



# The Bobcat News!

W.R. Best Memorial Public School \* 2221 Old Barrie Road West, RR#2 Shanty Bay, ON L0L 2L0 - Tel: 705.728.9591

Website: <http://wrb.scdsb.on.ca> Twitter: @WRBestPS  
Bus Cancellation Zone: Central

February 2018

Principal: Mrs. Dianna Wright-Drzazga

Superintendent: Mr. Stuart Finlayson

Trustee: Mr. Peter Beacock

## Important February Dates

### February 2018:

February is Black History Month!

Feb. 2 – Jersey Day – wear your Jersey's!

Feb. 3 – W.R. Best - Barrie Colts Night out

Feb 5 – 6 – Dental Screening – JK/SK, Gr. 2 & 8

Feb. 6 – School Council Meeting 7:00

Feb. 7 – 9 – Gr. 6 Kandalore Trip

Feb. 7 – Grad Photos – SK & Grade 8

Feb. 7-8 – Garden Club

Feb. 15 – Canada Flag Day – Red and White Day

Feb. 16 – 1<sup>st</sup> Term Report Card Coming Home

Feb. 19 – Family Day – Holiday

Feb. 22 – Gr. 9 High School Information Night

Feb. 22 – Grade 3 Science Presentation

Feb. 23 – Grade 4 Science Presentation

Feb. 27 – School Olympics Day

Feb. 28 – Pink Shirt Day

### Upcoming dates:

March 1 – Gr. 4 Field Trip to Geneva Park

March 12 – 16 – March Break

March 28 – Leadership Team Meeting – After School

March 30 – Good Friday

## Principal's Message

Report cards are coming home this month on February 16. These reports reflect the ongoing assessment that has taken place throughout the term which includes items such as tests, projects, conferencing, and presentations. Teachers also use the provincial achievement chart categories of Knowledge and Understanding, Thinking, Application, and Communication to assess student work.

If you have questions about your child's report card or wish to learn more about the assessment process, please contact your child's teacher or go to <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/success.html>.

Mrs. Wright-Drzazga

## Math Problem of the Month

We are working hard on developing our math skills through daily work and problem solving. When answering questions we often ask students to justify their thinking. Below is an example of this:

**In the question below which would you rather have? Make your choice and justify your reasoning using mathematics.**

**WOULD YOU RATHER...**

Put \$3 in the bank and have it triple each week for 4 weeks? **OR** Put \$4 in the bank and have it quadruple each week for 3 weeks?

Looking for some fun ways to practice math skills at home? Visit our website at [wrb.scdsb.on.ca](http://wrb.scdsb.on.ca) and click on the Math Games link.

## Character Education

**Character is what you do when no one is watching!**

We continue to build good character at W.R. Best. This month the focus is on Inclusiveness.



We include everyone in what we do and value their unique contributions.



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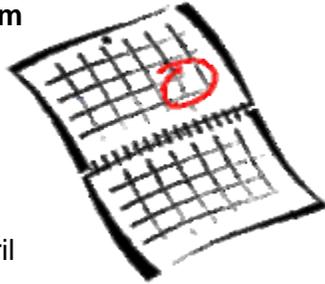
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## School Council

Our next school council meeting is on **Tuesday February 6 at 7:00 pm** in the library. All parents are welcome! We hope to see you there.



Mark your calendars:

Our next meeting will be on April 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Winter Weather

Fluctuating weather is upon us and, as we have witnessed in the last few weeks, temperatures can reach extremes. We will continue to go outside before school and during recesses during winter weather days. Only when the temperature reaches -25 or -28°C with the wind chill will students stay indoors for recess. Parents must ensure that their children are dressed appropriately for the weather conditions so students can enjoy their physical activity time during recess. Hats, mitts, snow pants, and boots are necessary on a daily basis. Please take a moment before your children leave for school each day to ensure they are prepared to be outside.



A few reminders for cold winter weather:

1. Extra mittens/gloves and socks should be in every child's schoolbag, every day.
2. Indoor shoes are needed for classroom use. In the winter, outdoor footwear is always removed before entering the classrooms.
3. Students' awareness of road safety must be heightened during this time of icy, narrowed, snow-banked roads. Remind them to **BE EXTRA CAREFUL** while waiting for the bus.

## Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration is now open



Do you (or someone you know) have a child who was born in 2014? If so, it's time to register them for Kindergarten! Elementary schools are now registering children for Kindergarten for the 2018-19 school year. Required registration documents include birthdate documentation, proof of address and immunization records. Visit [www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten) for more information.

## Stay Up to Date

Stay up-to-date on important information:

Website:

Subscribe to our website to stay up-to-date on what's happening at our school. You'll receive our news and newsletters right to your email inbox!



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Visit the subscribe page at <http://wrb.scdsb.on.ca/subscribe> and enter your email address. You will receive an email with a link to click to confirm that you want to subscribe. Once you've **confirmed**, you'll start receiving all the important news from our school.

**Twitter:**

You can also follow us on Twitter @WRBestPS

**Email:**

Is your email on file with the school? If so, then you will receive important updates as well as our monthly newsletter directly to your email address. How convenient is that! If you do not have an email on file with the school, please feel free to send your email in your child's agenda to give to the office.

full schedule of info nights and more information at [www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool).

