



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

Principal: Mr. T. Cave

ISSUE NO. 3 – NOVEMBER

Vice-Principal: Mr. F. Van Arragon

Here we are in November and every day our students are moving a little further ahead in their learning! We see many great things happening in our classrooms and are happy to see more rhythm and routine developing. Teachers are currently working on completing progress reports for their students. They will be distributed on November 9. Our virtual students will receive their report cards electronically, sent directly from the school board.

At our Meet the Educator evening in October, teachers shared a schedule with you to sign up for a student led parent teacher conference to further discuss your child's progress. Conferences will be taking place during the week of November 13-17. If you haven't signed up for a time yet, please reach out to your child's teacher to pick a time. Friday, November 17 is a PA day and teachers will be available for conferences with you during the morning hours of that day as well. Virtual teachers have provided times as well for you to have an online conference regarding your child's progress.

We strongly encourage students to participate in the meetings so they can better understand their strengths and next steps for learning. When you receive your child's progress report, please use it as an opportunity to celebrate successes and discuss next steps and learning goals moving forward. We highly encourage you to discuss learning skills and work habits as well, as these are so important for achieving success academically. We are happy to see the progress our students are making as they work hard every day. Our teachers have also been very busy using the curriculum to plan purposefully, differentiate instruction and to develop learning goals and success criteria to guide students on their assignments. The feedback provided to students on assignments by their teachers will assist students to apply this feedback on subsequent tasks. Please ask your children what they are learning and how they know if they are being successful. High yield strategies such as these will ensure that our learners are making forward progress. A wide range of instructional practices and assessment strategies are used in program planning and delivery to address all student needs. We believe that achieving success results from a strong partnership between the school and home. Thank you to parents for supporting your children as they complete homework assignments, prepare for quizzes and tests and practice their reading, writing and problem-solving skills. Working together ensures success for all.

We also look forward to celebrating good character demonstrated by our students on a weekly and monthly basis. Our students receive "mini-knight" tickets to put in our weekly draw to win a prize for good character. As well, this year, we are having monthly character assemblies to celebrate the good character demonstrated by our students. Each teacher will select two students in their class who have modelled positive character traits in the classroom. Our focus for the month of November is empathy. We encourage our students to demonstrate understanding to their peers as they experience a variety of emotions throughout each day.

Character attribute for the month of November

COURAGE

We do the right thing even when it is difficult.

More information about character education can be found here:
scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education.





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NOVEMBER PA DAY

Please note that **Friday, Nov. 17 is a PA Day for all SCDSB students.**

Please refer to the 2023-24 School Year Calendar on the SCDSB website for more information:
www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/school_year_calendar.

Below is a summary of the activities planned for the Nov. 17 PA Day:

- Length: Full-day parent/guardian-student-teacher conferences
- Topic: Communication to parents/guardians about student progress through parent/guardian-student-teacher conferences
- Host: Simcoe County District School Board elementary schools, including Grades 7 and 8 in Grade 7-12 secondary schools
- Presenter(s)/facilitator(s): Elementary educators

Elementary educators will meet with students and parents/guardians to discuss student progress thus far this school year, including areas of strengths and next steps for improvement.



Starting November 1, the school will be starting our Poinsettia Fundraiser. This fundraiser runs from November 1 to November 23. There are a variety of colours and sizes, from 4" to 8" to typical planter. Please see School Cash Online to complete your order. Pick up will be on Thursday and Friday, December 7 & 8.



We have LUNCHES!!

Monday – Osmow's Tuesday – Pasta
Wednesday – Subway Thursday – Burger Priest
Friday – Pizza

**** NOTE**** Milk can be ordered for any day of the week through School Cash Online

Licensed Winter Break school-age child care programs

Child care programs for children in Kindergarten to Grade 6 are provided by independent, third-party child care operators in some SCDSB schools. To support your child care needs, some operators offer child care on PA days and holidays including over the Winter Break. Registration in advance is required.

Please contact the child care operator directly to discuss fees and to register. More information and contact numbers can be found by visiting: https://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/childcare_before_after



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EarlyON Child and Family Centres

The foundation for lifelong learning and health is built in the early years. EarlyON Child and Family Centres across Simcoe County offer programs for children prenatal to six years of age and their parents/guardians and caregivers. They offer access to play- and inquiry-based learning supported by *How Does Learning Happen?* Ontario's pedagogy for the early years, information on child development and developmental screening including Early Referral Identification Kits (ERIKs), parent/guardian education, referrals to community resources, nutrition information, and post-natal resources. Check with your local EarlyON provider: <https://linktr.ee/earlyonsimcoe>

How is your infant, toddler, or preschool child developing?

Is your child meeting their milestones? Age-appropriate speech and language skills are critical to your child's ability to read, write, and be successful in school as well as to their ability to engage with their peers. Free services are available to support you with your child's development. Preschool speech and language programs are located across the County of Simcoe.

Call (705) 739-5696 or 1-800-675-1979 to complete a developmental screen. The earlier we work together the better

POPCORN THURSDAYS!



Bring \$2 to buy popcorn of your choice every Thursday.



Grade 1 French Immersion information

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) offers French Immersion (FI) at select schools throughout Simcoe County beginning in Grade 1. The goal of the FI program is to enable students to communicate in French with a high level of proficiency, enabling them to function with ease in both French and English. Upon graduation from the program, students will communicate in French with confidence in a wide variety of real-life situations.

Grade 1 FI family information nights are held annually in advance of the application process for the following school year. This year, FI family information nights will be held in-person throughout the month of November at the respective FI school locations. The designated Grade 1 FI site for our school is Warnica Public School. The information night for this school will take place on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 6:00pm at Warnica Public School.

The SCDSB board-wide electronic applications for the Grade 1 FI program for all sites will open Friday, December 1 at 9 a.m. and close at 4 p.m. on Friday, December 15. Entry into the FI program is determined through a digitally randomized lottery system.



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Communication to families regarding inclement weather days

Please note that APM A3020 – Inclement Weather, 3.1.2 states that “parents/guardians are to be reminded, in writing at appropriate times (October and January) each school year, that it is their responsibility to decide whether or not it is safe for their child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions.”

Inclement weather and bus cancellation information reminder

All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s bus information website at www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. Our school is in the Central Zone. When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, unless otherwise noted. School staff are expected to plan for such emergencies in order to transition students who are unable to attend due to inclement weather, to their online platforms (Google Classroom and/or SCDSBhub [Brightspace by D2L]) and continue with academic programming. It is always a family decision whether or not it is safe for their child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions.

The Consortium and bus operators try to make the decision to cancel school buses before 6 a.m. and make every effort to post announcements before 7 a.m. Inclement weather cancellations are effective for the whole day and buses cancelled in the morning will not run at the end of the day. You can follow the Consortium on Twitter @SCSTC_SchoolBus for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>

Nov. 28 is Eat Well to Excel Day in Simcoe County

Eat Well to Excel is a Simcoe County non-profit community partnership that supports our school's student nutrition program. The funding provided by Eat Well to Excel allows us to supply students with access to healthy snacks during the school day.

The pandemic and increasing food costs have caused a significant financial strain on many families in our region and new data shows that 1 in 3 kids in Canada are at risk of going to school hungry. Kids that are hungry struggle to retain knowledge and keep focused throughout the day. They are also at an increased risk of experiencing poor mental health and a compromised immune system. With your support we can maintain and hopefully improve our program to provide a consistent supply of healthy food to our students.

You can make a donation by visiting <https://eatwelltoexcel.ca/>. You can either support the county-wide program or direct your donation to our school. Please include our school name in the comment box to ensure the donation goes directly to our program. A tax receipt will be emailed to you.

