



COOKSTOWN CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

<http://ckt.scdsb.on.ca>

Kent Cheesman
Principal

Phone Number (705) 458-4461 **FEBRUARY 2018**

Kristy Reynolds
Vice-Principal

Safe Arrival: (705) 458-4461 ext. 1

SCHOOL COUNCIL –Next Meeting February 5th @ 6:00 p.m. in the Library

Dear Parents/Guardians,

February brings many exciting events to the students of Cookstown Central Public School, ranging from celebration of their individual successes on report cards February 16th, showing their inclusiveness through caring on Valentine's Day and Family Day (February 19th), and the exciting build up to March Break. Please take the time to speak with your child about school and all that is happening and stay up to date by referring to the calendar attached.

The report card is a valuable tool for parents as it will indicate how your child is progressing - their successes along with their next steps for learning will be presented. Please take the time to review the information with your child and if any clarification or ideas on how to support your child's learning are needed, contact their classroom teacher. Congratulations to all students for "Being the Best That You Can Be" and putting forth your greatest effort!

Important Dates

Kindergarten Registration began	January 22, 2018
Reports Cards Go Home	February 16, 2018
Family Day	February 19, 2018
Character Assembly	February 28, 2018
March Break	March 12 to 16, 2018
Gr. 8 Grad Photos	March 27, 2018
Good Friday	March 30, 2018
Easter Monday	April 2, 2018

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION: WELCOME TO A WONDERFUL JOURNEY OF LEARNING!

Kindergarten registration began January 22, 2018. To be eligible, your child must be four years of age by December 31, 2018.

Please contact the school's office at 705-458-4461 for more information. Appointments are not necessary; however, we suggest you come in between the hours of **9:30-11:30 a.m. and 2:00-3:00 p.m.** daily if you wish to register your child.

We will require proof of your child's birth date (original Canadian Birth Certificate, Certificate of Canadian Citizenship, Canadian Passport, Permanent Resident Card/Record of Landing, or Statement of Live Birth - long version) and proof of your child's address (e.g., a utility bill). We will also request his/her record of immunization and health card. Visit www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten for more information.

Families of kindergarten students new to Canada or Ontario must contact our "Newcomer Welcome Centre" at 705-725-8360, ext. 310 prior to visiting the school.

For all those that register there will be a kindergarten event on May 30th at 2:15 to 3:15 p.m. where you will receive information and activities for you and your child and helpful tools for parents of new kindergarten students.

Pizza Days

Please remember to place your pizza order via SchoolCash Online for the month of March (3 Fridays) by midnight Feb. 26th. Thank you.

Computer for SchoolCash Online

A reminder to all families that we now have a designated computer in the office for all families to use if they need access to SchoolCash online. As well, the office staff will be there to help you with any issues you have with SchoolCash online.

Reporting Absences

If your child will be absent, please make sure to call Safe Arrival, or send a note directly to the office. A note in the agenda will not necessarily make it to the office, and you may still receive a Safe Arrival call.

Make sure your contact information is accurate and up to date

Every September we send home a Student Information Verification Form that includes the information we have in our database about your child. We use the parent/guardian and emergency contact information from this form for the Safe Arrival Program.

It's important that you check this form carefully and mark any changes before signing it and returning it to the school.

If you need to change contact information at any point throughout the year, please contact us. We'll ask you to provide a written note with the updates.

If you have any questions about the changes to our program, please contact us.

High School Information Nights Coming to a School near you!

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

Science Fair

The Cookstown Science Fair is happening on February 23rd in the gym. It is open to any

interested Grade 4-8 students. Parents and families are welcome to come and see the displays between 11:40 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. Projects will be judged using the Regional Science Fair criteria and the top 15 projects will proceed to the Regional Fair at Bear Creek on April 6th and 7th.

Green Team

Cookstown Central has received Ontario EcoSchools certification for the past four years, once at the silver level and three times at the gold. This means that as a school we implement green practices and embed environmental education and awareness in our day-to-day activities. This year, we have been invited to go for platinum level certification. In our efforts to reach this level we are running a variety of awareness and education campaigns. In February, we are challenging classes to conserve energy by shutting off unused lights and equipment. Our school has also been chosen for conversion to higher efficiency LED lighting. We will also be participating in Sweater Day, where we challenge students to wear sweaters to school and drop the thermostat by a degree. We will keep you posted about upcoming events and campaigns.

Grade 3 Swim to Survive

Grade 3 Swim to Survive program will begin in February. Mrs. Mensinga and Mrs. McDermott's Grade 3s will go to the Holly Community Centre on Feb. 8th, 15th, & 22nd. Mrs. Newhook's and Mrs. Anstey's Grade 3's will go to the HCC on Feb. 9th, 16th and 23rd. Students will be leaving the school at 12:30 and returning to the school around 3:00 pm.

