



Marshview Public School Newsletter

The Mallard Mailer – December 2023

Principal: Robin Dashnay
Vice-Principal: Eunice Martinez

Marshview Public School
742 Simcoe Road
Bradford Ontario
L3Z 4B2
(289) 831-9654

SAFE ARRIVAL: 1-888-885-8065
mrvattendance@scdsb.on.ca

 marshview@scdsb.on.ca

 www.scdsb.on.ca/marshview_ps

 @marshview_ps

Important Dates:

Dec.1, 8, 15, 22	Kernels Popcorn Days
Dec.5, 12, 19	Sub Days
Dec. 7, 14, 21	Pizza Days
Dec.13,14,15	Food Drive!
Dec.21	Character Assemblies
Dec. 22	Final Day of School for 2023
Jan. 8	First Day of School for 2024

Principal's Message

As 2023 comes to an end, we are so grateful to be a part of the Marshview Public School community! It has been a busy Fall, with the highlight being our official grand opening this past October!

As we look ahead to the Winter Break, we will be holding a non-perishable food drive for our local Helping Hand Food Bank. From December 13th – 15th, our school will be collecting non-perishable food items (i.e. canned goods, pasta, rice, cereal, etc.) that students can bring to their classrooms for collection. There is a great need in our local community, and our staff and students are looking for a way to give back. We are also accepting financial donations to the Helping Hand Food Bank on School Cash Online, up until December 15th! If you are able to, please help out with this great, local cause!

We want to thank our School Council for their continued support and you can look forward to some events and fundraisers that they will be organizing in the New Year! School Council meetings are welcome to everyone and we hope you consider attending a meeting in 2024!

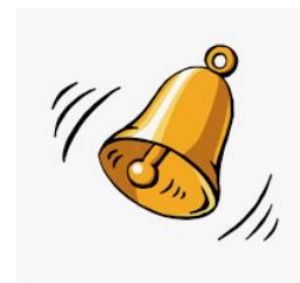
2024 will surely bring new opportunities and exciting days ahead! We will continue to work together as a community to accomplish many great things.

Please take time to rest and relax over the winter break and we wish everyone peace and health to everyone in 2024.

Helping Hand
FOODBANK
Bradford West Gwillimbury

Bell Times and Daily Schedule:

9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Student Arrival
9:30 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.	Period 1
10:20 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.	Period 2
11:10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Nutrition Break 1 (K-3)
11:30 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.	Nutrition Break 1 (4-8)
11:50 a.m. – 12:40 p.m.	Period 3
12:40 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Period 4
1:30 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.	Nutrition Break 2 (K-3)
1:50 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.	Nutrition Break 2 (4-8)
2:10 p.m. – 3 p.m.	Period 5
3:00 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.	Period 6 *Kindergarten students begin dismissal as early as 3:35 p.m.
3:50 p.m.	Dismissal*



Attendance: Safe Arrival (report and absence)

Safe Arrival Phone: 1-888-885-8065

Email: mrvattendance@scdsb.on.ca



The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) has a new Safe Arrival system at elementary schools. This system will support us in continuing to improve our home-to-school communication process and streamline absence reporting. Callers will be prompted to identify the school before leaving a message. Parents should include the student's name, teachers' name, dates and reason for the absence.

When schools do not hear from a parent/guardian, and a student is absent, the school will call home to find out the reason for the absence.

School Cash Online:

The School Cash Online program is used by the SCDSB for online forms and to collect school funds. Parents/guardians can select to receive email notification when a new item becomes available. Items are personalized to each student. Payment can be made by credit card, electronic cheque or using a visa/debit style card. To create an online account, go to: <https://simcoecounty.schoolcashionline.com>



INCLEMENT WEATHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

In the event that buses are cancelled, hot lunches will also be cancelled. Families who choose to bring their children to school are responsible for transportation to and from school. Dismissal is at 3:50 p.m., please be prepared to pick up your children promptly.

INCLEMENT WEATHER ABSENCES/SAFE ARRIVAL:

If your child is absent on an inclement weather day and you receive a Safe Arrival call, please listen to the entire message. You are only required to call the school if you believe your child should be at school. The message on Inclement Weather Days is as follows :

*Please listen to the entire message, then press 1 to acknowledge or press * to repeat. If you do not press 1 to acknowledge, you may receive additional calls. Although the school remains open, school busses have been cancelled due to inclement weather. You are receiving this call because one or more students in this household is absent from Marshview Public School, on < absence date>.*

Do not call the school unless you believe your child should be at school. To access Safe Arrival at Marshview Public School, call 1-888-885-8065. Press 1 to acknowledge you have received this message. Press * to repeat this message.

Bus Delays And Cancellations:

For families who have students who ride the bus, please ensure that you monitor this link <https://simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/> it has live updates of bus delays and cancellations.



When busses are cancelled in the morning, they are also cancelled in the afternoon. Bus students who attend school on bus cancellations days need alternative arrangements to be made at the end of the school day for pick-up. Pizza and Sub orders will also be cancelled on these days and reimbursed. Students who have ordered these items and attends school will need to bring a lunch.



Student Accident Insurance 2023-2024:

Student injuries at school during school events, extracurricular activities (e.g., athletics, clubs, etc.) and out-of-province/out-of-country trips are not covered by the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) or its insurance company. While every precaution is taken to provide a safe learning environment, accidents can and do happen.

A variety of plans and benefits at reasonable annual prices can be found through either:

- StudyInsured at www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com or by calling 1-833-560-0527;

or,

- Insure my Kids at www.insuremykids.com or by calling 1-800-463-5437.

Participation in extracurricular activities (e.g., athletics, clubs, etc.) and/or out-of-province/ out-of-country trips require the purchase of this insurance, or other extended health and dental coverage.

SCHOOL ACCESS INFORMATION

Please send students to school with lunch and all items they need for the day. There are limited staff available to answer the door for forgotten items. School doors are locked as per the SCDSB Safe School Policy.

Please ensure that your students have plenty of lunch, snacks, water, extra clothing in their backpacks for washroom accidents and have appropriate clothing for the weather (ie: hats, mittens and snowpants).

If you know you will be signing your child out early, we ask that you email the office directly up to 24hours ahead of the dismissal time. Please send emails to marshview@scdsb.on.ca. Please do not email the teacher directly as the office will not receive these messages if the teacher is away. Once you arrive at the school, we will call your child(ren) down to the office.

HOW EMAILING AHEAD HELPS WITH EARLY DISMISSALS

- Students spend time in many different areas of our school such as the gym, library, visits to other classrooms and the music room. By notifying the office of an early pickup the teacher can ensure that your student will have all their belongings with them and the office can locate the student easily once you arrive.
- Teachers can make sure that the student has enough time to clean up any projects that they are working on before you arrive and where possible teachers can plan classroom activities with consideration to the student leaving early (ie; tests and presentations)
- The office can notify supply teachers in the event that the classroom teacher is absent.
- The office can notify you if your planned arrival time is during recess. Students are with duty teachers during the breaks, and it can be difficult to locate them.



https://mabelslabels.ca/en_CA/fundraising/support/

mabel's labels

<https://marshviewpublicschool.entripyshops.com/>



entripyshops



Marshview Spirit Wear!!

We are happy to announce that Marshview Mallards' Spirit Wear is available for purchase through Big League Gear at the following link –

<https://bigleaguegear.ca/collections/marshview-mallards>



MESSAGES FROM THE SCDSB

High school information events for Grade 8 students

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information events will take place in person this winter! Student leaders and staff at the school will give an overview of what's new and what to expect. Learn about courses offered, as well as information about teams and clubs. Please visit the SCDSB website at www.scdsb.on.ca/secondary/planning_for_high_school to find details on your high school's info night, and contact the school directly 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.

The SCDSB board-wide electronic applications for the Grade 1 FI program for all sites will open Friday, Dec. 1 at 9 a.m. and close at 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 15. Entry into the FI program is determined through a digitally randomized lottery system. To learn more, visit the SCDSB website: <https://www.scdsb.on.ca/cms/One.aspx?portalId=210982&pageId=12587752>.

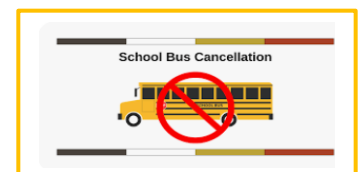
Parents' Guide to Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting

Learn to navigate the world of assessment, evaluation, and reporting with this new guide for parents/guardians. Created to support parents'/guardians' understanding of assessment, this guide was designed to effectively empower you to actively engage in your child's educational journey. The guide has been posted to the Simcoe County District School Board's website and can be accessed at <https://tinyurl.com/2urcm2tm>.

