MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL:

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Spring has Sprung! Let’s hope that we are all done with Spring snow storms! What a wonderful, busy time of year this is in our school. The students are well into the final term of the year, and the staff and students are busy planning and preparing for many upcoming events and activities. Please read the information in the newsletter for updates on many of the events that are occurring in May.

This week, we have been led through activities in support of Children’s Mental Health Week. We have heard announcements designed to build awareness and acceptance of children’s mental health issues, had a special presentation to our junior and intermediate students and on Thursday we will all wear green and walk in support of this cause. The stigma connected to this need (one in five youth struggle in Ontario with mental health issues) often prevents children and families from taking action and getting much needed support. We look forward to being part of this important county wide initiative. Thank you to our mental health team for putting together our program in recognition of this important message.

EQAO testing will begin for our grade 3 and 6 students on Tuesday May 27th and continue until Wednesday June 4th. Classes have been preparing in each grade and throughout the year for this provincial assessment. Therefore, parents/guardians are asked to avoid scheduling appointments or having their child arrive late for school during these dates. A good night’s sleep and a wholesome breakfast will also assist your child with the demands of the assessment. A specific schedule for each grade will be coming home shortly. Light breakfast snacks will be made available to students on their writing days. We look forward to our students demonstrating their skills and knowledge.

Welcome to Kindergarten—May 13th 9:15 to 10:40

We will be hosting our Welcome to Kindergarten program for next year’s Jk’s and their caregivers - our main floor will be a buzz with activities on this day. If you have not registered your child for JK or know of someone who may need to, please do so - we’d love to have you at this event!!

The FDK Team

This Month’s Character Trait is Respect

This month we will be recognizing the character trait RESPECT, which our board defines “We treat ourselves, others and the environment with consideration and dignity.” Demonstrating this one word can have a great impact in improving relationships within the confines of the school community. A quote by Laurence Sterne sums up respect for ourselves and others quite well “Respect for ourselves guides our morals, respect for others guides our manners.”
Pizza Hot Lunch

May Pizza Orders have started and will continue until May 31st. Please look for the June Pizza Order forms e-mail the week of May 26th. Thank you for supporting Fred C. Cook with these order.

Breakfast Program a Huge Success!

Our Breakfast Program, which started at the beginning of April, has been a huge success. The program runs on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8:35 – 9:00 a.m. We have an average of 25 – 30 students arrive on a typical day to enjoy a nutritious start to their day. All students are welcome to join us at this time! We also send a tray of nutritious snacks to each Kindergarten class to have at one of their morning centres.

A very sincere thank you to all those families who have donated items to help get us started. Items that we are still in need of include; another frying pan and skillet to make pancakes and eggs and some reusable plastic cups.

We are also in need of financial support. Why not sponsor for a day or a week! You or your business can sponsor our program and receive a tax receipt for your donation to the program.

- One day sponsorship for $50
- One week sponsorship (3 days) for $150
- One month sponsorship (12 days) for $600

Yearbook News

The yearbook is on sale beginning May 7th. All orders need to be in by Friday, May 16th. This year, the yearbook will include all the grades from Kindergarten to Grade 8. Our yearbook team has been working hard on some of their recesses to produce this special keepsake. The yearbook this year will be in full colour and will be about 50-56 pages. The cost of the yearbook will be $20.

Maybe your child can help to pay for this keepsake as it would be something that they would enjoy reading over and over again, reminiscing about all the wonderful memories of this 2013/2014 school year in our beautiful, new building, Fred C. Cook.

If your family would like to purchase more than one yearbook, the second book will be available at a reduced cost of $15.00.

Chocolate Sales

The Chocolate fundraiser has now finished. Thank you to staff, students and families for helping make this a successful fundraiser. We made almost $10,000 for technology in the classrooms. We had prizes for the early bird draw and drew three names for the main prizes. We would like to congratulate the following families:

- The Chabot Family for winning the Family Pass to Cineplex in the Early Bird Draw.
- The Magyar Family for winning the Family Night out, which included a Family Pass to Cineplex and a $50 gift card for dinner.
- The Dupee Family for winning two Season Passes to Canada’s Wonderland.
- The Reid Family for winning a Xbox 360.
Fred C. Cook’s Leadership Team

We have had a great turnout to our monthly Leadership Meetings. Please mark down the following dates for the monthly meetings:

- Fri. May 30th (3:20-4:30pm)
- Wed. June 25th (3:20-4:30pm)

Thank you to Ms. Rutledge and the teacher volunteers for organizing these meetings and working so hard with the team.

Junior Girls Basketball Team

Our basketball season here at FCC has come to a close. We are very pleased with how well the girls progressed over our time together and how they built on their skills. This was evident when we played our tournament and came in fourth place overall! Way to go girls! It has been a pleasure coaching our girls and we look forward to next year! Mrs. Patzer & Mrs. Hill

Grade Six to See Chris Hadfield

Twelve Grade 6 students will be going to Georgian College to listen to Astronaut Chris Hadfield speak about his space travels. Students needed to write a persuasive letter explaining why they should be chosen to go on the trip. The top ten persuasive writers were chosen to go on the trip that is coming up on May 23rd.

Library News

Mrs. Brethet would like to continue to thank all the families that have donated books to the library this year. Any book donations are always welcome! An area in the library that we would like to expand is our Young Adult Section. The YA section is mostly for students in Grades 7/8. Newer titles such as Divergent and No Fault in my Stars are two examples of YA titles. The content in this section relate to preteen-teenager topics such as mental health, relationships, emotions, life’s triumphs and life’s trials and more. If you have any YA books to donate, please drop them off to the library. We appreciate your continued support to help grow our library collection:) Happy Reading!

Overdue notices will be sent home shortly so we can get all of our books back on the shelves for June and ready for next year. Mrs. Brethet would like to do an inventory of the entire library. With the merger of the two schools, the library computer system needs to be updated. If you are interested in volunteering for this, please contact Mrs. Brethet at the school. We are thinking to begin inventory the 2nd week of June.

Track & Field

Track and Field will be held this year on June 10th (Rain Date June 11th) at Bradford High School. Areas will be held on June 12th at Bradford High. Permission forms will be sent out later this month. Classes will begin to practice for track and field during their gym classes with their teachers. We look forward to a successful track and field day.

Children’s Mental Health Week

Children’s Mental Health Week is May 4 to 10. One in five Ontario children and youth struggle with mental health concerns - that’s about 500,000 kids. Children’s mental health week is about promoting positive mental health, increasing the awareness of signs related to child and youth struggling with mental health problems, decreasing stigma and understanding how to access community supports that are available to improve well-being. For more information, visit http://www.kidsmentalhealth.ca/. Our school is recognizing this important cause through varied activities inside and outside the classroom. We will wear green on Thursday and will walk in support of mental health awareness on Thursday May 8th in the afternoon.

Jump Rope for Heart

Heart & Stroke Jump Rope for Heart benefits us all. Your child gets active and learns to be heart healthy, our school can earn valuable resources and sports equipment, and we all help to support vital heart disease and stroke research and health education. Our Jump Rope for Heart will be held on Wednesday, May 14th. We have sent home the pledge forms and they are due back on Monday, May 12th. The skipping club has been meeting regularly to prepare for this event. A big thank you to Ms. Sherri Jones for all her hard work organizing the Jump Rope Event and to Mrs. Andrea Wappel for volunteering with the skipping club.
National Access Awareness Week

"Growing up, my teachers and role models helped build my confidence, and encouraged me to make a difference. Today, I want to return that generosity; to teach youth to reach for their dreams and realize that they can make a positive change in the world." - Rick Hansen

National Access Awareness Week runs June 1 to 7, 2014. This week was established in 1988 to promote better access for people with disabilities in response to a request from Rick Hansen, following his 40,000 km Man in Motion World Tour. The SCDSB Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) provides advice to the SCDSB regarding the preparation, implementation and effectiveness of the annual accessibility plan, reviews and advises on accessibility issues relating to board schools, facilities and services, and advises on other accessibility-related issues. If you have an accessibility comment or concern, email accessibility@scdsb.on.ca or call 705-734-6363 ext. 11418.

Proposed 2014–2015 School Year Calendars

On the SCDSB website (http://www.scdsb.on.ca/Schools/Pages/School-Year-Calendars.aspx) under ‘Schools’ – ‘School Year Calendars’, you will find the proposed 2014–2015 School Year Calendars, pending Ministry approval. These calendars were approved by the Board on February 26 (Modified Calendar) and March 26 (Regular Calendar), for submission to the Ministry of Education. They are awaiting final approval by the Ministry of Education (usually around the beginning of May).

Information night for newcomers to Canada

Have you recently arrived to Canada? Do you have children attending elementary or high school? The Simcoe County District School Board’s Newcomer Welcome Centre is hosting an information night for parents who are new to Canada to assist them in navigating the Ontario education system and supporting their child in school. The information evening takes place on May 29 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Barrie Learning Centre (located in the Bayfield Mall, 320 Bayfield St. in Barrie). For more information about the Newcomer Welcome Centre, visit http://www.thelearningcentres.com/learning-centres-programs/newcomer-welcome-centre or call 705-725-8360 x45151.

Front Doors Will Be Locked During School Day Starting Monday, June 9th

Last summer, front door intercom and video technology was installed at our school. The same technology was installed at all elementary schools in our school board. The technology was funded by the Ontario Government as part of a program called Safe Welcome. The intention is for all elementary schools in Ontario to have front entrance doors locked during the school day.

We plan to start using the system June 9th. Our doors will be locked during class time only. To access the building during this time, you will need to ring the buzzer. Staff in the office will be responsible for checking the monitor and buzzing visitors in. It’s one more way we can monitor who is visiting our school. It will help us ensure all visitors sign in at the office.

Our primary teachers will be showing their classes the new technology—we are calling it a doorbell. We will also make an announcement for all students so they know they will need to use the doorbell if they arrive late for school, or return to school after an appointment. We wanted to make sure you were aware of this security enhancement at our school. As always, if you have any questions, please call or visit the office.

How to Become a School Board Trustee

A new Board of Trustees will be elected during the 2014 Municipal Elections on Oct. 27, 2014. Public school supporters who would like to become a Simcoe County District School Board Trustee can submit their nomination papers at the lead municipal office now. Information on running for Trustee, including a list of areas and lead offices, is available at www.scdsb.on.ca. Click on ‘Board’ and ‘2014 Election’.

Trustees are directly accountable to the community. They:

- maintain a focus on student achievement and well-being, and participate in making decisions that benefit the entire board
- establish policy direction
- annually approve the budget to ensure that financial resources are allocated to achieve the desired results
- prepare for and participate in all committee and board meetings
- respond to the concerns of parents and others

The Simcoe County District School Board has 11 elected trustees and one First Nation Trustee appointed by the Chippewas of Rama and Beausoleil First Nations. The First Nation Trustee alternates every four years. Chippewas of Rama First Nation will appoint the next First Nation Trustee.
Registration is open for SCDSB summer school courses. Students can register for credit courses, upgrades, and numeracy prep. Summer school programs are offered throughout July and August. All summer school program details, locations and registration information can be found at The Learning Centres website at: http://www.thelearningcentres.com.

Permissions and Informed Consent - Social workers in school

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is committed to supporting the mental health and well-being of all students. Consistent with that goal, the SCDSB provides consultation and counselling services on-site by both SCDSB employed registered social workers as well as approved community service agencies for students in both elementary and secondary schools.

These support services are governed under the guidelines of the Education Act, Child and Family Services Act (CFSA), Personal Health Information Act (PHIPA), SCDSB’s APM A8550, Protocol for Collaborative Agreements with External Agencies or Individual Practitioners in the Areas of Regulated Health Professionals and Paraprofessionals and Regulated Social Service Professional and Paraprofessionals, as well as the Ontario Ministry of Education’s PPM 149, Protocol for Partnerships and External Agencies for Provision of Services by Regulated Health Professionals.

Consistent with age-of-consent guidelines as laid out in the CFSA, a student 12 years-of-age and older can provide informed consent as to whether he/she wishes parent/guardian/caregiver be informed and involved in the process however, the student’s wishes will prevail. As a best-practice, SCDSB social workers and community partners are expected to encourage students to involve their parent/guardian/caregiver in the process. For students 11 years-of-age and under, parent/guardian/caregiver informed consent is required prior to any service being provided to a student, regardless of provider.

Personal health information (subject to limitations as set out on the consent form), may only be shared with SCDSB staff who are working directly with the student (i.e. classroom teacher, principal, guidance counsellor, etc.) on a limited ‘need to know’ basis. The SCDSB collects and uses personal health information only as is reasonably necessary for the purpose of planning and delivery of educational programs and services.

Please contact the school principal if you would like additional information about the services available to support your child. A copy of the SCDSB’s PHIPA Statement is available on request through the school as well as posted on the SCDSB’s website (www.scdsb.on.ca).

BRADFORD PROGRESS CHILD CARE CENTRE

The centre now has limited space here at Fred C. Cook P.S. This program is available for Kindergarten to Grade 6 children. We open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 6:00 p.m. A light snack is provided daily. For more information please contact Krystal Zions (site supervisor) at 905-715-3509.

Daily Fee Schedule:

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<td>Before Care</td>
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<td>P.A. Day</td>
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<td>Before and After</td>
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