



Maple Grove Public School
Administrative Team: Jennifer Walsh, Principal &
Rob Norris, Vice-Principal
Secretaries: Deb Dickson, Sarah MacGirr
School Council Co-Chairs - Amanda Trinacty & Amber Shave
<http://map.scdsb.on.ca>



Newsletter # 5

January 2017

"The strength in each of us comes from all of us"

We're On-line!

Maple Grove Newsletters are available on-line at <http://map.scdsb.on.ca>

Administrators' Message

Happy New Year Grizzlies!

On behalf of myself, Ms. Walsh and the entire staff here at Maple Grove, best wishes and Happy New Year Grizzly families! As the newest member of this great team, please let me begin by expressing how happy I am to have joined the Maple Grove staff. Since day one, I have been impressed by the friendliness of the students; their smiles and warm wishes made my transition a wonderful experience. I have also quickly come to realize that the staff here at the school are amongst the most caring and dedicated I have had the pleasure of working with throughout my 20 years in education. We are truly blessed to have such a team here at the school.

Looking forward, there are many fantastic things in store for 2017! Staff and students are currently in the process of selecting a script for our upcoming school musical, our Intermediate boys have started basketball and our intermediate girls are looking forward to a successful volleyball season. Junior teams will also be starting up in the near future.

In addition to sports and arts opportunities, all of our staff and students are eagerly awaiting the arrival of 20 new iPads to the school! As a staff, we have committed to increasing our technology use at school through initiatives like STEAM, Inquiry, coding and many other twentieth century learning opportunities and teaching strategies that will help our students to be better prepared for their future. If you happen to be here at the right time, you might even be lucky enough to see one of our robots being coded by students at the school!

Students . . . we just ordered another coding robot as well! His name is Sphero. Ask your teacher to sign him out and bring him to your classroom sometime in the New Year!

It truly is an exciting time to be a student, and it's just as exciting to be an educator. It is with excitement in mind and our continued commitment to learning and well-being that we begin the year 2017 here at Maple Grove.

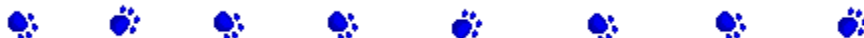
Again, Happy New Year Grizzly families!

Safe Arrival

Reminder parents it is your duty to contact the school when your child will be absent. It is imperative we hear from you as we need to know your child is safe and supervised.

Grade 8 Visit to Eastview Science Olympics

Science is Fun! Sixteen of our Grade 8 students travelled to Eastview Secondary School for a Science Olympiad recently. There were lots and lots of fun and exciting things to learn such as experimenting and discovering about balance, elasticity, electricity, structural strength, and osmosis and diffusion. We joined students from five other schools and competed in different scientific challenges designed by the Grade 11 and 12 physics students. We had fun doing things hands on and with the help of cool materials. Thanks, Eastview, for giving us such a great experience with science - especially as we will be choosing our courses for Grade 9 soon. (Om Patel and Mr. Smith)



Save the Date!!

Maple Grove will be heading to the Barrie Colts hockey game on February 25, 2017. Our school choir will be singing O Canada from the ice surface and the Maple Grove community can enjoy a fun night together at the Barrie Molson Centre. Watch for ticket order forms coming out in the new year!

Crayola ColorCycle

I'm excited to tell you about a very special program I'm coordinating at our school in conjunction with Crayola. It's called Crayola ColorCycle - an amazing new program devised to turn used markers into energy!

All around Maple Grove students and teachers will be collecting used markers that are ready to be discarded. The markers will be sent to a facility



where they will be converted into clean fuel. This fuel can be used to power vehicles, heat homes, cook meals and more!

Please help support our efforts by sending your kids in with any used markers you may have around the house - even non-Crayola brands. Drop-off boxes will be located around the school for your child to deposit the markers.

Thank you in advance for participating! With the help of parents like you across the country, the Crayola ColorCycle program can keep tons of plastic out of landfills each year.

