



**Simcoe County**  
**District School Board**

## **SCDSB Newsletter June 2018**

### **2018-19 school year calendars now approved**

The Ministry of Education has approved the elementary and secondary school year calendars for the Simcoe County District School Board's 2018-19 school year.

#### **2018-19 Highlights:**

- First day of school: Tuesday, September 4, 2018
- First day of school for Junior Kindergarten students: Thursday, September 6, 2018
- Winter Break: December 24, 2018 to January 4, 2019
- March Break: March 11 to 15, 2019
- Last day for elementary students: Thursday, June 27, 2019
- Last day for secondary students: Wednesday, June 26, 2019

You can view the 2018-19 calendars on the SCDSB website ([www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca)) by clicking on 'Schools' and then 'School Year Calendars.'

### **Updated criminal record checks required for volunteers**

We appreciate the commitment of all who volunteer at our school. In an effort to ensure the safety and well-being of our students, and in accordance with the Education Act, the SCDSB requires a complete and up-to-date Criminal Record Check Vulnerable Sector Screening (CRC-VSS) for all volunteers across the system. If you are a current, approved volunteer and your CRC-VSS is more than five years old, you will be receiving a notification this month indicating that you are required to submit a new CRC-VSS. If you wish to continue as a SCDSB volunteer, please complete the following steps:

1. Contact the school principal to obtain a CRC-VSS request letter.
2. Bring your CRC-VSS request letter to your local police detachment.
3. Submit your original and complete CRC-VSS to the school office for review by Oct. 31, 2018.

If you are a current SCDSB employee volunteering in the system, you are required to submit an updated CRC-VSS to the school where you will be volunteering. If you have completed a CRC-VSS within the past six months of the start of the school year for another organization, you may submit that original CRC-VSS for review. If you have questions, please contact the school.

### **Register now for fall International Language Programs**

The SCDSB offers children in Grades 1 to 8 an opportunity to learn and/or maintain a language other than French or English. Whether you enrol your children in this program to learn a new language, understand a new culture or to extend their knowledge of their first or second language, every student can benefit from this program. The Barrie Learning Centre (Bayfield Mall) offers Arabic, Farsi, Korean, Mandarin, Russian, Spanish, Ukrainian and Urdu. The Bradford Learning Centre (157 Holland St. E, Suite 200) offers Arabic, Dari, Farsi, Mandarin, Russian, Spanish, Tamil, Ukrainian, Urdu and Vietnamese. The classes take place Saturday mornings, 9 to 11:30 a.m. starting Sept. 15 (classes are dependent on student enrollment). There is no charge for this program. Most classes fill quickly on a first come, first served basis. Register your child by visiting [www.thelearningcentres.com](http://www.thelearningcentres.com) and clicking on 'Elementary Student.'

## **Eye See...Eye Learn program offers free glasses for Junior Kindergarten students**

The Eye See...Eye Learn program provides comprehensive eye exams by local optometrists to Junior Kindergarten (JK) students. The eye exams are covered under the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) when parents show their child's health card. There is no out-of-pocket cost for the eye exam and if the child requires a pair of glasses, they will receive them free of charge courtesy of a participating optometrist. For more information, visit [www.Eyeseeyelearn.ca](http://www.Eyeseeyelearn.ca). The program is available for current JK students until June 30, 2018.

## **Canada Education Savings programs are available to help fund your child's education**

The Government of Canada encourages Canadians to use Registered Education Savings Plans (RESP) to save for a child's post-secondary education, which includes full- or part-time studies at a trade school, CEGEP, college, or university or in an apprenticeship program. Employment and Social Development Canada administers two education savings incentives linked to RESPs:

- **Canada Education Savings Grant** - a basic grant of 20% on the first \$2,500 in annual personal contributions to a RESP (this grant is available to all eligible Canadians regardless of their family income), as well as the additional amount of Canada Education Savings Grant.
- **Canada Learning Bond** - available for eligible Canadian children from low-income families born in 2004 or later and provides an initial payment of \$500 plus \$100 for each year of eligibility, up to age 15, for a maximum of \$2,000. Personal contributions are not required.

For more information, visit: [www.canada.ca/education-savings](http://www.canada.ca/education-savings).

## **Register now for Before & After School Programs for September 2018**

Register now for child care at our school next school year. Your child's space in the program for September 2018 will be considered a priority if completed registration forms have been submitted to the child care operator by **June 30, 2018**. Please contact Liz Sherman at Upper Canada Childcare at 705-726-5674 ext. 201 to register your child(ren).

## **Summer child care options available**

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) supports your child care needs by offering full-day child care programs in select schools across Simcoe County. Twenty schools offer child care programs for children from Junior Kindergarten age to 12 years old. Registration in advance is required. Please contact the child care operator directly to register. More information can be found on our website at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) – click on 'Schools' then 'Before & After School Care.'

## **School's in for summer at the SCDSB**

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! 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 are on the Learning Centres website at [www.thelearningcentres.com](http://www.thelearningcentres.com). Current SCDSB students should speak to their guidance counsellor for information and to register. Register now so that your summer school choices align with course selection for next year!

## Safe Kids Week is June 4 to 8

This year's theme focuses on concussions at home, at play and on the road:

- Help reduce the likelihood of head injury, like concussions, during sports, recreation and unstructured play by encouraging your child to use correctly fitting protective equipment and to follow safety rules.
- Teach children about wearing the right helmet for the activity. For example: bike helmets can be used for cycling, in-line skating and scootering, but skateboarding helmets should be used for skateboarding as they cover the back of the head better.
- Recognize the signs and symptoms of a concussion, which can happen even without a direct hit to the head and without losing consciousness. If your child does have signs of concussion, remove them from the activity and seek medical care.
- Be sure to inform your school principal if your child sustains a concussion, either on or off school property.

Learn more at [www.parachutecanada.org](http://www.parachutecanada.org).

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*

## Keep your kids healthy, active and engaged this summer

Summer is the time for kids to get outside and grow. But for some kids, exposure to activities that stimulate the body and mind ends with the school year. Studies show 90 per cent of children ages five to 11 years old in Canada do not meet their minimal physical activity requirements. We know that having an active lifestyle in the early years is essential to healthy child development and has a positive impact on mental health. Here are a few tips on how to keep your child's mind and body active this summer:

- Learn a new skill! Over the summer months, there is a wide variety of programs to keep children and youth active. Whether outdoors or in a facility like the YMCA, swimming is a summer time favourite. Consider signing your child up for swimming lessons, giving them the confidence they need to be safe in and around the water.
- Unplug and enjoy the outdoors! Did you know that the average Canadian child spends almost eight hours a day in front of a screen? Research tells us that when children are connected to their environment, they are healthier and happier. Look for opportunities for your child to get connected with nature.

With some creativity and advanced planning, parents can keep their children's minds and bodies active this summer! To learn more about the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka, visit [www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca](http://www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca).

*Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka*

## Stroud Volunteer Firefighters Association - Community Pancake Breakfast

Location: Stroud Fire Station (2394 Victoria Street)

Date: Saturday, June 16th, 2018

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Food: Pancakes, Eggs, Bacon, Coffee, Juice, Milk

Families will also be able to climb into a Fire Truck and receive fire safety materials that they can take home with them.