

# TRILLIUM WOODS E. S.

February 2023

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Barrie, ON L4N 0Z1

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Principal

PHONE (705) 792-7766

**Sue Collingbourne**  
Vice-Principal

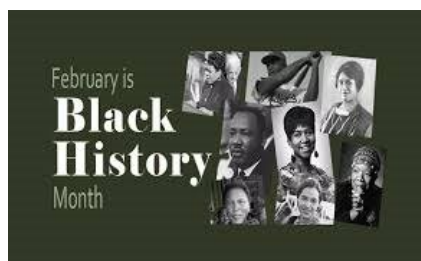
TWITTER: @TrilliumWoodsES

What's so great about February? The days will get even longer so that we have more time to spend outside sledding, skating, or just enjoying the increase in sunny days. Here at Trillium Woods, we look forward to a few exciting items on our calendars this month. Intermediate boys basketball and Intermediate girls volleyball continues. Our students will reflect on the character trait of inclusiveness with daily reminders about how this can be achieved and celebrated.

February is Black History Month. Our educators will use the resources shared with them for teaching and learning during this period. At Trillium Woods, we are committed to integrating this learning throughout the school year to ensure our students see themselves reflected in the curriculum. We will end the month with a celebration of Black Achievement in which every class will participate. Valentine's day will provide our students with an opportunity to polish their writing skills and connect with others. Mrs. Marling has set up a post office outside the library for students so that they can exchange Valentine cards with their peers. Our School Council will meet on Monday, February 13th. We always welcome new members to our meetings. If you are a member of the Trillium Woods community we want you to know that your voice is important. We meet in the library at 6:00 p.m. Your child's first term report card will go home on Friday, February 17th. Please check those backpacks for these important documents. Contact your child's educator(s) if you have any questions. Monday, February 20th is Family Day and a holiday, so students can enjoy some rest and relaxation on this extended weekend.

Mr. Disu and Mrs. Collingbourne

[https://www.ted.com/playlists/230/10\\_great\\_talks\\_to\\_celebrate\\_black\\_history](https://www.ted.com/playlists/230/10_great_talks_to_celebrate_black_history)



Days of awareness and recognition taking place in:



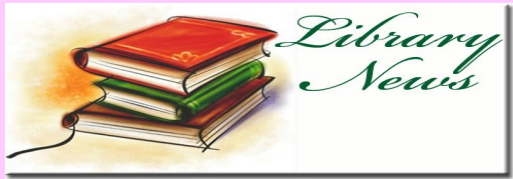
<b>February</b>	Black History Month	
<b>February 2</b>	Jay's Sticky Buns Fundraiser ends at midnight	
<b>February 2</b>	Groundhog Day	
<b>February 3</b>	Spirit Day—Wear a Warm Sweater	
<b>February 6-14</b>	Valentine's Post Office	
<b>February 13</b>	Council Meeting at 6 PM in the Library	
<b>February 14</b>	Spirit Day: Valentine's Day (wear pink, red, white, purple and/or hearts)	
<b>February 15</b>	National Flag Day of Canada	
<b>February 17</b>	Black History Month School Assembly	
<b>February 17</b>	National Random Acts of Kindness Day	
<b>February 17</b>	Report Cards Go Home	
<b>February 20</b>	Family Day—No School	
<b>February 22</b>	I Read Canada Day	
<b>February 22</b>	Pink Shirt Day	
<b>February 28</b>	Black History Month Presentation 6 pm-7:30 pm	



[Black History 365 Celebrations!](#)

## Black History Month

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) recognizes and celebrates Black History Month every February. The SCDSB is committed to improving equity of access and opportunity for Black students, staff, and parents/guardians, and to creating a safe and caring learning environment that promotes the human rights of staff, students, and parent/guardians. The initiatives undertaken by the SCDSB have been embedded in teaching and learning at all school levels, and centrally, for Black History Month and throughout the year. Follow the SCDSB on social media to see how schools are recognizing Black History Month.



### VALENTINE'S POST OFFICE

The beginning of February is when our annual Valentine's Post Office occurs. All students are invited to use the post office from February 6th-14th.

Student helpers from Mr. Peters' class will sort the mail in the morning and deliver the mail at 10:15 a.m. All letters must be properly addressed with a return address, destination address and stamp (drawn/sticker). Each room in the school has a unique address. It's a great way to practice letter writing and celebrate Valentine's Day at the same time!

Have a great month and read, read, read!!  
Mrs. Marling



### SCDSB Character Education program

Our SCDSB Character Education program was developed over 20 years ago. As a school board, we are moving forward to update the SCDSB Character Education program, along with the attributes. The intended implementation date for our new Character Education program will be September 2023. To make this successful, it is imperative that everyone has an opportunity to have a voice. Currently, we are eliciting student voice from our elementary and secondary students and understanding the important partnership with parents/guardians; we are asking if you could take a moment to fill out the below survey.

The survey opens on Feb. 6 and will remain open until Feb. 10: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M2BF38X>.



### Registration now open for summer eLearning!

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is offering summer school courses in July 2023 for current high school students or adult learners who are interested in earning a new credit or upgrading a previous mark. Students can advance online learning skills, earn missed credits or fast-track preparation for graduation or post-secondary in just four weeks. eLearning is fully supported by certified teachers who are available electronically daily.

Summer school program details can be found on the Learning Centres website at <http://thelearningcentres.com/high-school-student/summer-school>.

### Experienced candidates need not apply:

Kindergarten is the beginning of a wonderful journey of learning, and we want your child to begin their journey in a SCDSB school! Do you have a child who is turning four in 2023?

If so, we invite you to register your child for Kindergarten. To register online or for more information visit: [www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten).



### Inclement weather and bus cancellation Information reminder

All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s bus information website at: [www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://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 SCSTC 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 SCSTC 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>.

### Feeding Hungry Minds



We are fortunate enough to have a healthy donation from PC Children's Charity-Feeding Hungry Minds to support our Grab and Go lunch as well as snacks for all students at Trillium Woods.

### feeding hungry minds

Snacks are distributed to the classrooms and students can come to the office for a variety of cold items such as cheese, yogurt tubes and YOP.

More than 100 students a month come to the office to take advantage of these snacks.

### Notice to students and parents/guardians of students regarding out-of-area-requests



Under Simcoe County District School Board procedures (APM A7000 – School Attendance Areas), it is possible for students to apply for and receive permission to attend an out-of-attendance-area school. Students will be permitted to continue in attendance as long as there are pupil places available. They may be required to return to their home school or transfer to another school when the capacity of the school they are attending has been reached and space is required for students residing within the designated attendance areas. An approval may be revoked at any time by the superintendent of education, after consultation with the receiving school principal, for reasons related to the student's behaviour, attendance, actions or inactions. Transportation to and from school is the responsibility of the out-of-attendance-area student and/or parent/guardian.

[Interested in learning more about the ways that the SCDSB supports students with special education needs and their families? Join us for a virtual special education outreach series](#)

In 2023, the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is hosting virtual special education outreach sessions to assist parents/caregivers in learning more about programs, supports and ways that we work together to support students with special education needs. The remaining sessions include:

**Supporting students with autism spectrum disorder**

Feb.14 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**Supporting students as they transition into school, from one school to another, and from school upon graduation**

April 20 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**Working with families to create safe and supportive environments for children who have experienced trauma**

May 9 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Participants are asked to register in advance. Information to access the sessions will be shared via email with individuals who have pre-registered. Learn more about each session and how to register on the SCDSB website at [www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special\\_education/special\\_education\\_outreach\\_sessions](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special_education/special_education_outreach_sessions).

**Evaluating early literacy**

The Ministry of Education has directed all Ontario school boards to begin implementing the recommendations outlined in the Right to Read Inquiry. As a result, primary educators are shifting from using leveled texts for reading instruction as they encourage reliance on guessing strategies to solve unknown words. Instead, educators are beginning to use a scope and sequence to systematically teach phonemic awareness (awareness of the sounds in words) and phonics (understanding of the letters that represent sounds). Students may apply the phonics skills they have learned by reading 'decodable' or 'phonetically controlled' texts.

As a result, educators are moving away from using PM Benchmarks and moving towards assessments that measure foundational reading skills. For example, in Grade 1, educators will be observing a child's ability to identify the sounds they hear in a word, identify the letter(s) that represent the sound, and their ability to blend the sounds together to decode (read) the word and encode (write) the word. In later primary, educators will be observing a child's understanding of more complex letter/sound relationships such as prefixes and suffixes.

Educators will also consider a child's achievement in reading fluency, vocabulary development, and reading comprehension when assigning a report card grade for reading.

To support your child at home, the following documents provide activities that may help foster these foundational skills:

Phonological Awareness Activities for Families

<https://bit.ly/3WVsexb>

Supporting Reading Development at Home

<https://bit.ly/3X3wB9w>

**Popcorn Fundraiser**

The primary division will be selling popcorn each week to raise funds for take home decodable books. Each month will feature two flavour choices. Each bag of personal sized popcorn will sell for \$2.00. For the month of March, we will be selling Butter & Salt as well as White Cheddar. Popcorn will be available by pre-ordering through School Cash Online and will be delivered to classes each Thursday.

- ◆ March - Butter & Salt, White Cheddar
- ◆ April - Butter & Salt, Dill Pickle
- ◆ May - Butter & Salt, Sweet & Salty
- ◆ June - White Cheddar, Sweet & Salty

Please note: flavours are subject to availability from the distributor.

**Exercising together can make your family stronger and healthier**

Families that exercise together get stronger in more ways than one. Getting your daily dose of exercise not only helps to prevent health risks, it builds strong muscles and bones, develops positive body image, supports mental health, and strengthens the family bond. With so many great reasons to get moving, why aren't Canadians doing it more often? One of the most common barriers reported is time. This is also one of the biggest roadblocks to spending quality time together as a family. With Family Day just around the corner, why not plan a week-end of activities that gets the whole family out and moving! Here are some tips to help make family fitness fun for everyone.

**Put family first**

Make the focus of family fitness about family time. Use this time to connect with one another, share stories, discuss interests, check in on the day, or just make each other laugh. Quality family time is important, no matter your age!

**Take classes together**

Ask your local health and fitness centre about classes offered to parents and kids, or family-oriented drop in programs. Centres like the YMCA often have open family swim times for family members of all ages to enjoy. If your little one is too young to swim in the pool, look for child-minding or parent and tot programs.

**Plan outdoor activities**

Set aside one day every weekend to do something active as a family such as sledding, skating, or hiking. Making physical activity part of your routine will set your family up for healthy habits now and in the future. Don't forget to splurge on some healthy snacks after a good workout!

**Surround your family with active people**

Healthy habits can be contagious! Surround your family with active people who enjoy healthy lifestyles and you'll be more likely to make those same choices. Group classes or drop-in programs are a great way to meet new people that share your passion for fitness.

**Spend quality time together this Family Day weekend**

The YMCA is a great place to have fun with the whole family while building healthy habits of physical fitness and well-being. With activities like open family gym and open family swim, family members of all ages can be healthy and active together. To find your local YMCA and view Family Day weekend activities, visit [www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca/schedules](http://www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca/schedules).

*Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka*

**Math games at home**

Playing math games at home is a great way to reinforce math concepts that students learn at school. The YouTube channel MMMathMania has a large number of videos of math games that can be played using paper, dice, and/or playing cards.

Check out the channel at: [www.youtube.com/@mmmathmaniamathgamesmore3985](http://www.youtube.com/@mmmathmaniamathgamesmore3985) or search MMMathMania on YouTube.



**EarlyON Child and Family Centres**

The Simcoe County EarlyON Child and Family Centres have locations throughout Simcoe County. These centres offer a variety of services including programs that help prepare children and parents for kindergarten.

Programming will be offered in the spring of 2023. Check with your local EarlyON provider for dates and times: <https://linktr.ee/earlyonsimcoe>.





### 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://trw.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](http://www.scdsb.on.ca).

Follow the SCDSB on Twitter (@SCDSB\_Schools), Facebook ([facebook.com/SCDSB](https://facebook.com/SCDSB)) and Instagram ([instagram.com/scdsb](https://instagram.com/scdsb)) as well on our Twitter page <https://twitter.com/TrilliumWoods> E.S.

### Child care programs available on PA days, holidays and March Break

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 March Break (Mar. 13 to 17). Registration in advance is required. [Please contact the child care operator directly to discuss fees and to register. For more information and contact numbers, please visit: https://scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning\\_for\\_school/](https://scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/)



**Our grade 7 & 8 student leaders have been working together to come up with ways to support students in our building.**

**The theme of Belonging continues this year as students examined the survey data from last year to help support their work.**

**These amazing leaders have decided to lead a variety of groups in order to help everyone feel welcome.**

**Some ideas include: art club, drama, coding, and even badminton intramurals. They recognized that making friends often starts with a common interest.**

**On February 6th, our team will meet with Jennifer Hickling (SWIS - Program Coordinator - YMCA) who will give us some insight into how we can support newcomers to our building.**

**Many thanks to Latoya, Quin, T.K., Makayla, Marcus, Graham, Brooklyn, and Vivian for their commitment to improving our school.**



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, staff and within the SCDSB's broader school communities.

There are five webinars in the learning series specifically planned for parents, guardians and other caregivers during this school year. The remaining sessions include:

- Feb. 9, 2023 Guide to Attuned Limit Setting
- March 2, 2023 Emotional Regulation for Kids and Adults
- April 27, 2023 The Biology of Stress

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](http://www.pineriverinstitute.com).

### SCDSB Anti-sex Trafficking Protocol and resources for parents/guardians

In 2021-22, the Ministry of Education directed Ontario school boards to develop an anti-sex trafficking protocol that was tailored to the needs of their community. The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) has developed a protocol and relevant training and resources for staff, students and parents/guardians. The focus of the SCDSB's protocol and resources is to protect students and empower school communities to play a key role in fighting sex trafficking and keeping children and youth safe from sexual exploitation.

More information, including a link to the SCDSB Anti-Sex Trafficking Protocol and associated resources, is available on the SCDSB website: [www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/safe\\_schools/anti-sex\\_trafficking\\_protocol](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/safe_schools/anti-sex_trafficking_protocol).

### 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:

[www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character\\_education](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education)