



WEST BAYFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Angela Pino
Vice Principal: Pamela Hamilton
Trustee: Kathleen Aikens
Superintendent: Anita Simpson
Follow us on Twitter: @WestBayfield

Phone: 725-8229
JUNE 2015

Dates to Remember

June

- 4 - ABC Assembly 9 am
- 5 - PA Day
- 9-10 - Grade 8 overnight trip
- 12 - Needles HPV- gr.8, HB - gr.7
- 17 - Bronco Bash
- 17 - Para/Pan Am Play Day, grade 4-6 p.m.
- 24 - 7pm Grade 8 Graduation ceremonies
- 23 - Report Cards Go Home
- 25 - ABC Assembly - Last Day of Classes
- 26 - PA Day

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

It is now the last month of school! June will be a very busy month for our school as there are many fun events taking place. We have our annual Bronco Bash planned for June 17th and our Grade 8 Graduation on June 24th. Before we know it the last day of school, Thursday June 25th.

In June our staff have the same expectations as during any of the other months. Students will be expected to work hard as there is still a lot to learn. Students are also expected to continue to follow our Code of Conduct and our SCDSB 10 Character Traits.

Students have also heard the word 'grit' on announcements. We talk to the students about trying their very best and continuing to push through even when something may be difficult to them. Having the determination and mindset to always do their best and try as hard as they can, not giving up is so important. We look forward to continuing to work together.

Sincerely,
Angela Pino

Are you moving?

If your family will be moving prior to the start of school in September 2015, please provide this information to the school. We can help make this transition a smooth one for September.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION 2015-2016

Many parents and families will soon begin to wonder where their child will be placed for the next school year. Unfortunately, we are unable to confirm classroom placements until September. Parents often ask if their child can be placed in a particular class. We are unable to accommodate such requests unless there is a legitimate educational reason for it. When determining classes, school staff work extremely hard and take into account many factors including the personalities of students, the number of students in each grade of a combined class, balance of boys and girls, the special needs of students, contract obligations and written requests made on a legitimate educational basis. **If you have a legitimate request or have some information about your child that may affect the class placement for September please write a letter to Mrs. Pino or Mrs. Hamilton by Thursday, June 4th.**

As with most schools, we will have some changes to our staff and some teachers will be changing grades. Please also remember that combined classes are also common in schools. Class placements will be announced on the first day of school, Tuesday, September 8th, 2015.

Kindergarten Play - Mr. Rhythm's Picnic

All parents, family and guests are invited to our year end kindergarten musical performance. All four kindergarten classes will be performing on June 17 @ 2:00 pm and June 18 @ 9:30 am. More information will be coming home soon. Thank You.



**Grade 8 Parents - Mark Your Calendars
Graduation: Evening of Wednesday
June 24th, 2015**

Staff Changes 2014-2015

Every year there are some changes to our staff. There are many reasons for this including staff going on maternity leave, those wanting to move closer to where they live, part time staff receiving full time contracts, retirements and those who have been at a school for a number of years and want a change. The S.C.D.S.B. is currently in the middle of the staffing process for next year. The staffing changes for next September will be made available as soon as they are confirmed. Thank You.

Gifted Screening Process

Students who display an advanced degree of general intellectual ability require additional program support in order to reach their educational potential. This support may be through enhancing the curriculum, differentiated instruction and through providing program modifications. This type of programming is important to engage, motivate and challenge students who are identified as gifted in either the regular classroom or in gifted classroom placements.

Parents/guardians 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 gifted screening are asked to contact Mrs. Shewfelt before June 25, 2015.

Students may be nominated by either a teacher or parent.

A letter examining the gifted screening process in greater detail will be sent to parents of students in Grade 3 in September. Parents will still have the opportunity for nominating their child in September and October.

If you require further information about the gifted screening process, please contact the school.

Plan ahead: Approved 2015-2016 School Year Calendar is now available

The school year calendar for next year has been approved and can be found on the Simcoe County District School Board's website at www.scdsb.on.ca under 'Schools' – 'School Year Calendars.' Key dates include:

- Students start school on Tuesday, September 8, 2015.
- The holiday break is December 21, 2015 to January 1, 2016.
- March Break is March 14 to 18, 2016.

SCDSB's new Mission and Vision

The Simcoe County District School Board's (SCDSB) mission and vision were updated in March 2015 after an extensive consultation process with our Board of Trustees, students, staff, parents and communities. Our mission and vision outline what we do and what we want to achieve, and provide direction for the board's strategic plan.

Mission: We inspire and empower learning for life.

Vision: A community of learners achieving full potential.

Our Board's values are a key part of our commitment to character education. We refer to our values as our character attributes. The SCDSB's ten Commit to Character attributes were selected through consultation with community leaders, organizations and school communities to reflect what Simcoe County communities consider important. These attributes are addressed, taught and modeled in all SCDSB elementary and secondary schools. For more information, visit www.scdsb.on.ca and click on 'About Us' - 'Mission, Vision & Character.'