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 [SOUTH] zone. When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, unless otherwise noted. School staff are expected to plan for such emergencies in order to transition students who are unable to attend due to inclement weather, to their online platforms (Google Classroom and/or SCDSBhub [Brightspace by D2L]) and continue with academic programming. 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>.



Join us! A learning series for parents/guardians with Pine River Institute

Mental health and well-being continues to be a key strategic priority within the SCDSB. We are pleased to continue our partnership with the Centre for Family Initiatives at Pine River Institute (CFI@PRI) to provide several curated learning sessions focused on student mental health and well-being to SCDSB families.

These webinars are specifically planned for parents/guardians and other caregivers during this school year.

Jan. 11, 2024	Sleep hygiene
Feb. 8, 2024	Self regulation for kids
Feb. 22, 2024	Self regulation for teens
March 28, 2024	Building parents' resiliency
April 18, 2024	Vaping, weed, and alcohol

We hope you save these dates in your calendar and join us for these learning opportunities. For more information and to register, please visit the SCDSB website: <https://bit.ly/3jGaC74>.

Pine River Institute is a live-in treatment centre and outdoor leadership experience for youth aged 13 to 19 struggling with addictive behaviours and often other mental health issues. Combining therapy with a fully-accredited education program, PRI reinforces the healthy life skills required for a successful future. CFI@PRI extends PRI's knowledge, experience and evidence-informed treatment approach to families and care providers in the community to support youth mental wellness and prevent the need for more intensive interventions. Learn more about PRI by visiting their website at www.pineriverinstitute.com.

Subscribe to Community Connects!

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is excited to launch Community Connects, a new bimonthly newsletter for the SCDSB community. Our shared goal with this new tool is to keep our community partners and stakeholders informed while nurturing relationships that are built on accountability, trust, and transparency.

To learn more and subscribe, visit the Community Connects page on the SCDSB website: https://www.scdsb.on.ca/community/community_connects.

Subscribe to Kindergarten Connections!

Will your child be turning four in 2024? If so, the SCDSB invites you to Kindergarten Connections! This is a monthly newsletter informing families of everything they need to know about preparing their child for school, as well as registering them for Kindergarten in the SCDSB. To learn more and subscribe, visit the Kindergarten page on the SCDSB website: www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/kindergarten.

EarlyON Child and Family Centres

The foundation for lifelong learning and health is built in the early years. EarlyON Child and Family Centres across Simcoe County offer programs for children prenatal to six years of age and their parents/guardians and caregivers. They offer access to play- and inquiry-based learning supported by *How Does Learning Happen?* Ontario's pedagogy for the early years, information on child development and developmental screening including Early Referral Identification Kits (ERIKs), parent/guardian education, referrals to community resources, nutrition information, and post-natal resources. Check with your local EarlyON provider: <https://linktr.ee/earlyonsimcoe>.

How is your infant, toddler, or preschool child developing?

Is your child meeting their milestones? Age-appropriate speech and language skills are critical to your child's ability to read, write, and be successful in school as well as to their ability to engage with their peers. Free services are available to support you with your child's development. Preschool speech and language programs are located across the County of Simcoe. Call 705-739-5696 or 1-800-675-1979 to complete a developmental screen. The earlier we work together the better!

Licensed Winter Break school-age child care programs

Child care programs for children in Kindergarten to Grade 6 are provided by independent, third-party child care operators in some SCDSB schools. To support your child care needs, some operators offer child care on PA days and holidays including over the Winter Break. Registration in advance is required.

Please contact the child care operator directly to discuss fees and to register. More information and contact numbers can be found by visiting: www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/childcare_before_after.

Programs available through the SCDSB's Adult and Continuing Education Learning Centres

The Simcoe County District School Board's Adult and Continuing Education department offers a variety of programming including day school, night school, summer school, correspondence, and co-op. Courses may be online, hybrid, or in-person and are based on sufficient enrollment. For current high school students, we offer travel for credit, summer school, and night school programs. For adults, we offer credit courses towards completion of an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) including credits granted for prior learning and experiences (PLAR). In support of many of the adult learners in our communities, we also offer non-credit classes in English as a second language (ESL) and literacy and essential skills (LES) both of which can support learners towards paths of employment, continued education, and citizenship. Please visit us at www.thelearningcentres.com to learn more.

Keep connected with our school and with the SCDSB

It's important to get accurate information about what's going on at your school and at the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB). Here are some ways to do that:

- Subscribe to our school's website by visiting the 'What's New' section at <http://mrv.scdsb.on.ca>. You can sign up to receive emails about school news updates and information during emergency situations. It's easy to subscribe – visit our website and click the 'Subscribe' link at the very top of the page. Provide your email and click 'Subscribe'; a message will be sent to your inbox with a link to click to confirm that you want to subscribe. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link at the bottom of each email.
- Sign up to receive SCDSB media releases by clicking the 'Subscribe' button at www.scdsb.on.ca.

Follow the SCDSB on X (@SCDSB_Schools), Facebook (facebook.com/SCDSB) and Instagram (instagram.com/scdsb).
[@marshview_ps](https://www.instagram.com/marshview_ps)

School playground structures are closed for the winter

Every winter, school playground structures are closed. Students are made aware of this during school hours through announcements and staff reminders during breaks. This may not be well known throughout the community, despite signs indicating that playground structures are a winter hazard and are closed. The Canadian Standards Association regulations make recommendations for the depth of ground cover required to minimize injuries (e.g., sand, pea gravel or wood chips). These surfaces cannot be maintained when the ground freezes. Injuries from falling would be more significant on frozen ground. We strongly recommend that you do not allow your children to play on any structures while the ground is frozen.

Mental health strategy of the month - Emotion Charades

Well-being is a Strategic Priority in the Simcoe County District School Board, and our mental health and well-being department provides monthly strategies to support student and family well-being.

This month's strategy is *Emotion Charades*. This practice helps students practice expressing emotions with their whole body and recognize body language and facial expressions in others. To practice *Emotion Charades* at home, on slips of paper, write or draw different feelings depending on the age of your child. For instance, happy, sad, angry, scared, worried, sleepy, frustrated, etc. Place the papers in a bowl/container.

Then:

- Decide who will go first. Have that person pick a piece of paper from the bowl.
- Have them read the feeling to themselves, or, if needed, help your child read the feeling.
- Now they will act out the feeling without words while the other players try to guess what it is.
- Once someone gets the right answer, it's the next person's turn to pick a piece of paper and act out the feeling.

This is a fun activity that everyone in the family can play!

Emotion Charades link to School Mental Health Ontario parent sheet: <https://smho-smso.ca/online-resources/easy-and-fun-mental-health-activities-for-home/>

Find more information to support your child's mental health here: <https://smho-smso.ca/parents-and-caregivers/>

Emotion Charades:

Elementary - <https://smho-smso.ca/emhc/identification-and-management-of-emotions/recognizing/emotion-charades/>
Secondary - <https://smho-smso.ca/emhcsecondary/identification-and-management-of-emotions/recognizing/emotional-awareness/>

Follow the Mental Health and Well-being social media accounts (@SCDSB_MHWB) to see how well-being is being supported in our schools.

Math @Home parent and caregiver series

It's back! The SCDSB math team is pleased to offer three virtual sessions for parents and caregivers of SCDSB students. These sessions will focus on practical and fun ways to support children with their mathematics learning and engagement at home. The first 200 registrants will receive a Math @Home kit of resources to use at home. Participants must pre-register for each of the sessions.

Exploring the new SCDSB family math resources

Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2024, 7 to 8 p.m.

This session is for parents and caregivers. Join members of the SCDSB math team for a guided exploration of the new SCDSB family math resources. Participants will have the opportunity to explore the resources that are available to support their child's math learning at home. The guided portion of the session will be 45 minutes in length. During the final 15 minutes, the math team will be available to answer questions about the resources available.

Tips for engaging in math conversations with your child @Home

Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2024, 7 to 8 p.m.

This session is for parents and caregivers and will explore opportunities to discuss math with their child(ren) at home. Participants will learn about how events such as shopping, preparing food, engaging in a building project, or going for a walk can be used as a starting point for math conversations, and will receive prompts to get the discussion rolling. The guided portion of the session will be 45 minutes in length. During the final 15 minutes, the math team will be available to answer questions about the session.

Games to support your child's math learning @Home

Thursday, April 4, 2024, 7 to 8 p.m.

This session is for parents, caregivers, and their children. Playing games at home is a great way to support child(ren)'s math development. In this session, several games will be explored, and participants will have the opportunity to try the games with their children during the session. The guided portion of the session will be 45 minutes in length followed by 15 additional minutes for further game play or to ask questions of our math facilitators. Bring your child(ren) and your math kit to this session!