For more information about Eat Well to Excel visit <https://eatwelltoexcel.ca/>



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Join us! A learning series for parents/guardians with Pine River Institute

Mental health and well-being continues to be a key strategic priority within the SCDSB. We are pleased to continue our partnership with the Centre for Family Initiatives at Pine River Institute (CFI@PRI) to provide several curated learning sessions focused on student mental health and well-being to SCDSB families. There are eight webinars specifically planned for parents/guardians and other caregivers during this school year.

- Nov. 9, 2023 Understanding and managing screen time, part two - social media edition
- Nov. 30, 2023 Helping parents align
- Jan. 11, 2024 Sleep hygiene
- Feb. 8, 2024 Self regulation for kids
- Feb. 22, 2024 Self regulation for teens
- March 28, 2024 Building parents' resiliency
- April 18, 2024 Vaping, weed, and alcohol

We hope you save these dates in your calendar and join us for these learning opportunities. For more information and to register, please visit the SCDSB website: <https://bit.ly/3jGaC74>

Pine River Institute is a live-in treatment centre and outdoor leadership experience for youth aged 13 to 19 struggling with addictive behaviours and often other mental health issues. Combining therapy with a fully-accredited education program, PRI reinforces the healthy life skills required for a successful future. CFI@PRI extends PRI's knowledge, experience and evidence-informed treatment approach to families and care providers in the community to support youth mental wellness and prevent the need for more intensive interventions. Learn more about PRI by visiting their website at www.pineriverinstitute.com

Online learning graduation requirement and opt out options

Students are required to earn two online learning credits to graduate from secondary school, beginning with every student who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year. The online learning graduation requirement also applies to adult learners that will be entering the Ontario secondary school system starting in the 2023-24 school year. The graduation requirement is intended to support students in developing familiarity and comfort with learning and working in a fully online environment, as well as developing digital literacy and other important transferable skills that they will need for success after secondary school, including in post-secondary education and the workplace.

Opting out Parents/guardians may choose to opt their children out of the mandatory online learning credits required for graduation. To opt out, a parent/guardian must submit the Secondary Online Learning Graduation Requirement Opt-out Form. Exemption from the online learning graduation requirements may be requested by:

- the parent/guardian of the secondary student
- students who are 18 years of age or older
- students who are 16 or 17 years of age and have withdrawn from parental control

Check with your local school if you have questions regarding the registration or opt-out process.



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Parents' Guide to Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting

Learn to navigate the world of assessment, evaluation, and reporting with this new guide for parents/guardians. Created to support parents'/guardians' understanding of assessment, this guide was designed to effectively empower you to actively engage in your child's educational journey. The guide has been posted to the Simcoe County District School Board's website and can be accessed at <https://tinyurl.com/2urcm2tm>

AHPS FALL BOOK FAIR

Our Fall Book Fair will be running Tuesday, November 15 - Monday November 20. Students will be able to make purchases during the school day and the fair will be open Thursday, November 16 until 7:30pm and Friday, November 17 from 9-12:00pm. Thank you so much for your support with this event.

Looking for Employment? Join Our Team!

Curious about what employment opportunities are available at the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB)? The SCDSB is hosting several job fairs throughout Simcoe County during the month of November; come by and speak with one of our representatives at any of the following events!

YMCA of Simcoe Muskoka Employment Services (Midland)

Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Job Seekers – YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka

<https://ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca/for-job-seekers/>

TRACKS Employment & Resource Service (Collingwood)

Thursday, Nov. 9, 2023 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

TRACKS Employment Services – One-stop resource centre for Employment Ontario Services located in Collingwood and serving Georgian Triangle communities of Clearview, Wasaga Beach and Town of the Blue Mountains

<https://tracks.on.ca/>

FOCUS Employment Services (Alliston)

Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Job Seekers - FOCUS Community Development Corporation

<https://focuscdc.on.ca/job-seekers/>

Agilec Employment Services (Orillia)

Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2023 12 to 5 p.m.

Employment Services - Agilec

For more information about employment opportunities at the SCDSB, visit: www.scdsb.on.ca/joinourteam



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Mental health promotion strategy of the month

Well-being is a strategic priority in the Simcoe County District School Board, and our mental health and well-being department provides monthly strategies to support student and family well-being. This month's strategy is Let It Go. This practice helps students focus their attention, calm feelings of anxiety, and manage stress. To practice Let It Go at home, have your child/youth sit comfortably and take a deep breath. Share the following exercise with your child/youth:

- Use your fingers to gently massage the top of your head
- Still in massaging motion, bring your fingers to your forehead, eyebrows, temples, around your eyes, cheeks, and jaw
- If you notice tension anywhere – let it go
- Finally, massage each of your ears and end by gently pulling your earlobes

Keep in mind to take your time with each area, especially where you hold the most tension. Practicing Let It Go can be done any time of the day or at regular times, such as at mealtime or before bed. You may try this technique on your hands using a massaging motion to focus on each finger, thumb, and palm. Consider doing Let It Go with your child/youth to model the strategy.

Visit the links below for Let It Go posters from School Mental Health Ontario:

Elementary - <https://smho-smso.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/SEL-Posters-Let-It-Go.pdf>

Secondary - <https://smho-smso.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/SEL-Posters-Secondary-Let-It-Go.pdf>

Find more easy and fun mental health activities to do at home visit:

<https://smho-smso.ca/online-resources/easy-and-fun-mental-health-activities-for-home/>

Follow the mental health and well-being social media accounts (@SCDSB_MHWP) to see how well-being is being supported in our schools.

High school information events for Grade 8 students

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information events will take place in-person this winter! Student leaders and staff at the school will give an overview of what's new and what to expect. Learn about courses offered, as well as information about teams and clubs.

Please visit the SCDSB website at www.scdsb.on.ca/secondary/planning_for_high_school to find details on your high school's info night, and contact the school directly for more information. Innisdale Secondary School's info night is currently scheduled for January 10, 2024 with the exact time yet to be determined.

Subscribe to Kindergarten Connections! Will your child be turning four in 2024? If so, the SCDSB invites you to Kindergarten Connections! This is a monthly newsletter informing families of everything they need to know about preparing their child for school, as well as registering them for Kindergarten in the SCDSB. To learn more and subscribe, visit the Kindergarten page on the SCDSB website:

https://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/kindergarten



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Knowledgehook math tool

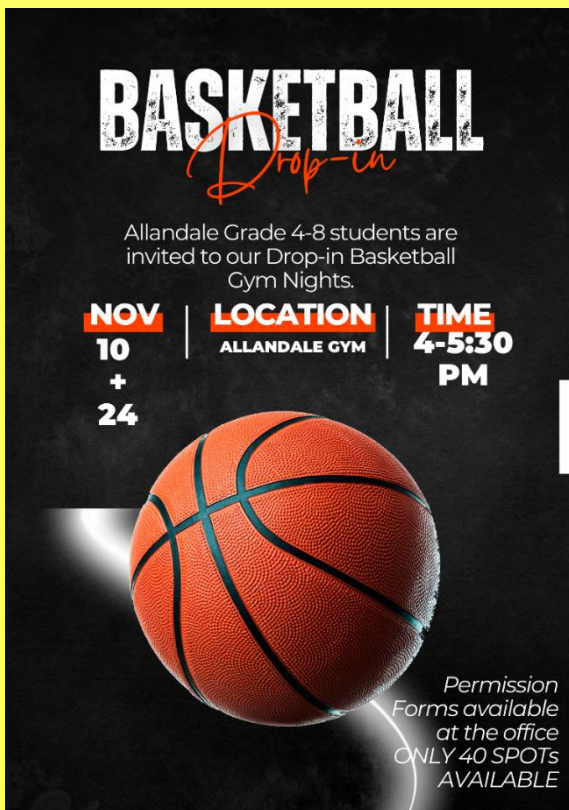
Knowledgehook is a digital math assessment and practice tool that has been purchased for all K-10 SCDSB classrooms. This tool is accessible to students at home so that they can practice math skills, either assigned by their teacher or on their own. Ask your child about how they use Knowledgehook in class and learn more at: www.knowledgehook.com

Supporting oral language development at home

Within the revised language curriculum, there is a focus on supporting students to acquire the knowledge and skills relating to the foundations of language. Oral and non-verbal communication are foundational components of language skills. Over the years, students develop their listening and speaking abilities using a variety of strategies and skills, including word choice and syntax, to become effective communicators.

Here are some ways you can support oral language development at home:

- Engage your child in conversations about things that interest them
- Talk to your child and listen responsively
- Ask and answer questions
- Share oral stories
- Read aloud to your child
- Talk about the books you read together



BASKETBALL
Drop-in

Allandale Grade 4-8 students are invited to our Drop-in Basketball Gym Nights.

NOV	LOCATION	TIME
10	ALLANDALE GYM	4-5:30
+		PM
24		

Permission Forms available at the office ONLY 40 SPOTS AVAILABLE



SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESENTS

A Free Movie Night
6:00PM-8:00PM
Friday, December 1st



Cash Concession Available!



DONATIONS OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS FOR CHRISTMAS CHEER ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED AT THE MOVIE NIGHT AND BASKETBALL DROP-IN



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ITEMS CURRENTLY IN OUR LOST AND FOUND:





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NOVEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

Albanian Heritage Month
Hindu Heritage Month
Financial Literacy Month
November

Nov. 1: Pointsetta Fundraiser begins

Nov. 1: All Saints Day

Nov. 2: I Read Canadian Day

Nov. 5: World Tsunami Awareness Day

Nov. 5-11: Treaties Recognition Week

Nov. 5-11: Veterans' Week

Nov. 7: Inuit Day

Nov. 8: Indigenous Veterans Day

Nov. 10: Spirit Day – wear blue, yellow & gold to celebrate AHPS!

Nov. 11: Remembrance Day

Nov. 12: Bandi Chhor Divas

Nov. 12: Diwali/Deepavali 5-day festival

Nov. 12-18: Transgender Awareness Week

Nov. 13: Diwali/Lord Mahavir Nirvana

Nov. 13: New Year/Enlightenment Day of Guatamswami

Nov. 13 Vikram Samvat New Year

Nov. 13: World Kindness Day

Nov. 14: World Diabetes Day

Nov. 15-20: AHPS Book Fair

Nov. 16: International Day of Tolerance

Nov. 16: Louis Riel Day

Nov. 18: Gyan Panchami

Nov. 19-25: Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week

Nov. 20: National Child Day/World Children's Day

Nov. 20: Transgender Day of Remembrance

Nov. 20-26: Canada History Week

Nov. 22: Photo Retake Day

Nov. 23: Last day to order Pointsettas

Nov. 24: Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur

Nov. 24: Spirit Day – 'Anything but a backpack day!'

Nov. 25: Holodomor Memorial Day

Nov. 25: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

Nov. 25-26: Day of the Covenant

Nov. 25 – Dec. 10: 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

Nov. 26: Dev Diwali

Nov. 27: Birth of Guru Nanak Jayanti

Nov. 27-28: Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Bahá



Dental screening and services for kids ages 0-17

Good dental health is an important part of your child's general health. The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit's Oral Health Community Program offers free dental screenings in daycares, schools, and health unit offices for children and youth aged 0 - 17 years. Dental screening can identify and inform families that their child has a dental concern.

Health unit staff can also help children/youth and their families access free preventive services and treatment through the Healthy Smiles Ontario (HSO) Program. For more information regarding these services visit:

<https://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Topics/Dental>

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