### School's In for Summer – Attention Gr. 8's

**School's in for summer at the SCDSB**

Are you and your child planning their courses for next school year? Looking for a way to create flexibility in their timetable and earn a credit? Consider summer school!

Each year, the SCDSB offers a variety of summer programs to over 2,000 students. Summer school options include open, college and university level courses from Grades 9 to 12. Courses are offered in-person or online. Interested students can also travel and earn credits with the summer EduTravel program.

Summer school program details can be found on the Learning Centres website at [www.learningcentres.com](http://www.learningcentres.com). Current SCDSB students should speak to their guidance counsellor for information and to register. Register now so that your summer school choices align with course selection for next year!

### High School Information Night

## HIGH SCHOOL Info Nights



Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights are happening this 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: **Eastview Secondary School, 421 Grove Street East, Barrie, ON - Thursday Feb. 22 6:30 – 8:30.** Check out the

### Special Education Sessions

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.

**Feb. 26**

Transition Planning Grade 8 to 9

**March 19**

Accessing Supports in the Community



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## April 16

Understanding Alternative/Non-Academic IEP Goals

All sessions take place from 6 to 7 p.m. at the SCDSB Education Centre, located at 1170 Highway 26 in Midhurst. No registration required.

### Bus Cancellation Information

### Bus cancellation information in case of inclement weather



Winter has arrived and with it comes the possibility of severe weather, challenging winter driving conditions and, as a result, possible bus and school event cancellations.

All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's bus information website at [www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca). Our school is in the Central zone. When buses are cancelled, please remember that schools are still open (unless otherwise noted) for student learning.

The Consortium, in conjunction with bus operators, will make the decision to cancel school buses before 6 a.m. and as such, will make every effort to post announcements between 6 and 7 a.m. Parents should also note that 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 also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions> and you can follow the Consortium on Twitter @SCSTC\_SchoolBus.

### RVH Film Festival

### RVH Film Festival welcomes student submissions

Barrie's Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) has partnered with the Simcoe County District School Board, the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board and Unity Christian High School to offer



students, classes and schools the opportunity to participate in RVH's annual Film Festival in two external categories:

- Kindergarten to Grade 6
- Grade 7 and up

This year's theme is "Making mental health matter - how are you making a difference?" Students and classes are invited to make a two-minute video showing how they promote mental health. The deadline for submissions is Feb. 5. Voting will take place from Feb. 16 to 26 and those with the winning entries will be invited to an awards ceremony on



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March 8. Find out more and submit your video at:  
[www.rvh.on.ca/SitePages/rvhfilmfestival.aspx](http://www.rvh.on.ca/SitePages/rvhfilmfestival.aspx).

- community resources for parenting, mental health, addictions, quitting smoking or financial help

Contact Health Connection at 1-705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or <http://www.simcoemuskoakahealth.org/>. If English is not your first language, we have a telephone interpretation service.

### OHIP+ provides free prescriptions for children

Beginning Jan. 1, the province will provide free prescription drug coverage for children and youth aged 24 and under, regardless of family income.

Under OHIP+, Ontario children and youth will have access to over 4,400 medications and other drug products. Enrolment in OHIP+ will be automatic, based on age. There are no upfront costs, no co-payment and no annual deductible. Those who are eligible for OHIP+ will only need their health card number and a valid prescription from their doctor or nurse practitioner when they visit their pharmacist.

For more information, visit:  
[www.ontario.ca/page/learn-about-ohip-plus](http://www.ontario.ca/page/learn-about-ohip-plus).

### Questions about your child's health?

#### Questions about your child's health?

Health Connection offers free, confidential health information from nurses and health inspectors on:

- how your child is growing, parenting tips, fast and healthy meals, safe food and water, common illnesses, keeping kids safe, fun family activities
- health unit programs such as vaccinations and dental care

### Immunizations

#### Update your child's immunization record

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is required to keep up-to-date immunization records for all students who attend elementary or secondary school in the County of Simcoe and the District of Muskoka. Parents are responsible for reporting immunizations to the health unit each time their child receives a vaccine from their health care provider. The immunizations that the health unit requires records for include: diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, meningococcal, pertussis and varicella (chickenpox) for those born in 2010 or later.

It's easy to update your child's immunization status. Go to [www.smdhu.org/immsonline](http://www.smdhu.org/immsonline) to update your child's record or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 (toll free).

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*



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## The benefits of youth leadership development

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 and youth often learn lessons through life experiences that significantly impact them later in life. Here are some ways you can help your child develop leadership skills at a young age:

- encourage outdoor adventures and education
- enroll in camps
- find volunteer and community service opportunities

For more information about the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka Youth Leadership Development Programs and Outdoor Education, visit [www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca](http://www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca).

*Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka*

## February 2018

				1	2	3 Colts Game
4	5	6 School Council 7:00	7 Kandalore→ Gr. 6  Grad Photos Sk/Gr.8  Garden Club	8 Kandalore→ Gr. 6  Garden Club	9 Kandalore Gr. 6	10
11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16 Report Cards Home	17
18	19 Family Day Holiday	20	21	22 Eastview future Grade 9 night	23	24
25	26	27 School Olympics Day	28 Pink Shirt Day			

## March 2018

				1 Geneva Park Gr.4	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 March Break	13 March Break	14 March Break	15 March Break	16 March Break	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Leadership Team Meeting	29	30 Good Friday	



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