

Character Attribute for the month of April

Optimism: We maintain a positive attitude and have hope for the future.

More information about character education can be found here: www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education.

April 2022 Newsletter

Dear W.H. Day Families,

Yes, it is finally here! Warmer weather is working its way into our calendar.

Hopefully, very soon it will be upon us full time. As we wait for these days to come, the snow melts, the rain falls and we will experience some mud and water. Please encourage your child(ren) to continue to wear proper outdoor footwear, such as rain or snow boots, and that they have indoor shoes. This will help to keep our school cleaner as students transition from outside to their classrooms. As well, it is important to remember an extra set of socks or clothing as the probability of getting wet certainly increases.

This warm weather also brings with it the opportunity to travel to school on foot, bikes, or skateboards. We strongly encourage our students to get out in the fresh air and take advantage of these good days by using one of these modes of transportation to get to school instead of getting a ride. We only ask that once they reach school property that they walk or carry these items. Keeping everyone safe is very important to us! Thank you for being courteous and safe drivers!

Always believe something wonderful is about to happen. -Anonymous



Looking ahead at our calendar, we are fortunate to have lots going on at W.H. Day! As dates are quickly filling up with activities for the remainder of the year, we wanted to provide advance notice of a few upcoming dates so that families can mark their calendars for these school events. **Please check our calendar on Pg. 8 of the newsletter for important dates this month.** As each event gets closer, information will be shared.

Finally, the loss of snow also encourages play such as soccer, ball games and digging in the sand. These activities are a wonderful way for students to engage in play that includes many friends. Our Thunderbolts are a kind and caring group. We want to remind all our students to think about including all their peers in these larger games and use their voices when they feel that situations may not be going as planned. Working together and solving problems is important for us to grow and we are always looking for ways to help them on this journey. You can help at home by reminding your child(ren) of the importance of inclusion and respect. Thank you for everything you do to support our students!

Take care,

K. Reynolds, L. Marjerrison and T. McCann

April 2022 Newsletter Continues

SCDSB Schools continue to be mask-friendly environments

Students from Kindergarten to Grade 12, staff and visitors are no longer required to wear masks in schools, school board offices and on student transportation. SCDSB schools continue to be mask-friendly environments. Masks remain available to students and staff who choose to continue to wear them while in schools. Please encourage your child(ren) to be respectful and understanding of everyone's choice with respect to masking so that SCDSB schools remain the safe, inclusive and welcoming teaching and learning environments they are meant to be for all.



School Access Reminders

Due to COVID 19 protocols from the health unit, access to the school is closed **TO ALL VISITORS** including parents/guardians.

We wanted to remind parent/guardians that we continue to work towards not having lunch or forgotten items be dropped off to the school during the school day from 8:35 am–2:55pm. If your student needs to be signed out for special medical appointments or extenuating circumstances, **a note will be required for the teacher and the office at least 24 hours in advance (please email these to WHD@scdsb.on.ca).** We will then arrange for the student to be ready and signed out by the office staff at the precise time. A staff member will then escort the student to the front doors to meet their parent/guardian. Photo identification will be required to pick-up a student from W.H. Day. **If a parent/guardian is more than 15 minutes late for a pickup, the student will be returned to the classroom.**

Please ensure your students have plenty of lunch, snacks, a reusable water bottle, extra masks and extra clothing in their backpacks for washroom accidents and mittens/hats in cold weather.

Please remind your child(ren) that school begins at 8:30AM so that they will be on time. There will be no pick up of students after 2:40 pm as teachers are busy getting students ready for dismissal.

Rapid Antigen Test kits are also now available at the school. Please call our office to request one.

Thank you for your assistance as we strive to keep our students and staff safe and healthy.

Keep connected with our school and with the SCDSB

It's important to get accurate information about what's going on at your school and at the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB). Here are some ways to do that:

- Subscribe to our school's website by visiting the 'What's New' section at <http://whd.scdsb.on.ca/> You can sign up to receive emails about school news updates and information during emergency situations. It's easy to subscribe – visit our website and click the 'Subscribe' link at the very top of the page. Provide your email and click 'Subscribe'; a message 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.
- Sign up to receive SCDSB media releases by clicking the 'Subscribe' button at www.scdsb.on.ca.
- Follow the SCDSB on Twitter (@SCDSB_Schools), Facebook (facebook.com/SCDSB) and Instagram (instagram.com/scdsb). Follow our school's Twitter (@WHDDayES).