Subscribe to our school website to stay up-to-date

Did you know you can subscribe to our website? When we post 'What's New' articles and our monthly newsletters to the website you can choose to receive them by email! Our 'What's New' section is where you'll read about all the exciting things going on in our school. It's also where we will post updates during emergency situations. It's easy to subscribe – visit our website at <http://www.scdsb.on.ca> and click the 'Subscribe' link at the very top of the page. When you fill out your email and click Subscribe, an email will be sent to your inbox with a link to click to confirm that

you want to subscribe. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link at the bottom of each email.

Safe Kids Week 2015

National Access Awareness Week – May 31 to June 6

This year, we are recognizing National Access Awareness Week the week of May 31 to June 6, 2015. At our school, we will be helping to raise awareness while sharing our belief in the importance of inclusiveness by reflecting on the ways our school community can improve opportunities for people with disabilities and assist with the identification, removal and prevention of barriers. Thank you for supporting the school in these efforts by taking the time at home to discuss changing physical and attitudinal barriers for those with special needs. In so doing, we are developing the attributes of respect, caring and empathy and creating a society of inclusiveness of people with physical disabilities.

Your child can learn a new language for free through the International Languages Program

The SCDSB offers a free International Languages Program for elementary school students to give children the chance to learn a new language or maintain their native language. This program, free for students in Grades 1 to 8, takes place on Saturday mornings starting on September 19, 2015. Class locations and languages available include:

- *Barrie Learning Centre:* Arabic, Russian, Mandarin, Korean, Greek, Farsi, German, Spanish, Urdu
- *Bradford Learning Centre:* Tamil, Urdu, Spanish, Russian

For more information and to register, visit www.thelearningcentres.com and click on 'Elementary Student.'

Playground Safety Tips: The playground is a fun place for students. But, accidents can happen. To increase safety, teach children how to use playground equipment and play safely. You can increase safety by:

- removing cords and drawstrings on hoods, hats and jackets
- tucking all loose clothing
- teach children to be aware when sliding
- teach children not to tie ropes to slides and other playground equipment

For more information, visit Safe Kids Canada at www.safekidscanada.ca

1. **Did you know?** Head injury can permanently change the way we walk, talk, play and think and are the #1 cause of serious injury to kids on wheels. A properly fitted and correctly worn bike helmet can make a BIG difference, decreasing the risk of serious head injury by up to 80%. **Protect your head and wear a helmet!**
2. **Biking to school?** Check your ride – Getting there safely starts with a properly equipped bicycle. Make sure your bike is adjusted to the right height. Be sure tires are inflated and check that your brakes are working properly. Use bells and horns to warn pedestrians when you are passing.
3. **Ready to ride?** Get trained in bicycle safety and rules of the road. Ride on the right, learn hand signals, respect traffic lights and stop at all stop signs. Choose safe routes and cycle on quiet roads and trails. Kids under ten should always ride with an adult.

For more information and to register, visit www.thelearningcentres.com and click on 'Elementary Student.'

Safe cycling tips from Parachute Canada

Get ready for biking season and be a role model for cycling safety by following these important yet simple tips:

- **Protect your head - wear a helmet:** A properly fitted and correctly worn bike helmet can reduce the risk of serious head injury by up to 80%.
- **Check your ride:** Make sure bikes are adjusted to the right height for the rider, inflate tires and check that brakes are working properly.
- **Be prepared:** Get trained in bicycle safety and rules of the road. Use hand signals and respect traffic signals, stopping at all stop signs and stoplights.
- **Pick family friendly routes:** Protect young riders by riding on quiet roads, trails and

designated cycling routes.

For more tips and resources, visit Parachute Canada's website:

www.parachutecanada.org/safekidsweek.

Reminder from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit: Protect yourself during extreme heat

During extremely warm outdoor temperatures, the body's control system can become overwhelmed. Sweating helps to cool the body, however, when the humidity is high, sweat will not evaporate as quickly, preventing the body from releasing heat quickly. Children have a high metabolic rate and therefore produce more heat. Their capacity to sweat is not as great compared to adults; so it's more difficult for them to release heat from their bodies and the effects of dehydration are greater. To protect your child's health when temperatures and humidity are high, keep them cool by:

- Giving them plenty of non-caffeinated fluids – even more than their thirst indicates
- Dressing them in light weight, light-coloured, loose-fitting clothing
- Staying cool indoors
- Keeping outdoor physical activity to an absolute minimum – especially when temperatures are at their peak (between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.)

For more information about extreme heat and how to stay cool, visit the health unit's website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org or call *Health Connection* at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520.

SCHOOL IS IN FOR SUMMER!

SCDSB is yet again offering a MATH PREP PROGRAM for students entering grade 7, 8 & 9. The program runs from August 10-21, 2015, Monday- Friday from 9:00am – 1:00pm. Please register online www.thelearningcentres.com or contact the school for further information.