

# Grizzly News



## January 2018



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

Happy New Year Maple Grove Families!

We have a very exciting January schedule and some fantastic new initiatives to look forward to, as we head into the 2018.

You might notice when you come into the school this year, our Fresh New Look. As part of our school enhancement initiatives, we have created a new sign in area at the front of the school. Students arriving late or signing out for the day, will find the 'sign in' sheet just inside the front doors as you enter the school. There is also space to leave lunches, gloves/ mitts, homework assignments and other things that often arrive after the bell. We hope this new desk will alleviate some of the congestion in the office during the busiest times of the day. This new desk, along with our recently painted foyer and our new Arts Gallery, have had a tremendous impact on the entrance to the school. We hope you find the halls increasingly bright and welcoming as you enter Maple Grove this year!

Coming up very soon, our entire junior and intermediate divisions will take the stage for the musical extravaganza ... "ROCK!" Our halls are filled with music and dancing, as over 200 students practice to bring you this wonderful piece of Art. Be sure to grab your tickets and add dates and times to your calendars.

Also opening later this month will be our New S.T.E.A.M Lab. Maple Grove is proud to be one of the first elementary schools in Simcoe County to be piloting this new initiative. The purpose of the lab is to facilitate student creativity, ingenuity as well as design and construction skills through a 'hands on' approach, to the curriculum areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (S.T.E.A.M). This exciting new initiative will allow qualified students to work with equipment such as, scroll saws, drill press, soldering irons, small electric motors and various other electric and hand tools. Trained staff members will be offering certifications called 'Passports' to select students who complete a 3-step certification program. Parent permission will also be required prior to any student using the equipment in the lab. Stay tuned for more information about this fantastic opportunity for our Grizzlies!

Finally, please help us to keep winter play safe here at Maple Grove. Current government regulations set out by OPHEA (Ontario Physical Health Education Association) require students using any form of sliding device that is solid, to wear a helmet while sliding. For this reason, we ask that students ONLY bring 'crazy carpet' type sliding mats to school. Our teachers are bound by OPHEA, and as such, have been instructed by the administration to not allow the use of any solid sliding devices on the yard. Sleds that do not meet OPHEA guidelines will no longer be permitted at school.

Have a fantastic start to 2018

Ms. Walsh and Mr. Norris



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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! Tickets will be on sale for \$20 each, stay tuned for more information!

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 central 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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## Safe Arrival & Snow Days

If your student is a walker and is not attending school on a snow day, please remember it is your responsibility to call safe arrival. We need to ensure everyone is safe and accounted for. Bussing students do not need to call the safe arrival line. If busses are canceled in the morning, they will NOT be running in the afternoon. If you drive your student, please remember it is up to you to transport them home as well.

## Message From The Learning Commons

Have you recently upgraded your smartphone? Do you have an old one sitting in a drawer? Why not put it in the hands of a student who will use it as a powerful learning tool? All of your data can be completely wiped from it. Here are just a few examples of how it might be used:

- to empower an English Language Learner to independently translate unknown words
- for helping a student having difficulty with reading, to scan some text and hear it read aloud

These are just two of the many ways we could put your OLD smartphone to GOOD use! Please contact Ms. Swift if you have any questions or to donate your old phone to the Learning Commons.



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## Reminder about sledding safety at school

Student safety is our first priority, and although we do allow “crazy carpets” and soft sleds at our school, we do not allow hard sleds, two-person sleds or snow racers. We do supervise sledding and we remind students of safety rules on a regular basis.



We want to inform parents that if students are sledding at school, Ophea (the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association) recommends that they should wear a properly fitted (as per manufacturer's guidelines) and properly worn CSA-approved hockey helmet or snow sport helmet certified by a recognized safety standards association.

If you send a sled and helmet (optional) to school with your child, you are giving permission for your child to take part in this activity.

Remember, plowed hills are our of bounds and no throwing snow.

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## The Jr/Int Students present ROCK! - A History of Rock and Roll

The Junior and Intermediate divisions have been rehearsing daily since December to prepare a Rockin' and Rollin' show to share!



Tuesday, January 23rd - Daytime performance @ 11:45am  
and Wed. January 24th - SHOWTIME! Two evening performances.....5:30pm and 7:30pm. Students will be asked to arrive at school by 4:45pm.

Stay tuned for ticket information!

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## Special Thank You

A special thank you to members of our Maple Grove community, who kindly donated to our Eat Well To Excel program over the holidays. Your generosity it greatly appreciated.



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## 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.



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## Lots to "Cheer" About!!

It is with great pride and appreciation that we share the results of Maple Grove's efforts in supporting Barrie & District Christmas Cheer. Forty six large boxes of donations containing approximately 500 lbs (225 kg) in assorted non-perishable food items, new unwrapped toys, warm wishes and a large envelope of Canadian Tire money and monetary donations were collected within our Grizzly community. On behalf of the Community Outreach Cabinet, we extend our heartfelt thanks for your generosity!

## **January Events**

January 15th– 18th - Dental Screening ( JK, SK, 2, 4, 6 & 8)  
January 22nd - Kindergarten Registration Opens  
January 23rd & 24th - Jr. & Int. Musical  
January 24th - Primary Students to Shrek Performance  
January 26th - PA Day



### **Save The Date:**

February 1st, 8th & 15th - Grade 7 Swimming  
February 2nd - Crazy Hair Day  
February 6th - Colts Pep Rally  
February 13th - Intermediate Feast  
February 17th - Barrie Colts Night 7:30pm Ticket Information to follow  
February 22nd, March 1st & 8th - Grade 3 Swimming  
April 12th - Pro Grant Evening - Healthy Living & Fit Mind  
June 6th - Spring Fling

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

### **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.

### **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).

### **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

## **Provide input on proposed 2018-19 school year calendar**

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) invites public school communities to submit input regarding the proposed school year calendar for next school year (Sept. 2018 to June 2019). Starting Jan. 9, input can be provided by visiting [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca), then clicking the link on the 'School Year Calendars' page under the 'Schools' menu. All stakeholders including staff, school council members, parents/guardians, students and members of the school community are invited to provide input. The deadline to submit input is Jan. 31.

## **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.

## **Changes to Ontario Early Years Centres effective Jan. 1**

In February 2017, the Ontario government announced the transformation of the delivery of early years programs for children and families. Starting in January, Ontario Early Years Centres, Parenting and Family Literacy Centres, Child Care Resource Centres and Better Beginnings, Better Futures centres will collectively be known as EarlyON Child and Family Centres. These EarlyON Child and Family Centres will be open to all families across Ontario, and provide support, parenting programs, personal connections and a network of resources as well as play- and inquiry-based programs for young children.

Effective January 1, Child and Family Programs currently in schools will be relocated to the community. These four agencies will now manage EarlyON Child and Family Centres in Simcoe County:

- OEYC Simcoe North, [www.oeycsimcoenorth.ca](http://www.oeycsimcoenorth.ca)
- Simcoe Community Services, [www.simcoecommunityservices.ca](http://www.simcoecommunityservices.ca)

- E3 Community Services, [www.e3.ca](http://www.e3.ca)
- La Clé (Francophone), [www.lacle.ca](http://www.lacle.ca)

For specific days and hours of operation, please contact your local lead agency. Information can be found by visiting [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) – 'Schools' – 'Before & After School Care.'

## **Five healthy New Year's resolutions for your family**

Some of the top New Year's resolutions across all age groups for 2017 were eating healthy, getting in shape and reducing stress. So, how do you set and achieve a resolution to be healthier? It's been proven that the key to success is setting small goals which require steps towards a larger goal. Here are some New Year's resolutions that families can work on together in 2018:

- spend 30 minutes outside playing together as often as possible, regardless of the weather
- find a place that provides opportunities for the entire family to be physically active together or offers child care and after-school programs
- add physical activity or play time to the calendar, such as scheduling an evening walk or fitness class, with the same commitment as other important meetings
- pick a fun run/walk or 5K to do as a family – sign up, train and participate together
- have more family dinners together and involve children in preparing meals as much as possible

For more information about programs offered at the Y for the whole family, please visit [www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca](http://www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca).

Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka ([www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca](http://www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca))

## **Questions about your child's health?**

Health Connection offers free, confidential health information from nurses and health inspectors on:

- how your child is growing, parenting tips, fast and healthy meals, safe food and water, common illnesses, keeping kids safe, fun family activities
- health unit programs such as vaccinations and dental care
- community resources for parenting, mental health, addictions, quitting smoking or financial help

Contact Health Connection at 1-705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or <http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/>. If English is not your first language, we have a telephone interpretation service.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

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### **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.

### **School's in for summer at the SCDSB**

Are you and your child planning their courses for next school year? Looking for a way to create flexibility in their timetable and earn a credit? Consider summer school!

Each year, the SCDSB offers a variety of summer programs to over 2,000 students. Summer school options include open, college and university level courses from Grades 9 to 12. Courses are offered in-person or online. Interested students can also travel and earn credits with the summer EduTravel program.

Summer school program details can be found on the Learning Centres website at [www.learningcentres.com](http://www.learningcentres.com). Current SCDSB students should speak to their guidance counsellor for information and to register. Register now so that your summer school choices align with course selection for next year!

### **RVH Film Festival welcomes student submissions**

Barrie's Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) has partnered with the Simcoe County District

School Board, the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board and Unity Christian High School to offer students, classes and schools the opportunity to participate in RVH's annual Film Festival in two external categories:

- Kindergarten to Grade 6
- Grade 7 and up

This year's theme is "Making mental health matter - how are you making a difference?" Students and classes are invited to make a two-minute video showing how they promote mental health. The deadline for submissions is Feb. 5. Voting will take place from Feb. 16 to 26 and those with the winning entries will be invited to an awards ceremony on March 8. Find out more and submit your video at: [www.rvh.on.ca/SitePages/rvhfilmfestival.aspx](http://www.rvh.on.ca/SitePages/rvhfilmfestival.aspx).