

TRILLIUM WOODS E. S.

December 2023

Odun Disu
Principal

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Sue Collingbourne
Vice-Principal

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Dear Trillium Woods Families,

It is hard to believe that it is already December! At Trillium Woods, December is a busy month, filled with music, sports, clubs and activities as our students prepare for their Winter Concert and anticipate the school-wide celebration days and winter fun. You can learn about these fantastic events all year long by reading our weekly Friday Blasts and monthly Newsletters. The Christmas Cheer Campaign is one event that always demonstrates our community's generosity. As we do every December, the school will be accepting donations up to December 12th of any new unwrapped toys, books, games, clothing, toiletries, nonperishable food items or gift cards to support this campaign which helps families in our community that are in need during this season. [Please click here for more information about this Christmas Cheer.](#) We want to thank all of our students, staff, parents and community partners for all they do and for the ongoing support to make Trillium Woods a great place to work and learn. And we wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season and winter break.



Principal - Odun Disu and Vice-Principal - Sue Collingbourne

Lunchbox Orders:

If your child(ren) are going to be absent and/or on inclement weather on the days which you have purchased Lunchbox, please call the school (705.792.7766) before 12 PM to put the children's lunches aside, ready for you to pickup that day. The vendors have requested we don't keep day old lunches due to their diminished quality of food.

Caring is ...

Caring is the act of love,
It's a feeling that we share,
To show other that we care.

Caring is like a gentle breeze,
that puts our mind in peace
Caring is like a melody,
That fills our hearts with glee,
It's a melody that we all sing,
To make the world a better place

So let's spread the love,
With caring actions from our hearts
Let us make the world a brighter place,
With kindness and love we embrace

Written by, Hareem and Priscilla
(Creative Writing Club Members)

DATES TO REMEMBER

Trillium Tuesdays—Wear school spirit wear or school colours (burgundy, black, white)

Thurs. Dec. 7 6:00 PM Family Movie Night

Wed. Dec. 13 11 AM—12:40 PM Gr. 8 Presentation

Fri. Dec. 15 School Celebration Day—hat or scarf day

Fri. Dec. 15 1:30-3:00 PM Primary Concert for families

Tues. Dec. 19 11:00 AM—12:30 PM Students Sing-A-Long

Dec. 20—21 9:00—10:00 AM Students Sing-A-Long

Fri. Dec. 22 School Celebration Day—Comfy Clothes day

Fri. Dec. 22 1st block—Primary Dance
2nd block—Junior Dance
3rd block—Intermediate Dance

Dec. 25-Jan. 5 Holiday Break

Kindness...

Kindness
A helping hand,
A compliment,
A thoughtful gift.

Kindness
A warm embrace,
A kind smile,
An invitation.

Kindness
Sharing,
Loving,
Caring,
A good friend.
Kindness.

By Albany M.J
(creative writing club member)



Mental health strategy of the month - Emotion Charades

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 **Emotion Charades**. This practice helps students practice expressing emotions with their whole body and recognize body language and facial expressions in others. To practice *Emotion Charades* at home, on slips of paper, write or draw different feelings depending on the age of your child. For instance, happy, sad, angry, scared, worried, sleepy, frustrated, etc. Place the papers in a bowl/container.

Then:

- Decide who will go first. Have that person pick a piece of paper from the bowl.
- Have them read the feeling to themselves, or, if needed, help your child read the feeling.
- Now they will act out the feeling without words while the other players try to guess what it is.
- Once someone gets the right answer, it's the next person's turn to pick a piece of paper and act out the feeling.

This is a fun activity that everyone in the family can play!

Emotion Charades link to School Mental Health Ontario parent sheet: <https://smho-smso.ca/online-resources/easy-and-fun-mental-health-activities-for-home/>

Find more information to support your child's mental health here: <https://smho-smso.ca/parents-and-caregivers/>

Emotion Charades:

Elementary - <https://smho-smso.ca/emhc/identification-and-management-of-emotions/recognizing/emotion-charades/>

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

ATTENDANCE & SAFE ARRIVAL

1-888-885-8065

We are rapidly approaching snowy weather and we would like to remind all families to please call the school if your child(ren) will be absent or late. You may leave the message at any time, day or night as it is an answering machine.



Here are a few reminders for the messages left by the Automated Message Sender:

- (A) If you receive an automated call on a regular school day saying that your child is absent, you still need to call and leave a message on the Safe Arrival Line that your child is sick or away from school that day.
- (B) On Inclement Weather days (When the buses have been cancelled), please remember to call the school if your child(ren) will not be attending. If you do receive a call on an Inclement Weather day we would like to remind you that you only need to contact the school if your child(ren) SHOULD be at school.

Thank you for your continued support!

Is bedtime stressing you out?

Kids need 10-12 hours of sleep every night but sometimes getting them to bed can be challenging. 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.

Visit www.simcoemuskokahealth.org for more information.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

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.

Inclement weather and bus cancellation information reminder



All information regarding cancelled buses in 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](https://twitter.com/SCSTC_SchoolBus) for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>.



Mrs. Gibbs-White, Gr. 5 Class

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>.

Subscribe to Community Connects!

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is excited to launch Community Connects, a new bimonthly newsletter for the SCDSB community. Our shared goal with this new tool is to keep our community partners and stakeholders informed while nurturing relationships that are built on accountability, trust, and transparency.

Head lice treatment and prevention

Anyone can get head lice. Having head lice does not mean a person is unclean or lives in a dirty home. While they are a nuisance, head lice do not spread disease or cause illness. Head lice spreads easily, especially where people are in close contact and are very common among school-aged children or children in childcare.

Head lice spreads through direct hair-to-hair contact or indirectly by sharing hats, combs, hairbrushes, and headphones. To help prevent the spread of head lice, it's important to educate students about avoiding head-to-head contact and discourage sharing combs, hairbrushes, tuques, hats, or hair accessories.

Parents/guardians, caregivers, and families can visit <https://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Topics/PP2B/RaisingChildren/YourGrowingChild/HeadLice> for more information about head lice treatment and prevention. Or call Health Connection at:

1-877-721-7520 to speak to a public health nurse.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

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:

www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/childcare_before_after.

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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.

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:

www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/childcare_before_after.

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.

These webinars are specifically planned for parents/guardians and other caregivers during this school year.

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.

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!

Christmas Cheer Donations

Trillium Woods families—thank you for sending in food and toy donations.

If you are planning on attending the TWES Movie Night featuring Polar Express on December 7th please bring in a food and/or toy item to add to our Christmas Cheer display.

Christmas Cheer runs until Dec 12th.

Winter Concert

We are very excited to share with you some of the amazing things we have been learning in music class. Students from grades 1 – 3, including the Trillium Woods Choir (students from grades 1-8) and the debut of the Trillium Woods Rock Band, will be performing a selection of songs and music.



Please join us for the Trillium Woods Winter Concert on Friday, December 15th, @ 1:30 pm in our auditorium. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to celebrate the diverse musical talents in our Trillium Woods performers. Admission is FREE!

Hope to see you there.

Intermediate Girls' Basketball Team

Congratulations to the Intermediate Girls' Basketball Team for a successful basketball season. The team members included: Hailee, Makayla, Isabella, Natalie, Brooklyn C(d), Brooklyn C(t), Maven, Caitlyn, Isabel, Haidyn, Addy, and Sydney. Trillium Woods is proud of all the hard work and what you accomplished in such a short time. Not only did you show growth in your basketball skills, but also in your leadership, demonstrating a high level of respect to coaches, referees and opposing players. A big thank you to all of the parents for supporting our team. Without your help we would not have been able to reach the level of success that we have seen this season. A final thank you to Mr. Peters and Mr. Sarginson for taking the time to coach the team.



"Teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to produce uncommon results." – Andrew Carnegie.

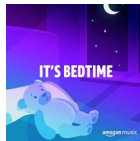
Primary Dance - December 22

Students in grades 1 to 3 will have a chance to put on their dancing shoes again and celebrate the end of 2023 on the morning of December 22nd. Students will have the opportunity to purchase a juice box or individual bags of popcorn. Juice boxes will be \$0.50 and white cheddar or butter and salt popcorn will be sold for \$2.00 a bag. Please note that these items will be sold during the dance, cash only. There are no online orders for this event.



Is bedtime stressing you out?

Kids need 10-12 hours of sleep every night but sometimes getting them to bed can be challenging. 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 public health nurse. Visit www.simcoemuskokahealth.org for more information.



Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

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.



The SCDSB board-wide electronic applications for the Grade 1 FI program for all sites will open Friday, Dec. 1 at 9 a.m. and close at 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 15. Entry into the FI program is determined through a digitally randomized lottery system. To learn more, visit the SCDSB website: <https://www.scdsb.on.ca/cms/One.aspx?portalId=210982&pageId=12587752>.

Picking Up Your Child Early

When picking up your child prior to the end of the school day please be aware that the students remain in their classroom and will be called down when you arrive at the school. If you are attempting to arrive at an appointment for a specific time, please arrive at the school with enough time to make your appointment.

LIBRARY NEWS

Thank you for supporting our Scholastic Book Fair last month. We raised approximately \$2000.00 for the library to purchase new resources! Our next Scholastic Book Fair will be held in May. We will be having a used book sale at the end of January. Books will be sold for 50 cents each! If you have any books at home (for any age level) that you would like to donate to our used book sale, please send them to the school in care of Mrs. Marling. The books will be accepted anytime.

The 2024 Forest of Reading nominations have been announced. These books are selected by Teacher-Librarians from across Ontario. The winners are announced in May 2024. Books are nominated for readers ages 4 (Blue Spruce) to adults (Evergreen). These books make great gifts! To see the list of nominees, visit <https://forestofreading.com/nominated-lists/>

Our Battle of the Books team is being created as we speak! Battle of the Books is a reading program run in conjunction with the Barrie Public Library. Team members are given a list of books and are encouraged to read as many as possible before the "battle" against other schools in the spring. If you have a child who is in Grades 4 to 8 who enjoys reading, please encourage them to join our school team. We will meet bi-weekly in the library to discuss the books the students have read.

Enjoy your holiday with your family, and remember that reading with your children is one of the greatest gifts you can give them!

Mrs. Marling

School playground structures are closed for the winter

Every winter, school playground structures are closed. Students are made aware of this during school hours through announcements and staff reminders during breaks. This may not be well known throughout the community, despite signs indicating that playground structures are a winter hazard and are closed. The Canadian Standards Association regulations make recommendations for the depth of ground cover required to minimize injuries (e.g., sand, pea gravel or wood chips). These surfaces cannot be maintained when the ground freezes. Injuries from falling would be more significant on frozen ground. We strongly recommend that you do not allow your children to play on any structures while the ground is frozen.



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>.



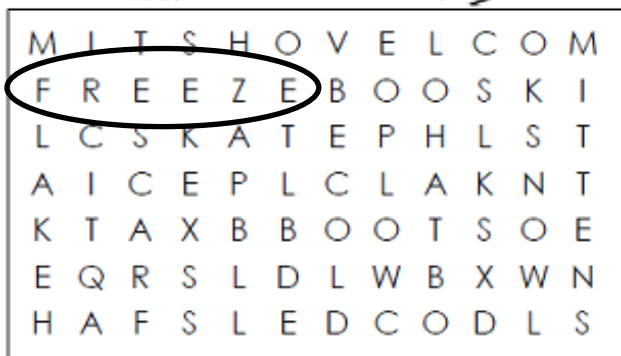
Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions is seeking compassionate and skilled professionals with specialized experience to apply to become foster care providers

The goal of this program is to meet the needs of youth through a therapeutically supported parenting approach within a structured environment, where they are supported and guided by a multi-disciplinary treatment team. The youth will remain, or become connected to, their family/kin/community whenever possible. Treatment services will be individualized based on the needs of the youth, and the knowledge of those who know the youth best in collaboration with community partners. This will allow youth to reside in a family-based setting and remain in their home community of Simcoe Muskoka, staying connected to important relationships and supports that may already be in place.

The homes approved under this strategy are designed to create clinically informed care plans that will support the youth directly, in addition to the continued support of their care providers. Youth will be supported by a multi-disciplinary team and will be available to implement and design parenting and support to address the needs of the youth. Compensation packages will be offered to experienced foster care providers, as well as clinical support to both care providers and youth. If you or someone you know is looking for more information or would like to apply, contact Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions by email at: bruna.figliuzzi@familyconnexions.ca or call [705-716-4664](tel:705-716-4664).



Winter Fun



Find these words in the puzzle. Words are hidden → and ↓.

- | | |
|---------|--------|
| BOOTS | PLOW |
| COLD | SCARF |
| FLAKE | SHOVEL |
| FREEZE | SKATE |
| HAT | SKI |
| ICE | SLED |
| MITTENS | SNOW |



Math @Home parent and caregiver series

It's back! The SCDSB math team is pleased to offer three virtual sessions for parents and caregivers of SCDSB students. These sessions will focus on practical and fun ways to support children with their mathematics learning and engagement at home. The first 200 registrants will receive a Math @Home kit of resources to use at home. Participants must pre-register for each of the sessions.

Exploring the new SCDSB family math resources

Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2024, 7 to 8 p.m.

This session is for parents and caregivers. Join members of the SCDSB math team for a guided exploration of the new SCDSB family math resources. Participants will have the opportunity to explore the resources that are available to support their child's math learning at home. The guided portion of the session will be 45 minutes in length. During the final 15 minutes, the math team will be available to answer questions about the resources available.

Tips for engaging in math conversations with your child @Home

Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2024, 7 to 8 p.m.

This session is for parents and caregivers and will explore opportunities to discuss math with their child(ren) at home. Participants will learn about how events such as shopping, preparing food, engaging in a building project, or going for a walk can be used as a starting point for math conversations, and will receive prompts to get the discussion rolling. The guided portion of the session will be 45 minutes in length. During the final 15 minutes, the math team will be available to answer questions about the session.

Games to support your child's math learning @Home

Thursday, April 4, 2024, 7 to 8 p.m.

This session is for parents, caregivers, and their children. Playing games at home is a great way to support child(ren)'s math development. In this session, several games will be explored, and participants will have the opportunity to try the games with their children during the session. The guided portion of the session will be 45 minutes in length followed by 15 additional minutes for further game play or to ask questions of our math facilitators. Bring your child(ren) and your math kit to this session!

Participants must pre-register for the sessions they wish to attend. Registered participants will receive a kit of hands-on resources that will be sent to the school indicated on the registration form. Use this link to register: <https://bit.ly/24MathAtHome>.

Did you know it's illegal to vape or smoke *anywhere* on school property, inside the school or outside within 20m of school property, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year?

The law applies to everyone on school property, students, staff, and visitors. It also means it is illegal to vape or smoke on school athletic fields during afterhours activities or vape or smoke in school washrooms. There is a fine of \$305 for vaping or smoking on school property.

But why do youth vape at school? Vapes contain nicotine, which is a highly addictive drug. Nicotine addiction is extremely powerful, develops quickly, and youth may not realize they are addicted. Once addicted, they need nicotine regularly or they will experience withdrawal, making it hard to get through the school day. Help them take back control – there are supports to help youth quit! Talk to your child about vaping, they listen more than you think. Learn more at NotAnExperiment.ca/parents.