consideration as we create our classes in May for September 2018 please put in writing your thoughts and submit it prior to April 27, 2018. We will take this into consideration but will not guarantee that your requests will be met as many factors play into the professional decisions of our staff when creating classes. We will not be disclosing who is teaching what grade next year nor what class your child is in until the first day of school next year.

This month we will be celebrating our school by starting our gardening club. If you have any perennials that you would like to split and/or donate please contact Mrs. Cooke ASAP. We are also looking for families to adopt a small section of the gardens to care for them over the summer so that our school looks as great as it can for our fall start up. This is a great way for Grade 8 graduates to get some volunteer hours for secondary school. I look forward to hearing from anyone that can pull weeds and occasionally check on things.

We hope you had a wonderful long weekend to start April, and look forward to a busy month ahead.

Yours in Education,
Mrs. Andrea Newburn



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



Do you have a child who was born in 2014? It's time to register for Kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year. Required registration documents include birthdate documentation, proof of address and immunization records. Our school office is open 8am to 4pm for registration, don't delay, register today! Visit www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten for more information.

REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER CHILD CARE

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 of age. 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.'

MAC'S FUEL UP NIGHT – April 19th

We need your empty gas tanks! All families are invited to fuel up at Mac's on the corner of Huronia Road and Mapleview Drive on Thursday, April 19th. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to our school and used towards self-regulation tools and athletic equipment. As well, you can enter the draw for a \$50 Mac's gift card, see in store for details.



FUTURE DATES

Apr. 2	Easter Monday Holiday
Apr. 3	School Bus Evacuation Practice
Apr. 3	Autism Awareness Day – wear blue
Apr. 3	School Council Meeting 6:30pm
Apr. 3	Online Safety Workshop @ Sunnybrae P.S. 6:30pm
Apr. 4	Gr. 3-8 Caribou Math Contest
Apr. 5	Jr. Girls Basketball @ MHT
Apr. 5	Math Counts Family Workshop
Apr. 10	Dr. Benjamin Presentation 6-8pm
Apr. 10	Jr. Boys Basketball @ Hyde Park
Apr. 11	International Day of Pink – Support Anti-Bullying Awareness
Apr. 11	Gr. 6 Zoo to You Presentation
Apr. 11	Jr. Girls Basketball @ MHT
Apr. 12	Jr. Girls Basketball @ MHT
Apr. 12	Math Counts Family Workshop
Apr. 13	Immunization Clinic
Apr. 17	ISS visits Gr. 8s
Apr. 17	Jr. Girls Basketball @ Hewitt's Creek
Apr. 17	Jr. Boys Basketball @ MHT
Apr. 19	Reds In The Hood Play – Georgian College (Gr. 1, 2 & DS class)
Apr. 19	Jr. Girls Basketball at Holy Cross
Apr. 19	Mac's Fuel Up Night
Apr. 19	Math Counts Family Workshop
Apr. 20	Crazy Hair / Mix-Match Day
Apr. 20	Spring Dances
Apr. 23	Gr. 5 Outdoor Ed Field Trip
Apr. 23	Jr. Girls Bball Zones pm @ Holy Cross
Apr. 24	Gr. 5 Outdoor Ed Field Trip
Apr. 25	Administrative Assistants Day
Apr. 25	Jr. Boys Basketball Zones @ MHT
Apr. 26	Character Ed Assembly 9:15am
Apr. 26	Math Counts Family Workshop
Apr. 27	P.A. Day

PARENT INFORMATION SESSION ABOUT SPECIAL EDUCATION

The SCDSB is hosting a series of information sessions for parents/guardians to learn about special education in the SCDSB, and how to support students with special education needs. The last session takes place this month:

April 16 - Understanding Alternative/Non-Academic IEP Goals

The event takes place from 6 to 7 p.m. at the SCDSB Education Centre, located at 1170 Highway 26 in Midhurst. No registration required.

SCHOOL BUS EVACUATIONS TRAINING TAKES PLACE APRIL 3 TO 6

The Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC), in partnership with school bus operators, is offering school bus evacuation training to all home-to-school transported students the week of April 3 to 6. During this week, school bus drivers will educate students on how to evacuate a school bus safely in an emergency. The SCSTC would like to remind all drivers to be extra cautious near school buses and in school bus loading and unloading zones. For more information or if you have questions, visit main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/.



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PINK

Our school will be hosting several events during the week of April 9 to 13 in honour of the International Day of Pink, which is Wed. April 11. This day celebrates diversity and promotes standing up to bullying. It is a day of action that started in Nova Scotia when two straight high school students saw that a gay student wearing a pink shirt was bullied. The two students intervened, but wanted to do more. They purchased pink shirts and within a few days got everyone at school wearing pink, standing in solidarity for diversity and standing up against discrimination, gender-based bullying and homophobia. All staff and students are encouraged to wear pink on April 11th.

TRAUMA & LOSS: CREATING SCHOOL COMMUNITIES OF WELL-BEING ON APRIL 14 in BARRIE

Parents and/or community members are invited to attend *Trauma & Loss: Creating School Communities of Well-being* on Sat. April 14 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Bear Creek Secondary School, located at 110 Red Oak Dr. in Barrie. This conference is being funded through a Regional PRO grant from the Ontario Ministry of Education and is being presented by the Adoption Council of Ontario. This event is free to attend and lunch is provided. Limited child care is available for children aged three to 12 years. Register at www.adoption.on.ca/events. Questions? Contact pact@adoptontario.ca.

TURN YOUR CAR OFF WHILE YOU WAIT

A reminder to please turn your engine off when dropping off or picking up your child from school. Idling cars release exhaust that is harmful to the environment, our health and the health of our students. It's good to get into the habit of turning your car off any time you're stopped and in park for more than 60 seconds. Thank you for doing your part to keep our kids and our environment healthy! For more information to keep you and your family healthy, visit www.simcoemuskokahealth.org or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520. *Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*

STRESS: OUR KIDS GET IT TOO!

Kids have stress, just like us. Stress is a normal part of life, but our bodies are only made to handle it for short amounts of time. Continued stress can cause feelings of pressure, anxiety and tiredness. It can make it hard for kids to focus in school and can cause them to become sick, get lower grades or make unhealthy choices. It's easy to mistake signs of stress for bad behaviour in your child. You can help them learn to manage stress by staying calm, showing love and talking openly about their feelings. Encourage them to try calming activities like deep breathing or doing something active. If the stress continues, be sure talk to your child's family doctor or health care provider. To speak with a public health nurse, contact Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or visit the health unit website for more information at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Character Trait for April OPTIMISM

SIKH HERITAGE MONTH

In Ontario, the month of April has been proclaimed by the government as Sikh Heritage Month. In this month, Sikh Canadians celebrate Vaisakhi, which marks the creation of the Khalsa and the Sikh articles of faith. Sikh Canadians widely celebrate Vaisakhi, also known as Khalsa Day, across Ontario. By proclaiming the month of April as Sikh Heritage Month, the Province of Ontario recognizes the important contributions that Sikh Canadians have made to Ontario's social, economic, political and cultural fabric. Sikh Heritage Month is an opportunity to remember, celebrate and educate future generations about Sikh Canadians and the important role that they have played and continue to play in communities across Ontario.



YMCA HEALTHY KIDS DAY TAKING PLACE ON APRIL 29th

YMCAs across Canada are celebrating Healthy Kids Day on Sun. April 29. It's a national day dedicated to improving the health and well-being of kids. The YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka is happy to host this FREE event for everyone in the community, offering fun and healthy activities for the entire family to enjoy. Across Canada, most children do not meet the recommended 60 minutes of daily physical activity. Rising rates of obesity and related chronic disease tell us that getting kids active should be a top priority for parents, schools, and all Canadians. With summer just around the corner, here are some practical tips on how to keep your kids active and healthy:

- Rather than heading out on a walk or jog solo, invite your kids to hop on their bicycles, skateboards and scooters and head out with you. You will come back energized and connected knowing that you've set a great example and spent quality time together. Everyone wins!
- Many communities have free or low-cost youth activities or programs at facilities such as pools, playgrounds, parks, sporting fields, community centres and the YMCA! Ask your child's teacher, contact your local municipality, search online or contact your local YMCA for upcoming events.
- Depending on the distance and safety factor, consider letting your children walk to school, the library, their friend's house or any other place you would normally drive them to. Some kids may be inspired by tracking their steps with a pedometer. Pedometers are relatively inexpensive and many libraries have them available on loan!
- Join the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka on Healthy Kids Day and learn about healthy habits, connect with other parents and get the whole family active together under one roof. For schedules of activities and more information, please contact the YMCA in your community: www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca. *Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka*