



Killarney Beach Public School

850 20TH Sideroad, Lefroy, Ontario L0L 1W0

(705) 456-2630 Fax (705) 456-3107

<http://kbe.scdsb.on.ca>

Twitter and Instagram @killarneybps

Safe Arrival kbeattendance@scdsb.on.ca or 705-456-2630 #1

Kerry-Lynne Torrie, Principal

Amy Brown, Vice Principal

Hello Killarney Beach Families,

We have offered many activities throughout the day for students to participate in, such as the Ramadan presentations, Earth Rangers, our chess club, intramural volleyball, yoga sessions, badminton, creating melted bead key chains for charity and our food drive. We have just purchased pickle ball nets and equipment which will be available as a club for students to join soon. Many of our students are involved in volunteer activities in the school. We have kindergarten helpers, and lunch monitors. We have a group of students responsible for keeping the snack bins in our classes full. A group of our intermediate students volunteered to be on our bus committee to reviewed bus issues, offered solutions and led our bus assemblies. Students continue to get "Shark Shines" for doing something that demonstrates one of our character traits. Each week the number of Shark Shines earned seems to increase. Students come to the office to "feed Finn" and share how they earned their Shark Shine with Mrs. Torrie and Mrs. Brown. Every Friday Finn draws several names from our Shark Shine bin. Those students come to the office to select a prize.

We continue to collect food items for our Ramadan food drive. Our Ramadan Food Drive team would like to share this message with you. "Ramadan is celebrated during the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. Muslims that are 12 or older fast from dawn to dusk every day during this time. Muslims participate in Ramadan to remind themselves of their blessings and remind themselves of the people who aren't as fortunate as them. At Killarney Beach we are collecting food for the food bank again this year during Ramadan. Please send in donations of non-perishable food over the next three weeks."

Many of our grade 6 to 8 students wanted to raise funds to help those families devastated by the earth quakes in Turkey and Syria. They, along with Ms Marshall, have been creating melted bead keychains to sell to our school community. You can purchase a key chain using SchoolCash online. Donations of \$5.00 or more would be greatly appreciated. All money will be donated to the Red Cross Turkey and Syria relief fund. Check out our Twitter page for pictures.

By the end of April, each family should be receiving a magnet from the school that has contact information for many local agencies and organizations along with our school information and safe arrival phone number and email. This project was made possible through Parent Engagement funding and our School Council.

For many years, Killarney Beach and our School Council has been focused on creating connections with our local businesses and services. We are a unique little community here and we support it in any way that we can. In speaking with many parents this year, it's clear that we have a number of businesses, goods and services available to us right here in the community but may not be aware of them. School Council has suggested that we create a "Killarney Beach and Community" loot bag to hand out at our annual Beach BBQ on June 1. We are inviting anyone in our school community to send us a number of their business cards, flyers or pamphlets. We will put them in loot bags and distribute them at the Beach BBQ.

As the population in our school area grows, so do we. We are projected to have one and possibly two more classes next year which will mean two more portables. The new portables will be brought in once our new portable pad is finished. That pad will be going in the west yard. The four portables we have now will be moved to the pad in the fall. This will likely result in a class or two starting in the gym and library. The renovations will start in the summer, possibly before the end of the year. There will be ongoing renovations in the fall and the construction for the addition will begin in the spring of 2024. The gaga ball pit will be relocated. The drainage issue in the field will be addressed during the construction

Save the date!

Thursday May 25 will be our Welcome to Kindergarten Meet and Greet

Thursday June 1 will be our annual Beach BBQ

Monday June 26 will be our Grade 8 graduation ceremony

Please take some time to read through the rest of the newsletter. There is lots of great information provided by the Board for you.

April PA Day

Please note that Friday, April 28 is a PA Day for all SCDSB students. Please refer to the 2022-23 School Year Calendar on the SCDSB website for more information:

scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/school_year_calendar.

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:

- Sign up to receive SCDSB media releases by clicking the 'Subscribe' button at www.scdsb.on.ca.
- Follow the SCDSB on Twitter (@SCDSB_Schools), Facebook (facebook.com/SCDSB) and Instagram (instagram.com/scdsb).

Kindergarten registration for September 2023 is open!

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: scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten.

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/guardians 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>

Licensed summer 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 over the summer holidays. 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 at 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, 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 final session, 'The Biology of Stress', is April 27.

We hope you join us for this learning opportunity. 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.

Join the SCDSB's Parent Involvement Committee for 'Safe connections: navigating a digital world'

On April 25, the Simcoe County District School Board's (SCDSB) Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) is hosting a virtual learning session for parents/guardians. *Safe connections: navigating a digital world* is a virtual event focused on digital mindfulness and well-being, and Internet safety.

This virtual event will run from 6 to 8:30 p.m. via Zoom. Presenters include:

- Chris Vollum, CMV SocialMedia
- Sergeant Aaron C. Arnett, Ontario Provincial Police
- Abby Zantingh, Imani's Place

Participants are asked to register in advance: <https://bit.ly/40tEg22>. Information to access the session will be shared via email with individuals who have pre-registered.

The PIC is a county-wide advisory committee made up of parents/guardians and community representatives from across Simcoe County. The committee works with SCDSB staff and trustees to support student success through parent/guardian engagement. Visit scdsb.on.ca/elementary/parent/parent_involvement_committee for more information on the PIC.

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 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 scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special_education/special_education_outreach_sessions.

Math @Home parent series

Fostering a strong school-home partnership is an important part of reinforcing math learning at school and extending the learning beyond the classroom. Families are a child's first educator and help build a strong foundation for future success. The virtual math series outlined below is intended to support a positive attitude towards mathematics, enhance motivation and ultimate success.

The SCDSB math department is pleased to offer three evening virtual sessions for families and caregivers of SCDSB students. These sessions will focus on practical and fun ways to support students with their mathematics learning and engagement at home. The first 200 registrants will receive a math pack of resources to use at home. Participants must pre-register for each of the sessions.

Making Math Connections @Home

Wednesday, April 12

7 – 8 p.m.

This session will explore where we find numbers, patterns, measures, and shapes in our daily lives. Participants will learn about practical ways to help their child notice and wonder about the math in their world.

Problem Solving @Home

Tuesday, April 25

7 – 8 p.m.

This session will explore how to encourage children to be active thinkers and problem solvers, both in math and around the house. Participants will learn about how solving problems at home can help their children solve problems in math class.

Having Fun with Math Facts @Home

Thursday, May 11

7 – 8 p.m.

This session will explore practical, intentional, and fun ways to practice math facts at home. Participants will leave with ideas, games, and activities to support their child with becoming fluent with their math facts.

Participants must pre-register for the sessions they wish to attend. Participants who register before March 24 will receive their math pack of resources in time for the first session on April 12. Those who register after March 24 will still receive a math pack of resources, but may not receive them in time for the first session.

Use this link to register: <https://bit.ly/23MathAtHome>

The science of reading and structured literacy

The science of reading is a body of research that focuses on how students learn to read, what parts of the brain are utilized when learning to read, and what skills are ultimately required to be successful readers. Structured literacy is how educators take the knowledge gathered through research and apply it. There are five key components that make up an effective literacy program. Students need explicit instruction and repeated opportunities for practice with phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Visit the following link to support your child's reading at home:
<https://bit.ly/LiteracyHomeSupport>

Tense and relax coping strategy

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 tense and relax. Parents/guardians can guide their child/youth through a tense and relax muscle relaxation exercise to help them notice whether they feel tense or relaxed in a particular area and understand how their body feels when they are tense and relaxed. This helps children/youth to learn to sooth their body and mind, and assists with regulating emotions during times of stress.

To practice tense and relax at home, have your child/youth get comfortable by either standing or sitting. Encourage them to keep their back straight, and shoulders and head relaxed. If they're comfortable, ask them to close their eyes. Have your child/youth intentionally tense and relax isolated body parts and be aware of how they feel when they tense their muscles and when they relax them. Children can be encouraged to: bring their shoulders up to their ears, hold for a count of 3, and relax; squeeze their hands into fists, hold for a count of 3, and relax; squeeze their stomach in as if fitting between a fence, hold for a count of 3, and relax; and, pushing their feet down to the ground, hold for a count of 3, and relax. Repeat the actions a few times and discuss how these body parts felt before, during, and after the exercise.

Parents/guardians can practice tense and relax at home any time with their child/youth to help them learn how to relieve tensions. Click on the following link to watch a guided video of tense and relax together:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J4mQm0hux1Q&t=1s>.

Follow along the SCDSB's mental health and well-being social media accounts (@SCDSB_MHWP) to see how well-being is being supported in our schools.

Significant need for foster caregivers in our community

There is a significant need for foster caregivers in our local community. When a child or youth is brought into temporary foster care and placed outside of their community there is a loss of family, friends, schoolmates, teachers, and everything that is familiar to them. The increase in the number of foster homes across the communities in Simcoe Muskoka allows children and youth to remain connected to what is important to them.

Foster families are regular families wanting to give back to their community. When a family faces hardship and challenges, they need a community to support them and their children. In many situations, foster care can provide vital support that enables parents to address issues that are putting their children's safety and well-being at risk. Keeping children connected to their family, community, and extended supports is crucial. Foster caregivers provide a caring home that encourages a child or youth's growth, development, and well-being. If you're interested in becoming a foster caregiver in our community, please visit the foster recruitment website at www.fosterconnexions.ca to learn more or call the foster recruitment line at 705-734-6777. *Information provided by Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions*