



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. 2 – October 2017

Principal: Mrs. P. Hamilton

Vice Principal: R. Meraska

Superintendent: P. Murphy

Trustee: J. Cameron

PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

Dear Parents/Guardians:

A big THANK YOU goes out to our students, staff and parents for a fantastic start up. We are so thankful for our Allandale community! We had an excellent turnout at our Meet the Staff Night and enjoyed sharing a Beavertail together.

Thanks to Mrs. Green and Mrs. Robbins for coaching our cross country team. The Sunnidale meet was a success and a lot of fun for our athletes. Thank you to Ms. Rose for coaching the Int. Girls' Basketball Team, Ms. Nero and Mr. Armstrong for coaching the Jr. Boys' volleyball team, Ms. Melo for coaching the Jr. Girls' Volleyball team and for Ms. Gunson, Ms. Rose and Ms. Notte for heading up our student leadership team. Good things are happening at AHPS! Positive comments keep coming our way with our students demonstrating excellent character. Way to go Knights!

SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

Our first School Council meeting was held on Monday October 2nd at 5:00 pm. Meet your Allandale School Council for 2017-2018:

Co-Chairs: Kelly Derbyshire and Christine Miller

Secretary: Andrea Cardiff

Council Members: Jay Malandrino, Robin Malandrino, Annie Dillabough, Tracy Simpson, Mary-Ann Robert, Bob Cole, Shannon Marek, Natalie Boucher, Amanda Ralph and Stephanie Mathers.

All parents are welcome to attend council meetings and we invite you to join us at our next meeting which will be held on Monday Nov. 6th at 5:00pm. It is a great way to get engaged in what is happening at Allandale.

We're Building Character

The Character Trait of the Month is...

COOPERATION

**“Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much.”**

Helen Keller



Upcoming Dates:

October 19th
October 12, 19, 26
October 20th
October 24th
October 27th
November 6th
November 10th
November 16th
November 17th
November 21st
December 4th
December 22nd
January 8th

Picture Day
Grade 3 Swim to Survive
PA Day
Grade 7 Immunizations
Character Ed. Assembly @9:30am
School Council Meeting @5:00pm
Progress Reports Go Home
Student-Led Conferences
PA Day/Student-Led Conferences
Wendy's Fundraiser
School Council Meeting @5:00pm
Last day before Christmas Holidays
Back to school after Christmas Holidays

Punctuality is a Life Skill



We have noticed many students have been arriving to school late on a regular basis. School begins promptly at 8:55am Monday to Friday. Please ensure that your child is at school before this time in order to avoid disturbances to the learning and out of respect to our students and staff. Punctuality is a life skill and is necessary to obtain employment and meet deadlines. Please model this trait for your children by helping them to get to school on time.



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THANK YOU TO OUR CUSTODIANS

We are truly thankful for our awesome custodians at Allandale Heights! Ms. Shanahan and Ms. McMinn work extremely hard to keep our facility and yard in great shape. However, they can't do it alone but rather need COOPERATION from our students, staff and community to keep our school a clean and happy place to be. Please join us in supporting our custodial staff by doing our part both inside and outside the school. Thank you. ☺

Pay for field trips, lunch days, etc. with School Cash Online

If you have not already done so, be sure to sign up for School Cash Online. This is our preferred method of payment for all school fundraising including lunch days and field trips. School Cash Online allows you to pay with your debit or credit card. Follow these steps to get started:

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

The School Cash Parent Helpdesk is available 24/7 to help you with registration, password recoveries or any other payment issues. Call the helpdesk at 1-866-961-1803 or email parenthelp@schoolcashionline.com.

Parent Portal gives parents real-time access to attendance, grade information

The SCDSB Parent Portal is a secure online tool that provides parents/guardians (of students less than 18 years of age) with quick access to their children's attendance and grades and includes the option to sign up for email notifications. To access the Parent Portal, parents/guardians will need their child's SCDSB Pupil ID Number, which can be found on the Student Information Verification Form, as well as an Access ID. The Access ID will be provided in a sealed letter this fall with instructions on how to create an account. If you lose the Access ID, visit us in the school office and we'll provide it to you after verifying your identity.

Animals on School Property REMINDER

We have had a number of parents raise concerns about dogs on school property. Many of our families have dogs and other pets. Most of them are friendly and obedient members of your families. However, in order to respect the safety and sensitivities of all our families, animals (leashed or not) are **not permitted** on school property. This includes puppies, purse pooches etc. Please help us to keep the school property a safe and welcoming environment for all our students, parents and staff.

School Bus Safety Week and School Bus Driver Appreciation Day



School Bus Safety Week takes place Oct. 16 to 20. 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.

Wed., Oct. 18 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/.

New Path offering child and youth mental health walk-in clinics

In response to the increasing wait times for child and youth mental health services, and the increased need for such services, New Path has undertaken a service redesign that will provide more timely and responsive services to children, youth and families in Simcoe County. New Path now offers Child and Youth Mental Health Walk-In Clinics in five office locations throughout Simcoe County: Bradford, Alliston, Barrie, Collingwood and Orillia. Children, youth and families requesting service from New Path no longer need to call and complete an intake; they can simply attend one of the local Walk-In Clinics and will receive a single session intervention that day. Should children or youth require further service, New Path will continue to offer a wide variety of community and school-based services as well as residential service and women's service. For further information, including the clinic locations, days and hours, visit www.newpath.ca or contact New Path's central intake department at 705-725-7656.



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Fire Prevention Week is October 8 to 14: Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!

Fire Prevention Week runs from Oct. 8 to 14. This year's theme is "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!" Smoke and fire spread fast. There's no time to figure out how to escape AFTER a fire starts. All households should have working smoke alarms and practice a home fire escape plan with everyone in the family BEFORE there's a fire. Find out more at: www.nfpa.org/fpw.

