



Marchmont Public School

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Primrose Goss
Principal

Sheila Phillips
Senior Administrative Support

February 2016 Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES

- February 8th & 9th – Kindergartens at Great Moose Adventures
- February 9th – Pancake Day
- February 10th- School Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm in the Library
- February 12th – Winter Carnival
- February 12th – Candles with Care Delivery to the School
- February 15th – Family Day Holiday
- February 19th – Report Cards
- February 24th – Grade 8 Graduation Photo Retakes
- February 26th – “Caring” Assembly & Leave a Note Day
- February 26th – Family Movie Night

Message from the Principal

We've made it to February!

We've had a mixed bag of weather and a relatively mild winter so far, although I'm sure more is to come. With that in mind, please send your child with appropriate outside wear for snow or rain. An extra pair of socks or mitts kept in the backpack is a helpful tip. Continue to refer to the Simcoe County Transportation Consortium website (www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca) for possible bus cancellations. Specific event cancellations will be posted through the board & school website on Twitter.

The staff and students have been working hard in their teaching and learning. Many students are participating in many activities that integrate technology; some classes have been using the iPads to do coding activities, using Google Classroom to share their work and creating holograms. Future technology tools that will be arriving soon include: Lego robotic kits, Makey Makey, Spheros and Roominates; all of which will be used in creating “maker spaces” and support innovative learning experiences.

Fundraising events continue to thrive at Marchmont. This past month, Our Candles with Care are arriving soon and several families & friends attended the Barrie Colts Game last week. Next month, we look forward to participating in the Hewitt's Farm Market Fundraiser; order forms will be sent home later this month. Thank you for your support – school generated funds support many activities, clubs & teams, field trips and so much more! Our students and staff are very appreciative of this.

Have a fantastic February!

Sincerely,
Primrose Goss

SAFE ARRIVAL

Just a reminder to call the safe arrival line in the event of your child being absent or late. You can leave a message at any time of the day or night – simply dial the school number, 705-326-7652 and Press 1 when prompted, ensuring to leave the name of your child and his/her teacher and reason for absence/lateness. If at all possible, please refrain from calling at peak times, typically at the beginning and end of the school day. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

School Parking Lots

We've had an increase of cars pulling into the front parking lot, particularly when buses are pulling in and/or unloading. Buses start arriving and unloading at 8:55 a.m. and arrive for pick-up starting at 3:30 p.m. Please refrain from using our parking lots at this time as it delays buses from entering as well as making it unsafe for students crossing between buses. A friendly reminder also to take extra care around our school parking lots now that snow has finally arrived. Drivers: please be mindful of pulling out of parking spaces as large piles of snow can decrease visibility. School board property is private property, and in some cases (eg. after hours) vehicles could be towed from parking lots to facilitate snow removal. Unauthorized parking in school lots overnight and/or weekends is at the sole risk of the vehicle owner.

Marchmont Extra-Curriculars

This season, our students have been involved in the following:

Intermediate Boys Basketball – Coached by Mr. Vodarek and Mr. Davidson

Intermediate Girls Volleyball – Coached by Mrs. Kennedy and Mrs. McNiven

Chess Club – Coached by Mrs. Leboeuf

Primary Intramurals – Led by Mrs. Penny Nie and Mrs. Downer

Violin Club – Led by Mrs. Vandenberg and Ms. Lyons Bowman

PA Day added on April 15

An additional Professional Activity (PA) day has been added to the 2015-16 school year calendar for Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) elementary and secondary schools. This PA day is scheduled for April 15, 2016. The school year calendar for 2015-16 now includes 187 instructional days and seven professional activity days. The additional PA Day is part of the settlements that were centrally negotiated with the Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario (ETFO) and the Ontario Secondary Schools Teachers' Federation (OSSTF). View the updated school calendar at www.scdsb.on.ca and click on 'Schools' and then 'School Year Calendars.'

Nominations invited for Character Recognition Evening on May 18

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) recognizes students, staff and volunteers who demonstrate good character in their daily lives at the annual *Character Recognition Awards Evening*, taking place on May 18 this year. Each year, nominations from schools and the Education Centre are received highlighting the good character of our students, staff and volunteers. Nominees are invited to the Education Centre on May 18 to celebrate those who exemplify the SCDSB Commit to Character attributes. The nomination process opens on Feb. 8 and ends on Feb. 26, 2016.

Recommendations can be made by email or fax. More information and the Character Recognition nomination form is available at www.scdsb.on.ca under 'About Us' and then click on 'Commit to Character.'