



# 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 2018

Principal: Mrs. P. Hamilton

Vice Principal: R. Meraska

Superintendent: D. Maltby

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 piece of pizza together.

Thanks to Mrs. Green, Mr. Jewson and Mrs. Forrest for coaching our cross-country team. The Sunnidale meet was a success and a lot of fun for our athletes. Thank you to Mr. Jewson for coaching the Flag Football Team, Ms. Rose and Ms. Moritz for coaching the Int. Girls' Basketball Team, Ms. Melo for coaching the Jr. Girls'/Boys' Volleyball 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 1st at 5:00 pm. Meet your Allandale School Council for 2018-2019

**Co-Chairs:** Kelly Derbyshire and Christine Miller

**Secretary:** Shelley Skinner

**Council Members:** Robin

Malandrino, Annie Dillabough, Mary-Ann Robert, Shannon Marek, Andrea Cardiff, Cody Courtenay

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 6<sup>th</sup> 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

"Unity is strength...  
when there is  
teamwork and collaboration,  
wonderful things  
can be achieved."

- Mattie J.T. Stepanek



### Upcoming Dates:

October 10<sup>th</sup>

October 11, 18, 25

October 22<sup>nd</sup>

November 5<sup>th</sup>

November 12<sup>th</sup>

November 15<sup>th</sup>

November 16<sup>th</sup>

November 19-23

November 23<sup>rd</sup>

November 27<sup>th</sup>

December 3<sup>rd</sup>

December 21<sup>st</sup>

January 7<sup>th</sup>

Picture Day

Grade 3 Swim to Survive

PA Day

School Council Meeting @5pm

Remembrance Day Assembly

Barrie Colts Night

Progress Reports go home

Student Conferences

PA Day

Grade 7 Immunizations

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 a 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](http://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](mailto: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 pets 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 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. 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/](http://main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/).

For school bus transportation information, visit the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s website at: [main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca). Also, remember to bookmark the school bus information page at: [simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://simcoecountyschoolbus.ca) for bus delay and cancellation information on inclement weather days.

## 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](http://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.



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

## 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

## 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 27th, 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.

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. Here is some information to share as we've been receiving some questions:

- 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.

## 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](http://www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca))



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## **October is International Walk to School Month** (for elementary and secondary schools)

Get in on the fun and be part of this worldwide event! Encourage your child or teen 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. Walking or cycling allows kids to enjoy the outdoors and get their recommended 60 minutes of physical activity each day. Learn more:

<http://ontarioactiveschooltravel.ca/international-walk-to-school-month/>.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

## **Attention Grade 8 Graduates of 2019!**

Save the date! Tuesday June 25th is our graduation celebration in the gymnasium at Allandale Heights



## **It's time to update your child's immunization**

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](http://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

## **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.

## **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