



THE KNIGHT'S NEWS!

Allandale Heights Public School | 124 Bayview Dr., Barrie, On. L4N 3P4 | Tel.: 705-728-3601

Visit us on the web: <http://all.scdsb.on.ca>  Follow us on Twitter @AllandaleKnight  Instagram @allandaleheights

ISSUE NO. 9 – April 2022

Principal: Ms. J. DeCola

Vice Principal: Mr. F. Van Arragon

Happy Spring! We think it is finally here. We're glad to see all the snow and ice melted and students enjoying the warmer temperatures.

We've certainly had an interesting journey from January to April and I would like to thank and congratulate all our students and staff for their flexibility, grit, determination and resilience to adjust to changes we've experienced in the last few months. We're glad that we've been able to remove some Covid restrictions, and we're glad we can make use of the gym again this year. We continue to be diligent about hand washing and sanitizing, and we support everyone who wishes to wear a mask as well. You should have recently received a letter from SMDHU chief medical officer who is also recommending continued mask wearing as we work through the sixth wave of Covid-19. Thank you everyone for your extra care in following the Covid self-assessment every morning to decide if it is safe to send your child to school. We are thankful for everyone following health and safety protocols very carefully to help keep our school a very safe place for learning.

We're very proud of our students and staff as everyone has been working very hard and accomplishing great things in their learning. This is a time of year when there are numerous special holidays happening. As different families celebrate Ramadan, Jewish Passover, and Easter, we hope you will enjoy your special celebrations and commemorations.

Spring is here and along with it comes wet weather. Please note we will have our students outdoors for recess as much as possible. Students are encouraged to dress for the weather. Unless it is heavily raining, we will try to be outdoors for recess as much as possible to allow all our students to have the opportunity for a good fresh air movement break outdoors. Especially our primary students are encouraged to have boots and splash pants on wet days. A spare change of clothes in the backpack is also an excellent idea.

Some of our older students like to spend time together with each other after school and will sometimes choose to come use our outdoor basketball court after school. This has led to some concerns with litter and student conflict. Please note the school yard is not supervised after school and we ask all students to go straight home after school to check in with their families for their safety.

As some students start to enjoy riding bikes, scooters, or skateboards to school, we wish to remind everyone to be very careful when coming onto school property. We ask everyone to walk their wheels once entering school property to ensure the safety of everyone. As well, if you use the kiss and ride loop to pick up or drop off your child please be very careful to watch for other parents and students walking to their cars. Please drive very slowly and also watch the crosswalk carefully for pedestrians as you are leaving the parking lot.

-Jan DeCola
Principal of Allandale Heights P.S



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This month's Character Trait is:

OPTIMISM



We maintain a positive attribute and have hope for the future. More information about Character Education can be found here: www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education



Please always walk your bicycle, skateboard or scooter on school property!



NO DOGS allowed on school property.

Upcoming Dates

- April 14th International Day of Pink
- April 15th Good Friday
- April 18th Easter Monday
- April 22nd Earth Day / Spring into Clean Day
- April 27th Administrative Professionals Day
- April 29th Allandale Heights Spirit Day (wear Blue and yellow)



Kindergarten registration for September 2022 is open!

Kindergarten is the beginning of a wonderful journey of learning and we want your child to begin their journey in a SCDSB school! Do you have a child who is turning four in 2022? If so, we invite you to register your child for kindergarten. To register online or for more information visit: www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten.



Register now for summer childcare

Childcare programs for children in Kindergarten to Grade 6 are provided by independent, third-party childcare operators in some SCDSB schools. To support your childcare needs, some operators offer childcare over the summer holidays. Registration in advance is required. Please contact the childcare operator directly to discuss fees and to register. More information and contact numbers can be found at https://scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/childcare_before_after.

SCDSB Schools Continue to be mask friendly environments

Students from Kindergarten to Grade 12, staff and visitors are no longer required to wear masks in schools, school board offices and on student transportation. SCDSB schools continue to be mask-friendly environments. Masks remain available to students and staff who choose to continue to wear them while in schools. Please encourage your child(ren) to be respectful and understanding of everyone's choice with respect to masking so that SCDSB schools remain the safe, inclusive and welcoming teaching and learning environments they are meant to be for all.

Keep connected with our school and with the SCDSB

It's important to get accurate information about what's going on at your school and at the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB). Here are some ways to do that: Subscribe to our school's website by visiting the 'What's New' section at <http://all.scdsb.on.ca> You can sign up to receive emails about school news updates and information during emergency situations. It's easy to subscribe – visit our website and click the 'Subscribe' link at the very top of the page. Provide your email and click 'Subscribe'; a message 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. Sign up to receive SCDSB media releases by clicking the 'Subscribe' button at www.scdsb.on.ca. Follow the SCDSB on Twitter (@SCDSB_Schools)



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Music Social Skills Program

A nine week, music based program designed to improve emotional regulation and social skills of children diagnosed with ASD by focusing on singing, dancing, and playing instruments in a virtual group setting.

Parents/guardians are an important part of the programs and will receive resources and support to help children develop and practice new skills at home and at school. Limited spaces are available. For more information about the sessions and to complete the initial application form, visit the SCDSB website at scdsb.on.ca/inclusiverecreationprograms by April 8, 2022.

School climate survey

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) aims to provide a safe, supportive learning environment that supports all students in being successful. During the month of April, all students in Grades 4 to 12 will be asked to complete an anonymous and confidential online SCDSB School Climate Survey about how they feel about their school. Any participant of a SCDSB School Climate Survey will not be asked to provide their name or other identifying information because all surveys are anonymous.

