



# 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

ISSUE NO.10 – June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 – Visit us on the web @ <http://wrb.scdsb.on.ca>

Follow us on Twitter @WRBestPS.

Principal: Mrs. Eileen Carl Superintendent: Mr. Stuart Finlayson Trustee: Mr. Peter Beacock – Tel: 705.322.7816

## Principal's Notes:

### PLANNING for 2016-17

Even though it is early June, we are busy planning for the 2016 – 2017 year. Our planning department provides estimated numbers of students in each grade for September 1<sup>st</sup> and a mathematical process determines the number of regular class teachers who will be assigned to each school. In our case, this will be 14 classes for the 2016-17 school year.

So, with a list of all the students we know about who will be returning in September and within some very tight rules about class size and teacher qualifications, we will make up fourteen tentative class lists at the end of June, realizing there will likely need to be adjustments in September as families move out of or into our area.

### How are class lists made up?

Some or all of the following may be considered:

- The professional view of the child's teacher from the previous year
- Ministry of Education, SCDSB and teacher contract rules about class size and staffing formulas
- Combinations of students related to instruction (e.g. groups for ESL, SERT, etc.)
- Combinations of students related to social factors
- balance of boys/girls, number of students in each side of a combined grade, range of abilities
- It should be noted that our options are limited. We only have so many classes in which to place students. Since our school is relatively small, combined grades are very common. I can say though, without hesitation, that W.R. Best Memorial Public School has as fine a group of professional staff as you will find anywhere. They are all well-trained, experienced people who care about children, and who consistently work hard to achieve the goals of our school. Of course they have different styles and personalities (that's what makes the world go 'round!') but those personal things do not stand in the way of their competence as teachers. I stand firmly behind each one of them. Your child will be well served in any of our classrooms. The school must reserve the right of final decision about class placement.

Thank you in advance for respecting this policy.  
Respectfully,  
Mrs. Carl

## We're Building Character!

### OUR GOALS ARE...

- \*To promote virtues of a free and democratic society.
- \*To guide students in their journeys toward becoming individuals of good character.
- \*Each month we are highlighting an attribute we would like to further develop.

### June's Focus - Responsibility

*We are accountable for our actions and we follow through on our commitments.*

I demonstrate **responsibility** by...

- ✓ Fixing my own mistakes.
- ✓ Cleaning up my own messes.
- ✓ Thinking before I act or speak.
- ✓ Finishing my work before I play.
- ✓ Being a good example.
- ✓ Doing my best always

## UPCOMING DATES

June 7<sup>th</sup>  
June 8<sup>th</sup>  
June 9<sup>th</sup>  
June 9<sup>th</sup>  
June 10<sup>th</sup>  
June 16<sup>th</sup>  
June 28<sup>th</sup>  
June 29<sup>th</sup>

School Track & Field Day  
Rain Date – School Track & Field  
Jump Rope for Heart  
Kindergarten Interviews  
P.A. Day  
Track & Field – Eastview S.S.  
Grade 8 Graduation Ceremony – 7:00p.m.  
Last Day of School



### National Access Awareness Week – May 29<sup>th</sup> – June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016

This year we are recognizing National Access Awareness Week during the week of May 29<sup>th</sup> – June 4<sup>th</sup>. We are developing caring and empathy and creating a society of inclusiveness of people with physical disabilities.



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## Appropriate Dress for School

Our students need to choose modest clothing for the school setting. It is important to create positive relationships with one another based on respect for ourselves and others. Dress and body image are included in the issue of mutual respect as are bullying and harassment prevention. Parents are asked to be involved in discussing the choice of school clothing with their children and to support the following guidelines:

- ✓ Shoulder straps on tops must be at least 3 cm wide. Bra straps must not be showing. No undergarments should be showing.
- ✓ The midriff area of the body must be covered.
- ✓ Writing and pictures on clothing must not reflect themes of alcohol, drugs, violence, sexual connotations or vulgarity.

When students are not dressed appropriately, a phone call home for a change in clothing will be made or clean clothing we have on hand will be worn over or instead of the inappropriate item.

Thank you for supporting this policy.

## TECHNOLOGY UPDATE



Thanks to the W.R. Best community, we are proud to say that we have 16 smart boards, 16 hovercams and 63 iPads in the building! We have just started to purchase robotic technology. This amazing accomplishment is due to your hard work and support. Smart boards and iPads are great tools that directly enhance the education that we are providing for our students. Thank you so much! Go Bobcats!

### Placement for 2016 – 2017 School Year

Your child's June report card will indicate the grade for the 2016 – 2017 school year. At this time of year, teaching assignments and class lists are not settled. When school reopens on September 6<sup>th</sup>, students will report to their last year's classroom. We will help the students find their new classrooms after the announcements. **PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE OFFICE ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S PLACEMENT IN JUNE OR JULY, OR ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. THE OFFICE STAFF IS EXTREMELY BUSY PREPARING FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR.** You will find out when your child sees you at the end of the day. Thank you for your support and understanding.

