

Please be at school on time.
 Entry bell is at 8:55.
 Outside Supervision
 Begins at 8:40

February 2017

School Phone 905-775-9691
 Safe Arrival Extension 1
 Office Extension 0
 For School Bus Information
<http://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/>
 School Zone South

Your top eight snow day questions answered

Bus cancellations and snow days are inevitable in Simcoe County. Each time buses are (or aren't!) cancelled, the SCDSB and the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) receive many questions from students, parents and community members. Check out the Sharing Simcoe blog for the top eight questions and answers - visit www.sharingsimcoe.com and search for 'snow'. Remember to follow the SCSTC on Twitter @SCSTC_SchoolBus for bus updates and cancellations.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1 Pizza Day	2	3
6	7	8 Pizza Day	9 Immunization Clinic Grade 7 Meningitis Vaccine	10
13	14	15 Pizza Day Grade 8 Graduation Photos	16	17 Report Cards go Home Grade 8 Course Selection Sheets go Home
20 <i>Family Day No School</i>	21	22 Pizza Day	23 Math Night 5:30—7:45 p.m.	24
27 Snow Valley Day Rescheduled from Jan 17th	28	Is your child turning four this year? It's time to register for Kindergarten Our school is now registering children for Kindergarten for the 2017-18 school year. Required registration documents include birthdate documentation, proof of address and record of immunization. Visit www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten for more information.		



School bus safety tip from the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)

Winter weather is here, so please be sure your child's clothing provides the appropriate protection against the weather while waiting for the bus. Students are requested to be at their bus stop at least five minutes before their scheduled pick-up time. School vehicle delays of 15 minutes or more are posted under 'View Bus Delays' at the SCSTC website: <http://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/>.

Student information notice for parents of Grade 8 students (elementary schools only)

As students progress from elementary school to secondary school, important personal student information is shared which eases each student's transition to secondary school. Sharing this information also improves our ability to program effectively to benefit all students. Select student information will be shared at different times as appropriate. The collection and use of personal student information for such purposes is authorized under sections 170, 171, 190 Part X and Part XIII of the Education Act. All information used for the transition process is limited, secure and protected at all times.

Get the flu shot, not the flu!

Influenza (the flu) is a serious respiratory illness caused by a virus. Anyone can get influenza but young children, those over 65 and people who are pregnant or who have chronic medical conditions are more vulnerable and at higher risk of complications like pneumonia. By getting your shot you are protecting yourself as well as those around you. Flu shots are available at many pharmacies and from health care providers throughout Simcoe Muskoka. Protect yourself, protect your family – get the flu shot! For more information, contact *Health Connection* at 1-877-721-7520 or visit the health unit's website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

The facts of lice: How to prevent and treat this nuisance

Like everywhere else, there are head lice in Simcoe County. Lice are a nuisance, but do not pose a public health hazard as they are not known to transmit any infectious diseases. Anyone can get head lice but kids tend to get them more often because they can have head-to-head contact with other children during school and play. The best way to keep head lice in check is to work together to prevent the spread.

Schools are required to inform parents when a case of head lice is confirmed, to provide parents with timely information to begin their own checks at home. Head lice management and treatment is a responsibility of parents/guardians.

Here are some tips to help prevent and treat lice:

- Teach your child not to share personal things like hair brushes, combs and hats
- Set a schedule to check your child's head regularly. Use an area with bright light and look carefully for nits (shells containing eggs) and live lice in the hair, behind the ears and around the neck and hairline. Nits looks like half the size of the head of a pin, shaped like a teardrop and stick to the hair so you can't blow, flick or easily side them off. Lice are about the size of a sesame seed and are very hard to see because they can crawl and hide but they cannot hop or fly.

If you find nits or live head lice, you'll need to use a head lice treatment to kill them. Make sure to follow the directions, and then to do a second treatment 7 to 10 days later to help stop the lice from returning. Head lice are not likely to live in clothing, furniture or bed linen but it's a good idea to wash bed linen and hats in hot water and dry them in a hot dryer just in case.

Kids fighting? Here are some tips for a more peaceful household

It's common for children to disagree or argue at times. They may fight or get aggressive with when things don't go the way they want, or if they feel jealous or competitive, especially with siblings. So what can you do to stop fighting before it starts?

Let your child know what behaviour you expect by explaining rules for playing with others, such as "be gentle" and "keep your hands and feet to yourself."

Praise your child when they are playing well with others.

Help children to solve problems before fights start.

Remember, you and other adults play a big role in setting expectations and teaching children better ways of behaving. For more tips, call *Health Connection* at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 and talk to a public health nurse about the Triple P-Positive Parenting Program or visit www.tripleontario.ca.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Developing leadership skills in your kids

There are many reasons why developing youth leadership skills at a young age is important – it builds confidence, perseverance, problem-solving and communication skills. While leadership skills can come naturally, children learn lessons along the way that significantly impact them later in life. The right words at the right time can make all the difference. Here are some ways you can teach your children how to develop leadership skills at a young age:

- Encourage team activities: Identify your children's interests and encourage their participation in group activities. Whether it's participating in afterschool sports or joining the school band, children learn valuable lessons about teamwork through these activities.
- Enrol in camp: Overnight and day camps are filled with opportunities to participate in team-building activities and build self-confidence. Once youth reach a certain age, they can also become counsellors, where they'll be tasked with leading groups of younger children – the ultimate leadership experience!

Find volunteer and community service opportunities: firsthand experience is one of the best ways to teach leadership skills to children. Look for local opportunities that will welcome youth helpers and volunteers in your community.

The YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka offers Youth Leadership Development programs for youth in grades 5 to 12. Participants in our leadership programs often adopt healthier lifestyles, become volunteers in their community, make new friends, earn volunteer hours for school, acquire training certifications, travel to other countries and gain an understanding of their potential impact on their community.

For more information about the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka Youth Leadership Development Programs and opportunities, visit <http://ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca/ymca-youth-leadership-development/>.

Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka