



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. 7 – March 1st, 2017 – 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

FUN FAMILY MATH NIGHT

Last night we had a great time playing math games and learning some new strategies for practicing our math skills. Special thank you to the School Council members, Corryn Mounstephen and Michelle Walbank for volunteering and organizing. Thank you to Jacqueline Yeatman for designing our brochure. Also, special thanks to Dr. Ruth Beatty and Mrs. Kate Cooper from Lakehead University as well as the Faculty of Education students from Lakehead. It was a great turnout and fun to collaborate with Guthrie and East Oro Public Schools. We hope you learned something new and that you enjoyed yourselves. Thank you for supporting!

Yours truly,
Mrs. E. 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.

MARCH'S Focus:

INTEGRITY

We act justly and honourably in all that we do.

We demonstrate integrity by:

- Being able to be trusted
- Doing what we say we'll do
- Keeping confidences
- Doing what we think is right
- Being positive
- Standing up for what is right

"Let the choices you make today be choices you can live with tomorrow."

HOT LUNCH PROGRAM & MILK

The New and Final Session for Lunch Orders starts the week of Monday April 3rd, 2017



Please order by Friday, March 3rd.

There will be no late orders accepted.

We will no longer be sending home paper copies. Please go to our school website if you require a hard copy.

wrb.scdsb.on.ca

UPCOMING DATES

March 3rd, 2017
 March 7th, 2017
 March 7th, 2017
 March 9th, 2017
 March 9th, 2017
March 13th – 17th, 2017
 April 4th, 2017
 April 5th, 2017
 April 14-17th, 2017
 April 25th, 2017
 April 27th, 2017
 April 28th, 2017
 May 1st & 2nd, 2017
 May 2nd, 2017
 May 31st, June 1st & June 2nd
 June 28th, 2017
 June 29th, 2017

P.D. day no school
 Nordic Skiing Competition
 School Council Meeting
 Grad Retakes – 9:30 a.m.
 The Great BIG Crunch – 2:10 p.m.
March Break
 School Council Mtg. – 7:00 p.m.
 Swimming starts – Gr. 1 -3 (Wednesdays- 9 weeks)
 Good Friday and Easter Monday
 French Concert – Gr. 4 – 8 (Georgian College) – 12:30 p.m.
 Kdg. Open House – 4:00-5:00 p.m.
 Dance-a-thon (Spring Fling)
 Kiwanis Music Festival – Ukulele Club
 School Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
 EQAO – Gr. 3 & 6
 Grade 8 Graduation Ceremony – 7:00 p.m.
 Last day of school





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OUR DAILY “BALANCED” SCHEDULE

9:05 AM – 9:15 AM	Buses
9:20 AM – 11:00 AM	Instructional Time
11:00 AM – 11:20 AM	Nutrition Break
11:20 AM – 11:40 AM	Outdoor Recess
11:40 AM – 1:20 PM	Instructional Time
1:20 PM – 1:40 PM	Nutrition Break
1:40 PM – 2:00 PM	Outdoor Recess
2:00 PM – 3:40 PM	Instructional Time
3:40 PM	Dismissal



SUBSCRIBE TO RECEIVE SCHOOL BUS DELAY NOTIFICATIONS

Did you know that you can subscribe to receive school bus delay notifications from the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium? Sign up on the Consortium’s website: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions> and remember that you can also follow the Consortium on Twitter [@SCSTCSchoolBus](https://twitter.com/SCSTCSchoolBus).

A GREENER Tomorrow!

Earth Hour is Saturday March 25th, 2017 at 8:30pm

Earth Day is Saturday April 22nd, 2017!

As Canadians, we choose a future where climate change is no longer a threat. Participating in WWF’s Earth Hour is a simple way to show that you want to be a part of the solution and it sends a powerful message that together we can make a difference. It’s the biggest movement for our planet. Last year 178 countries and territories took part. Earth Hour shines a light on the most critical climate issues we face.

Canada will be encouraging participants to turn off their lights for an hour and to share their participation on social media using the hashtag #uneheurepourlaterre.

Earth Hour belongs to you. Celebrate your commitment to the planet with your friends, family, community or at work – in your own way. A simple event can be just turning off all non-essential lights from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 25th, 2017. We will be recognizing Earth Hour at school on Friday, March 24th.

For one hour, focus on your commitment to our planet for the rest of this year. To celebrate, you can have a candle lit dinner, talk to your neighbours, stargaze, play board games, screen an environmental documentary post the hour, create or join a community event – the possibilities are endless. You will be joining millions of other people who take part each year.

Yearbook Orders have gone home!

Thank you to Mrs. Fisher for your work on our amazing yearbook! Yearbooks cost **\$21**. There will be no savings on additional copies as in past years.

You can order through Cash Online **OR** by paper order form with cash **or cheque, payable to W.R. Best P.S. by May 10th, 2017**

'Spring Fling' DANCE-A-THON!