April 2022 Newsletter Continues

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 **South 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 SCSTC 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 SCSTC on Twitter [@SCSTC_SchoolBus](https://twitter.com/SCSTC_SchoolBus) for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>.

School climate survey

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) aims to provide a safe, supportive learning environment that supports all students in being successful. During the month of April, all students in Grades 4 to 12 will be asked to complete an anonymous and confidential online SCDSB School Climate Survey about how they feel about their school. Any participant of a SCDSB School Climate Survey will not be asked to provide their name or other identifying information because all surveys are anonymous.

The survey results will provide valuable feedback to staff related to the [SCDSB Strategic Priorities](#) and will help schools to develop and refine their School Action Plans.

Similar to prior SCDSB school climate surveys, the questions cover a range of topics, such as:

- excellence in teaching and learning;
- mental health and well-being;
- equity, diversity and inclusion;
- community; and,
- experiences of school safety and bullying.



Student Survey

A sample version of the student survey will be available on the [SCDSB website](#). Please call your child(ren)'s school if you have questions about how the student survey will be administered.

Questions?

School staff will be available to answer any questions or concerns a student may have.

Questions about the 2021-2022 SCDSB School Climate Survey can also be directed to schoolclimate@scdsb.on.ca.

The information that is collected will be used to help guide our schools in creating and maintaining safe and supportive learning environments for all students. Thank you for your support!

April 2022 Newsletter Continues



EarlyON Child and Family Centres

Did you know that EarlyON Child and Family Centres offer free programs, resources, parenting courses and developmental screening, as well as referrals to community programs? All children, prenatal through 6 years of age, can participate with their parent(s) or caregiver(s). In Simcoe County there are four agencies that deliver EarlyON Child and Family programs. Services are available in English and French and can be explored by visiting [www.simcoe.ca/ChildrenandCommunityServices/Pages/](http://www.simcoe.ca/ChildrenandCommunityServices/Pages/EarlyON.aspx)

[EarlyON.aspx](http://www.simcoe.ca/ChildrenandCommunityServices/Pages/EarlyON.aspx). EarlyON Child and Family Centre staff are trained in child development and facilitation of educational programs for parents/guardians and children, and are now providing a new parent/child interactive program called *Getting Ready for Kindergarten* for parents/guardians and children who are starting Kindergarten this fall! Pre-register at www.earlyonsimcoenorth.ca/hubfs/GRFK.pdf.

Interested in learning more about the ways that the SCDSB supports students with special education needs and their families? Join us for a virtual special education outreach series. In 2022, the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is hosting virtual special education outreach sessions to assist parents/caregivers in learning more about programs, supports and ways that we work together to support students with special education needs.



Supporting students as they transition into school, from one school to another, and from school upon graduation – information for parents/caregivers : April 12 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Working with families to create safe and supportive environments for children who have experienced trauma – information for parents/caregivers : May 10 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Participants are asked to register in advance. Information to access the sessions will be shared via email with individuals who have pre-registered. Learn more about each session and how to register on the SCDSB website at <https://bit.ly/3s8OBm8>



School council members invited to learn more about skilled trades in the SCDSB at virtual event

School council members from Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) schools are invited to attend Connections 2.0 on April 19. This virtual event, hosted by the SCDSB's Parent Involvement Committee (PIC), will feature conversations about skilled trades and apprenticeship opportunities and engage participants in discussions and idea-sharing sessions.

Participants are asked to register in advance. Information to access the sessions will be shared via email with individuals who have pre-registered. Learn more about each session and how to register on the SCDSB website at <https://bit.ly/3s8OBm8>

Join guest speaker Elaine McLachlin, the SCDSB's Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) Coordinator, for a skilled trades and apprenticeship presentation followed by virtual school tours, a panel discussion on redefining school councils and a breakout session with your PIC representative.

To learn more and register visit www.scdsb.on.ca/connections. Registration closes on April 15.

Kindergarten registration for September 2022 is open!

Kindergarten is the beginning of a wonderful journey of learning and we want your child to begin their journey in a SCDSB school! Do you have a child who is turning four in 2022? If so, we invite you to register your child for kindergarten.

To register online or for more information visit: [www.scdsb.on.ca / kindergarten](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten).



April 2022 Newsletter Continues



Students with ASD invited to participate in virtual after-school programs this spring
Social and recreational programs will be offered from April to June for Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) students diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The programs will be offered virtually, and will focus on using recreation, problem solving, coding and play skills to support social skills development.

Children's Friendship Training

A nine week, evidence-based social skills intervention for motivated children diagnosed with ASD, who are interested in learning ways to help them make and keep friends.

Play Ball Kidz Recreation Program

A nine week, multi-component recreation program designed to improve the gross motor skills and social skills of children diagnosed with ASD.

Escape Room Social Skills Program

A nine week, escape room themed program designed to improve problem solving skills of children diagnosed with ASD by focusing on cooperation and teamwork to support social skills development.



Music Social Skills Program

A nine week, music based program designed to improve emotional regulation and social skills of children diagnosed with ASD by focusing on singing, dancing, and playing instruments in a virtual group setting. Parents/guardians are an important part of the programs and will receive resources and support to help children develop and practice new skills at home and at school. Limited spaces are available. For more information about the sessions and to complete the initial application form, visit the SCDSB website at scdsb.on.ca/inclusiverecreationprograms by April 8, 2022.

Making 'cents' of money matters

All students need the skills and knowledge to take responsibility for managing their personal financial well-being with confidence, competence and a critical and compassionate awareness of the world around them. In the 2020 math curriculum, there is focus on financial literacy learning in Grades 1 to 8, including understanding the value and use of money over time, how to manage financial well-being and the value of budgeting. Students build their skills and knowledge about the value and use of money, how decisions impact personal finances, as well as develop consumer and civic awareness.



Students will:

- Learn how to manage finances responsibly, such as creating a budget to help save enough money to buy something they want like a book, toy or a video game.
- Begin to develop a greater awareness as consumers and contributors in the local and broader economic system.

Wondering how you can support the development of your child's financial literacy skills at home? Check out some of these great tips and resources.

Tips:

- Find daily, real-world opportunities to talk about money in the contexts of earning, saving, spending and giving.
- Consider the financial habits you want to instill in your child and talk about them.
- Involve your child in making decisions about purchases for household items and compare the costs of different items. (e.g., we need to save money to repave the driveway so we're going to cut down on spending, do you have any ideas?)

Resources:

[Peter Pig's Money Counter](https://practicalmoneyskills.ca), practicalmoneyskills.ca

[Help Your Kids Understand Money: A Parent's Guide](https://themint.org), themint.org

April 2022 Newsletter Continues

Adult English as a Second Language Program

Looking to improve your English skills? Join our Adult English as a Second Language Program (ESL) classes to improve your listening and speaking skills through class discussions and presentations. Develop your English skills to advance in your current job or open the door to new employment opportunities. Learn more about your local community and explore Canadian culture and history. Adult ESL classes are offered year-round with a continuous intake.

To register for the program, please contact the Barrie Learning Centre at 705-725-8360 ext. 45151, or email ganderson@scdsb.on.ca.

**Please note all students starting ESL for the first time must be assessed prior to starting the class. Fees apply for visitors to Canada and work/study permit holders.*



School bus driver employment opportunities

School bus operators in Simcoe County and Muskoka are actively hiring school bus drivers. Positions are available immediately and in all communities within our region. The role offers flexible, part-time work, that includes morning and afternoon bus routes, as well as charter and field trip opportunities.

You can play an important role in the school day of students in your community!

To learn more about becoming a school bus driver, please contact the local school bus operator in your area:

Landmark Bus Lines – Alliston	Alliston, Cookstown, Tottenham and area	(705) 435-2629
Landmark Bus Lines – Barrie	Angus, Barrie, Elmvale and area	(705) 722-6666
Landmark Bus Lines – Collingwood	Collingwood, Stayner, Wasaga Beach and area	(705) 446-1196
Sharp Bus Lines – Bradford	Bradford, Innisfil and area	(289) 831-9109
Sharp Bus Lines – Midland	Midland, Penetanguishene, Tiny and area	(705) 540-1563
Sharp Bus Lines – Orillia	Orillia, Ramara, Tay and area	(705) 558-1245
WAT	Bracebridge, Gravenhurst, Huntsville and area	(705) 640-0121

For more information, visit: <https://main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/kindergarten-transportation-infomation/>

Information provided by the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium



April 2022 Newsletter Continues

APRIL

2022

Holy Days
& Holidays

- 2 Vasant Navratri begins**
Hinduism
- 2 Chaitra/Chithirai (New Year) begins**
Hinduism
- 3 Ramadan begins (fasting month)**
Islam
- 8 Farvardegan (FC)**
Zoroastrianism
- 10 Rama Navami**
Hinduism
- 13 Vaisakhi/Baisakhi**
Hinduism
- 13-14 Valsakhi**
Sikhism
- 14 Sikh New Year**
Sikhism
- 14 Mahavir Jayanti (Birthday)**
Jainism
- 15 Good Friday**
Christianity
- 15-23 Pesach (Passover)**
Judaism
- 16 Theravāda New Year**
Buddhism
- 17 Easter**
Christianity
- 18 Easter Monday**
Christianity
- 20 First Day of Ridvan**
Bahá'í
- 22 Good Friday (J)**
Christianity
- 23 Zarathosht-no-diso (QC)**
Zoroastrianism
- 24 Easter (J)**
Christianity
- 25 Easter Monday (J)**
Christianity
- 27-28 Yom HaShoah**
Judaism
- 28 Ninth Day of Ridvan**
Bahá'í

- 28 Nichiren Foundation Day**
Buddhism
- 29 Jumatul Widha**
Islam
- 29 Lailat-ul-Qadr**
Islam
- 30 Chaitra/Chithirai (New Year) ends**
Hinduism



Heritage Recognition for the month of April



Sikh Heritage Month

Sikh Heritage Month

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. For more information, visit <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/13s12>

Vimy Ridge Day (April 9)

The Battle of Vimy Ridge is widely regarded as a watershed moment in the evolution of Canada as an independent nation. The Battle marked the first time that Canadian Divisions fought together on the same battlefield under Canadian leadership to carry out Canadian strategy. For more information, visit <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/10v03>



International Day of Pink (second Wednesday of April)

The International Day of Pink is a day where communities across the world can unite in celebrating diversity and raising awareness to stop homophobia, transphobia, transmisogyny and all forms of bullying. For more information, visit <http://dayofpink.org/>

[about/](#)

Holocaust Memorial Day, Yomha-Shoah (April/May - determined by the Jewish lunar calendar)

This day provides an opportunity to reflect on and educate about the enduring lessons of the Holocaust. It also serves as an opportunity to



consider other instances of systematic destruction of peoples, human rights issues and multicultural reality of modern society. For more information, visit <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/98h25>

Monthly Calendar



April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>Please email the school if you would like the virtual link to the School Council Meeting on April 4th!</p>				1	2 Ramadan Begins
3 Scholastic Virtual Book Fair Ends	4 Wear Blue for Autism Awareness Month School Council Meeting @ 6:30	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 International Day of Pink	14	15 Good Friday: No School!	16
					Long Weekend!	
17	18 Easter Monday: No School!	19	20	21	22 Earth Day	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

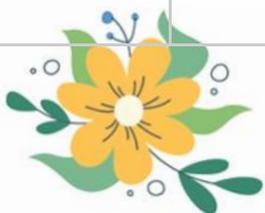
Save the Date!

More Upcoming Events:

May 2-6 - Mental Health Week

May 12, 2022 - Kindergarten Orientation (More info. to come for our 1st year students)

June 27th - Grade 8 Graduation



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Thank you!

As always, please contact the office should you have any questions.

Thank you for helping us keep our school & community safe

K. Reynolds

T. McCann

L. Marjerrison