



## From the Desk of Mrs. Golding:



Nottawasaga Creemore Families,

October was a busy month, full of events and activities at the school. Many of our students participated in Cross Country, students in Grades 1-5 enjoyed a science assembly by 'Elephant Thoughts', grades 4 and 7 participated in outdoor education Trips to Tiffin and Grade 7/8 experienced guest speaker "Samantha Ward" from the Child Advocacy Centre in Orillia who spoke about internet safety.

After a bountiful harvest and many garden based activities in classes, the garden is about to be put to bed for the winter, but not before harvesting seeds, pressing some flowers and planting garlic and winter rye. It is wonderful to see the excitement that came along with students harvesting, creating and tasting meals made from the garden. Along with engaging the students, they also learned valuable lessons related to literacy, math, science, health and more!

On our PA Day, a number of our teachers were participating in PD at other sites, but we had the pleasure to working with the staff of New Lowell in the school the morning to look at numeracy. In the afternoon, we returned to NCPS and teachers got the time to plan activities that focused on the M in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) activities.

Last but not least, we are ending October with a "Twin Day", organized by our spirit squad. where students dress up to earn points for their house teams.

Looking ahead, November promises to be just as full of excitement and learning. I especially encourage families and community members to come out to our presentation, "**Social medial fitness**" by **Chris Vollum on November 1st at 6pm**. This event is free of charge (brought to you by a Parents Reaching Out Grant) and open to parents/caregivers in the community, not only NCPS parents. If you have ever found yourself unsure of how to manage your child's screen time, unaware of what the social media platforms they are using are all about and how social media is connected to our children's mental health, this session is for you!

Wishing all of our families a wonderful month!

### November Important Dates:

- **Nov 1-** Chris Vollum social media presentation for Gr 4-8 at 2pm in the gym
- **Nov 1-** School council meeting at 5:30 in the library followed by parents presentation from Chris Vollum from 6-7:30
- **Nov 2-** Gr 8's visit SCI
- **Nov 3-** Jr boys/Intermediate girls basketball tournaments
- **Nov 3-** Picture Retake Day 1-3pm
- **Nov 7-** Elephant Thoughts Science program begins after school
- **Nov 10-** Grade 7 Students & Gr 8 girls- immunizations
- **Nov. 10-** Ontario Early Years Stay and Play 9-10am
- **Nov 11-** Progress Reports go home
- **Nov 11-** Remembrance Day assembly
- **Nov 14-** Elephant thoughts after school science
- **Nov 17-** Student led conferences (evening)
- **Nov 18-** Student led conferences (morning)
- **Nov 21-** Elephant thoughts after school science
- **Nov 24-** Ontario Early Years Stay and Play 9-10am
- **Nov 28-** Elephant thoughts after school science
- **Dec 3-** Save the date for Breakfast with Santa! More info will be sent home later this month.



## Breakfast with Santa'

It's that time of year again – our annual '**Breakfast with Santa**' is coming December 3rd. For those of you who are new to the community the School Council would like to welcome you to the school and extend a warm invitation to attend '**Breakfast with Santa**'.

'**Breakfast with Santa**' is a morning filled with festive events to help fund various projects within NCPS. Not only will a delicious pancake breakfast be sold, but there will be treasure trays, a kid's shopping room and a kid's craft room to make a special Christmas Ornament.

We can always use volunteers to support this event, if you are interested in volunteering a few hours of your time, either on the day or the event, or leading up to it, please email [agolding@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:agolding@scdsb.on.ca) We are also looking for donations of gently used items for our "Kids Shopping Room" and also donations for our Silent Auction? Donations can be sent in any time after November 14th.

In planning Breakfast with Santa, we need to reach out to our supportive community once again. At this time we ask each family to think creatively in helping us to make our "treasure trays" for the raffle at this event. A treasure tray will be made up of new items according to a theme that each grade will be given. Each family is asked to contribute an item/s to the value of \$5.00. These items should be sent into your child's class no later than **Tuesday November 22nd**. Trays will be made up, wrapped and later raffled at "Breakfast with Santa" on December 5th. Tickets will be available for .50 cents each. Your contributions will help to make this fund-raising event a success. Thank you for your support.

<b>Classroom</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Classroom</b>	<b>Theme</b>
<i>Mrs. Doner-Day</i>	Barbies & Cars	<i>Mrs. Whitley</i>	Sports
<i>Mrs. Elliott</i>	Love to build	<i>Mrs. Smith</i>	Gift Cards
<i>Ms. Floyd</i>	Candies & Chocoholic	<i>Mr. Weir</i>	Gift Cards
<i>Mrs. Kirkpatrick</i>	Baking Time	<i>Mr. Surowiec</i>	Arts & Crafts
<i>Mrs Greppmayr</i>	Games		

## Parent Resource Shelf

Did you know NCPS has a parent resource shelf? The shelf is found in the foyer of the school, just outside of the office. We have a variety of resource books for families that are available to sign out. We ask that families sign out **one book at a time** in the sign out book that will be located on the shelf. We also have a list of books available posted on our website under "Parents", "Resource Library". We are also accepting gently used donations of books related to parenting topics; these can be sent to Mrs. Golding.

## Morning Drop off

Just a reminder that staff supervision on the school yard for students begins at 8:45 a.m. As the winter months approach, please ensure that all children are sent with clothing suited for the colder temperatures. Extra mittens and socks are always a great idea!

Our parking can be a busy place in the morning as well as at dismissal and safety is of utmost importance. As weather conditions begin to deteriorate throughout the winter, it is especially important to adhere to the guidelines put in place to keep everyone safe.

- Parents/Guardians who drive to drop off or pick up their child are asked to either use the kiss and ride **or** use a parking spot in our lot if you plan to walk your child to the kindergarten gates
- When using the kiss and ride, please remember to have your students exit the passenger side of the vehicle onto the curb.

We currently have a number of caregivers parking in the kiss and ride, which is causing vehicles entering the lot behind them to pull into parking spaces to drop off their children. We then have children being dropped off and crossing through the middle of parking lot which is what we seek to avoid through the existence of the kiss and ride. Your co-operation with these important safety procedures is appreciated.

### **Bus cancellation information in case of inclement weather**

Winter is just around the corner in Simcoe County, and with it comes the possibility of severe weather, challenging winter driving conditions and, as a result, possible bus and school event cancellations.

All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's bus information website at [www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca). Our school is in the *West* zone. The Consortium, in conjunction with bus operators, will make the decision to cancel school buses before 6 a.m. and as such, will make every effort to post announcements between 6 and 7 a.m. Parents should also note that inclement weather cancellations are effective for the whole day and buses cancelled in the morning will not run at the end of the day. When buses are cancelled, please remember that schools are still open (unless otherwise noted) for student learning.

You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions> and you can follow the Consortium on Twitter @SCSTC\_SchoolBus.

### **Message from SCDSB Director of Education Kathi Wallace**

At the Sept. 28 Board Meeting, it was shared publicly that I will retire as of December 31, 2016. As I'm sure you can imagine, this decision was challenging for me. I love what I do - I have felt this way in every role during my 39 years in this board. It's truly been an honour to serve the students and families of Simcoe County throughout my career. I've had the privilege of working with fantastic staff, parents and community partners. I've been surrounded by skilled, passionate and caring people.

My focus remains on our work as I complete my time here. The Board of Trustees have started the search for a new director. We are also now gathering the results of our strategic planning consultation. The input provided by our staff, students, parents and community members will be invaluable to the board and senior administration, including the new director, as they move the system forward.

I am looking forward with optimism to this next stage of my life. It's a chance to spend some more time with my family. This includes my growing group of beautiful grandchildren who provide that daily reminder of life's wonder and simple joys. It's that same reminder I cherish from my days as a classroom teacher.

### **Free film screening on Nov. 22: *Most Likely to Succeed*, a documentary**

On November 22, the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) will hold public screenings of the film *Most Likely To Succeed*. This film examines the history of education, revealing the growing shortcomings of conventional education methods in today's innovative world. The film explores compelling new approaches that aim to transform learning as we know it. To learn more about the film and view a trailer, visit [www.mltsfilm.org/](http://www.mltsfilm.org/).

In our area, the film will be screened at Nottawa Public School. The screening begins at 6:30 p.m. and the film is 90 minutes in length. Everyone is welcome to attend and the film is appropriate for all audiences (please note that there is one profanity word in the movie). Please pre-register for the event at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca).

### **Message from the Health Unit: Stay Healthy This School Year!**

Colds and Influenza spread easily from person to person. These germs can spread directly from person to person when someone coughs or sneezes, or indirectly when germs land on hard surfaces like door knobs, desks, keyboards, or wet tissues and then are touched by someone. These germs can then enter the body through the eyes, nose or mouth.

The most important thing you can do to keep from getting sick and stop the spread of germs to others is wash your hands with soap and warm running water for at least 15 seconds. If your hands are not visibly dirty you can use alcohol based hand rub "hand sanitizer" for 15 seconds. Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or cough into your sleeve or upper arm and stay home if you are sick. Teach your kids to do the same!

For more tips to keep you and your family healthy this school year, contact *Health Connection* at 1-877-721-7520 or visit the health unit's website at [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org).

### **High School information nights coming soon to a high school near you**

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights happen this fall and winter! Information nights give an overview of what's new and what to expect, and are a chance to ask questions.

Students from our school attend *Stayner Collegiate Institute*.  
7578 Highway 26, R.R. #2, Stayner  
SCI Info night is on Thursday December 8, 2016  
6pm-8pm

High school is an exciting time—there are so many programs, clubs and activities for students to try. Attend an information night to find out what's offered at your local high school. See the schedule of upcoming information nights at [www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool).