



SEVERN SHORES PUBLIC SCHOOL

Principal: Mr. Langner

Vice Principal: Mrs. Foster

Superintendent: Daryl Halliday

Trustee: Chairperson Jodi Lloyd

Phone: 705-689-5001

Website: sev.scdsb.on.ca

Follow us on Twitter: [@SevernShores](https://twitter.com/SevernShores)

Like us on Facebook [@SevernShoresPS](https://www.facebook.com/SevernShoresPS)

April Newsletter



Principal's Message:

Dear Severn Shores Families,

Well, this is the first year that we have both had an in-school spring at Severn Shores and it is clear that our field likes to stay wet and muddy! We both encourage students to have fun at recess, so please pack extra clothes and send boots and splash pants if your child is attracted to the puddles.

The last few weeks have been a nice change back to some normalcy, pre-pandemic. Students and staff have the option of wearing a mask and it is so nice to see so many full faces. We still support those students and staff who continue to wear masks and we stress that we are a mask-friendly environment.

With the reduced protocols, there are some new happenings at the school. Intramurals have started and a number of our junior and intermediate students are playing indoor soccer. Teachers are starting to look at some field trip opportunities. Our school is an OPHEA healthy school and we are involved in some physically and mentally healthy initiatives school wide. A group of students have organized with staff members a Gay Straight Alliance to support our diverse student population. Finally our school is engaged in the Battle of the Books competition through our library.

Lastly, thank you to all of the families that were able to support our Little Caesar's fundraiser. We appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Mr. Langner

Mrs. Foster

Upcoming Events

Throughout the year, there are many awareness days that focus on different causes and recognition. The Simcoe County District School Board has developed a list of these days as a guide for schools. Schools may participate in recognizing some or all of these days in various ways. This list is not exhaustive. The staff at Severn Shores would like to know if you celebrate any holidays that we may have missed or not recognized in our Newsletter. **Please contact the school if you wish to have us acknowledge a holiday or an awareness day that your family celebrates and/or recognizes.** The following are the days of awareness and recognition that we recognize during the month of April:



Date	Event
Monthly Character Trait	Optimism - we maintain a positive attitude and have hope for the future. More information about Character Education can be found here: www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education
April 2	World Autism Day
April 3	Ramaden Begins
April 13	International Day of Pink
April 15	Good Friday (no school)
April 17	Easter
April 18	Easter Monday (no school)
April 22	Earth Day
May 2	School Council Meeting 5-6 pm

Stay updated on information regarding the 2021-22 school year on the SCDSB's website and social media.

For ongoing updates and information, please continue to visit the COVID-19 page on the [SCDSB website](http://www.scdsb.on.ca), or follow SCDSB on social media (Twitter: [@SCDSB_Schools](https://twitter.com/SCDSB_Schools) or Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SCDSB>).

Follow Severn Shores on Twitter [@SevernShores](https://twitter.com/SevernShores) and/or Facebook [@SevernShoresPS](https://www.facebook.com/SevernShoresPS) for information about events.

Learning & Fun in March:



SCDSB Schools Continue to be Mask-friendly Environments

Students from Kindergarten to Grade 12, staff and visitors are no longer required to wear masks in schools, school board offices and on student transportation. SCDSB schools continue to be mask-friendly environments. Masks remain available to students and staff who choose to continue to wear them while in schools. Please encourage your child(ren) to be respectful and understanding of everyone's choice with respect to masking so that SCDSB schools remain the safe, inclusive and welcoming teaching and learning environments they are meant to be for all.

Keep Connected with our School and with the SCDSB

It's important to get accurate information about what's going on at your school and at the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB). Here are some ways to do that:

- Subscribe to our school's website by visiting the 'What's New' section at <http://sev.scdsb.on.ca>. You can sign up to receive emails about school news updates and information during emergency situations. It's easy to subscribe – visit our website and click the 'Subscribe' link at the very top of the page. Provide your email and click 'Subscribe'; a message will be sent to your inbox with a link to click to confirm that you want to subscribe. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link at the bottom of each email.
- Sign up to receive SCDSB media releases by clicking the 'Subscribe' button at www.scdsb.on.ca. Follow the SCDSB on Twitter (@SCDSB_Schools), Facebook ([facebook.com/SCDSB](https://www.facebook.com/SCDSB)) and Instagram ([instagram.com/scdsb](https://www.instagram.com/scdsb)).

School Climate Survey

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) aims to provide a safe, supportive learning environment that supports all students in being successful. During the month of April, all students in Grades 4 to 12 will be asked to complete an anonymous and confidential online SCDSB School Climate Survey about how they feel about their school. Any participant of a SCDSB School Climate Survey will not be asked to provide their name or other identifying information because all surveys are anonymous.

The survey results will provide valuable feedback to staff related to the [SCDSB Strategic Priorities](#) and will help schools to develop and refine their School Action Plans.

Similar to prior SCDSB school climate surveys, the questions cover a range of topics, such as:

- excellence in teaching and learning;
- mental health and well-being;
- equity, diversity and inclusion;
- community; and,
- experiences of school safety and bullying.

Student Survey

A sample version of the student survey will be available on the [SCDSB website](#). Please call your child(ren)'s school if you have questions about how the student survey will be administered.

Questions?

School staff will be available to answer any questions or concerns a student may have.

Questions about the 2021-2022 SCDSB School Climate Survey can also be directed to schoolclimate@scdsb.on.ca.

The information that is collected will be used to help guide our schools in creating and maintaining safe and supportive learning environments for all students. Thank you for your support!

Kindergarten Registration for September 2022 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 2022? If so, we invite you to register your child for kindergarten. To register online or for more information visit: [www.scdsb.on.ca /kindergarten](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten).

EarlyON Child and Family Centres



Did you know that EarlyON Child and Family Centres offer free programs, resources, parenting courses and developmental screening, as well as referrals to community programs? All children, prenatal through 6 years of age, can participate with their parent(s) or caregiver(s). In Simcoe County there are four agencies that deliver EarlyON Child and Family programs. Services are available in English and French and can be explored by visiting www.simcoe.ca/ChildrenandCommunityServices/Pages/EarlyON.aspx. EarlyON Child and Family Centre staff are trained in child development and facilitation of educational programs for parents/guardians and children, and are now providing a new parent/child interactive program called Getting Ready for Kindergarten for parents/guardians and children who are starting Kindergarten this fall! Pre-register at www.earlyonsimcoenorth.ca/hubfs/GRFK.pdf.

Interested in learning more about the ways that the SCDSB supports students with special education needs and their families? Join us for a virtual special education outreach series

In 2022, the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is hosting virtual special education outreach sessions to assist parents/caregivers in learning more about programs, supports and ways that we work together to support students with special education needs.

- Supporting students as they transition into school, from one school to another, and from school upon graduation – information for parents/caregivers

April 12 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

- Working with families to create safe and supportive environments for children who have experienced trauma – information for parents/caregivers

May 10 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 <https://bit.ly/3s8OBm8>.

School Council Members Invited to Learn more about Skilled Trades in the SCDSB at Virtual Event

School council members from Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) schools are invited to attend Connections 2.0 on April 19. This virtual event, hosted by the SCDSB's Parent Involvement Committee (PIC), will feature conversations about skilled trades and apprenticeship opportunities and engage participants in discussions and idea-sharing sessions.

Join guest speaker Elaine McLachlin, the SCDSB's Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) Coordinator, for a skilled trades and apprenticeship presentation followed by virtual school tours, a panel discussion on redefining school councils and a breakout session with your PIC representative.

To learn more and register visit www.scdsb.on.ca/connections. Registration closes on April 15.



Students with ASD Invited to Participate in Virtual After-school Programs this Spring

Social and recreational programs will be offered from April to June for Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) students diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The programs will be offered virtually, and will focus on using recreation, problem solving, coding and play skills to support social skills development.

Children's Friendship Training

A nine week, evidence-based social skills intervention for motivated children diagnosed with ASD, who are interested in learning ways to help them make and keep friends.

Play Ball Kidz Recreation Program

A nine week, multi-component recreation program designed to improve the gross motor skills and social skills of children diagnosed with ASD.

Escape Room Social Skills Program

A nine week, escape room themed program designed to improve problem solving skills of children diagnosed with ASD by focusing on cooperation and teamwork to support social skills development.

Music Social Skills Program

A nine week, music based program designed to improve emotional regulation and social skills of children diagnosed with ASD by focusing on singing, dancing, and playing instruments in a virtual group setting.

Parents/guardians are an important part of the programs and will receive resources and support to help children develop and practice new skills at home and at school. Limited spaces are available. For more information about the sessions and to complete the initial application form, visit the SCDSB website at scdsb.on.ca/inclusiverecreationprograms by April 8, 2022.



Making 'cents' of Money Matters

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 like a book, toy or a 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](http://practicalmoneyskills.ca), practicalmoneyskills.ca
- [Help Your Kids Understand Money: A Parent's Guide](http://themint.org), themint.org

SSPS School Council Scoop

Who are we?

We are your school council. We are parents, educators and community members coming together to support our school in being the best place in Simcoe County for our children to learn and grow.



Co-Chairs: Angela Foster & Kim Allinson

Secretary: Ashley Sweeney



Contact us at: councilchairsev@scdsb.on.ca

March Updates

March Meeting Highlights

- School Council approved funding for the purchase of skating helmets.
- Playground committee is meeting in April to discuss plans to move forward with some projects to enhance the yard.
- A resource library for families will be created using funds from parent engagement grants. Watch for details in the coming months!

March Family Challenge

Thank you to Madeline Foster for submitting this picture of signs of spring from the March Family Challenge with us. How many signs of spring can you find in this picture?



April Family Challenge – Celebrating Planet Earth

Calling all Earth Rangers! Tell us how your family is contributing to a healthy planet in honour of Earth Day on April 22nd. You can draw it, paint it, take a photo, or write a description. Share your pictures and stories on our community Facebook page with #sspsfamilychallenge and email them to councilchairsev@scdsb.on.ca for a chance to be featured in the May newsletter. We can’t wait to see what you discover!

Commit to Character Gotcha!

Tell us about how your child demonstrates OPTIMISM this month. Send us a story, show us a picture, post it on the community Facebook page, email us...celebrate your child and tell us how they maintain a positive attitude and show hope for the future.

That's Funny!

Q: What kind of Doctor is Dr. Pepper?

A: A Fizzician! 🥤

Submit your best jokes to councilcharisev@scdsb.on.ca for a chance to be featured in the newsletter.

Stay in Touch! Feel free to reach out to your representatives on the school council. Co-Chairs, Angela Foster and Kim Allinson can be reached at: councilchairsev@scdsb.on.ca

Next Virtual School Council Meeting: Monday, May 2 @ 5:00-6:00 pm

All members of our school community are welcome to attend school council meetings as a non-voting member.
