



Grizzly News

October 2020

DID YOU KNOW?

Use the Google Translate App to read the newsletter in your preferred language!



Administrative Team:

Rob Norris; Principal & Jody Jowett; Vice-Principal
Administrative Support: Cindy Hodgins & Holly Tuninga
Website: <http://map.scdsb.on.ca>
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As we head into October, and say goodbye to a September that was perhaps the most difficult in memory, I find myself renewed as an educator. I'm renewed because despite the uncertainty and the questions that surrounded start-up this year, our students arrived with the biggest smiles I've ever seen. With each smile, I was reminded how important schools are ... and I'm so glad we're open. I wish I could accurately put into words the smiles I see each morning. Whether online or in the building, every student I talk to is glad to be back. As I welcome the students to the building each morning, and wish them well on their way out the door, I take great pride and energy from what Maple Grove means to those of us who are connected to these students and this community.

Things look different. For example ... traditional recess is gone for now! Can you imagine a school day without recess? A few months ago I would have said "No Way", but despite the restrictions the pandemic has placed upon us, staff and students have done a tremendous job of continuing to make Maple Grove an awesome place to learn. We've established a mobile library while common areas of the school remain closed, increased the amount of time students spend outdoors, added cooperative game time to indoor learning breaks, and we continue to show our support of important initiatives such as the Terry Fox Run and Orange Shirt Day. Also, we continue to develop amazing new ideas for virtual education and exciting new ways to deliver curriculum while maintaining co-horting and social distancing. All things considered ... We've had an amazing start to the school year. I couldn't be more proud of our students or our staff.

Finally, thank you for trusting us with your children. Thank you for your continued support and for your understanding as we navigate through the ever-changing landscape of education during a pandemic. We have received a number of very positive emails and comments from the community. Your support means a great deal to us. We will continue to need your support and your understanding as the year progresses. In turn, our staff will do everything to keep your kids safe as we continue to strive for a school experience that builds a genuine life long love of learning within our students.

I recently read a quote that reminds me of our school opening this year ... " Autumn is the season that reminds us that change can be beautiful".

Enjoy the beauty of October,

Sincerely,

Mr. Norris

Reminder – There is no supervision on the yard in the mornings for students. The school doors will be open for students to enter the building at 8:45 a.m. Supervision staff are available inside the building from 8:45 – 9:00 a.m.

Goggle Classroom:

All in-school students are attached to a Google Classroom. The Google Classroom will be updated weekly and should be used when your child is home ill or learning at home for an extended period. This is not the same as a Learn@Home classroom which some learners opted for instead of in-school learning model. Our Google Classroom will not be synchronous learning as the teacher is in the classroom all day. If you don't know how to sign on using your child's Goggle credentials, please ask their teacher for assistance.

Parent-Teacher Interviews:

Parents please sign up for a virtual meeting with your child's teacher, the sign-up sheets will be available starting October 6th. To do so you need to sign in to your child's Google Classroom using your child's login and open the Parent-Teacher Interview document. Teacher's will update the Google Classroom with a meeting code the week of Parent-Teacher Interviews and you will access the interviews via Google Meet on your specified date and time using said code. Please email your teacher if you are having trouble signing up for an interview date/time.

Health and Safety / Safety Measures in School:

Students in Grade 4 to 8 will be required to wear a face mask while inside the school building. Masks are not required for students in Kindergarten to Grade 3, but are encouraged. Families are encouraged to provide cloth masks for their children that cover the nose and mouth. The SCDSB will provide cloth masks to students who do not have them.

Students who are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 must stay home. We ask that parents/guardians report their child's absence as part of our Safe Arrival program by calling 705-725201 extension 1.

Self-assessment –Mandatory Each Morning:

All students and staff will be expected to self-screen prior to attending school each day, using a self-assessment tool provided by the SMDHU. Students or staff with symptoms must stay home from school. To access the COVID-19 self-assessment tool, please visit <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/>.

Gifted Testing:

If you feel your child should be tested for being gifted please email Rachel Vieira at rvieira@scdsb.on.ca by October 12, 2020. Students can be recommended by a staff member or a parent.

No visitor access:

Following the direction from our local health authority, the SMDHU, all SCDSB schools will be closed to parents/guardians and visitors. Parents/guardians may ring the doorbell at elementary schools to receive assistance.

Outdoor Learning Blocks:

All students will participate in outdoor learning activities for a minimum of 50 minutes daily with our kindergarten students having a minimum of 100 minutes outdoors. Outdoor activities will occur rain or shine (in the absence of severe weather). Please ensure you dress your child appropriately for the weather, this includes rain gear for rainy days and hats for sunny days. Running shoes should be worn daily as there will be a lot of active movement going on.

Student Pick Up:

Parents/Guardians have been doing a great job at pick-up. Please keep physically distancing and wearing masks while on school property.

School Bus Safety Week and School Bus Driver Appreciation Day:

School Bus Safety Week takes place October 19 to 23, 2020. Please visit the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) website at main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/ for information on school bus safety and links to school bus safety resources. October 21, 2020 is School Bus Driver Appreciation Day in the province of Ontario. It's a great opportunity for the school community to thank our bus drivers for all their hard work transporting students to and from school safely.

Learn about the new math curriculum in the Parents' Guide to Mathematics:

Are you curious about the new Ontario mathematics curriculum, and how you can support your child's growth as a mathematician? Visit the Parents' Guide to Mathematics at ontario.ca/page/new-math-curriculum-grades-1-8, where you can find a summary of the knowledge and skills your child will be learning as they progress through the grades, information about how you can support your child's learning and how the curriculum was developed. You can make a difference and support your child's learning by making math a regular part of your day-to-day life at home. You can help your children make connections between what they learn in school and everyday experiences at home and in the community.

You can:

- find ways to incorporate math at home
- inspire a love of learning and better understanding of math
- talk with your child about their math schoolwork
- show an interest in what they are learning in class

help make learning fun by finding real world applications of what they are learning together

For more ways to support your child's math learning at home, please visit ontario.ca/page/support-your-childs-math-learning.

Have you met Sora?

Our digital ebook/audiobook collection contains over 4,000 titles waiting to be checked out by our SCDSB students. Students simply download the app, use their SCDSB login and start reading for free on their phone or tablet. The collection can be accessed at: meet.soraapp.com. Mr. McKnight is Maple Grove Public School librarian and he promotes the use of Sora.

Inclement weather and bus cancellation information reminder:

All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s bus information website at www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. Our school is in the [insert zone for your school] zone. When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, unless otherwise noted. It is always a family decision whether or not it is safe for their child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions.

Transportation:

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>.

For school bus transportation information, visit the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s website at: main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. Also, remember to bookmark the school bus information page at: simcoecountyschoolbus.ca for bus delay and cancellation information on inclement weather days.

Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 4 to 10:

This year's Fire Prevention Week theme, "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen" is aimed to better educate the public about where potential cooking hazards exist and basic but critical ways to prevent them. This year's focus on cooking safety is particularly timely seeing as the public may continue to avoid restaurants for some time and opt instead to do more cooking and entertaining at home, the potential for home cooking fires will likely increase as well. For more information about Fire Prevention Week and this year's theme, "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen," along with a wealth of resources to help promote the campaign locally, visit fpw.org.

Information from the National Fire Protection Association website

Terry Fox:



The Terry Fox Run took place at Maple Grove on Monday, September 28th. Thank you to all the families that made a donation! Our run was a great success and we are proud to announce that we have raised \$2,497.00 towards cancer research!

The students enjoyed watching the challenges including; the chicken dance, silly stringing a staff member, and an inflatable costume race. We even saw the school administrators drinking pickle juice, lemon juice, and vinegar! Mr. Norris revealed a mystery challenge and students were chosen to help give him a new haircut.

It was wonderful to see all the students wearing their Terry Fox gear and red and white as they ran for a cure. Way to go Grizzlies!

Barrie Food Bank:

Your contribution can be made online at www.barriefoodbank.org or by mail to Barrie Food Bank, P.O. Box 145, Barrie, ON L4M 4S9. There will be **no** in school donations allowed at this time.

Reminders:

- Absolutely no toys/gadgets are to be sent to school.
- Please ensure the school has **3** contact numbers in case your child gets ill during the day. You can email Ms. Hodgins at cihodgins@scdsb.on.ca if you have any updates.
- If your child's end of day plans need to be changed we ask that you send a note to their teacher in the morning. Unless it is an emergency we would appreciate it if your child knows how they are getting home in the morning as we cannot always get the message regarding last minute changes in time.