



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

January 2018

Principal: Mrs. Dianna Wright-Drzazga

Superintendent: Mr. Stuart Finlayson

Trustee: Mr. Peter Beacock

Important January Dates

January 2018:

- Jan. 16 – Rocks & Rings (Gr. 1-3)
- Jan. 22 – Kindergarten Registration Begins
- Jan. 25 – Orders for Colts Tickets Due
- Jan. 26 – PA Day
- Jan. 31 – Leadership Team Meeting 3:45 – 4:45

Upcoming dates:

- 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. 12 – Gr. 3 Science Workshop
- Feb. 16 – 1st Term Report Card Coming Home
- Feb. 19 – Family Day – Holiday
- Feb. 22 – Gr. 9 High School Information Night

Principal's Message

Happy New Year everyone! I hope that, besides a well-deserved rest, you had an opportunity to enjoy some family time together. The spirit of giving is alive and well here and we are very fortunate to be a part of such a caring community. Thank you to the families who were able to support some less fortunate people in the community by donating to Christmas Cheer. You really do make a difference!

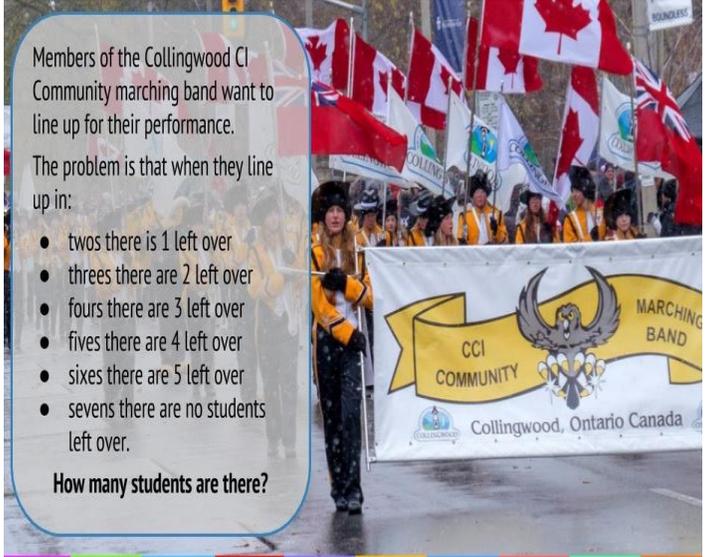
It was wonderful to see so many of our families come out to support our students during our Christmas Celebrations and performances. We are very proud of our students and hope that our Christmas performances helped to inspire the magic of the season in our community!

We are looking forward a great year as we start 2018!

Mrs. Wright-Drzazga

Math Problem of the Month

We are working hard on developing our math skills through daily work and problem solving. Below is an example of the type of problems we are working on:



Members of the Collingwood CI Community marching band want to line up for their performance.

The problem is that when they line up in:

- twos there is 1 left over
- threes there are 2 left over
- fours there are 3 left over
- fives there are 4 left over
- sixes there are 5 left over
- sevens there are no students left over.

How many students are there?

Looking for some fun ways to practice math skills at home? Visit our website at 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 Honesty



We behave in a sincere, trustworthy and truthful manner.

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Barrie Colts Night Out!

W.R. Best families are invited to watch the Barrie Colts hockey game on **Saturday February 3rd**.



The Colts are playing against the Windsor Spitfires! The cost of the ticket is \$20.00 per person and \$6.00 from each of the ticket sales comes directly back to W.R. Best.

Ticket order forms have been sent home with your child and are due back January 25th.

Winter Weather

Cold winter 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:

1. Extra mittens/gloves and socks should be in every child's schoolbag, every day.

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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.

Public Speaking Club

This year we will be having a public speaking club for those students interested in writing speeches and presenting them to the school. This club will begin in early January, will meet weekly and will culminate with students sharing their speeches in the gym. Two students will be chosen between grades 4-8 to represent our school at the Area Public Speaking contest at Forest Hill as well as at the Lion's Club Annual Public Speaking contest. We are looking forward to hearing some great speeches!

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration starts this month



Do you (or someone you know) have a child who was born in 2014? If so, it's almost time to register them for Kindergarten in the SCDSB! Beginning Jan. 22, our elementary schools will register 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 for more information.



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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!

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](https://twitter.com/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.

2018-2019 School Year Calendar

Provide input on proposed 2018-2019 Calendar

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) invites public school communities to submit input regarding the proposed school year calendar for next school year (Sept. 2018 to June 2019). Starting Jan. 9, input can be provided by visiting www.scdsb.on.ca, then clicking the link on the 'School Year Calendars' page under the 'Schools' menu. All stakeholders including staff, school council members, parents/guardians, students and members of the school community are invited to provide input. The deadline to submit input is Jan. 31.

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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 full schedule of info nights and more information at www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool.

French Immersion

French Immersion registration opens in January

The SCDSB offers French Immersion (FI) at select schools throughout Simcoe County beginning in Grade 1. The goal of the FI program is to enable students to communicate in French with a high level of proficiency, enabling them to function with ease in both French and English. Upon graduation from the program, students will communicate in French with confidence in a wide variety of real-life situations.

The FI online application form will be available from 9 a.m. on Mon. Jan. 22, until 9 p.m. on Wed. Jan. 24, 2018 at www.scdsb.on.ca under Programs, French as a Second Language. While every effort is made to accommodate all FI applications, available space and staffing will determine how many students can be



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registered. Applications will be processed in the order they are received electronically. Please contact the school if you do not have Internet access at home or require assistance accessing the online application. Please note that the host sites for FI may change during your child's time in the program, and your child may need to move schools. This may also include splitting the program between two different sites.

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. Our school is in the Central zone. When buses are cancelled, please remember that schools are still open (unless otherwise noted) for student learning.

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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.

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. 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!

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.



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Jan. 22

Assessments in Special Education: Psych Ed and Other Assessments

Feb. 19

Transition Planning Grade 8 to 9

March 19

Accessing Supports in the Community

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.

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

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.

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
- 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.simcoemuskothealth.org/>. If English is not your first language, we have a telephone interpretation service.

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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 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

New Year's Resolutions

Five healthy New Year's resolutions for your family

Some of the top New Year's resolutions across all age groups for 2017 were eating healthy, getting in shape and reducing stress. So, how do you set and achieve a resolution to be healthier? It's been proven that the key to success is setting small goals which require steps towards a larger goal. Here are some New Year's resolutions that families can work on together in 2018:

- spend 30 minutes outside playing together as often as possible, regardless of the weather
- find a place that provides opportunities for the entire family to be physically active together or offers child care and after-school programs
- add physical activity or play time to the calendar, such as scheduling an evening walk or fitness

- class, with the same commitment as other important meetings
- pick a fun run/walk or 5K to do as a family – sign up, train and participate together
- have more family dinners together and involve children in preparing meals as much as possible

For more information about programs offered at the Y for the whole family, please visit www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca.

Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka (www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca)

January 2018

	1 Holiday	2 Holiday	3 Holiday	4 Holiday	5 Holiday	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 JK Registration begins	23	24	25 Colts Tickets Orders Due	26 PD Day	27
28	29	30	31			

February 2018

				1	2	3 Colts Game
4	5	6 School Council 7:00	7 Kandalore Gr. 6	8 Kandalore Gr. 6	9 Kandalore Gr. 6	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Report Cards Home	17
18	19 Family Day Holiday	20	21	22 Eastview future Grade 9 night	23	24
25	26	27	28			

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