



# FEBRUARY 2023

Principal:  
Kevin Stapleton

Vice-Principal:  
Bonnie Ha

Office Staff:  
Linda Kauer

Superintendent:  
Charlene Scrimme

Trustee:  
Dana Powell



- 8:55 supervision begins
- 9:08 first bell
- 9:10 entry bell
- 10:50-11:30—1st break
- 1:10-1:50—2nd break
- 3:25 KDGn dismissal
- 3:30 dismissal

Portage View PS  
124 Letitia Street  
Barrie, ON  
L4N 1P5

Phone  
1-888-885-8065

Fax  
705-728-3055

We're on the web  
[por.scdsb.on.ca](http://por.scdsb.on.ca)



After 45 years working for the Simcoe County District School Board (39 full-time and 6 supplying) our Office Administrator Sandy Barker closed the lid on her laptop on January 31st for the last time. She has been at Portage View for the past 14 years.

Sandy has been a wonderful colleague and a mentor to the office staff at Portage View and the many other peers that call her on a weekly basis. She has worked tirelessly for our school and we know the office will not feel the same without her cheerful existence. Sandy is such a gifted, creative person, her retirement won't be dull for a minute.

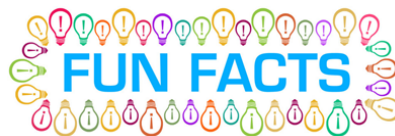
February 1st Sandy is starting a new chapter in her life where she will have the freedom to spend more time with her sons and granddaughter in British Columbia. All the best Sandy — Happy Retirement. You deserve it!



## GIFT GALA UPDATE

As in past years, our Gift Gala supported Youth Haven. This year we raised \$1005.50 (\$541 staff silent auction + \$464.50 gift gala proceeds). Thank you to all the families and community friends that supported our Gift Gala through your donations.

Sophie, Parker and Paige presented a cheque to Jennifer Caplinski of Youth Haven.



Did you know?

- February is the only month to have a length of fewer than 30 days. Though it is usually 28 days, February is 29 days long in leap years, which occurs every four years. The length of the month changed over time and, at one time, it had as few as 23 days
- January and February were the last two months to be added to the Roman calendar (c. 713 BC); originally, winter was considered a month-less period.
- Originally, February was made the last month of the calendar year. Eventually (c. 450 BC), February was moved to its place as the second month.
- The month is named for the Latin word februum which means purification.



# At-A-Glance



	<p><b>Arrive on Time</b></p> <p>One of the key factors in student success is attendance at school. Students that arrive late or leave early are missing some of the key messages that teachers deliver at the beginning and the end of the day. Late arrivals also disrupt the entire class.</p>		<p><b>Calling the School</b></p> <p>If you are unable to reach someone when calling the office, please leave a message, and you will receive a call back.</p>
	<p><b>Cell Phone Use</b></p> <p>Use of personal devices during class time is not permitted. If you need to reach your child during the school day, please call the office and not the student.</p>		<p><b>Communication</b></p> <p>PVPS relies on email communication for newsletters and updates. Please ensure we have your current email on file.</p>
	<p><b>Cutlery / Water Bottles</b></p> <p>Ensure that spoons, forks and water bottles are packed in your child's lunch. These items are not provided by the school.</p>		<p><b>Early Dismissal</b></p> <p>If you intend to pick up your child early for an appointment, when arriving at the school ring the bell and they will be called from class at that time.</p>
	<p><b>End of Day Student Pick Up</b></p> <p>Please do not telephone the school with last minute changes at the end of the day, unless an emergency. Dismissal is at 3:30 and the expectation is that ALL students will be picked up on time.</p>		<p><b>Inclement Weather</b></p> <p>When buses are cancelled, school remains open for student learning. Please call the school if your child will be absent, whether a buser or a walker, otherwise a safe arrival call will be received.</p>
	<p><b>Paperless School</b></p> <p>Subscribe to our website <a href="http://por.scdsb.on.ca">por.scdsb.on.ca</a> for the most up-to-date information.</p>		<p><b>Parking Lot</b></p> <p>Our school parking lot is closed for entry while school buses are present in the loading zone (15 min before the start and end of the school day).</p>
	<p><b>Peanut &amp; Nut Allergies</b></p> <p>Due to life threatening allergies, we respectfully ask parents to avoid sending peanut butter or products with peanut and/or tree nuts listed in the ingredients to school.</p>		<p><b>SchoolCash Online</b></p> <p>Schools are now cashless. Payments for field trips (including permission) and hot lunches are now paid online.</p>
	<p><b>Social Media</b></p> <p>Facebook Twitter</p>		<p><b>Student Information</b></p> <p>Remember to update your emergency contacts and student medical information throughout the year.</p>



We are halfway through the school year! Where has the time gone?

The midway point is the time for first term Report Cards. They will be going home with our students on Friday February 17. These reports give considerable information about how your child is doing academically and socially based on the expectations for their grade level. They also, more importantly, will explain each student's strengths and next steps for continued development and improvement. Parents and guardians are encouraged to read the report cards carefully and discuss areas of strength, improvement needs and future goals with their child/ren. While there are no formal interviews scheduled at this time, teachers will be happy to meet with you by appointment. At Portage View, we value the role parents play as the first educator of their child/ children and as partners in each child's educational journey. The consistency you provide at home helps students develop learning skills and work habits.



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 **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 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>.



### ~ SAFE ARRIVAL – BUS CANCELLATION DAYS



On days when buses are cancelled due to inclement weather, the safe arrival program continues. Even parents/guardians of students who ride buses will receive a call on these days. If you **don't wish** to receive a call on inclement weather days, for both walkers and busers, please call **1-888-885-8065** to leave safe arrival messages. You will need to select/choose Portage View School when leaving a message.

# 1-888-885-8065

### ~ KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION SEPTEMBER 2023

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).

When registering your child for kindergarten, be sure to include at least one email address as this will be the method by which you will receive information about our Kindergarten orientation.





## ~ WORLD READ ALOUD DAY - FEBRUARY 1

Every year during the beginning of February, World Read Aloud Day highlights the importance of reading aloud and sharing stories. Participants are encouraged to select a book, find a friend, and read aloud. The day also encourages parents to read aloud to their children.



**WORLD  
READ  
ALoud DAY**

It's never too early for parents to start reading to their children. When parents read aloud to their kids, it helps foster language development and social-emotional learning. Additionally, reading aloud promotes happiness in children. When parents read to their children, it creates a spark in children to become joyful readers themselves. Also, both children and parents enjoy the special bond that gets created when parents read to their children. Other benefits of reading aloud include:

- helping children acquire a larger vocabulary
- building a connection between the spoken and written word
- helping to increase attention span
- strengthens a child's cognition
- providing a safe way to explore strong emotions

When reading aloud, parents should not read books that are too difficult or too easy. They should also find a place to read where there are minimal distractions. Parents should ensure they allow enough time to read the book. It's important to read the book from beginning to end.

## ~ NATIONAL FLAG OF CANADA DAY - FEBRUARY 15

At the stroke of noon on February 15, 1965, Canada's red and white maple leaf flag was raised for the very first time on Parliament Hill. On the same day in 1996, National Flag of Canada Day was declared.

Our national flag is a symbol that unites all Canadians and reflects the common values we hold so dear — equality, diversity and inclusion.

On February 15, let's celebrate the #CanadianFlag!



## ~ NATIONAL RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS DAY - FEBRUARY 17

Quotes of Kindness:

- How beautiful a day can be when kindness touches it. (George Elliston)
- A little more kindness, a little less judgement.
- One kind word can change someone's entire day.
- Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see. (Mark Twain)
- Kindness is a gift everyone can afford to give. (Unknown)

#randomactsofkindnessday

## ~ FAMILY DAY - FEBRUARY 20

This holiday celebrates the importance of families and community life. Enjoy the day!





## ~ PINK SHIRT DAY - FEBRUARY 22

On February 22, we encourage everyone to practice kindness and wear pink to symbolize that you do not tolerate bullying.

Bullying is a major problem in our schools, workplaces, homes, and over the Internet. Each year, on Pink Shirt Day, we encourage **ALL** staff and students to wear **PINK** to symbolize that we as a society will not tolerate bullying anywhere. Take the message and remember it all year long.



It is so important that victims of bullying know they are not alone and there is help and support available. Wearing a pink shirt on this day sends a strong message to them that others care. Often, the simple act of wearing a shirt can start conversations - conversations can be a big step towards healing and helping!



## FEBRUARY CHARACTER TRAIT Inclusiveness

We include everyone in what we do and value their contributions.



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

## ~ LUNCH FUNDRAISING PROGRAMS



PVPS is pleased to offer three choices for our lunch program this year:

Sub Mondays, Pasta Wednesdays, and Pizza Fridays. All ordering and payments are through LunchBox by SchoolCash Online. If interested, please sign up for LunchBox through the SchoolCash Online program.



SchoolCash Online Helpdesk  
1-866-961-1803

Things to remember:

- Ordering deadline is Sunday at 12 noon for the upcoming deliveries.
- If buses are cancelled due to inclement weather, lunches will be cancelled and credited.
- Deadline to cancel your order is 2 days prior to the scheduled delivery.



## STEAM CHALLENGES

Many of our classes love participating in STEAM challenges when they visit the i-Zone, helping to build their 21st century skills, such as critical thinking, creativity, citizenship, collaboration, communication and fostering a growth mindset. This past month, many classes were challenged to create the longest paper chain using only one piece of paper and one length of tape. The results were amazing! Other classes were challenged to "help Harry" by building a perch for him, using only provided materials. There were some creative solutions! Ms. Durr's class was challenged to build the tallest tower using only toothpicks and Swedish berries. There may have been some berries that didn't quite make it into the tower.

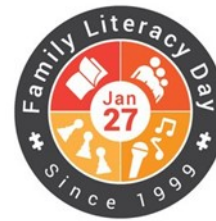


## FAMILY LITERACY DAY

# Family Literacy Bingo

Friday, January 27 was Family Literacy Day, a day to raise awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family. Check out this website, [ABC Life Literacy Canada](http://ABC Life Literacy Canada) for some literacy-related activities that may be fun for your family, along with this [Family Literacy Bingo](#).

SMELL OR TASTE A NEW FOOD	DRAW A PICTURE OF YOURSELF	SING AS QUIETLY AND THEN AS LOUDLY AS YOU CAN	PLAY IN A PARK	TELL OR LISTEN TO A JOKE
FIND AND LOOK AT THE MOON	READ A BOOK YOU LIKED WHEN YOU WERE YOUNGER	MAKE UP A DANCE MOVE	TAKE A WALK AND COUNT THE DOGS YOU SEE	DRAW USING A STENCIL OR TRACE AROUND A LID
TEACH A GROWN-UP SOMETHING	SING YOUR FAVORITE SONG	READ A BOOK	TELL A STORY WITH A BEGINNING, MIDDLE, AND END	SEE HOW HIGH YOU CAN JUMP. MEASURE IF YOU WANT!
DRAW A PICTURE USING A PENCIL AND ERASER	COUNT THE BUILDINGS ON YOUR STREET	TELL A STORY TO A TOY	HELP MAKE A SNACK OR MEAL	PLAY A BOARDGAME OR CARD GAME
TAKE A PHOTOGRAPH	ASK A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND A QUESTION	DRAW YOUR FAVORITE BOOK CHARACTER	READ ABOUT A NEW PERSON OR PLACE	TAKE A WALK AND LOOK FOR THE FIRST LETTER OF YOUR NAME



## ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION- FOREST OF READING®

Our primary students are participating in The Blue Spruce portion of The Forest of Reading® program. The program is designed to foster a love of reading. During weekly visits to the i-Zone, students listen to a book written by a Canadian author and illustrator and then participate in follow-up activities. The first book that was shared was called *Meena's Mindful Moment* by Tina Athaide and illustrated by Asa Gilland. Students learned how to control their "hurly-burly hullabaloo" by practicing some calming strategies and participating in various calming activities. Ten books will be shared with the students and at the end of the program; students will be invited to vote for their favourite book.

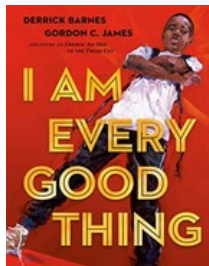
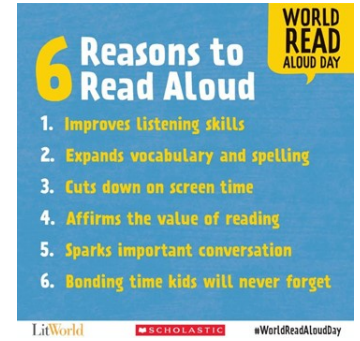
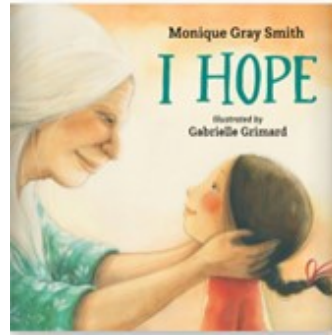


Grade 7 and 8 students are invited to participate in The Forest of Reading® Red Maple Book Club. This club meets Mrs. Ayres and Ms. Zacher once a week to share and talk about the books. Upon the completion of reading each book, students rate the book out of 5 on their Red Maple bookmark. Students who demonstrate a high level of interest and participation in this program may be invited to attend the Forest of Reading® festival in May.



## WORLD READ ALOUD DAY

February 1 is World Read Aloud Day! World Read Aloud Day is a global event celebrated each year in over 173 countries, bringing people together through the shared connection of reading aloud. A virtual school-wide read aloud of *I Hope* by Monique Gray Smith and illustrated by Gabrielle Grimard will be shared that day. The author delivers a touching message about loving, nurturing and wishing the best for our children.



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February is Black History month. Throughout the month, resources and material will be integrated into our learning. A collection of books will be on display and available for teachers and students throughout the month.

## PANTHER PICKS

This year, we continue to highlight some amazing book recommendations from our Panthers. Our recommendations this month come from Ms. Mason and Mr. Perlanski.



**Ms. Mason — *The Proudest Blue* by Ibtihaj Muhammad and S.K. Ali**

"The Proudest Blue" is a story about two young girls who are excited to start a new year at school. This first day is extra special for Asiya, as it's her first day of hijab. Her hijab is described as a beautiful blue, like the ocean waving to the sky. Unfortunately, not everyone describes her hijab this way. With hurtful comments being made toward Asiya, she teaches her sister new ways to be strong and proud of who they are. This amazing book was written by Olympic medalist and social justice activist Ibtihaj Muhammad. Be proud of who you are, we are all amazing in unique ways!

**Mr. Perlanski - Eric Walters — *The Rule of Three***

Imagine every computer suddenly dying, no tablets, no cellphones, no ATMs. Everything that relies on electronics has just stopped working. Eric Walters' *The Rule of Three* is a unique twist on the post-apocalyptic dystopian story. This Canadian author writes how this world is plunged into a struggle for survival. The story is unique because the small, local community comes together to put a detailed plan into action for long-term survival. This is not a journey through the decaying landscape, but an exercise in thought, reason, and working together with your neighbors to survive. There are no monsters at the gate; rather, they are your friends and neighbors ready to take what you have worked so hard for. This kept me on the edge of my seat with every page turned!



# SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2022-23

# HOLY DAYS & HOLIDAYS

SEPTEMBER 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2 3
4	5 H	6 1	7 2	8 3	9 4	10
11	12 5	13 1	14 2	15 3	16 4	17
18	19 5	20 1	21 2	22 3	23 4	24
25	26 EP	27 ETD	28 1	29 2	30 3	

OCTOBER 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3 4	4 5	5 1	6 2	7 3	8
9	10 H	11 4	12 5	13 1	14 2	15
16	17 5	18 1	19 2	20 3	21 4	22
23	24 EP	25 5	26 1	27 2	28 3	29

NOVEMBER 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	31 2	1 3	2 4	3 5	4 1	5
6	7 2	8 3	9 4	10 RC 5	11 1	12
13	14 2	15 3	16 4	17 5	18 EP	19
20	21 1	22 2	23 3	24 4	25 5	26
27	28 1	29 2	30 3			

DECEMBER 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2 3	
4	5 1	6 2	7 3	8 4	9 5	10
11	12 1	13 2	14 3	15 4	16 5	17
18	19 1	20 2	21 3	22 4	23 5	24
25	26 H	27 H	28 H	29 H	30 H	31

JANUARY 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2 H	3 H	4 H	5 H	6 H	7
8	9 1	10 2	11 3	12 4	13 5	14
15	16 1	17 2	18 3	19 4	20 5	21
22	23 1	24 2	25 3	26 4	27 EP	28
29	30 5	31 1				

FEBRUARY 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2 3	4	
5	6 5	7 1	8 2	9 3	10 4	11
12	13 5	14 1	15 2	16 3	17 RC 4	18
19	20 H	21 5	22 1	23 2	24 3	25
26	27 4	28 5				

MARCH 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2 3	4	
5	6 4	7 5	8 1	9 2	10 3	11
12	13 H	14 H	15 H	16 H	17 H	18
19	20 4	21 5	22 1	23 2	24 3	25
26	27 4	28 5	29 1	30 2	31 3	

APRIL 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3 4	4 5	5 1	6 2	7 H	8
9	10 H	11 5	12 1	13 2	14 3	15
16	17 2	18 3	19 4	20 5	21 1	22
23	24 2	25 3	26 4	27 5	28 EP	29

MAY 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	1 1	2 2	3 3	4 4	5 5	6
7	8 1	9 2	10 3	11 4	12 5	13
14	15 1	16 2	17 3	18 4	19 5	20
21	22 H	23 1	24 2	25 3	26 4	27
28	29 5	30 1	31 2			

JUNE 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2 EP	3
4	5 4	6 5	7 1	8 2	9 3	10
11	12 4	13 5	14 1	15 2	16 3	17
18	19 4	20 5	21 1	22 2	23 RC 3	24
25	26 4	27 5	28 1	29 2	30 EP	

●●●●● - 5 DAY CYCLE CALENDAR						
S	<b>First Day of School</b> September 6, 2022					
ETD	<b>Elementary Turnaround Day</b> Tuesday, September 27, 2022					
RC	<b>Elementary Report Card Days</b> November 10, 2022, February 17, 2023, June 23, 2023					
EP	<b>Elementary Professional Activity Days</b> 2022: September 26, October 24, November 18 2023: January 27, April 28, June 2, June 30					
H	<b>Holidays</b> 2022: September 5, October 10, December 26-30 2023: January 2-6, February 20, March 13-17, April 7-10, May 22					



- 1 Imbolc  
Wicca
- 5 Magha (Sangha Day)  
Buddhism
- 15 Nirvana Day  
Buddhism
- 15 Nirvana Day  
Jainism
- 18 Isra'a and Mi'raj  
Islam
- 18 Maha Shivratri  
Hinduism
- 20 Family Day (ON)  
Provincial Holiday
- 21 Losar (Tibetan New Year)  
Buddhism
- 22 Ash Wednesday  
Christianity
- 26-Mar 1 Ayyám-i-Há (Intercalary Days)  
Bahá'í
- 27 Clean Monday  
Christianity



**GRADE 8 GRAD PHOTO DAY – FEBRUARY 8**

SMILE

CLASS OF  
2023





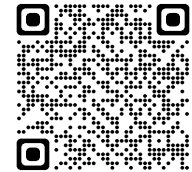
## ~ VOICE MESSAGING TO PORTAGE VIEW STAFF



- To leave a message for a staff member, dial the mailbox number.
- To reach the main office press 0.
- Do not leave urgent time sensitive messages or messages relating to student pick up and/or drop off on the voice mailbox.

Name	Mail Box	Name	Mail Box
Ayres, Michelle	58790	Lawrence , Kari	58892
Barker, Sandy	59107	Mason, Amanda	56560
Bélanger, Jessie	59971	Mednick, Beth	58893
Bell, Kim	59483	Mew, Nick	56006
Blanchard, Kevin	58309	Morano, Sarah	58890
Bothwell, Holly	58369	Nisbet, Derek	58842
Brassard, Courtney	56320	O'Malley, Sarah	57434
Brohman, Amberly	56328	Perlanski, Matt	56978
Brooks, Karie	59482	Rhodes, Ruth	56258
Brouillard, Brenda	57426	Rideout, Melissa	56610
Camick, Lisa	56796	Sathler, Jessica	
Capisciolto, Melissa	58793	Sharda, Priya	56545
Davis, MJ	57468	Skinner, Stephen	56614
Dunstan, Terry	58283	Stapleton, Kevin	26503
Durr, Doreen	56542	Sweet, Kathy	55337
Filippelli, Lynne	57792	Szczokin, Paul	58022
Gouantouheu, Rachel	56325	Thompson, Blaine	55338
Grano, John	58799	Tiedeman, Chris	55339
Ha, Bonnie	26502	Valencic, Carrie	55155
Jones, Jocelyn	59101	Valks, Candace	55345
Kauer, Linda	55624	Valtas, Maggie	56368
Kozlowski, Kendra	56546	Woods, Stacey	56671
Kunjah, Sally	58377	Young, Laurie	55364
Lamoureux, Kim	58896	Zacher, Valerie	59172
Lanoe, Sarah	56482	Zulak, Jessica	59465

## GOOGLE TRANSLATE APP



Use the Google Translate App to read the newsletter in your preferred language. Click link, or scan QR code.  
[Google Translate](#)





The Simcoe County EarlyON Child and Family Centres are excited to offer programs that help prepare children and parents for Kindergarten. Programming will be offered in the spring of 2023. For more information and to find your local EarlyON provider, visit:

<https://linktr.ee/earlyonsimcoe>



# February 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 <b>WORLD READ ALOUD DAY</b>	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 <b>Class of 2023</b> Grad Photo Day	9 <b>NATIONAL PIZZ DAY</b>	10	11
12	13	14	15 NATIONAL FLAG OF CANADA DAY	16	17 <b>REPORT CARD DAY</b> RANDOM ACTS OF kindness DAY	18
19	20	21 PANCAKE DAY	22 PINK SHIRT DAY	23	24	25
26	27	28				