W.R. Best Memorial Public School will be holding a spring fling dance-a-thon fundraiser for students on **Friday, April 28th, 2017** Students are requested to ask family, friends and relatives for sponsorship. A pledge sheet will be coming home in early April. Students are asked to donate a minimum pledge of \$5.00. Every participant will be eligible to win some of our great draw prizes.





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“ABILITY IS WHAT YOU’RE CAPABLE OF DOING. MOTIVATION DETERMINES WHAT YOU DO. ATTITUDE DETERMINES HOW WELL YOU DO IT.” - LORI HOLTZ

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration has already begun for September of 2017. Full Day Kindergarten has been in effect since September 2012. If your child was born in 2013, then your child is eligible to start JK this fall. The following documentation will be required at the time of registration: proof of birthdate (original copy), proof of child’s address and an up-to-date record of immunizations.

Please register early!



There will be a short presentation to help you understand the expectations and routines of students during their first years at school on **Thursday, April 27th at 4:00 p.m. in the gym.**

PROVINCE-WIDE TESTING

Gr. 3 and 6 Assessments

WHO? Mandatory participation by all Gr. 3 and 6 students in publicly funded schools in Ontario.

WHAT? An integrated assessment unit wherein students are encouraged to probe, ponder, question, hypothesize and to contemplate their world. There are performance-based, short answer and multiple choice assessment activities in reading, writing and mathematics. It takes approximately 6 hours over 3 days.

WHEN? The assessment will take place at W.R. Best on **May 31st, June 1st, June 2nd, 2017.**

* Please be sure that your child arrives on time and is well-rested. Do not schedule doctor/dentist appointments during this time. Thank you. Results will be released in the fall of 2016.*

SWEATER DAY AT W.R. BEST!

According to World Wildlife Fund, over a million Canadians have participated in National Sweater Day, since 2010. National Sweater Day is a fun way to learn about the importance of saving energy, and inspire you to use less heat all winter. Heating accounts for 80% of residential energy use in Canada, and is a significant source of emissions. If all Canadians lowered their thermostats by just 2 degrees Celsius this winter, it would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about 4 megatons – equivalent to shutting down a 600 megawatt coal-fired power station. This year **W.R. Best** took part in National Sweater day by: requesting their heat be turned down on February 2nd, distributing information about the environmental impact of our heating practices, as well as conducting a two week used sweater collection. Over two hundred sweaters were collected and were distributed to the less fortunate. Thank you to all of those who donated and participated in the event by wearing a sweater and demonstrating how we can make a difference, to climate change, by reducing emissions caused by heating.

EASTER FOOD DRIVE

Our school is participating in the Easter Food drive this year and will be donating to the Barrie Food Bank. We will be accepting non-perishable food items starting April 3rd to April 13th. Thank you. ☺





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SCHOOL EVENT INFORMATION & CALENDARS

Technology in SCDSB Classrooms

Today's students have grown up with technology – it's a regular part of their daily lives. By bringing educational technology into the classroom, we can tap into our students' interests and build on their developing skills to create vibrant learning environments that are innovative, creative and engaging. Read more about how the SCDSB is supporting technology-enabled learning environments while at the same time protecting student privacy and personal information. Visit www.scdsb.on.ca, click on 'Programs' and then 'Learning &

Attention Graduates of 2017!



Advance notice: **Wednesday, June 28th @ 7 p.m.** is our graduation celebration in **the gymnasium at W.R. Best.** Detailed information to follow regarding the dinner and golf tournament.

Volunteers

We are very fortunate that we have an army of volunteers! Moms, dads, grandparents and community members come to our school every day to support our school community. Thank you to all of you for your work at our school, it is very much appreciated!



ARE YOU MOVING?

Believe it or not, planning for next year has already begun! It is very helpful for us to have an accurate enrolment projection. When you know if you are moving in or out of our attendance area, would you let us know right away? Thank you. We appreciate this courtesy as it really facilitates the organization of classes and staff allocation.

Bradford Greenhouses

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 Greenhouse this spring, please mention our school.



March 2017						
			1	2	3 PD Day	4
5	6 Artshine 3:50 p.m.	7 Nordic Skiing Competition School Council Mtg.	8	9 Grad Retakes Great Big Crunch 2:10 pm	10	11
12	13 March	14 Break	15	16	17	18
19	20 Artshine	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Artshine	28	29	30	31	
April 2017						
						1
2	3 Artshine	4 School Council Mtg.	5 Swimming starts Gr.1-3	6	7	8
9	10 Artshine	11	12 Swimming	13	14 Good Friday	15
16	17 Easter Monday	18	19 Swimming	20	21	22 Uku- lele Club Kiw- anas
23	24 Artshine	25 French Concert 12:30 pm	26 Swimming	27 JK Open House 4-5 pm	28 Dance- a-thon	29
30						

Get outside to play on March Break

Active play does more than help kids to achieve the 60 minutes of physical activity they need every day, it supports their development in many ways – especially when the play is outdoors, self-directed and fun. This allows kids to test boundaries and problem-solve, develop social skills and resolve conflict, and learn to control their emotions and behaviour. Active play outdoors in the fresh air and nature also helps to improve mood and lower stress. Support your child to play outside with friends in the neighbourhood and at your local park as much as possible.



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MARCH IS NUTRITION AWARENESS MONTH

Packing a Healthy School Lunch

A school lunch should give children the energy and nutrients they need to be ready to learn, be more alert and perform better at school. When planning lunches keep these tips in mind:

~ include one serving from at least three of the four food groups from Canada's Food Guide

~rather than buying pre-made lunch kits, make your own healthy "lunch kit" with divided containers and small "bite-sized" cheese cubes, left over chicken chunks, veggie sticks or fruit slices

~get your kids to eat more veggies! Send cucumber coins, zucchini sticks, and pepper strips with dip

~fill whole wheat or multi grain wrap/pita/tortilla shells with your child's favourite foods such as hummus and grated carrot or sliced turkey with mustard

~water is the healthiest choice to quench thirst

For more info contact Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or visit www.simcoemuskokahealth.org

We are taking part in the Great Big Crunch!

What is The Great Big Crunch?

The Great Big Crunch is a special day of good food education, ending with a massive, synchronized bite into a crunchy apple to celebrate.

The 2017 Great Big Crunch will be taking place on Thursday, March 9th at 2:10 pm E.S.T.

Join us to:

- promote, celebrate and enjoy healthy snacking
- highlight availability of local produce all year round
- use fruits and vegetables as the centerpiece for activities on cooking and tasting, nutrition, soil and composting, sustainability, community development and more!
- celebrate Nutrition Month!

Anyone can participate! We want students, teachers and individuals across the country who are interested in learning more about locally grown fruits and vegetables to join us in a cross Canada salute to healthy and local eating.

For the record.....

- In 2009 28,863 students participated in 125 schools from coast to coast, with teachers, staff and parents in a cross-Canada synchronized apple crunch.
- In 2010 nearly 64,000 students from across Canada joined The Great Big Crunch 2010—a well as some from Amsterdam and Morocco!
- In 2011 The Great Big Crunch was a victory for Food Literacy across Canada with 11,352 Crunchers tallied. Apple Power!
- In 2012 we heard the loudest crunch yet with 148, 095 incredible crunches in over 260 schools across Canada!
- 2013 brought us up to half a million crunchers since we started in 2008 – way to go!
- In 2014 we had 100,097 crunchers get on board – AMAZING!
- In 2015 we had 185,655 crunchers in over 450 crunch sites that bring the total since 2008 to 785,000.

For ideas activities for the Nutrition Month and the Great Big Crunch visit <http://www.foodshare.net/great-big-crunch-activities-and-resources>

BARRIE COLTS NIGHT- A BIG HIT!

Thank you to everyone who participated in our 7th annual Barrie Colts fundraiser event. It was a great family evening and a good time was had by all. With your support we were able to raise over \$1,200. These funds go directly towards the purchase of technology for our school. It was truly a team effort and great for school spirit.

Anastasia Stevens sang O'Canada, once again, before 4500 spectators! She did a beautiful job and represented our school in fine fashion.

We hope to offer this event again next year.



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Events at Eastview Secondary School in April

On April 10 at 7 p.m., Eastview Secondary School will host a screening of the film *Screenagers*, a study of growing up in the digital age. Physician and filmmaker Delaney Ruston created *Screenagers* to probe into the vulnerable corners of family life to explore struggles over social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. This presentation will help parents learn how tech time impacts kids' development and offers solutions on how adults can empower kids to best navigate the digital world.

On April 12 at 7 p.m., the school welcomes financial literacy expert Robin Taub, the author of the best-seller, *A Parent's Guide to Raising Money-Smart Kids*. Her presentation will cover why it's important to teach kids about money, as well as the challenge of being a good financial role model. She will explain how to address money-related topics with young kids, pre-teens, teenagers and emerging adults.

All parents/guardians are welcome to attend the above events. For more information, please contact Eastview Secondary School at 705-728-1321. The school is located at 421 Grove St. E. in Barrie.

Student information notice for parents of Grade 8 students

As students progress from elementary school to secondary school, important personal student information is shared which eases each student's transition. 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. Please contact *Stuart Finlayson* Superintendent of Education for this area, if you would like more information about the transition process at *W.R. Best Memorial Public School*.

SCDSB Media Fest: What Does Being a Great Canadian Look Like?

Students are invited to submit an entry for the 2017 SCDSB Media Fest. This media festival is open to all Simcoe County District School Board students and can include images, audio and video. For more information, visit www.scdsbmediafest.com. The submission deadline is April 3rd.

*"Integrity is doing the right thing
even when no one is watching."*

Feel like your teen is always on?

Ever consider how all those minutes your teen spends sitting using electronic devices, watching TV or even playing video games add up every day? By replacing some of their screen time with physical activity, you will be helping them to become healthier, reduce stress and be more likely to feel happier and more confident. Here are some ideas to suggest to your teen:

- organize a pick-up game of baseball, ball hockey or basketball
- check out a local nature trail with friends
- try something new like disc golf!

Set a goal to limit screen time to less than two hours each day.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