The survey results will provide valuable feedback to staff related to the [SCDSB Strategic Priorities](#) and will help schools to develop and refine their School Action Plans.

Similar to prior SCDSB school climate surveys, the questions cover a range of topics, such as:

- excellence in teaching and learning;
- mental health and well-being;
- equity, diversity and inclusion;
- community; and,
- experiences of school safety and bullying.

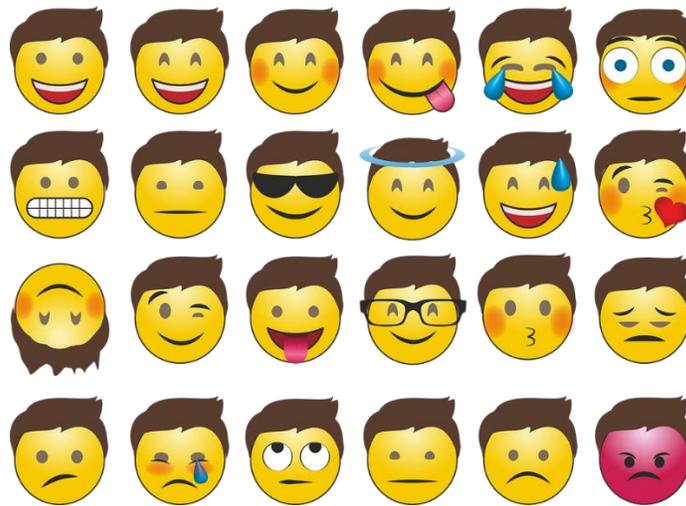
Student Survey

A sample version of the student survey will be available on the [SCDSB website](#). Please call your child(ren)'s school if you have questions about how the student survey will be administered.

Questions?

School staff will be available to answer any questions or concerns a student may have. Questions about the 2021-2022 SCDSB School Climate Survey can also be directed to schoolclimate@scdsb.on.ca.

The information that is collected will be used to help guide our schools in creating and maintaining safe and supportive learning environments for all students. Thank you for your support!



EarlyON Child and Family Centres

Did you know that EarlyON Child and Family Centres offer free programs, resources, parenting courses and developmental screening, as well as referrals to community programs? All children, prenatal through 6 years of age, can participate with their parent(s) or caregiver(s). In Simcoe County there are four agencies that deliver EarlyON Child and Family programs. Services are available in English and French and can be explored by visiting www.simcoe.ca/ChildrenandCommunityServices/Pages/EarlyON.aspx. EarlyON Child and Family Centre staff are trained in child development and facilitation of educational programs for parents/guardians and children, and are now providing a new parent/child interactive program called *Getting Ready for Kindergarten* for parents/guardians and children who are starting Kindergarten this fall! Pre-register at www.earlyonsimcoenorth.ca/hubfs/GRFK.pdf.



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Family fun with multiplication facts!

Making 'cents' of money matters

All students need the skills and knowledge to take responsibility for managing their personal financial well-being with confidence, competence and a critical and compassionate awareness of the world around them. In the 2020 math curriculum, there is focus on financial literacy learning in Grades 1 to 8, including understanding the value and use of money over time, how to manage financial well-being and the value of budgeting. Students build their skills and knowledge about the value and use of money, how decisions impact personal finances, as well as develop consumer and civic awareness.

Students will:

- Learn how to manage finances responsibly, such as creating a budget to help save enough money to buy something they want like a book, toy or a video game.
- Begin to develop a greater awareness as consumers and contributors in the local and broader economic system.

Wondering how you can support the development of your child's financial literacy skills at home? Check out some of these great tips and resources.

Tips:

- Find daily, real-world opportunities to talk about money in the contexts of earning, saving, spending and giving.
- Consider the financial habits you want to instill in your child and talk about them.
- Involve your child in making decisions about purchases for household items and compare the costs of different items. (e.g., we need to save money to repave the driveway so we're going to cut down on spending, do you have any ideas?)

Resources:

- [Peter Pig's Money Counter](http://practicalmoneyskills.ca), practicalmoneyskills.ca
- [Help Your Kids Understand Money: A Parent's Guide](http://themint.org), themint.org

Interested in learning more about the ways that the SCDSB supports students with special education needs and their families? Join us for a virtual special education outreach series

In 2022, the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is hosting virtual special education outreach sessions to assist parents/caregivers in learning more about programs, supports and ways that we work together to support students with special education needs.

Supporting students as they transition into school, from one school to another, and from school upon graduation – information for parents/caregivers

April 12
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Working with families to create safe and supportive environments for children who have experienced trauma – information for parents/caregivers

May 10
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Participants are asked to register in advance. Information to access the sessions will be shared via email with individuals who have pre-registered. Learn more about each session and how to register on the SCDSB website at <https://bit.ly/3s8OBm8>.

Students with ASD invited to participate in virtual after-school programs this spring

Social and recreational programs will be offered from April to June for Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) students diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The programs will be offered virtually, and will focus on using recreation, problem solving, coding and play skills to support social skills development.

Children's Friendship Training

A nine week, evidence-based social skills intervention for motivated children diagnosed with ASD, who are interested in learning ways to help them make and keep friends.

Play Ball Kidz Recreation Program

A nine week, multi-component recreation program designed to improve the gross motor skills and social skills of children diagnosed with ASD.

Escape Room Social Skills Program

A nine week, escape room themed program designed to improve problem solving skills of children diagnosed with ASD by focusing on cooperation and teamwork to support social skills development.