

# Grizzly News

## December 2017



Administrative Team: Jennifer Walsh, Principal & Rob Norris, Vice-Principal  
Secretaries: Deb Dickson & Amber Shave  
School Council Chair: Chantelle Vroom  
<http://map.scdsb.on.ca>

Wow ... December! It seems like only a few short weeks ago and we were excited to be getting back to school. Now, here we are, just a few weeks from the Holiday Break. With the passing of this time however, there are always moments of pride and accomplishment to celebrate here at the Grove.

For starters, our school received a very prestigious award recently. Led by our Environmental Cabinet, the school's work over the past few years has been recognized by the Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority with a Healthy School's Land Award. This award recognizes schools for outstanding effort in the field of environmental protection and conservation. Over the past two years, the school has sent groups of students to Sophia Creek to remove invasive species and to plant native plants; we have established a "No Mow" zone in the yard which attracts pollinating insects and birds. In addition to these efforts, the school continues to work towards Litter Less Lunches, no plastic bottles in the school, a successful recycling program and more. The Environmental Cabinet's most recent initiative deals with the question of "Why there is no organic waste service available to city of Barrie schools", as well as pushing our student's to understand the principle of "GOOS – Good On One Side", a paper conservation strategy. Our goal this year is to be the only school in Simcoe County to hold a Platinum Certification through Eco Schools Canada. With student leadership like this ... I think we will be celebrating Platinum status very soon!

Continuing on the theme of Grizzly Greatness ... our intermediate boys' volleyball team finished the season on the podium as well, finishing 3rd overall in the entire county of Simcoe this season. Our Girls Basketball team showed tremendous promise and represented the school at the zone tournament this year and many of our intermediate girls are volunteering their time to work with our junior team to continue to develop our younger players.

This Month, stay tuned for details regarding the upcoming Musical performance, "Rock!". This Arts opportunity encompasses our entire junior and intermediate divisions. Well over 200 students will be coming together in song and dance to give audiences a glimpse of the amazing Arts and Music learning that takes place here at the Grove. We look forward to seeing the Maple Grove community come together later this month to celebrate the hard work our students and staff have put into this performance.

As we head into the Holiday Break, we wish all of our students and families best wishes as you celebrate your traditions, or simply take this time to be with your family.

Enjoy the Break and Happy New Year from Ms. Walsh and Myself,

Ms. Walsh & Mr. Norris



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# Eco News

## Healthy Lands Award.

Congratulations to students past and present who contributed to the recent Healthy Lands Award from the Lake Simcoe Regional Conservation Authority. The newspaper article from the Barrie Advance can be seen at : <https://www.simcoe.com/news-story/7914971-maple-grove-public-school-in-barrie-recognized-with-healthy-lands-award/>

## Waste Free Wednesdays.

Each Wednesday we encourage our students to take home any food wrappers or containers that might otherwise be placed into the garbage. The long term goal is to have students aware of options for bringing lunches that do not generate garbage on any day.

## Separate the Straws

Thank you everyone who is making an effort to separate their straws before putting juice boxes into recycling. We need to increase our effort to 100% and we know we can do it.

## Organic Recycling

As you may be aware, the City of Barrie does not provide an organic recycling option to schools, resulting in all organic waste being sent to the landfill. Thank you to the teachers who are providing organic waste options for their classes. This month we welcome Ms. Whetham's and Mr. Smith's classes to the organic diversion program.

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## Water Bottles for Sale

Get your Grizzly water bottle while they last! For only \$4.00 you too could own this awesome water bottle and stay hydrated. At Maple Grove we have our own water bottle filling station. Hurry while supplies last. Come see Mrs. Read for yours!



## Barrie Colts Fundraiser

Save the date, Saturday February 17th 2018 will be our annual Maple Grove night at the Barrie Colts game! After last years successful evening, the Barrie Colts have a Maple Grove promotion! Mention Maple Grove at the box office, or use promo code MAPLEGROVE online and receive all THURSDAY night games for just \$20.00 each! With each ticket purchase, \$3.00 will be donated back to Maple Grove! Go Colts Go!



## Bus cancellation information reminder

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 zone. When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, unless otherwise noted.

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 for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions>

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### Holiday Store Donations Needed

Our annual Holiday Store will be opening on December 12, 2017! Students are invited to come to the holiday store with their class to shop for their family members. Most items are under \$2.00 and gift wrapping will be available. Students will also have the chance to pay for a holiday picture taken in front of the green screen to add some holiday magic into the background!



