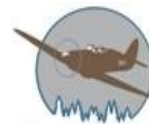




# Hewitt's Creek Public School



Nancy Jones,  
Principal

February 2018  
Website: <http://hew.scdsb.on.ca/>

Fred Van Arragon,  
Vice Principal



## *From the Principal's Pen*

February 7 was Operations Appreciation Day. We want to say a great big "Thank you" to our four custodians Mr. Sprunt, Ms. Cloutier, Ms. Weening and Mr. Michalizin for all the work they do each day to keep our school clean and fresh.

Teachers are now working on completing report cards that you will be receiving on February 16th. Please take the time to read through the report with your child and celebrate successes as well as discuss next steps for learning.

At our recent School Council meeting we began to discuss our school's annual fun fair. We will be having a planning meeting on Tuesday, February 13 at 5:30 PM. If you are interested in helping out with this year's fun fair, please join us at the school for this meeting. Thank you to our school council members for their commitment to regular meetings and their hard work with all our fundraisers, including our weekly fun lunches programs. If you are available and willing to help with any of these initiatives, please call the school office.

We hope you have a wonderful time on Monday, February 19 celebrating Family Day and taking time off from all your regular activities to enjoy some extra time with your family members.

Kind Regards,

Fred Van Arragon  
Vice Principal

## **No Idle Zone**

## **Young Lungs At Work**

## **IDLING CARS IN THE KISS 'N RIDE**



Did you know that an idling engine produces twice as much emissions as a moving vehicle? Ten seconds of idling uses more fuel than restarting your car. The city of Barrie is working towards an idle control policy for our city and asks that all citizens of our great city help reduce harmful emissions to the environment. At Hewitt's Creek we are particularly concerned about idling cars because our kindergarten students play area is right next to the parking lot and kiss 'n ride. We prefer as many students as possible to walk to school, but if you are giving your child(ren) a ride, please turn off your engine while you are stopped in the kiss 'n ride loop. This will help reduce the amount of toxic fumes our students will have to inhale every morning and afternoon. Each one of us can make a small difference by turning off the engine and keeping the air cleaner for our children to breathe. Thank you.

## **WALKING TO SCHOOL IS GREAT FOR STUDENTS**

Walking to school is a great way for your child to get the 60 minutes of daily physical activity that's needed for good mental and physical health. It also builds responsibility and independence, and helps them feel more connected to the community. More walkers means less traffic around our school, which helps keep students safe and improve outdoor air quality. Even one day a week of walking to school can make a big difference! To find out more about how to support active and safe routes to school through School Travel Planning, visit [www.saferoutestoschool.ca/school-travel-planning](http://www.saferoutestoschool.ca/school-travel-planning).

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

**HEWITT'S CREEK BLOOD DRIVE**

This past fall the staff of Hewitt's Creek was challenged to participate in a blood donation drive by Canadian Blood Services. We were thrilled to have so many teachers participate and contribute to our community in this way. Recently, it came to our attention that one of our students had received 6 units of blood when she had surgery as a young child. She really appreciates the fact that blood was available for her when she needed it. It saved her life. When she heard that the staff of our school had donated blood she was very excited that they were giving back to the community in this way. She wrote a short note of thanks which is included below:



*My name is Ashley. Thank-you to all of the staff at Hewitt's Creek who generously gave blood at the Barrie Blood Donor Clinic. When I was 2 years old I needed 6 units of blood for my liver transplant surgery. Without this gift of blood, the surgery wouldn't be possible. I am very thankful to all the people that donated blood and saved my life. By donating blood, you too can save someone's life.*

Our staff have been challenged to donate blood again, and we have booked an appointment on March 29 at 4 PM to donate again. Except this time, we want to challenge the parents of Hewitt's Creek to join us! If you are interested and willing to join us on March 29, please contact the school office and we'll add your name to the list to come out and give the gift of life!

**PARENTS INVITED TO INFORMATION SESSIONS ABOUT SPECIAL EDUCATION**

The SCDSB is hosting a series of information sessions for parents/guardians to learn about special education in the SCDSB, and how to support students with special education needs.

**Feb. 26**—Transition Planning Grade 8 to 9

**March 19**—Accessing Supports in the Community

**April 16**—Understanding Alternative/Non-Academic IEP Goals

All sessions take place from 6 to 7 p.m. at the SCDSB Education Centre, located at 1170 Highway 26 in Midhurst. No registration required.

**NATIONAL ENGINEERING MONTH COMPETITION TAKES PLACE MARCH 3**

Students in Grades 5 to 8 are invited to submit a model bridge, catapult or grabber for the National Engineering Month (NEM) event. Models will be tested for design, strength, quality of construction and functionality. Students of any age are invited to attend to check out 3D printers and robots, Raspberry Pi computer coding demos, crystal radio construction and CNC machine coding. The event takes place on March 3 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Eastview Secondary School (421 Grove St. E. in Barrie). Lunch will be provided. This event is jointly organized by the Georgian Bay Chapter of OACETT and Simcoe-Muskoka Chapter of PEO, under the banner of NEM Ontario. For more information and to register for this free event, visit <https://nemsimcoe.wixsite.com/nemsimcoe>.

**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.learningcentres.com](http://www.learningcentres.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!

**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](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten) for more information.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

February 16—Report cards sent home  
 February 19—Family Day  
 February 23—Olympics Day (Wear Red/White)  
 February 28—Character Assembly 11:30  
 February 28—Pink Shirt Day  
 March 12-16—March Break

**PLEASE HELP US WITH OUR CONGESTED PARKING LOT**

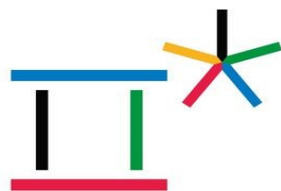
During the winter months, our parking lot has been very congested with cars, particularly at drop-off and pick-up times. Please help us by having your child walk to school as much as possible to help reduce the amount of vehicles trying to make their way through our kiss 'n ride area of the parking lot. Recently, we've have reports of damaged cars in the parking lot. This makes us even more concerned about the potential for student injuries in the parking lot. It is important that everyone is very careful and patient when they drive through the parking lot. We prefer to keep this area open for everyone's use, but would close the parking lot for the safety of our students if necessary.

Please be mindful of the following basic courtesies to allow our parking lot to remain safe:

- Watch for pedestrians; always give them the right of way
- Watch for other cars. Please report to the office if you have collided with a parked vehicle
- Ensure you are not distracted by your cell phone or anything else
- Be patient and considerate to other drivers
- Please be quick dropping off and picking up your children. Have them dressed and ready to go
- Don't leave your vehicle unattended. Students are aware of where they need to go and school staff are there waiting to greet them in the morning.



The Rainbows Program is being offered at Hewitt's Creek this year. The Rainbows Program is committed to helping children grieve and grow after loss. It is a grief support group and works to help vulnerable children who may be working through loss due to death of a family member, divorce or children in foster care. Rainbows builds the confidence and self-esteem of hurting children. If you are interested in this program for your child, it is recommended that you first talk to your child's teacher and then contact the school Co-ordinator, Tanya Trembath to place your child's name on the list for Rainbows groupings. [ttrembath@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:ttrembath@scdsb.on.ca)



**PyeongChang 2018**



**GO**   
**CANADA**  
**GO!**