



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. 3 – November 2017 – Visit us on the web @ <http://wrb.scdsb.on.ca>

Follow us on Twitter @WRBestPS.

Principal: Mrs. Wright-Drzazga Superintendent: Mr. Stuart Finlayson Trustee: Mr. Peter Beacock – Tel: 705.322.7816

Principal's Notes:

The Best Bazaar is approaching quickly and your School Council has worked hard preparing for this event. The Best Bazaar proceeds go toward raising funds for the school and will support Athletics as well as our Primary Reading Program. Thank you for your help in so many ways. Families and local businesses have been very supportive by donating silent auction items, baked goods, basket items and more. Your help is appreciated and we hope to see many of you on Saturday at the Bazaar!!!

Progress Reports will be coming home on November 10th and will provide parents with an understanding of how their child(ren) are progressing across subject areas and how they are growing in terms of the following skills and habits:

- Responsibility
- Organization
- Independent Work
- Collaboration
- Initiative
- Self-Regulation

The development of these traits is essential to a student's success in school and in future career placements and is a daily focus.

Yours truly,
Mrs. Wright-Drzazga

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

Focus for November > Courage

Building Courage - *We do the right thing, even when it is difficult.*

Courage is...

- Not doing something that "everybody" is doing
- Working toward your ambitions despite obstacles
- Sticking your neck out for someone else
- Making friends out of enemies
- Taking action to deal with difficulties rather than avoiding them
- Taking a stand against bullies
- Not taking unwise risks to gain the approval of those around us

"Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen."
- Winston Churchill

Upcoming Dates

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| November 4th, 2017 | Best Bazaar at W.R. 9:00 to 3:00 |
| November 7th, 2017 | School Council Meeting 7:00 pm library |
| November 7 th , 2017 | Peter Pan Georgian College K-5 |
| November 8th, 2017 | Picture Retake Day |
| November 9th, 2017 | Grade 3 Science Workshop |
| November 10th, 2017 | Remembrance Day Service at 10:00am |
| November 10th, 2017 | Progress Reports Home |
| November 15th, 2017 | Drama Trip – Grades 6-8 |
| November 17th, 2017 | P.A. Day |
| November 21st, 2017 | Grade 4 Pulleys and Gears workshop |
| December 5th 2017 | Kindergarten Christmas Concert 2:15 |
| December 14th 2017 | Christmas Concert 7:00 evening |
| December 22nd, 2017 | Last day before Christmas Holidays |



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“Courage is like a muscle. It is strengthened by use”. Ruth Gordon

Remembrance Day Service

Friday, November 10th, 2017, at 10:00 a.m.

Parents and community members are welcome!

Our service will feature special music, readings and a moment of silence.



Students who belong to organizations such as Scouts, Brownies/Guides, Cadets, etc. are encouraged to wear their uniforms for this service.

Celebrate peace in your community: Peace Week is Nov. 18 to 25

November is a month of reflection and gratitude. The sight of poppies and wreaths serve as a reminder of the brave men and women who have fought for peace and freedom.

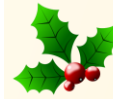
The month of November also celebrates a nationwide YMCA initiative called Peace Week, from November 18 to 25. This is a time when we can celebrate the presence of peace in our local and global communities. Peace Week offers activities and opportunities for people of all ages to explore peace from personal, community and global perspectives. Simple actions like sharing, being patient or smiling and saying hello can have a far greater impact than we think.

As an advocate for peace, the YMCA invites everyone to be part of the conversation. Share something you do to foster peace in your home, school, workplace or community. Join in spreading kindness throughout our community with “Be Kind Bells.” These bells will be hidden in locations throughout our community. If you find one, perform one kind act, then hide the bell for someone else to find. Share on social media using #YMCAPeaceWeek with the location where you found the bell, your kind act and encourage someone else to do the same!

Visit <http://ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca/ymca-international/peace-week/> for more information.

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

The Best Bazaar at WR!



The Annual “Best Bazaar” will be held on Sat. Nov. 4th at **W.R. Best!**

9:00 a.m. – 3:00p.m.

This will be a great day for the school community!!! Thanks to the efforts of our faithful corps of eager volunteers, this event will be very successful. We appreciate the number of families who come out and support the school in this way. Thank you to so many who sent in items for the theme baskets. They are FILLED to overflowing with your thoughtful donations!! Don't forget to send in your baked goods on Friday, November 3rd between 8:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. or on Saturday, November 4th between

7:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.

See you at the Bazaar!