**Donations Are Needed!** Please drop off your new or gently used items at the school.

Examples of items needed:

- seasonal decorations
- toys
- books
- jewelry
- household decorations (candles, picture frames, figurines)
- kitchen wear (oven mitts, tea towels)
- gift bags and tissue paper

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## Lost & Found

Please be sure to check through the lost and found items. They will be out on display the week of December 11th - 15th before the holidays. All unclaimed items will be sent out for donations on December 21st.



### Talent Show

The First Junior Talent Show will take place on Tuesday, December 12 from 11:30 a.m. to 1p.m. The performers, chosen by their classmates and teachers, should have their costumes/ music/props ready for that day. They should also continue to rehearse at home in preparation for the show!

Parents and family members are invited to attend!

On behalf of the Arts Committee and the Spirit and Culture Cabinet

Mme Helene Oleynikova

### Intermediate Girls Basketball Team

Congratulations to the Intermediate Girls Basketball Team on an exciting season of basketball! The girls displayed sportsmanship and dedication in all of the games they played. The team represented Maple Grove well at a tournament at Eastview S.S. and the final Zones tournament at Johnson Street P.S. Coaches Mrs. Whetham, Mrs. Morrow, and Ms. Oxley are proud of all the girl's efforts on the court. Thank you to parents and family members for supporting the team.



### Intermediate Boys Volleyball Team

Congratulations to the Intermediate Boys Volleyball team on a fantastic season! The boys came in 1st in their zone tournament and moved onto regionals. From there the boys continued to show great grizzly spirit and played in the finals placing 3rd overall! Way to go boys!

## Rainbows at Maple Grove

Rainbows is a peer support program for children who have suffered a significant loss in their family. This loss may be due to a death, separation, or divorce. When something significant happens in a family, the entire family is affected. When families experience a loss, not only do the adults grieve, the children do also. Because of their age and short life experience, children find it extremely difficult to verbalize their feelings of grief.



The Rainbows program at Maple Grove will be facilitated by sensitive and caring staff members, who are trained to help these children put their feelings into words, work through their grief, build a stronger sense of self-esteem, and begin to accept what has taken place in their family. The strength of the program is in the peer support, which the children provide to one another. They recognize that they are not alone in the issues and feelings that they are experiencing. They share their feelings in a safe and confidential environment and hopefully come to a more positive acceptance of the changes in their family.

The program is being offered to students from **SK (Year 2) – eight**. The children will be arranged into small, age appropriate groups and will meet weekly for about 12 weeks.

If you feel your child would benefit from this program and at least six months has passed from the time of death, divorce or separation, please send your child's name, their teacher's name and contact information addressed to Mrs. Read.

## Mabel's Labels

Maple Grove Public School has joined up with Mabel's Labels to earn funds to fundraise for our school. A new school year is here and now is a great time to purchase durable, waterproof labels from Mabel's Labels and support our school! Simply place your order at [campaigns.mabelslabels.com](http://campaigns.mabelslabels.com) and select "Maple Grove Public School (Barrie)" from the School/ Organization drop-down list. You'll know you're crediting your order to us when our school name is displayed on the top left of the screen. Thank you in advance for assisting us with our fundraising efforts! Enjoy your labels! If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask Mrs. Read.



mabel's labels

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## Upcoming Events

**December 4th** - 6:00pm Parent Council Meeting—All welcome to attend

**December 5th** - 4:30—7:30pm - Wendy's Night Bayfield St. Location

**December 5th** - 5:00 - 7:30pm Babysitting Fundraiser—Pre register Only

**December 7th** - 5:00 - 7:30pm Babysitting Fundraiser—Pre register Only

**December 7th** - Grade 8 Science Olympics at Eastview

**December 12th** - Holiday Store

**December 19th** - Intermediate Holiday Feast

**December 19th** - QSP Cookie Dough Order Pick up

**December 22nd** - Crazy Toque Day



# **S.C.D.S.B. NEWS**

## **High school information nights coming to a school near you!**

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights happen this fall and winter. This event gives an overview of what's new, what to expect, as well as a chance to check out the school and ask questions. Attend our local high school information night to find out what's offered:

**Barrie North Collegiate**,: Wednesday January 17th, 2018 from 7-8:30pm at 110 Grove St. East.

**Eastview Secondary School**: Thursday, February 22nd, 2018 from 6:30– 8pm at 421 Grove St. East.

Check out the full schedule of info nights and more information at [www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool).

## **Attend a French Immersion information night, registration opens in January**

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.

Information sessions take place in January for parents of students in Senior Kindergarten. A letter will be sent home to those parents with more details. Information session dates will be posted at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) under Programs, French as a Second Language.

The FI online application form will be available from 9 a.m. on Mon. Jan. 22, until 9 p.m. on Wed. Jan. 24, 2018 at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) under Programs, French as a Second Language. While every effort is made to accommodate all FI applications, available space and staffing will determine how many students can be registered. Applications will be processed in the order they are received electronically. Please contact the school if you do not have Internet access at home or require assistance accessing the online application.

Please note that the host sites for FI may change during your child's time in the program, and your child may need to move schools. This may also include splitting the program between two different sites.

## **Kindergarten registration opens in January**

Do you (or someone you know) have a child who was born in 2014? If so, it's almost time to register them for Kindergarten in the SCDSB! Beginning Jan. 22, 2018, Simcoe County's public schools will register children for Kindergarten for the 2018-19 school year. Required registration documents include birthdate documentation, proof of address and record of immunization. Visit [www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten) for more information.

## **Land/territory acknowledgement introduced for SCDSB meetings, events and schools**

Over the past few months, the SCDSB has worked with Indigenous partners, local elders and the First Nations Education Advisory Committee to develop a land/territory acknowledgement. A land/territory acknowledgement is an act of respect and reconciliation, based on the First Nations' tradition of acknowledging the land of others when they were guests in that territory. The statements will be used at SCDSB meetings and significant events, and daily in all schools to respectfully acknowledge the Indigenous people of this territory, their sharing of the territory and the benefits we have received, as settlers, from that sharing.

## **For school daily use:**

"Simcoe County District School Board acknowledges that we are situated on the traditional land of the Anishnaabeg people. We acknowledge the enduring presence of First Nation, Métis and Inuit people on this land and are committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation and respect." For more information, visit [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) – 'About Us'.

## **School playgrounds 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 (eg. 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.

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### **Eye See...Eye Learn program offers free glasses for Junior Kindergarten students**

The Eye See...Eye Learn program provides comprehensive eye exams by local optometrists to Junior Kindergarten (JK) students. The eye exams are covered under the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) when parents show their child's health card. There is no out-of-pocket cost for the eye exam and if the child requires a pair of glasses, they will receive them free of charge courtesy of a participating optometrist. For more information, visit [www.Eyeseeyelearn.ca](http://www.Eyeseeyelearn.ca).

### **OHIP+ provides free prescription drug coverage for children**

Beginning Jan. 1, 2018, the province will provide free prescription drug coverage for children and youth aged 24 and under, regardless of family income. Under OHIP+, Ontario children and youth will have access to over 4,400 medications and other drug products. Enrollment in OHIP+ will be automatic, based on age. There are no upfront costs, no co-payment and no annual deductible. Those who are eligible for OHIP+ will only need their health card number and a valid prescription from their doctor or nurse practitioner when they visit their pharmacist. For more information, visit: [www.ontario.ca/page/learn-about-ohip-plus](http://www.ontario.ca/page/learn-about-ohip-plus).

### **It's time to update your child's immunization records**

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is required to keep up to date immunization records for all students who attend elementary or secondary school in the County of Simcoe and the District of Muskoka. Parents are responsible for reporting immunizations to the health unit each time their child receives a vaccine from their health care provider. It's easier than ever to update your child's immunization status. Go to [www.smdhu.org/immsonline](http://www.smdhu.org/immsonline) to update your child's record, or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520. Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

### **Parents invited to information sessions about special education**

The SCDSB is hosting a series of information sessions for parents and guardians to learn about special education in the SCDSB, and how to support students with special education needs.

**Dec. 18**

Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC) Information for Families

**Jan. 22**

Assessments in Special Education: Psych Ed and Other Assessments

**Feb. 19**

Transition Planning Grade 8 to 9

**March 19**

Accessing Supports in the Community

**April 16**

Understanding Alternative/Non-Academic IEP Goals

All sessions take place from 6 to 7 p.m. at the SCDSB Education Centre, located at 1170 Highway 26 in Midhurst. No registration required.