Parking Lot

If you are bringing your child to school by car you are requested to "do the loop" - enter by the north entrance, loop around the parking lot, drop off near the intermediate doors at the north end of the building and leave via the same exit. Please do not exit your cars! In the interest of safety, please do NOT use the area in front of

the school, as this is restricted to SCDSB buses and SCDSB white vans only.

The front of the school has been designated as Fire Route only. Cars parking in front of the school, even only parking for a couple of minutes could result in a ticket by the local police.

This is a reminder that our parking lot in front of the school is closed to all through traffic except for SCDSB buses and SCDSB white vans between 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. and 3:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. Cars should never be left at the curb at any time during the day. **Please also note that our driveway is one way, travelling north to south.** Thank you in advance for your cooperation. It is also important to note that our wheelchair and disability parking spaces are now located at the front of the building. If you need to access one of these spaces please stop to speak with the staff member on duty to inform them of your intent to park in these spaces between 8:45 a.m. & 9:15 a.m.

Seepe Walters Short Story Contest

The Innisfil Public Library sponsors an annual short story contest for students in grade 4-12, and winners' stories are published in an anthology. This year, Cookstown Central students participated very successfully. Congratulations to:

JUNIOR

1st: Topper McGinty (who also won the Grand Prize)

2nd: Sawyer Marling

3rd: Riley Ma

4th: Oliver Booth

5th: Madelyn Burton

INTERMEDIATE

1st: William Wang

3rd: Aytal Everstov

5th: Catherine He

Well done writers!

National Engineering Month Competition takes place March 3

Students in Grades 5 to 8 are invited to submit a model bridge, catapult or grabber for the National Engineering Month (NEM) event. Models will be tested for design, strength, quality of construction and functionality. Students of any age are invited to attend to check out 3D printers and robots, Raspberry Pi computer coding demos, crystal radio construction and CNC machine coding. The event takes place on March 3 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Eastview Secondary School (421 Grove St. E. in Barrie). Lunch will be provided. This event is jointly organized by the Georgian Bay Chapter of OACETT and Simcoe-Muskoka Chapter of PEO, under the banner of NEM Ontario. For more information and to register for this free event, visit <https://nemsimcoe.wixsite.com/nemsimcoe>.

Reminders

We are a gum-free school - both inside and outside. The absence of gum allows more time and energy to be spent on legitimate cleaning tasks so we can maintain a clean inviting atmosphere.

Punctuality - is emphasized so that students maximize their learning time in the classroom and show respect for others by not interrupting the flow of the lesson. Students arriving after the morning and afternoon entry bells must report to the office to sign in and receive a late admission slip.

Get the flu shot, not the flu!

Influenza (the flu) is a serious respiratory illness caused by a virus. Anyone can get influenza but young children, those over 65 and people who are pregnant or who have chronic medical conditions are more vulnerable and at higher risk of complications like pneumonia. By getting your shot you are protecting yourself as well as those around you. Flu shots are available at many pharmacies and from health care providers throughout Simcoe Muskoka. Protect yourself,

protect your family - get the flu shot! For more information, contact Health Connection at 1-877-721-7520 or visit the health unit's website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

Eye Exams: Free for Kids!

Eye exams are covered by OHIP for children in Ontario, which means it's free to get an eye exam for your child. Vision problems are common in school-aged children but it's not always easy for parents to know if their child has trouble seeing. Having vision problems can make it harder for kids to learn, play sports or do every day activities. Children should have an eye exam before starting kindergarten, and then yearly exams after that.

Worried about the cost of glasses? Some optometrists in our area participate in the I See, I Learn program. This program provides free eyeglasses to children in junior kindergarten. Find out more by visiting www.optom.on.ca.

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 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.

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.learningcenters.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!

Developing Leadership Skills in your Kids

There are many reasons why developing youth leadership skills at a young age is important - it builds confidence, perseverance, problem-solving and communications skills. While leadership skills can come naturally, children and youth often learn lessons through life experiences that significantly impact them later in life. Here are some ways you can help your child develop leadership skills at a young age:

- Encourage outdoor adventures and education
- Enroll in camps
- Find volunteer and community service opportunities

For more information about the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka Youth Leadership Development Programs and Outdoor Education, visit www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca.

COMMUNITY NEWS

South Simcoe United FC

Sensational Soccer Unlimited is open for Registration. To register log onto www.southsimcoeunited.ca or email admin@southsimcoeunited.ca.
Phone 705-250-9222