



GATOR NEWS

November 2020

827 9th Line
Innisfil, ON L9S 1A6
goo.scdsb.on.ca

Phone: (705) 436-3600

Safe arrival—PRESS 1

Fax: (705) 436-1868

Sean Cappadocia
Principal

Heather Owen
Vice-Principal

CENTRAL Weather Zone

IMPORTANT DATES:

- | | |
|--------|--------------------------------|
| Nov 2 | Parent council |
| Nov 11 | Remembrance Day |
| Nov 12 | Progress Reports home |
| Nov 20 | PD Day Student led conferences |

REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES and LATES

Please remember to call the Safe Arrival Line **BEFORE 9:20 AM** when your child is away or will be late.

**705-436-3600,
PRESS #1**

GFPS is a SCENT FREE and NUT FREE school

Please remember to wear proper footwear at all times.

This year has been unique in almost every way. Our Face to Face learners are settling into a routine and were given the opportunity to participate in a Terry Fox Run raising \$1500 for Cancer research. Thank you to all of our families who contributed to this effort. At the end of September, we also recognized Orange Shirt Day, acknowledging the impact of the residential school system on Indigenous communities for more than a century in Canada. While students enjoyed a day off on the PA day on October 23, our staff participated in valuable learning around supporting students with Special Education needs and Health and Safety Training. On October 30th, we brought awareness to the importance of mental health through a neighborhood parade with our grade 4-8 students. Thank you to all who waved from driveways and/or honked your horns. Our Learn@Home students are building community within their classrooms and we are working continuously to support this new way of teaching and learning. Stay tuned for updates from our Learn@Home teachers in upcoming newsletters.

The overall student population at Goodfellow grew slightly from last year. With this growth, we have been lucky to add new members to our staff. Please refer to this page on our website to see our up to date list of staff members and their assignments. <http://goo.scdsb.on.ca/classes>. Don't forget to follow us on twitter @GoodfellowPS where we share examples of our learning every day. Regular updates are also posted on our website.

Student-led conferences are going virtual this year. Teachers have reached out to families this past week to schedule a video conference call (Zoom) or telephone call. Conferences will be scheduled during the week of November 16 to 20. We value the partnership between school and home to support student learning. Thank you for helping us celebrate your child's growth.

Have a wonderful month!

Sean Cappadocia

Principal



Notes from the Office

- Teach your child good work habits by having them arrive to school on time. **Classes start at 9:20am. Students arriving after 9:20 must sign in at the office.**
- Our school dismissal time is 3:40pm. We appreciate all your efforts in making appointments after school hours.
- **If you need to pick up your child(ren) early, please send a note to their teacher in the morning so that they can make arrangements to have your child in the office.**
- **We kindly ask that you send lunches with your child in the morning.**
- Just a reminder to parents and students, use of personal electronic devices during class time is not permitted, unless the teacher has given permission for use of electronics in the classroom. If you need to reach your child during the school day, please call the office and not the student.
- Please note that WHEELIE shoes are NOT ALLOWED to be worn at school
- Please note that proper indoor and outdoor shoes must be worn by students at all times.

If Busses are cancelled:

When the school board cancels busses for our area—**CENTRAL ZONE**- the School is open for students to attend. We ask that you please send your child(ren) to school on these days provided they can travel safely to and from our building. Valuable instruction and learning continue to take place during these inclement weather days.

Please remember to call the safe arrival line if your child is staying home.

Please note that Fun Lunch does not run on inclement weather days, and will be rescheduled to the next available day.

SAFE ARRIVAL CALL—PLEASE NOTE

If you receive the safe arrival call, please call the school back ONLY if your child SHOULD be here.

Inclement weather day absences do not count towards the student absence total.

School Day Schedule

Supervision Begins	9:05 am
Warning Bell	9:17 am
School Starts	9:20 am
Class Time	9:20-11:00 am
Recess/Snack Time	11:00-11:40 am
Class Time	11:40-1:20 pm
Recess/Lunch	1:20-2:00 pm
Class Time	2:00-3:40 pm
Dismissal:	3:40 pm



Dogs NOT ALLOWED on Goodfellow PS Property

A reminder that dogs other than Service Dogs are not allowed on school property. Thank you for your cooperation.

Parking Lot

Our parking lot is closed to personal vehicles from **9:00 to 9:20 a.m. and 3:40 to 4:00 p.m. daily.**



Students may continue to walk onto school property using the sidewalks and cross walk.

The two accessibility parking spots will remain open for the public.

Absences Due To Illness

If your child is away due to prolonged illness, please send a doctor's note to the office so that we can update your child's file accordingly.



Gifted Screening:

Students who display an advanced degree of general intellectual ability may require additional program support in order to reach their educational potential. This support may be through enhancing the curriculum, differentiated instruction and through providing program modifications. This type of programming is important to engage, motivate and challenge students who are identified as gifted in either the regular classroom or in gifted classroom placements. In consultation with parents/guardians, school staff determines who these students are through the gifted screening process.

Students may be nominated by either a teacher or parent/guardian.

Although our goal is to do the gifted screening process in Grade 3, if you have child (ren)/students who are in grades 4-8 who were not tested in Grade 3 and they are displaying the [characteristics of a gifted student](#), can participate in the gifted screening process.

Parents/Guardians of a student currently in Grade 3-8, who wish the school to consider their child for screening, are asked to contact Mrs. McKeon before November 19, 2020

If your child is nominated, a teacher from the school will contact you regarding the screening process. You will be asked to sign a consent form as your child will be taking a standardized test (the Otis Lennon School Achievement Test [OLSAT]). Your child will be given some instruction regarding the test and will have the opportunity to take a practice test prior to the actual test. Once the school receives the results, you will be contacted, and these results will be shared with you. The school staff will also explain what any next steps may be.

This opportunity is available to all student in-school and Learn@Home students.

If you require additional information regarding the gifted screening process, please contact Mrs. McKeon.

SIMCOE COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

Days of awareness and recognition taking place in November

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. Following are the days of awareness and recognition that the SCDSB will recognize during the month of November:

November	Financial Literacy Month
November	Movember
Nov. 1-7	Canadian Down Syndrome Week
Nov. 2-6	Treaties Recognition Week
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day
Nov. 13	World Kindness Day
Nov. 15-21	Bullying Awareness Week
Nov. 20	Trans Day of Remembrance

Treaties Recognition Week takes place Nov. 2 to 6

Did you know we are ALL treaty people? Treaties Recognition Week is the first week of November every year - this year it is Nov. 2 to 6. Treaties Recognition Week was introduced in 2016 to honour the importance of treaties and to help Ontarians learn more about treaty rights and treaty relationships. Take some time this week to learn about the treaty in your area. To learn more about the treaties and how we can honour them, visit www.ontario.ca/page/treaties.

Royal Canadian Legion poppy campaign

The SCDSB has a time-honoured relationship with our local Royal Canadian Legions through the annual poetry and poster competitions and the annual poppy campaign. For the 2020-2021 year, it is our intention to once again support the poppy campaign. Due to the health and safety protocols in place, we will not be collecting donations from students. Instead, schools are asked to work with their school councils to make a suitable donation through school generated funds. Families interested in making their own donations can do so by visiting the Royal Canadian Legion's poppy campaign at www.legion.ca/remembrance/the-poppy.

November PA Day

Please note that Friday, Nov. 20 is a PA day for all secondary and elementary SCDSB students, both Learn@Home and in school. Please refer to the 2020-2021 School Year Calendar on the SCDSB website for more information: www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/school_year_calendar

Character Attribute for the month of November

Courage - we do the right thing even when it's difficult.

More information about character education can be found here: www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education

COVID-19 self-assessment

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 the [SMDHU website](#).

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 CENTRAL WEATHER 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.

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/Login.aspx>

mPower: supporting your child's math learning

Are you looking for a way to provide extra math practice for your child at home, in a fun and engaging format? [TVO mPower](#) is a free digital tool that includes 65+ online games to support the mastery of tough-to-learn math concepts.

TVO mPower's goals are:

1. To provide Ontario students with opportunities to practice important math skills and to foster positive attitudes towards math by making learning fun and engaging
2. To show students that math is everywhere by connecting math games to the big ideas in science and social studies

To support students to develop 21st century global competencies by integrating skills such as metacognition, problem solving, creativity and citizenship

TVO mPower is:

1. Ontario curriculum-based: Aligns with the Ontario mathematics, science and technology and social studies curricula while also supporting the development of global competencies
2. Learner-centred: Tracks student progress and responds to learners' needs
3. Assessment-driven: Includes teacher dashboard and educator resources
4. Tested and trusted: Developed in partnership with Ontario educators and students
5. Free: Always free for Ontario students and educators - and now for Ontario families
6. Safe and advertising-free

Available for desktop and laptop computers and iPad tablets

Visit tvompower.com for more information.

Grade 1 French Immersion information

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.

Historically, in-person Grade 1 FI Family Information Nights are held annually in advance of the application process for the following school year. This year, due to restrictions to large-group public gatherings, in-person Family Information Nights will not be held. In lieu of this, an [information page on the board's public website](#) has been created to allow families the ability to access and learn about the program and the application process.

The online Grade 1 FI application form will be available from 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020 until 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 18, 2020. In Grade 1, enrollment in the FI Program is limited to a maximum of two classes of 20 students per class at each host site for the FI program. The electronic applications will be processed in the order determined by a digitally randomized lottery system.

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

Keeping kids healthy and active

[National health guidelines](#) recommend that children and youth (aged 5-17) have high levels of physical activity, low levels of sedentary behavior and sufficient sleep each day for a balanced lifestyle. Here are three easy tips to help your kids stay healthy and active:

Get more sleep – Getting the [recommended hours of sleep](#) each night can go a long way in ensuring everyone in your family has the proper energy to take on the next day. More sleep means better ability to get moving and think more clearly!

Practice relaxation – Mental health is just as important as physical health. Now more than ever, we are realizing the important connection between the mind and body in our overall wellbeing. Providing yourself and your kids with a small amount of relaxation or ‘time out’ every day – even just 15 minutes – can improve your health dramatically. Try doing a [virtual family yoga class](#) to reduce stress and clear the mind!

Get active together – When you’re active with your kids, it sends them an important message about healthy living. Get out for a walk, play outside or do a [family workout](#) from the comfort of your home. It’s always more fun to exercise with a buddy!

Looking for ways to keep your children active and healthy while in a remote learning environment? YGym offers free virtual physical activities from YMCA certified fitness instructors for children of varying ages and abilities. Visit YMCAHome.ca/YGym for free virtual physical activities for children and youth, anywhere, anytime!

Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) Clinical Services changes due to the COVID-19 Pandemic (Elementary)



Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) Clinical Services changes due to the COVID-19 Pandemic (Elementary)

Vision screening

The SMDHU will not be offering the Vision Screening Program for JK/SK for the 2020-2021 school year. Eye exams are free, with an OHIP card, for children 19 years old and under.

Visit the

[College of Optometrists of Ontario](#) to find an optometrist near you.

Oral health

Oral health screening at school will be delayed this year. The SMDHU will be looking for an opportunity to offer this screening later in the year if possible.

Screening and fluoride varnish application continues to be available in our offices by appointment for children 17 years and under.

Immunization

The SMDHU will not be holding immunization clinics at your child's school during the 2020-2021 school year. We are planning to have school-based immunizations offered in the 2021-2022 school year for Grade 7 and 8 students.

For families of current Grade 8 students who have not completed their immunization series of Hepatitis B (HB), Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and Menactra due to COVID-19, we are offering immunization clinics at our health unit offices throughout Simcoe County and the District of Muskoka. Immunization clinics start Nov. 2, 2020 and are by appointment only. No walk-ins will be immunized. Please call us at 1-877-721-7520 x8827 to book your child's appointment.

For more information on SMDHU clinical services for children, please contact Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520, or visit

www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