Remember, don't throw out that used marker—*ColorCycle it!*

If you have any questions please ask Mrs. Astin

Sports Spectators

Maple Grove students are only allowed to stay after school as a spectator if they are accompanied by their parent or guardian. There isn't any supervision after school during these events and our coaches are only responsible for the supervision of the players on their sports teams.

Rainbows at Maple Grove Public School

Rainbows is an international, non-profit peer support groups for children, adolescents and adults who are grieving the loss of a family member through death, divorce or separation.



The mission of Rainbows is to assist in sorting through their pain and confusion, to build self-esteem, and to learn positive coping tools to help deal with their loss. Our purpose is to alleviate the pain that accompanies grief and to promote emotional healing by providing a safe environment for the expression and release of feelings.

The program is being offered during the school day for elementary school age children Senior Kindergarten-Grade 8.

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 a note indicating your name and contact information, your child's name, age, grade and teachers name. Please address this information to Ms. Read. so we can get you started!

Mabel Labels

Maple Grove Public School has joined up with Mabel's Labels to earn funds to fundraise for our school. Winter 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 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.

Apply for French Immersion, find out more at information sessions in January

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) offers French Immersion (FI) at select schools throughout the county beginning in Grade 1. This program gives students a bilingual education and the opportunity to become fluent in another language.

Information sessions will be held in January for parents of students in Senior Kindergarten. A letter has been sent home to those parents with more details. Information session dates will be posted at www.scdsb.on.ca under Programs, French as a Second Language.

The FI online application form will be available from 9 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 23, until 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2017 at 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 in the program. **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.

High School information nights coming soon to a high school near you

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights happen this winter. Information

nights give an overview of what's new and what to expect, and are a chance to ask questions.

High school is an exciting time—there are so many programs, clubs and activities for students to try. Attend an information night to find out what's offered at your local high school. See the info night schedule and more information on the SCDSB's website at www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool.

Kindergarten registration opens in January

Do you (or someone you know) have a child who was born in 2013? If so, it's almost time to register them for Kindergarten in the SCDSB! Beginning on January 23, 2017, Simcoe County's public schools will register children for Kindergarten for the 2017-18 school year. Required registration documents include birthdate documentation, proof of address and record of immunization. Visit www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten for more information.

Students and parents invited to complete the school climate survey

From Jan. 9 to Jan. 27, 2017, all students in grades 4 to 8 will be asked to complete an anonymous online survey at school about how they feel about their school. Your child's teacher will supervise the class during the survey and can answer any questions or concerns your child may have. As well, parents/guardians of students in grades 4 to 8 will be asked to complete an anonymous online survey about how they feel about their child's school.

These surveys provide students and parent/guardians with the opportunity to say what is great about their school, as well as express their concerns. The survey results will provide valuable feedback to staff and will help schools to develop their Safe Schools Plans. Respondents are not asked to provide their names and all responses will be combined to ensure confidentiality.

To complete the parent/guardian survey, visit the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB)



website at www.scdsb.on.ca and click the link to the parent/guardian School Climate survey. The password for the survey is **ElementaryParent2017**. If you do not have access to the internet and/or you prefer to complete a paper version of the survey, you can request one at the school office. Questions about the parent/guardian survey can be directed to SCDSB's Research and Evaluation Services team via email at research@scdsb.on.ca. Thank you for your support!

Host families wanted - learn a new culture and share yours

Would you like to become a host family for an international student? Learn more about another culture? Share yours? Make a new friend? There are different hosting programs available - several days, weeks, a month, semester or 10 months...it's up to you and your family. For more information, call 705-734-6363 x11211 or email: studyinsimcoecounty@scdsb.on.ca

The Gilbert Centre offers support group for parenting LGBTQ kids and youth

The Gilbert Centre facilitates the Parenting LGBTQ Support Group, which is a drop-in meeting group for parents, caregivers, family members and friends. Meetings take place every other Wed. in Barrie. The group offers a safe and confidential space for you to share your experience, hear the experiences of others and grow in your abilities to support your LGBTQ child. Meetings are held every other Wed. at 7 p.m. at The Gilbert Centre, located at 80 Bradford Street (Suite 345) in Barrie. For more information, call 705-722-6778, visit gilbertcentre.ca or email info@gilbertcentre.ca.

Life with kids is messy - and that's OK!

Ever feel like some days you have it all together, and some days you don't? Love your kids to bits, but sometimes feel like you're the only parent who has hard days? Want to connect with other parents who

have those kinds of days too? Come join the conversation on Facebook @lifewithkidsismessy. Laugh about the tough stuff, hear about what works for other families and to share the ways you give your kids your best. When the messy days pile up, call Your Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Stay healthy this school year

Colds and influenza spread easily from person to person. These germs can spread directly from person to person when someone coughs or sneezes, or indirectly when germs land on hard surfaces like door knobs, desks, keyboards or wet tissues and then are touched by someone. These germs can then enter the body through the eyes, nose or mouth.

The most important thing you can do to keep from getting sick and stop the spread of germs is wash your hands with soap and warm running water for at least 15 seconds. If your hands are not visibly dirty you can use alcohol based hand rub hand sanitizer for 15 seconds. Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or cough into your sleeve or upper arm and stay home if you are sick. Teach your kids to do the same!

For more tips to keep you and your family healthy this school year, contact Health Connection at 1-877-721-7520 or visit the health unit's website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

The facts of lice: How to prevent and treat this nuisance

Like everywhere else, there are head lice in Simcoe County. Lice are a nuisance, but do not pose a public health hazard as they are not known to transmit any infectious diseases. Anyone can get head lice but kids tend to get them more often because they can have



head-to-head contact with other children during school and play. The best way to keep head lice in check is to work together to prevent the spread.

Schools are required to inform parents when a case of head lice is confirmed, to provide parents with timely information to begin their own checks at home. Head lice management and treatment is a responsibility of parents/guardians.

Here are some tips to help prevent and treat lice:

- Teach your child not to share personal things like hair brushes, combs and hats
- Set a schedule to check your child's head regularly. Use an area with bright light and look carefully for nits (shells containing eggs) and live lice in the hair, behind the ears and around the neck and hairline. Nits looks like half the size of the head of a pin, shaped like a teardrop and stick to the hair so you can't blow, flick, or easily side them off. Lice are about the size of a sesame seed and are very hard to see because they can crawl and hide but they cannot hop or fly.
- If you find nits or live head lice, you'll need to use a head lice treatment to kill them. Make sure to follow the directions, and then to do a second treatment 7 to 10 days later to help stop the lice from returning. Head lice are not likely to live in clothing, furniture or bed linen but it's a good idea to wash bed linen and hats in hot water and dry them in a hot dryer just in case.

For more information, visit the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit's website www.simcoemuskokahealth.org or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Important Dates

- Jan. 9th - First day back to school
- Jan. 13th - Intermediate Girls Volleyball Tournament 4pm - 10pm
- Jan. 16th - School Council
- Jan. 17th - Gr.6,7 and 8 students to Barrie Film Festival
- Jan. 18th - Swim to Survive East Bayfield Centre for Gr. 7 students
- Jan. 23rd - Kindergarten registration starts
- Jan. 25th - Grade 7 Vaccinations
- Jan. 25th - Swim to Survive East Bayfield Centre for Gr. 7 students
- Jan. 27th - PA Day
- Feb. 1st - Swim to Survive East Bayfield Centre for Gr. 7 students
- Feb.17th - Report Cards go home
- Feb. 20th - Family Day
- Feb. 22nd - Eastview Information Night 6:30-8:30 pm
- Feb. 25th - Barrie Colts Night