Participants must pre-register for the sessions they wish to attend. Registered participants will receive a kit of hands-on resources that will be sent to the school indicated on the registration form. Use this link to register:

<https://bit.ly/24MathAtHome>.

Head lice treatment and prevention

Anyone can get head lice. Having head lice does not mean a person is unclean or lives in a dirty home. While they are a nuisance, head lice do not spread disease or cause illness. Head lice spreads easily, especially where people are in close contact and are very common among school-aged children or children in childcare.

Head lice spreads through direct hair-to-hair contact or indirectly by sharing hats, combs, hairbrushes, and headphones. To help prevent the spread of head lice, it's important to educate students about avoiding head-to-head contact and discourage sharing combs, hairbrushes, tuques, hats, or hair accessories.

Parents/guardians, caregivers, and families can visit

<https://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Topics/PP2B/RaisingChildren/YourGrowingChild/HeadLice> for more information about head lice treatment and prevention. Or call Health Connection at 1-877-721-7520 to speak to a public health nurse.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Is bedtime stressing you out?

Kids need 10-12 hours of sleep every night but sometimes getting them to bed can be challenging. You can help create a regular sleep schedule for your child by setting a clear bedtime and sticking to the same time every night. Start getting ready an hour before bed; turn off the TV, computers, and phones. Spend quality time talking or reading stories to help them unwind. Agree on how many you'll read before you start! Keep their room dark, cool, and quiet - a nightlight is fine. Remember, making sure your child gets enough rest will help improve their mood, behaviour, and ability to learn.

For more bedtime tips, contact Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 to speak with a public health nurse. Visit www.simcoemuskokahealth.org for more information.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Did you know it's illegal to vape or smoke anywhere on school property, inside the school or outside within 20m of school property, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year?

The law applies to everyone on school property, students, staff, and visitors. It also means it is illegal to vape or smoke on school athletic fields during afterhours activities or vape or smoke in school washrooms. There is a fine of \$305 for vaping or smoking on school property.

But why do youth vape at school? Vapes contain nicotine, which is a highly addictive drug. Nicotine addiction is extremely powerful, develops quickly, and youth may not realize they are addicted. Once addicted, they need nicotine regularly or they will experience withdrawal, making it hard to get through the school day. Help them take back control – there are supports to help youth quit! Talk to your child about vaping, they listen more than you think. Learn more at NotAnExperiment.ca/parents.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions is seeking compassionate and skilled professionals with specialized experience to apply to become foster care providers

The goal of this program is to meet the needs of youth through a therapeutically supported parenting approach within a structured environment, where they are supported and guided by a multi-disciplinary treatment team. The youth will remain, or become connected to, their family/kin/community whenever possible. Treatment services will be individualized based on the needs of the youth, and the knowledge of those who know the youth best in collaboration with community partners. This will allow youth to reside in a family-based setting and remain in their home community of Simcoe Muskoka, staying connected to important relationships and supports that may already be in place.

The homes approved under this strategy are designed to create clinically informed care plans that will support the youth directly, in addition to the continued support of their care providers. Youth will be supported by a multi-disciplinary team and will be available to implement and design parenting and support to address the needs of the youth.

Compensation packages will be offered to experienced foster care providers, as well as clinical support to both care providers and youth.

If you or someone you know is looking for more information or would like to apply, contact Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions by email at bruna.figliuzzi@familyconnexions.ca or call [705-716.4664](tel:705-716-4664).

Information provided by Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions

Significant days, holy days, holidays and heritage recognition occurring in December



Date(s)	Observance
Dec. 1	World AIDS Day
Dec. 2	International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
Dec. 3	First Day of Advent (Christianity) International Day of Persons with Disabilities
Dec. 6	National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women Saint Nicholas Day (Christianity)
Dec. 7-15	Chanukah/Hanukkah (Judaism)
Dec. 8	Awakening Day (Buddhism)
Dec. 9	International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime
Dec. 10	Human Rights Day
Dec. 13	Birthday of Imam Aga Khan (Islam)
Dec. 21	Yule/Winter Solstice (Wicca)
Dec. 22	Maun Ekadashi (Jainism)
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve (Christianity)
Dec. 25	Christmas (Christianity)
Dec. 26	Boxing Day Sanghamitta Day/Unduvap Poya (Buddhism) Zarathosht-no-diso (Zoroastrianism - Fasil Calendar)
Dec. 26 – Jan. 1	Kwanzaa