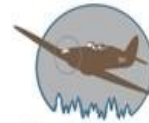




Hewitt's Creek Public School



**Nancy Jones,
Principal**

May 2018

**Fred Van Arragon,
Vice Principal**

Website: <http://hew.scdsb.on.ca/>



From the Principal's Pen

We're excited that spring has finally arrived. We recently had a successful track & field day and we're looking ahead to EQAO standardized testing coming up for our grade 3 & 6 students. There are many great educational experiences still planned for our students and there is no sign of things slowing down. With the nice weather, it becomes easier for everyone's thoughts to start to drift towards summer and summer vacation. We want to encourage all our students and their families that we will be continuing to work hard for the next month and a half and there is still much learning to be done. We encourage good attendance right through to the end of June and a hard working attitude of diligence and perseverance right to the "finish line" on June 29. We're also looking forward to our school fun fair being held on June 14 from 5:30-7:00 PM. Please mark your calendar to come out for this fun community building event.

Sometimes, at this time of year we will tend to notice an increase in poor decisions and conflict between students at school. Peer conflict is a normal part of growing up and is to be expected when 700 children spend their days together in one building. When conflicts occur we recognize that all children will make mistakes and we treat each incident as an opportunity for reflection and learning. We stress the character traits of honesty, integrity and taking responsibility as we follow the school's progressive discipline procedures. The support of families in promoting these values is critical for the overall character development of students. We appreciate the time you take to listen to your children's reports, to suggest the strategies they can be using to resolve conflict peacefully and to ask questions to better understand the situation from all perspectives. We are also happy to hear your concerns when difficult situations arise as they may with cases of bullying.

It is important for students to understand the difference between bullying and conflict. The following excerpt is from the SCDSB's Bully Prevention Resource. It explains that "Bullying is a pattern of repeated, intentionally cruel behaviour. It differs from normal peer conflict in a number of ways.

- ◆ **Power.** Bullies are almost always more powerful than their victims – bigger, stronger, older, or just tougher. Adam was small for his age, Kevin husky. Donald and Rudy were equally matched – similar in both age and size.
- ◆ **Support.** Bullies choose victims in part for their relative isolation. Alone and exposed, Adam was an easy target, whereas Donald and Rudy both had staunch support groups.
- ◆ **Vulnerability.** Bullies look for potential victims among the weak. A child who is sensitive and seemingly without defense is seen as easy prey.
- ◆ **Intensity and Duration.** Bullying is rarely a one-time occurrence. Adam was subject to Kevin's barrage of bullying every time he showed up for P.E.
- ◆ **Intent to harm.** Bullies are sadistic. They gain release and satisfaction from hurting their victims. They enjoy watching the pain they cause."

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NOW ACCEPTING KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATIONS

Do you or someone you know have a child who was born in 2014? If so, it's time to register them for Kindergarten! Elementary schools are now registering children for Kindergarten for the 2018-19 school year. Required registration documents include birthdate documentation, proof of address and immunization records. Visit www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten for more information.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- May 18—PA Day
- May 21—Victoria Day
- May 23—June 4—EQAO
- June 1—PA Day
- June 14—Hewitt's Creek Fun Fair 5:00-7:30pm
- June 15—Character Assembly 11:30 for May
- June 28—Character Assembly for June & End of the Year Assembly 9:15
- June 29—PA Day

From the Principal's Pen—Continued.....

School administration needs to be made aware of this type of behaviour and all children need to know that help will come when they inform you or us at school of the problem. Conflict, on the other hand, is unfortunately a daily occurrence in school. All children, like adults, may at times be impatient, insensitive, unkind, unwilling to share, lack empathy, or fail to be inclusive. Most often, when conflict occurs, it is because children have not taken the time to consider how their actions may be perceived by others or how others' feelings may be hurt. Most children generally behave well and are good to each other, but most children also get into conflict from time to time, some more than others. We work hard to promote all the SCDSB character traits here at school and value your partnership in this common goal. Learning is at the heart of conflict resolution. Please take a moment in May to discuss this topic with your children. Ask them to share their thoughts on some of the details above and have them make connections to the character traits we promote at school such as respect, responsibility, caring and empathy.

EQAO PROVINCIAL STANDARDIZED TESTING FOR GRADE 3 & 6

Students in elementary and secondary schools across Ontario write provincial assessments in reading, writing and mathematics each year. The assessments are developed and scored by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO). Each student that completes a provincial assessment receives an Individual Student Report (ISR) which describes the student's achievement. School and board achievement data is used to improve teaching practices and to support student learning.

This year's EQAO testing for Grade 3 and 6 students takes place from May 23 to June 1. Further information about the provincial assessments, including resources to help prepare your child for the test, can be found at www.eqao.com.

We are hoping to have all grade 3 & 6 students at school during this time so we would appreciate it if you try not to schedule any appointments for those days. Also, please ensure that your child has a good night's sleep and is well rested and fed so that they are able to do their best each day.

Kind Regards,
Fred Van Arragon
Vice Principal

RIGHT TO PLAY

RIGHT TO PLAY is a global organization founded in Canada that is committed to improving the lives of girls and boys affected by conflict, disease and poverty. **RIGHT TO PLAY** uses play to engage kids in their education, to teach them health lessons and to show them how to build peaceful communities.

Part of the Right to Play Challenge has a school fundraising aspect. Hewitt's Creek will be participating in a **Silver & Gold Coin Challenge**. We are asking students to bring in coins (5¢, 10¢, 25¢, 1\$, 2\$) coins. There will be larger water containers at the front foyer where students will place their coins in their grade team container. The grade team with the most amount of "silver" donations will be the winning grade.

All donations collected will allow The Right To Play Organization to continue to offer play-based programming that helps girls and boys in more than 20 countries around the world.

REGISTER NOW FOR BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS FOR SEPTEMBER 2018

Register now for child care at our school next school year. Your child's space in the program for September 2018 will be considered a priority if completed registration forms have been submitted to the child care operator by June 30, 2018. Please contact York Professional Care & Education 705-737-5430 to register your child(ren).

SUMMER CHILD CARE OPTIONS AVAILABLE

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) supports your child care needs by offering full-day child care programs in select schools across Simcoe County. Twenty schools offer child care programs for children from Junior Kindergarten age to 12 years old. Registration in advance is required. Please contact the child care operator directly to register. More information can be found on our website at www.scdsb.on.ca – click on 'Schools' then 'Before & After School Care.'

SCHOOL'S IN FOR SUMMER AT THE SCDSB

Are you and your child planning their courses for next school year? Looking for a way to create flexibility in their timetable and earn a credit? Consider summer school! Each year, the SCDSB offers a variety of summer programs to over 2,000 students. Summer school options include open, college and university level courses from Grades 9 to 12. Courses are offered in-person or online. Interested students can also travel and earn credits with the summer EduTravel program. Summer school program details can be found on the Learning Centres website at www.thelearningcentres.com. Current SCDSB students should speak to their guidance counsellor for information and to register. Register now so that your summer school choices align with course selection for next year!

SIMCOE MUSKOKA SKILLED TRADES EXPO TAKES PLACE MAY 17

The Simcoe County District School Board's Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) and partners are hosting the Simcoe Muskoka Skilled Trades Exposition on May 17. There are two parts to the event – a day session for Grade 8 students only and an evening portion open to the public. From 5 to 7 p.m., the public is welcome to attend to speak to employers and industry experts. The Expo takes place at the Elmvale Community Arena, located at 14 George St. in Elmvale. For more information, email edo@simcoe.ca.