MINI KNIGHTS PROGRAM..... Recognition for Random Acts of Good Character at Allandale Heights PS

Our 'Gotcha' Program is back at Allandale Heights PS again this year. When students and staff want to acknowledge a 'random act of kindness' they have seen, they can fill out a Mini Knight and give it to the recognized individual. The mini knights are collected and a draw occurs at the end of each month for a prize.

TECHNOLOGY

The rule for cell phones at school and on the yard is "**Off and Away**". The acceptable use of technology form has been reviewed by the students. As per this agreement computers and other technology are to be used under the **teacher's direction for specific purposes**. Failure to comply with these rules will result in the privilege being removed. Please ensure that your son / daughter has had a mature discussion about respectful language and/or content when using technology (Social Media such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and text messages).

TERRY FOX RUN

On Thursday September 28th, our school participated in the Terry Fox walk/run. We had a great time with our students, parents and staff running and walking for a great cause! We are thankful to all those who brought a "Toonie for Terry" and appreciate all your support.

VOLUNTEERS ARE APPRECIATED!

Volunteers wanted!! Allandale Heights relies on its' volunteers to run many of our programs/services. (e.g. breakfast program, reading, library, helping out with school events etc.) Please let us know ASAP if you are interested. **Parents wishing to volunteer on class trips or drive students to sporting events must have attended training and submit a criminal records check.**

SKATEBOARDS, SCOOTERS AND OTHER WHEELS

We have many students who ride bikes, skateboards or scooters to school. Once on property, the expectation is that bikes are to be locked in the racks, skateboards or scooters are to be parked. This is to ensure that no one is hurt. Please follow these guidelines as it is nice to be able to ride to school. Those who cannot follow the rules will be asked to leave their wheels at home.

Tips for a healthy Halloween

The month of October is upon us and that means Halloween is just around the corner! For many children, this can be an exciting time of year as they get their costumes ready and their buckets out to fill with candy! Halloween can also be a tough time for parents to keep their kids' diets healthy and balanced. Here are some helpful 'tricks' to help you and your family have a healthy Halloween this year!

- Walk door to door when trick or treating. It will burn calories and also tire the kids out – potentially limiting the amount of houses you will hit before the end of the night. Try making a competition out of who can walk the most steps.
- Plan a party. Make the focus of your party fun activities instead of sugary treats. Include Halloween games such as a costume or dance contest, or pumpkin carving.
- Trade the candy collected for non-edible treats like books, small toys or arts and crafts materials. You can also consider offering to buy back some of the candy, providing your kids with some extra spending money as a reward.
- Before your kids venture out in their costumes, make sure they eat a healthy meal.

Visit your local YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka for some fun Halloween activities for the whole family to enjoy!
Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka (www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca)



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October is International Walk to School Month

Did you know that October is International Walk to School month? It's a great way for children to get their recommended 60 minutes of physical activity each day and also gives parents and staff a chance to be part of a worldwide event that celebrates the many benefits of walking. Here are some ideas:

- Encourage your child to walk or cycle to and from school if you live close by and team up with others to make the trip more fun
- If you usually drive your child to school, try getting them to walk part of the way
- If your child takes the bus, walking to and from the bus stop is a great way to add physical activity minutes into the day

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

LGBTQI2S Junior Youth Connection for kids aged 12 to 15

The Gilbert Centre is offering a new drop-in and social program for LGBTQI2S identified youth to connect, explore and learn. Meetings take place on the first and third Friday of every month from 5-7 p.m. at 80 Bradford Street in Barrie. For more information, please call Ve Tao, Youth Support Worker at 705-722-6778 x109, visit lgbyouth.ca or email vet@gilbertcentre.ca.

Translating legal issues for frontline workers and members of the trans community

The Gilbert Centre, in partnership with The Community Legal Clinic, The Law Foundation of Ontario, and The Mediation Centre, is offering training on navigating human rights and the law for transgender people in Simcoe County. Topics will include trans inclusivity training, human rights, housing, employment, income support and family law. Register at www.gilbertcentre.ca/translating-legal-issues/. The training is offered in Collingwood Oct. 12 to 13.

Healthy classroom celebrations

Classroom and school celebrations are great opportunities for children to practice the healthy eating messages they learn in the classroom. Help teach the importance of healthy eating by choosing healthy foods to send in the next time your child's class is celebrating. Here are some ideas:

- Send a tray of watermelon slices, orange slices, apples or fruit kabobs
- Make homemade mini muffins with whole wheat flour and grated carrots or apple
- Send a tray of whole grain crackers, cubes of lower fat cheese and grapes
- Send a veggie platter - get creative by arranging it in fun shapes
- Prepare chocolate dipped strawberries for a sweet treat

Looking for more information to help keep you and your family healthy? Call *Health Connection* at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-5720 to speak with a public health nurse or visit the health unit's website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Attention Grade 8 Graduates of 2018!

Save the date! Tuesday June 26th is our graduation celebration in the gymnasium at Allandale Heights



PARKING LOT PROCEDURES

Our parking lot is a busy place before and after school. Please follow the following safety rules in order to ensure the safety of all:

- Follow the enter and exit signs and ensure you are traveling in the proper direction
- Do not cross the pylons indicating the school bus/van lane
- Do not park in the accessible parking spots
- Please take extra caution when driving through the cross-walk area
- Students must use sidewalks at all times

End of Day Routines

Please DO NOT telephone the school with last minute changes to transportation plans at the end of the school day, unless it is an emergency. Make arrangements ahead of time, be organized, and be considerate. We need your cooperation and appreciate your concern for the safety of all of our students.