

February 2020 NEWSLETTER

Stephanie D'Ambrosio
Principal

Chris Chater
Vice Principal

Titans' Times



Terry Fox
Elementary School

Safe Arrival # 705-727-4267 press 1

Twitter: @TFTitans

Website: <http://ter.scdsb.on.ca/>

Kindergarten registration is now open!

Do you (or someone you know) have a child who was born in 2016? If so, it's almost time to register them for Kindergarten in the SCDSB! Children turning four in 2020 can start school this September. The registration process can be started on the registration page on the SCDSB website, then completed at the school. Visit

www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/kindergarten for more information.

High school information nights coming to a school near you!

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights happen throughout the winter. This event provides an overview of what's new, what to expect, as well as a chance to check out the school and ask questions. Attend our local high school information night to find out what's offered:

February 20, 2020
Eastview Secondary School
421 Grove St. East
Barrie, ON
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Check out the full schedule of info nights and more information at
www.scdsb.on.ca/secondary/planning_for_high_school



Eastview
Secondary School

SCHOOL DAY at TERRY FOX E.S.

8:45	School Begins
10:25-11:05	First Nutrition/Fitness Break
12:45-1:25	Second Nutrition/Fitness Break
3:05	Dismissal

IMPORTANT DATES

February 14 – Pink & Red Day

February 17 – Family Day (No School)

February 26 – Pink Shirt Day

February 27 – Grade 8 Graduation Picture Day

Keeping SCDSB school communities informed on labour updates

In August 2019, provincial and local contracts for all education workers in the province of Ontario expired. In the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB), this means that all our unionized groups are at different stages of contract negotiations at the provincial and local level. The SCDSB will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates on the status of negotiations and our schools whenever possible.

Labour updates are issued on the SCDSB website (www.scdsb.on.ca/about/labour_updates),

Facebook (www.facebook.com/SCDSB),

Twitter (@SCDSB_Schools) and on the labour updates information line at 1-877-728-1187.

Winter Maintenance at SCDSB Schools

During the winter season, which typically runs from November to April, numerous contractors are assigned to maintain the SCDSB's school sites, which include parking lots and school play yards.

We would like to remind our school communities that overnight parking on SCDSB school sites is prohibited, especially during the winter months, as it interferes with attempts to manage snow and ice removal.

Your cooperation is appreciated.



It's time to start planning for summer (school)! Register today!

Are you and your child planning their courses for next school year? Looking for a way to create flexibility in their timetable and earn a credit? Consider summer school – registration is now open!

Each year, the SCDSB offers a variety of summer programs to over 2,000 students. Summer school options include open, college and university level courses from Grades 9 to 12. Courses are offered in-person or online. Interested students can also travel and earn credits with the summer EduTravel program.

Summer school program details can be found on the Learning Centres website at <http://thelearningcentres.com/>. Current SCDSB students should speak to their guidance counsellor for information and to register.

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://ter.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), Facebook (facebook.com/SCDSB) and Instagram (instagram.com/scdsb).

Days of awareness and recognition taking place in February

Throughout the year, there are many awareness days that focus on different causes and recognition. The Simcoe County District School Board has developed a list of these days as a guide for schools. Schools may participate in recognizing some or all of these days in various ways. This list is not exhaustive. Following are the days of awareness and recognition that the SCDSB will recognize during the month of February:

Feb. 2	Groundhog Day
Feb. 15	National Flag Day of Canada
Feb. 17	National Random Acts of Kindness Day
Feb. 26	Pink Shirt Day

Is bedtime stressing you out?

Kids need 10-12 hours of sleep every night, but sometimes getting them to bed can be frustrating. You can help create a regular sleep schedule for your child by setting a clear bedtime and sticking to the same time every night. Start getting ready an hour before bed; turn off the TV, computers and phones. Spend quality time talking or reading stories to help them unwind. Agree on how many you'll read before you start! Keep their room dark, cool and quiet - a nightlight is fine. Remember, making sure your child gets enough rest will help improve their mood, behaviour and ability to learn.

For more bedtime tips, contact Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 to speak with a public health nurse, or visit the health unit website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

**Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*

Messages From The Office



Camp Fair at Terry Fox

Are you looking for a summer camp for your child(ren)?

