



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

October 2018

Principal: Mrs. Dianna Wright-Drzazga

Superintendent: Mr. Stuart Finlayson

Trustee: Mr. Peter Beacock

Important October Dates

October 2018:

- October 8 – Thanksgiving Monday
- October 10 – Regional Cross Country – Sunnidale
- October 11 – Artshine begins after school
- October 12 – Terry Fox Run
- October 18 – Picture Day
- October 22 – PA Day
- October 24 – Bus Driver Appreciation Day
- October 26 – Grade 7 Vaccinations
- October 31 - Halloween

Upcoming dates:

- November 7 – Picture Retake Day
- November 12 – 15 – Parent Teacher Interviews
- November 16 – Progress Reports Come Home
- November 23 – PA Day
- February 6 - Grade Photo Day

Principal's Message

We have had a great first month at school and are settling into routine. Thank you to all of our families who have helped to make the transition back to school as seamless as possible! It has been great meeting new families and seeing returning families in and around the school. As well, we have a wonderful group of volunteers who have already begun to support the staff and students in various ways around the school. Our volunteers are an integral part of the W.R. Best family and we welcome new volunteers! If you are interested in volunteering please stop by the office for more information.

Once again this year, we are asking for your assistance in helping to instill the importance of punctuality, consistent attendance, and organization as important life skills. Please try to keep appointments during the hours after school and on PA

Days. For those appointments that are unavoidable during the day please inform your child's teacher of the change in schedule through the agenda. It is important that schedule changes are communicated in advance as we are working very hard to minimize disruptions to the classrooms during the day as it interrupts your child's learning as well as that of their classmates.

We appreciate your cooperation with this and encourage all of our families to be organized and make arrangements ahead of time.

Mrs. Dianna Wright-Drzazga
Principal

The Best Bazaar at W.R.

9th Annual!

Save the Date: Saturday, November 10th

This fabulous school community event is dedicated to raising funds for our students and school. Funds last year were used to purchase two W.R. Best tents for sporting events as well as reading materials for our students. Funds raised this year will be used to purchase classroom items to enhance your child's education as well as to support field trips and student presentations.

This well attended event is always full of interesting handmade artifacts to buy! Mark your calendars and plan to come to the 'The Best Bazaar at WR'.

Silent Auction items needed! Please contact Michelle Walbank at 705-229-9696 or Watsonml@hotmail.com if you have items you are able to donate.



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Busing Reminders...

Please note that students are only permitted to ride the school bus in which they have been assigned. This is a regulation of the transportation consortium as drivers maintain a student list. **Students may not ride on alternate buses for after school playdates** so please ensure that alternate arrangements have been made.



School Council

Our next council meeting will be on:

**Tuesday November 6th
7:00 p.m. in the library**

All parents are welcome to attend any meeting of the School Council. Please consider coming out to our school council meetings. Everyone is welcome!

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 Cooperation.



We work together towards shared goals and purposes.

School Cash Online

Pay for field trips, lunch days, etc. with SchoolCash Online

We have made it easy for parents to make their school purchases from the convenience of their own home. Whether it's lunch days, field trips or school wear, we have it online for you! Follow these three steps to get started:

1. Go to simcoecounty.schoolcashionline.com or visit our school website and click on "Pay Fees"
2. Register and add your child to the newly created account
3. View and purchase items through bank transfer or credit card

It's safe, fast and convenient. All new families will be receiving further information over the next week.

Keep Connected with W.R. Best

Here are a few ways to stay connected:

- ❖ Visit our school website: <http://wrb.scdsb.on.ca>.
- ❖ Follow W.R. Best on Twitter (@WRBestPS)
- ❖ Ensure your email address is up to date with the school to receive newsletters and important messages.



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simcoecountyschoolbus.ca for bus delay and cancellation information on inclement weather days.



SCDSB News...

School Council members event

School Council members invited to *Connections* event on Oct. 23

School council members are invited to join us at Connections, the Simcoe County District School Board's (SCDSB) school council development and networking event.

When: Tues. Oct. 23, 4 to 7 p.m.

Where: SCDSB Education Centre, 1170 Hwy. 26, Midhurst

Participants can gather tips and important information to help you in your role on school council, contribute to group discussions, browse booths and enjoy snacks from our approved vendors, and network with fellow school council and Parent Involvement Committee members. This year, we welcome Jacqui Strachan, Communications Director, People for Education, who will discuss fundraising and equity within a school council. Register at www.scdsb.on.ca/connections. Register by Oct. 16 for your chance to win a \$500 parent engagement grant for your school. The winner(s) will be drawn at the event. You must be in attendance to win the prize.

School Bus Information

For school bus transportation information, visit the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s website at: main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. Also, remember to bookmark the school bus information page at:

School Bus Driver Appreciation Day

Wed., Oct. 24 is School Bus Driver Appreciation Day in the province of Ontario. It's a great opportunity for the school community to thank our bus drivers for all their hard work transporting students to and from school safely. For more information, visit the SCSTC website at main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/.

School Bus Safety Week

School Bus Safety Week takes place October 22 to 26, 2018. To support schools in promoting school bus safety to students, the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC), in partnership with school bus operators, will offer bus evacuation training to all home-to-school transported students. During this week, school bus drivers will educate students on how to evacuate a school bus safely in an emergency situation.

Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 7 to 13

This year's Fire Prevention Week theme focuses on three fundamental actions people can take to be fire-safe:

- LOOK for places fire could start. Take a good look around your home. Identify potential fire hazards and take care of them.
- LISTEN for the sound of the smoke alarm. You could have only minutes to escape safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Go to your outside meeting place, which should be a safe distance from the home and where everyone should know to meet.



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LEARN two ways out of every room and make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily and are free of clutter.

Want to Volunteer?

We appreciate the commitment of all who volunteer at our school. This school year, we are implementing a new online Volunteer Portal. SCDSB Community Apps (<http://communityapps.scdsb.on.ca>) is a new online portal that allows you to begin the process for volunteering at our school.

- Only NEW volunteers or those who received a letter in June indicating you require an updated Criminal Background Check Vulnerable Sector Screening (5-year renewal) are able to register as a volunteer on the Community Apps website at this time.
- If you're a current, approved school volunteer, you can still volunteer at our school for the time being. You should have recently received a letter with your access code. This code will allow you to register as a volunteer on the Volunteer Portal through the Community Apps website.

Immunizations

It's time to update your child's immunization record (for elementary and secondary schools)

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 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

