



**Goodfellow
Public School**

GATOR NEWS

October 2020

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Sean Cappodocia
Principal

Heather Owen
Vice-Principal

CENTRAL Weather Zone



A Message from the Vice Principal

Hello Goodfellow parents and guardians. I hope you and your families are finally settling into a new school routine. September was full of changes and surprises. We are hoping for a more mellow end to the Fall season. As I write this Thanksgiving is fast approaching and I could not be more thankful for this wonderful staff who stepped up in every situation to ensure that students were safe and as happy and secure as we could make them. The excellent and engaging teaching continues through masks and shields and is a mighty testament to the commitment to education and student learning of this staff. I am also very proud of our students who have found new ways to stay friends with those outside their class cohorts and who have found creative ways to replace hugs and smiles and closeness.

As the weather changes please remember to send your children in clothes appropriate for the cooler temperatures. We continue to encourage as much outside learning as possible.

If you have not already done so, please ensure that we have an alternate contact in case we can't reach you when your child needs to be picked up or in case you are far away. We so appreciate your understanding when we do call.

Our school events, at the current time, are fewer in number but we do have a slow, partial reopening of our school economy. We are discussing moving our very popular walk for mental health into the end of this month and potentially tying it to Halloween celebrations.

Character Attribute for the month of October

Cooperation - we work together towards shared goals and purposes. More information about Character Education can be found here:

www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education

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

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

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.



Days of Awareness and Recognition taking place in October

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 October:

October	Canadian Autism Awareness Month
Oct. 1	International Coffee Day
Oct. 2	National Custodial Workers Recognition Day
Oct. 5	World Teachers' Day
Oct. 7	International Walk to School Day
Oct. 10	World Mental Health Day
Oct. 11	International Day of the Girl
Oct. 19-23	National School Bus Safety Week
Oct. 21	School Bus Driver Appreciation Day
Oct. 24	Child Care Worker and ECE Appreciation Day
Oct. 27	Ontario Dress Purple Day - Association of Children's Aid Societies

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.

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.



Communication to Families Regarding Inclement Weather Days

Please note that APM A3020 – Inclement Weather, 3.1.2 states that “parents/guardians are to be reminded, in writing at appropriate times (October and January) each school year, that it is their responsibility to decide whether or not it is safe for their child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions.”

If you have not already shared this information with families at your school, please do so via your school newsletter, email or the communication method that you use to reach your families. Our communications department has provided the following message:

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 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](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>

School bus transportation information available from the SCSTC

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