## Attention Graduates of 2016!

Our Graduation Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in the gymnasium. We look forward to this special night!



**THANK YOU** for contributing to our Bag2School collection. We collected a ton of textiles that will now be diverted from the landfill. With the average North American discarding over 65 pounds of clothing and textiles each year (some 2 million tons of textiles are discarded in Canadian landfills each year) and the vast majority (89%) of discarded textiles still have 75% wear left, you have made a huge contribution towards a 5-10% reduction in each of the carbon, water and waste footprints. Since, textile recycling is very efficient - approximately 93% of all waste is successfully reclaimed. Items are re-sold as used clothing, reprocessed as fibres for stuffing for vehicle seats, upholstery, insulation, and converted to cloth wipes. Benefits associated with recycling clothing are excellent; it reduces the amount of pesticides/chemicals and water to make/dye new items and cuts down the pollutants and gases released in the manufacturing process.

### Interesting Fact:

- The textiles thrown away in one year in Canada could fill Toronto's Rogers Centre (formerly Sky Dome) three times over.

### Message from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit: Stay safe in the sun

It only takes one bad sunburn in childhood to increase the risk of developing skin cancer later in life. Follow these sun safety tips to keep you and your family safe this summer:

- Use a broad spectrum sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher and SPF 15 lip balm.
- Apply the sunscreen 20-30 minutes before going outside (even on cloudy days) and always follow the label instructions. Make sure to apply it to any exposed areas of skin – nose, ears, back of neck, tops of feet, etc. Reapply every 2-3 hours and after swimming.
- Wear loose, long sleeved shirts and pants, a large-brimmed hat and sunglasses.
- If possible, avoid being in the sun between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Harmful sun rays are most intense at this time.
- When you're outside, look for shade, stay under a tree or use an umbrella.

For more sun safety tips, visit [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org) or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 to speak with a public health nurse.



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### Gifted Screening Process

Parents of a student who will be in or above Grade 3 in the next school year, who wish the school to consider their child for screening are asked to contact Mary Burrows (SERT) before the end of this school year. The gifted screening process consists of three components:

1. **Teacher Rating Scale**
2. **Parent Questionnaire**
3. **Standardized test results**

After signing a permission form, parents/legal guardian will complete the Parent Questionnaire. Information obtained from this questionnaire will help the school gain a better understanding of your child's early development as well as his/her strengths, interests, needs and abilities, which the standardized test may not identify. The teacher will complete a Rating Scale, which examines areas such as learning, motivation, creativity and leadership, which he/she has observed in the classroom. Group testing will be completed in the fall and the results will provide a standardized measure of school abilities. The information gathered from all three components will assist the school in programming for your child. If you require information about the gifted screening process, please contact Mary Burrows (SERT) at the school.

### End of Day Routines

*Please do not telephone the school with last minute changes to transportation plans at the end of the school day, unless it is an emergency. Make arrangements ahead of time, be organized, and be considerate. We need your cooperation and appreciate your concern for the safety of all of our students.*

### Scholastic Book Fair a Big Success!

Many thanks for the fabulous support for this spring's Scholastic Book Fair! A big thank you also goes out to the wonderful parent volunteers who kept the fair running smoothly. We sold \$4700 worth of product, which netted us over \$2800 in books for the library. This translates roughly to

**1600 hours of reading !**



**Congratulations, Bobcat Family!!**

### LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

## Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016



Have a Safe & Sunny Summer **Bobcats!**

		<h2>June 2016</h2>					
			1 EQAO Last Day	2	3	4	
5	6	7 School Track & Field Day	8 Rain Date Track & Field	9 Jump Rope Kdg. Interviews	10 P.A. Day	11	
12	13	14	15	16 Track & Field - Eastview	17	18	
19	20	21 Girl's 3 Pitch	22 Boy's 3 Pitch	23	24	25	
26	27	28 Gr 8 Grad Ceremony 7:00 pm	29 Last Day of School	30			

### Bradford Greenhouses REBATE!

As spring approaches we start to think about gardening. Once again this year – Bradford Greenhouse has included us in their rebate program! When you are shopping at Bradford Greenhouses this spring – please mention our school! ☺

### YEARBOOK NEWS

Our Yearbook has gone to press and will be delivered to students in the third week of June. We sold over 200 books! Thank you for supporting this project. This is not a fundraiser. It is a service and product provided to you by one of our dedicated parent volunteers, Mrs. Kim Fisher. She has spent countless hours here at school taking pictures and working on the yearbook. It is a treasured keepsake to look back at and remember the fun at elementary school. We are certainly grateful to Mrs. Fisher for all of her hard work. Thank you also to the many sponsors who supported the project.