Come to our camp fair on February 25th in our school gym! From 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Find out about camp opportunities in and around the Barrie area.

Barrie Boat, Fishing & Outdoor Show

Just a reminder that due to the Boat Show at the East Bayfield Community Centre, we are expecting the parking lots to be very busy the week of February 3-7, 2020. Because of this, we are encouraging parents and students to walk to and from school.

Your child's immunization records

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. The immunizations that the health unit requires records for include:

- Diphtheria, tetanus, polio and pertussis
- Measles, mumps and rubella
- Meningococcal
- Varicella (chickenpox) (for those born in 2010 or later)

It's easy to update your child's immunization status. Go to 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*

Character Attribute for the month of February

Inclusiveness:

We include everyone in what we do and value their contributions.

More information about Character Education can be found here:

https://www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education



Ontario Human Rights Commission – Right to Read Public Inquiry

With the goal to improve student learning outcomes, the Ontario Human Rights Commission launched a public inquiry (Right to Read) on October 3, 2019 to understand why students with Learning Disabilities struggle to learn to read proficiently and what can be done to remove barriers that prevent success.

Parents/guardian, students and educators are invited to participate in the public inquiry via:

i. legal@ohrc.on.ca

ii. 1-800-387-9080

To find out more visit:

<http://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/right-read-public-inquiry-on-reading-disabilities>.



School Council Corner



We are a group of parent/guardian volunteers whose focus is to support the school and its community through fundraising events and activities. Some of our ongoing efforts include Eat Well to Excel, pizza lunches and the milk program. Our focus for the 2019/2020 school year will be to raise funds to improve the outdoor space at Terry Fox Elementary.

Terry Fox School Council will be hosting a **Camp Fair and Silent Auction** on **February 25, 2020** from **5:30pm - 7:30pm**. It will be a great opportunity to come out to the school and see what Summer Camps are available. As well a lot of the camps that will be coming have PA day and March Break opportunities.

We are always looking for new volunteers and all parents are welcome to come out to School Council meetings.

Next School Council meeting is February 3, 2020 at 6:30pm in the Library.

If you have any questions, concerns or ideas please contact us at councilchairter@scdsb.on.ca

Remember to "Like" our School Council Facebook page **Terry Fox Elementary School Community** for updates on events that are happening within the school and community. This page is not affiliated with staff or administration.



Learning How to Swim Is a Critical Life Skill

Learning how to swim is the first defense against drowning and teaching children how to swim at an early age is essential to their safety. Research shows that children who are not taught when they are young tend to avoid swimming lessons as they age, often due to embarrassment.

According to the [Drowning Prevention Research Centre Canada](#), there is an average of 464 preventable, unintentional water-related fatalities occurring in Canada each year. Forty-five per cent of those who drown are weak or non-swimmers. Formal swimming lessons are proven to reduce the risk of drowning by up to 88 per cent. Swimming instruction is a crucial step to protecting children from drowning. In Simcoe County, we enjoy a wide variety of aquatic activities during the summer months thanks to the many lakes, waterfronts, and recreational facilities surrounding us. Help keep your children safe by enrolling them in swimming lessons. This will teach them important water safety skills and allow them to enjoy and respect the water.

If you think your child is ready for swimming lessons, here are some things to consider:

Class placement – Children should be grouped with others in their age range and skill level, and there should be specific skills to master before advancing into each new level.

Class size – No matter what the class size, the ratio of staff to students should be appropriate so that instructors can give each child individual instruction, in addition to the group activities.

Instructor credentials – Make sure to ask what training the aquatic instructors have received and what certifications they hold before signing your child up for lessons. The [YMCA](#), for instance, requires that instructors have a current Lifesaving Society National Lifeguard certification as well as a [YMCA Swim Instructor certification](#).

The [YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka](#) believes that learning how to swim is a critical life skill, which is why children and adult [lessons](#) are included with every [membership](#). With guidance from their expert instructors, children learn about water safety, build confidence, make new friends and tackle new challenges. For more information about the YMCA swim programs for both children and adults, please visit www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca/swim-lessons.

**Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka*