

MAY 2023

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we begin the last two months of this school year, we continue to see so much positive energy emerging from the classrooms. We begin the month with an exciting Book Fair in our library and we celebrate the wonderful things that the staff and students are doing to support a positive school environment. Our recent Character Education assemblies, Gotchas (staff catching students doing great things for others), and our new Kindness Wall where students can show their appreciation for others, are initiatives that work together to support mental health in all our students. Our recent "Stomp Out Bullying" awareness talks have produced colourful posters around the school that are a symbol of student's commitment to stand together against bullying.

Thank you for taking the time to read our monthly newsletters and staying attuned to life at Portage View. There is a lot of information that helps everyone stay connected to what is going on inside and outside of your child's classroom.

Kevin Stapleton, Principal

Principal:
Kevin Stapleton

Vice Principal:
Bonnie Ha

Office Staff:
Linda Kauer
Sarah Saville

Superintendent:
Charlene Scime

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

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Mrs. Brouillard's class made animal habitats based on the animals they chose to research. Photos of the amazing creations are posted throughout the newsletter.



PLEASE NOTE A CHANGE TO END OF DAY PICK UP

In order to help alleviate congestion in the parking lot and at our front door the office will no longer call students to the front between 3:00 and 3:30pm. If your child is required to leave early please arrange the pick up before 3:00pm otherwise the student will wait until dismissal time at 3:30 pm.

	<p><u>Arrive on Time</u></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><u>Calling the School</u></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><u>Cell Phone Use</u></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><u>Communication</u></p> <p>PVPS relies on email communication for newsletters and updates. Please ensure we have your current email on file.</p>
	<p><u>Cutlery / Water Bottles</u></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><u>Early Dismissal</u></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><u>End of Day Student Pick Up</u></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><u>Inclement Weather</u></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><u>Paperless School</u></p> <p>Subscribe to our website por.scdsb.on.ca for the most up-to-date information.</p>		<p><u>Parking Lot</u></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><u>Peanut & Nut Allergies</u></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><u>SchoolCash Online</u></p> <p>Schools are now cashless. Payments for field trips (including permission) and hot lunches are now paid online.</p>
	<p><u>Social Media</u></p> <p>Facebook Twitter</p>		<p><u>Student Information</u></p> <p>Remember to update your emergency contacts and student medical information throughout the year.</p>

Important Note From the office: Please do not order lunches to be delivered to the school. We will not accept food from any delivery service. Families can continue to drop off forgotten lunches as needed.



Mental Health Week 2023

Join us for Mental Health Week May 1 to 7 by shining a spotlight on how mental health care can be expressed and nurtured (through self-care strategies, art, music, sport etc.). At the SCDSB we are committed to the mental health and well-being of every student and will be shining a spotlight on how mental health is supported in our school communities by sharing on social media using the hashtags #MyStory, #MentalHealthWeek, and #ShineGreen, and tagging @scdsb_mhwb, @scdsb_schools, and @SMHO_SMSO.

Four Finger Affirmations Coping Strategy

Well-being is a strategic priority in the Simcoe County District School Board, and our well-being department provides monthly strategies to support student and family well-being.

This month's strategy is four finger affirmations. Parents/guardians can guide their child to think positively in the face of stress or challenges by using affirmations to promote confidence, a growth mindset, self-regulation, and resiliency. To practice four finger affirmations at home, work with your child to generate four words that make them feel calm and confident. For example, "I am loved today" or "breathe, listen, smile, love." Explain that each word will match a finger on their hand. Have them say the words (affirmation) aloud or in their head and connect each finger with their thumb. Tell your child they can repeat this as many times as they like, to themselves or out loud.

Consider practicing four finger affirmations at home with your child at a time of day that will be most helpful for them. Find more easy and fun mental health activities to do at home here:

<https://smho-smso.ca/online-resources/easy-and-fun-mental-health-activities-for-home/>.

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

GRADE 8 GRADUATION

"SAVE THE DATE" - Tuesday June 27

- The Grade 8 Graduation ceremony will be on Tuesday June 27th, 2023 @ The Hi Way Church Auditorium - 50 Anne St N., Barrie, ON
- Parents and Students arrive at 5:45 pm with the ceremony starting at 6:30 pm.
- Tentatively there is a maximum of 4 seats per immediate family, not including the Graduate.
- Graduates only, are welcome back for a dance, pizza and cake at Portage View from 8:30 pm until 9:30 pm



CHARACTER TRAIT FOR MAY IS RESPECT

We treat ourselves, others and the environment with consideration and dignity.

More information about character education can be found at: www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education

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.

Kindergarten Orientation Sessions Happening Soon

Kindergarten orientation sessions will be held throughout the SCDSB in the spring of 2023. **Portage View P.S. is holding it's Kindergarten Orientation on Wednesday, May 10th from 4:30-5:30 PM.**

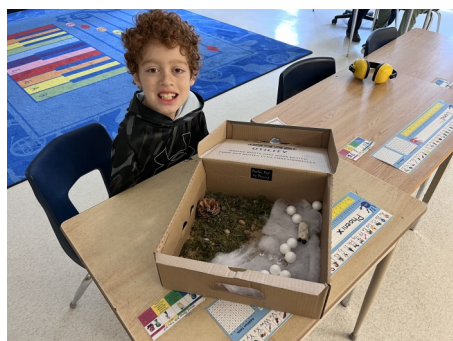
These sessions provide families the opportunity to engage with their school community as their children prepare to enter school. Learn more about these sessions on the Kindergarten orientation page of the SCDSB website:

scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/kindergarten/kindergarten_orientation.

EarlyON Child and Family Centres

Is your child starting JK or SK in September? The Simcoe County EarlyON Child and Family Centres are excited to offer in person and virtual programs that help prepare children and parents/guardians for Kindergarten. Parents/guardians and children will have the opportunity to interact together in a variety of school readiness activities. We will look at and discuss how does learning happen, self-regulation, social skills, and how to get ready to start school.

If program registration is full, please check back regularly as there may be cancellations. To register for a program in your area visit www.earlyonsimcoenorth.ca/GRFK.



Good
Work!





Elementary Summer Learning Programs in the SCDSB

The SCDSB continues to support student achievement and well-being throughout the summer months by providing a range of elementary summer learning programs. This summer, the SCDSB is offering programs that will focus on reading (Grades 1-3), math (Grades 4-8), multilingual learners (Grades 4-8), as well as students with learning disabilities who use assistive technology at school (Grades 4-8). The programs will be delivered through both a virtual synchronous learning format and in-person, and take place from July 10 to 28 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. daily. In-person programs take place at Terry Fox Elementary School in Barrie.



Licensed Summer School 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.

Before and After School Programs for the 2023-24 School Year

Register now for before and after school programs for the 2023-24 school year. Please contact the child care operator at your child's school 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.

Fun in the i-Zone

The Forest of Reading®



Primary Panthers - Blue Spruce

The final book we read in our Blue Spruce book series was called *Bharatanatyam in Ballet Shoes*. Our students learned about the traditional Bharatanatyam dance, participating in a virtual dance class, and were reminded about perseverance and how we all have our own strengths and gifts that we bring to our experiences.

We have now finished reading all of the Blue Spruce books and are in the process of voting for our favourite book. We will share our results with the Ontario Library Association and the winning book for the Blue Spruce Forest of Reading will be announced in the June newsletter!



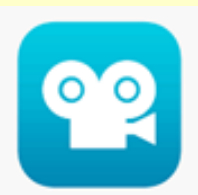
Our Grade 3 and 4 students from Mrs. Valks and Mr. Skinner's classes created these LEGO representations on the Blue Spruce books to remind us of some of the key features of these amazing nominated books.

Intermediate Panthers - Red Maple Book Club

Our Red Maple book club is coming to a close and some of our members are excited to celebrate at the Forest of Reading Festival in Toronto in the middle of the month. Students will be voting on their favourite book choice soon and the finalists will be revealed at the Red Maple ceremony in Toronto. The results will be shared in our June newsletter.

21st Century Skills in the i-ZONE

In the i-ZONE, we are always working together to support and develop these important skills needed to be successful in our changing world. Skills like creativity, collaboration, critical thinking and problem solving, communication and global citizenship. The i-ZONE is a place to explore and develop these skills and foster a love of learning.



Mrs Ayres and Mr Blanchard's classes are using stop motion technology to create a short video on what we can do to help take care of our environment. This task supports the 21st Century skills of creativity, critical thinking, global awareness, and collaboration, to name a few.

Fun in the i-Zone



Some of our primary classes read the book, *Windblown*, by Eduoard Manceau. A gust of wind blows scraps of paper onto a blank page and animal shapes emerge. Who do the scraps belong to? And what form will they take? Students used their own creativity and imagination to see what they could do with the scraps of paper that were given to them by the wind.



Many of our Intermediate classes are working on designing a video game using Scratch technology and Makey-Makey. They have spent some time learning about the different coding capabilities in Scratch and are well on their way to creating their own games and controllers. You can check out <https://scratch.mit.edu/> and explore or



create your own games. Also, follow this [link](#) to explore the features of Makey-Makey technology.

COLLECTION SELECTION

New books are added often to our school library and many things are considered when selecting and purchasing books. Over the past few years we have focused on adding books that recognize and celebrate diversity, equity and inclusion. It is important for our students to see themselves and their families in our books and resources. We also value input from our community. If you have a book that you would like to recommend that we add to our collection, please let us know by sending an email to vzacher@scdsb.on.ca



e-BOOKS

Did you know that our panthers can access e-books from home? Below are a few websites that may be of interest to you and your family.

Sora- This website can be accessed from your child's Google Drive account by going to the small waffle shape in the right hand corner and then scrolling down until you find the Sora icon or by going to this link: [Sora](#). If you use this link it will ask you to "Find My School". Use "Simcoe County District School Board" NOT Portage View to gain access. You can also access Sora from a tablet by downloading the Sora app.

Unite For Literacy- This website provides students access to picture books in English and many other languages.



Our Panther Picks this month come from both staff and students. Thank you to Mrs. Rhodes and the students in Ms. Mason's class for their recommendations this month:



Mrs. Rhodes - *Green Eggs & Ham* by Dr. Seuss

I love the book "Green Eggs and Ham" for several reasons. For one thing, it is a rhyming book, and I think that it takes an awfully clever person to write a book that rhymes. Secondly, it's a little silly, but even so, there are important messages in it about being open to trying new things and about being persistent. As a bonus, there is a series on Netflix called "Green Eggs and Ham" that made me laugh out loud. Hooray for Dr. Seuss!

Ms. Mason's Class - Books series by Jory John

Our class pick is "The Bad Seed", "The Cool Bean", "The Smart Cookie", "The Sour Grape" and "The Good Egg" by Jory John. We love this series because all of the books are funny and are about food! These books also touch on important topics like being kind, mental health and trying our best. The illustrator, Pete Oswald, created amazing pictures that captivate our attention anytime we read books from Jory and Pete. Pete even helped design the animations for the Angry Birds movie! We recommend these books to other Panther's who would like a fun book to read!



Making 'Cents' of Financial Literacy



All students need the skills and knowledge to take responsibility for managing their personal financial well-being with confidence, competence, and a critical and compassionate awareness of the world around them. In the 2020 math curriculum, there is focus on financial literacy learning in Grades 1 to 8, including understanding the value and use of money over time, how to manage financial well-being and the value of budgeting.

Students build their skills and knowledge about the value and use of money, how decisions impact personal finances, as well as develop consumer and civic awareness.

Students will:

- Learn how to manage finances responsibly, such as creating a budget to help save enough money to buy something they want such as a book, toy, or video game
- Begin to develop a greater awareness as consumers and contributors in the local and broader economic system

Wondering how you can support the development of your child's financial literacy skills at home? Check out some of these great tips and resources!

Tips:

- Find daily, real-world opportunities to talk about money in the contexts of earning, saving, spending, and giving
- Consider the financial habits you want to instill in your child, and talk about them

Involve your child in making decisions about purchases for household items, and compare the costs of different items (e.g., we need to save money to repave the driveway so we're going to cut down on spending, do you have any ideas?)

Resources:

Peter Pig's Money Counter, Practicalmoneyskills.ca

Financial Literacy Rocks, financialliteracy.rocks/financial-literacy-for-kids



Join the SCDSB for a Virtual Special Education Outreach Series

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

Reporting Student Immunizations

Parents/guardians are responsible for reporting their child's immunizations to public health to keep records up-to-date per standards of the Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA) (ontario.ca/laws/regulation/900645) and the Child Care and Early Years Act (ontario.ca/laws/regulation/150137#BK46). Please note, health care providers in Ontario do not automatically report immunizations to their local public health unit. Reporting and viewing immunizations is easy and can be done online.

To book a clinic appointment to receive a vaccine, visit:

www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Topics/Immunization/Clinics-and-Programs/Routine-Immunization-Clinics

For more information or questions, you can call Health Connection at 705-721-7520, or toll-free at 1-877-721-7520.

So much talent!!!



COLLECTION & USE OF PERSONAL STUDENT INFORMATION



As students' progress from elementary school to secondary school, important personal student information is shared which eases each student's transition to secondary school. Sharing this information also improves our ability to program effectively to benefit all students. The collection and use of personal student information for such purposes are authorized under the *Education Act*. Please note that all information used for the transition process is limited, secure, and protected at all times. Please contact Charlene Scime, Superintendent of Education, if you would like more information about the transition process at Portage View Public School.

Adult English as a Second Language Program

Looking to improve your English skills? Join our Adult English as a Second Language Program (ESL) classes to improve your listening and speaking skills through class discussions and presentations. Develop your English skills to advance in your current job or open the door to new employment opportunities. Learn more about your local community and explore Canadian culture and history. Adult ESL classes are offered year-round with a continuous intake.

To register for the program, please contact the Barrie Learning Centre at 705-725-8360 ext. 45151, or email ganderson@scdsb.on.ca.

MAY 2023

SUNDAY	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRIDAY	SAT.
Children's Mental Health Week/ Mental Health Awareness Week Education Week 	1 -Book Fair Starts -Beltane -School Principal's Day -Music Monday	2 Book Fair 12th Day of Ridvan	3 Book Fair	4 Book Fair "Raise the Dough" Fundraiser with Dominos	5 -Book Fair Ends -Buddha's Birth Date -South Asian Arrival Day -Red Dress	6
7	8	9	10 -Kdgn. Orientation 4:30-5:30 pm -Valks/Skinner's classes to Scanlon Creek	11 Filippelli's class to Scanlon Creek	12	13
14 Mother's Day	15 Int'l Day of Families	16	17 -Forest of Reading Conference -Int'l Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia & Biphobia	18	19 County Debate Tournament	20
21	22 Victoria Day Holiday	23 Zarathosht-no-diso	24 Declaration of the Bab	25 Shavuot	26 Shavuot	27 Shavuot
28 -Pentecost -National Accessibility Week 	29 Ascension of Baha'u'llah	30	31 Red Shirt Day			