Open from 9:00 to 3:00!

Silent auction closes at 2:00 p.m.



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Bus Cancellation Information Reminder

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 WEATHER ZONE**. When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, unless otherwise noted.

The Consortium 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 Consortium on Twitter @SCSTC_SchoolBus for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions>

For school event cancellations in case of inclement weather, follow our school's Twitter account at @WRBestPS or listen to your local radio station for event cancellation information.

Our School's Nut Allergy Policy!

Your support of this policy has been overwhelming. EVERYONE has been very cooperative and diligent in following the established protocol and we appreciate your concern for the safety of our students. Thank you so much and keep up the good work!

2017-2018 School Council Members

On our first meeting on Oct. 3rd, there were over 20 people who came out.

We look forward to seeing our council members at our next meeting on Tuesday November 7th, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the library.

SCHOOL DAY PRACTICES

We would like to remind you of a few ways you can help us!

- If your child is late or absent from school, a phone call is required before 9:00 a.m. (705-728-9591). For absences of 3 days or more, a written note of explanation is **ALSO REQUIRED**.
- Students who are being picked up during the day (e.g. for an appointment) must be picked up from the school office. This is for the student's protection.
- Requests for school personnel to administer medication to students must be made through the school office and an authorization signed by the doctor must be submitted. Without this authorization, we are not permitted to administer any medication (not even Tylenol or antibiotics!).
- Valuable items such as iPods, toys, jewellery, collectibles, cell phones, cameras, etc. should not be brought to school. We cannot accept responsibility for any such items. Students are not permitted to take photos at school without specific permission in specific circumstances.
- Outdoor recesses provide students with a necessary change of pace in their day and serve as a refresher so that further efficient learning can take place. Generally, students who are too ill to benefit from recesses are too ill to be in school.



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OCTOBER'S SUCCESS!

Crazy for Cross Country!

Our grades 4 – 8 students participated showing perseverance and grit at our Regional meet at Sunnidale Park. We also had over 20 students competing at the County tournament at Mount St. Louis. Congratulations Bobcat Runners! Thank you coaches Mrs. McRob, Mrs. Schell, Mrs. Centurione and Madame Mullin.

Fabulous Flag Football!

Once again we had a fantastic flag football season with our Intermediate Co-ed Flag Football team! Our team finished 1st in our Regional Tournament and top 8 in the County tournament! Thank you to Lori Chalmers & Paul Kidner for coaching. The kids had a great season!

Kiss & Ride

Just a reminder to parents to abide by the Kiss & Ride routine if you are picking your child up. If your child is not ready, please continue to circle the driveway until your child is at the Kiss & Ride. This will alleviate a back up of parents behind you, whose children may be waiting at the Kiss & Ride. As soon as the 3:45 pm bell rings, our buses start to pull out of the driveway. We request that you do not pull into the Kiss & Ride area at that time, but rather wait for the buses to leave the property. Please do not park on the west side of the parking lot (near the garbage bins) to drop off your children. Parking on Old Barrie Road is discouraged, as it is unsafe on such a busy road.

High school information nights coming to a school near you!

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights happen this fall and 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, Thurs. Feb. 22, 6:30 – 8:00.** Check out the full schedule of info nights and more information at www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool.

Voluntary self-identification of First Nation, Métis or Inuit ancestry

Self-identification is a personal choice to disclose First Nation, Métis or Inuit ancestry. The choice to self-identify is up to you and does not require proof of documentation (i.e. no status card), regardless of where you live. Self-identification is confidential, securely stored and used only to support First Nation, Métis and Inuit student success. Self-identification helps schools support the needs of First Nation, Métis and Inuit students and their achievement. Student achievement data is collected and protected with other confidential data used to help improve student achievement.

To self-identify your child as First Nation, Métis or Inuit, check off the First Nation, Métis or Inuit box on the school registration form and write in details if applicable. The SCDSB is committed to meeting the learning needs of First Nation, Métis and Inuit students through responsive programming and services. Past activities have included: the inclusion of First Nation, Métis and Inuit focused resources in schools; school based pow wows; dedicated First Nation, Métis and Inuit student advisors and cultural awareness training for school staff. To learn more about First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education, visit www.scdsb.on.ca > Programs > First Nation, Métis & Inuit Education.



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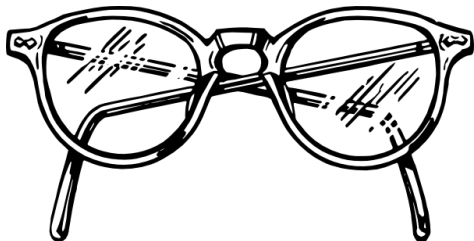
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Eye See Eye Learn Program offering **FREE EYE EXAMS** and glasses for JK students!!!

Eye See...Eye Learn program offers free glasses for Junior Kindergarten students

The Eye See...Eye Learn program provides comprehensive eye exams by local optometrists to Junior Kindergarten (JK) students. The eye exams are covered under the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) when parents show their child's health card. There is no out-of-pocket cost for the eye exam and if the child requires a pair of glasses, they will receive them free of charge



Treaties Recognition Week takes place Nov. 5 to 11

Did you know we are ALL treaty people? Treaties Recognition Week is the first week of November every year - this year it's Nov. 5 to 11. The Simcoe County District School Board is located on territory covered by several pre-confederation treaties - Treaty 5, 16, 18, 19 and 82, as well as the 1923 William's Treaty.

Treaties Recognition Week was introduced in 2016 to honour the importance of treaties and to help Ontarians learn more about treaty rights and treaty relationships. Take some time this week to learn about the treaty in your area. To learn more about the treaties and how we can honour them, visit www.ontario.ca/page/treaties and www.anishinabek.ca/education-resources/gdoo-sastamoo-kii-mi/.



November is Financial Literacy Month

Each November, Canadians celebrate Financial Literacy Month. Take control of your financial future, learn how you can increase your financial literacy skills and discover new ways to become more savvy with your money – and show your kids how to be financially smart as well! Learn more with ABC Life Literacy's Financial Literacy tools: abclifeliteracy.ca/financial-literacy.

A message from the Health Unit: Updating your child's IMMUNIZATION RECORD It's time to update your child's immunization records

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. It's easier than ever 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.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit



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SCDSB online tool for reporting bullying, drug use or vandalism

The SCDSB has an online Safe Schools Reporting Tool, which is available on our school website homepage, <http://wrb.scdsb.on.ca>, as a Quick Access button. Students and parents can use this tool to submit a report online if they witness a student engaged in inappropriate behaviour such as bullying, drug use or vandalism. Students are still encouraged to speak to a trusted adult at school or home if they have any concerns. This form isn't a substitute for having a discussion with your teacher or principal. Student safety and well-being is our top priority. For more information, visit <http://scdsb.on.ca/ReportAnIncident>.

November 12 to 18 is National Addiction Awareness Week

Nov 12 to 18 is National Addiction Awareness Week. The SCDSB will be marking this week by providing schools with a variety of resources to increase awareness and education among staff and students. We hope that your child will share some of what they are learning this week and we have included some helpful resources to support you in conversations you might be having with your kids:

- www.participation.com/en-ca/programs/unplug-and-play
- <http://parentactionondrugs.org>
- www.drugfreekidscanada.org
- www.camh.ca

Low-cost Snow Pass for Grade 4 and 5 Students

Do you have a child in Grade 4 or 5? The Canadian Ski Council offers the Grade 4 and 5 Snow Pass to children across Canada, providing low-cost access to ski and snowboard hills across the country, including many in Simcoe County! Visit www.skicanada.org/grade-4-5-snowpass/ for further details.

SCDSB's new Holy Days and Holidays Calendar now available

The students and staff of the SCDSB represent a rich diversity of faith traditions. The Holy Days and Holidays calendar helps identify some of the important days of commemoration, however it isn't designed to be a complete listing of religious days. Students and staff from a particular faith background may or may not be absent from school on these special days. If they do attend, certain accommodations may be required.

To view the July 2017 - December 2018 calendar, visit www.scdsb.on.ca, click on 'Schools,' 'School Year Calendars' and then 'Holy Days and Holidays Calendar.' You can also learn more the significant faith dates that the SCDSB recognizes.

OHIP+ provides free prescription drug coverage for children

Beginning Jan. 1, 2018, 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. Enrollment 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.

Nutri-eSTEP can help your family encourage healthy eating habits

Are you a parent of a Kindergarten student? Do you sometimes worry about your child's healthy eating? Nutri-eSTEP can help! Check out www.smdhu.org/Nutri-eSTEP. You answer 17 questions to find out what's going well and what to work on to keep your child healthy. Nutri-eSTEP is a questionnaire for parents with children aged 18 months to five years of age. When you help your children learn how to eat healthy, move more and limit time spent sitting, you make a difference to their lifelong health. For more information, call Health Connection weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 705-721-7520 or toll free 1-877-721-7520.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit