

Safe Arrival
(705) 436-1100
Press "1" to leave a
message.



A Newsletter From Sunnybrae Public School
February 2012 Issue 6

Principal: Tom Dorsey
tdorsey@scdsb.on.ca

V.P.: Len Dunkley
ldunkley@scdsb.on.ca



Contents

Principal's News	1
Dance-a-Thon	1
Attendance Concerns	2
Speeches	2
Kindergarten Reg.	3
Sunnybrae Child Care	3
Circle of Learning Conference	4



Upcoming Events

- Feb. 6 School Council 6:30
- Feb. 14 Valentine's Day
Dance-A-Thon
- Feb. 16 Nantyr Shores Gr. 8
Information Night
- Feb. 17 Reports go home
- Feb. 20 Family Day
- Feb. 28 Monthly Assembly
9:20 a.m.
- Feb. 29 Family Fun Night
Gr. 5

Principal's News

Dear Parents/Guardians:
Welcome to February! It has been a strange winter so far. I can't remember a winter quite like this one. Our annual Dance-a-thon is on February 14th. Pledge forms went home on Wed., Feb. 1st. Please help us make the Dance-a-thon a success by encouraging your son/daughter to obtain some pledges. Every little bit helps. Please also join us on the day of the dance.

Please take time to read the comments regarding the Report Card. The most important indicator of a successful report is the effort that the student puts into his/her work and not necessarily the marks. No formal interviews are scheduled for this month but if you would like to have an interview please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

We have many volunteers in our school who do a number of activities. Thank you to the volunteers for all the work that they do for the students at our school. A special thank you to Mrs. Barbaro and Ms. Hart who are the volunteer coordinators. Your help makes a difference!

Thank you, Tom Dorsey

The Little Mermaid

Please mark May 2 or May 3rd on your calendar. Our school has just started practices for this musical. It is a great opportunity for those students who are in the musical. Thank you to Mrs. Lee and the other staff who are involved in putting on the musical.

Monthly Assembly

You are invited to attend our monthly assembly on Tuesday, February 28th @ 9:20 a.m. Two classes have signed up to put on a presentation during the assembly. Mr. Gillen's Grade 8 class and Mrs. McKay's Grade 1 class will be presenting at this assembly. Our Monthly Assembly is a time for all the students to get together and it allows some classes to perform in front of the entire school.

Family Holiday

In February, students will have a 3 day weekend, Monday, February 20th is a Family Day and the school will be closed.

Dance-A-Thon Coming Soon



Our sixth annual dance-a-thon is approaching soon. It is being held on February 14th. Funds raised from the dance-a-thon will support some of our ongoing programs in the school such as purchasing leveled reading material for students to take home. We are looking for volunteers to help on that day. If you can help with this, and have a criminal record check on file, please call the office. Please help your child collect pledges for the dance-a-thon. We are asking all students to contribute \$5.00 to offset our expenses including a D.J. and prizes. We are also looking for more small spot prizes. Thank you for helping us.

Reading Minute Raiser

Our Reading Minute Raiser will be starting on March 19th. Last year it was a great way to boost reading in our school and we are hoping for even greater success this year.

218 Sunnybrae Avenue, P.O. Box 7050
Innisfil, ON L9S 1A8

PHONE: (705) 436-1100

FAX: (705) 436-2950

WEBSITE: www.sunnybrae.edublogs.org

Attendance Concerns

Research has shown that students who do not miss a lot of school generally perform better in school. We want all of our students to be successful in school. Most absences are unavoidable and are a result of sickness but if a student is not sick they should be attending school. Thank you for any help that you can provide us with.

Parents Driving Students to School—Please Note....



The main entrance (drive way) to our school off Sunnybrae Ave. is closed to **ALL** cars between **8a.m. and 4p.m. Monday to Friday** as posted by our signs. To ensure the safety of our walking pedestrians and busses entering school property, all vehicles are not permitted to drive in or use the main entrance to make a three point-turn back onto Sunnybrae Ave. Please use designated parking locations off Sunnybrae and Glenn Ave. to transport and drop off your child(ren). Thank you for your ongoing support to ensure that our walking and bussing students are safe.

★★★Nut Allergy Alert★★★

We have students registered at Sunnybrae P.S. with a severe, life-threatening allergy to nuts and nut products. Exposure to even a minute amount of this could cause anaphylactic shock and without emergency medical assistance, loss of consciousness and death. There are many common areas within the school where all students attend and handle the same items, such as gym equipment, library books, computers, etc. An emergency plan has been established for these children. We have an obligation to establish a safe environment for all students and we are respectfully requesting your assistance. Please avoid including nuts and nut products in lunches or snacks. Thank you for your support.



Speeches

Lots of students from grades 4 to 8 will be presenting their speech during the next two weeks. Those who were fortunate enough to make it to the gym will be presenting their speeches on **Wednesday, February 15th**. **Junior speeches will be at 9:30a.m. and the Intermediate speeches will be at 11:30a.m.** You are welcomed to come and listen to the speeches. Thank you to all of the students who wrote and presented a speech.

Bridge Building is Back - This year's competition is approaching!!

This competition is being held in conjunction with the Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO), Simcoe-Muskoka Chapter and The Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists (OACETT), Georgian Bay Chapter, as part of Engineering Week (February 27 - March 4, 2012). The March, 2011 event was a great success with a record 22 bridge teams competing - 7 from Sunnybrae!!

Students in Grades 5 to 8 will build bridges from wooden Popsicle sticks and white glue according to guidelines provided by PEO and OACETT. These guidelines and rules can be downloaded from www.simcoe-muskoka.peo.on.ca - under "Downloads", click on 'Bridge Building Rules - 2012 to download the PDF document.

Students typically work in small teams of two to four, or they can work individually. On competition day, student teams will submit their bridges for assessments based on: 1) a short presentation of their design; 2) design creativity, technique and aesthetics; 3) quality of construction and 4) breaking strength. Each team will test their bridge strength 'to destruction' on the OACETT/PEO custom built 'bridge breaking machine'. Awards will be given to winning entries.

Event:	Bridge Building Competition
Competition:-	Saturday, March 3 (Registration: 11 a.m., Bridge strength tests: 1 p.m.)
Location:	Nantyr Shores Secondary School, 1146 Anna Maria Ave., Innisfil

Sunnybrae Wrestling The season has begun!

Thank you to all students who have decided to wrestle this year at Sunnybrae. We have a record **45** participants in grades 5 to 8 wrestling two mornings a week. Thank you to those intermediate and club wrestlers that are mentoring our junior athletes. Go Bulldogs!

Indoor Shoes

We are teaching students to respect our school by doing their part to maintain a clean and organized school. We are insisting that students pick up their shoes and other items at the end of the day to make it easier for our custodians to clean. Please help us by ensuring that your child has a pair of indoor shoes that can always be kept at school. During this time of year some students have outgrown their shoes that were purchased in September. Can you please check that your child(ren) have indoor shoes that continue to fit them? Thank you for supporting the school with this!

Kindergarten Registration: Feb. 7, 8, 9th
Please call the office to make an appointment



Registration for New Kindergarten Students!

We are planning to complete registration for kindergarten students that will begin school next September on February 7, 8, 9th. Please call the school if you are interested in making an appointment to register your child for kindergarten.

If you know of someone who has a child who will be going into Kindergarten, please have them call the school and we can put them on a list for interview times.

Thank you! Please share the information with neighbours!

Upper Canada Sunnybrae Child Care

Don't have enough time to pick your child/ren up after school? Bring your child/ren to The Upper Canada Sunnybrae Child Care before and after School Program.

We are open Monday - Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and again from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

We are open 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on all PA days and March Break.

For more information please call Krystle or Kortnie at (705) 241-0193 or visit in room 125A (Kindergarten Room).

Before and After School Care Program

The Simcoe County District School Board wants to ensure that all families have access to Before and After School childcare, as well as care when children are not in school. To help the board determine the needs of each school, a survey will be sent home to every family. Even though your school currently offers a Before and After School program the Board is interested in ensuring the program delivered at the school meets the needs of the entire school community. Please ensure you fill out the survey and return it to your school. All responses are to be completed and returned by **Friday March 2, 2012.**

Innisfil Public Library

Heart Mobile Craft

Fill your window with waxed paper hearts on a cold winter day. The mobile will catch the sunshine and spread some cheer! Ages 5+ - registration is required for this free event.

Lakeshore: Feb. 4, 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Stroud: Feb. 9, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.



Lost and Found

Clothing is expensive for parents to replace when it disappears. Already we have lots of assorted items that belong to students at the school. If your child has lost an article of clothing there is a good chance that the item can be found in our lost and found. Please either ask your child to check the bins in front of the gym or feel free to come to the school to hopefully find the item. We will only keep the items for a period of time and then they will be sent to a charitable organization.

NOTICE TO STUDENTS AND LEGAL CUSTODIANS OF STUDENTS REGARDING OUT OF AREA REQUESTS

Under the Simcoe County District School Board procedures (APM A7000), it is possible for students to apply for and receive permission to attend an out-of attendance- area school.

Students will be permitted to continue in attendance as long as space is available. They may be required to return to their home school or transfer to another school when the capacity of the school they are attending has been reached and space is required for students residing within the attendance areas.

Even with this permission, however, the responsibility for transportation to and from school is borne by the out-of-attendance-area student and/or parent/guardian.

EQAO Student Survey Results

Reading has always been the most important activity parents can encourage their child (ren) to do at home to help them be successful at school. Recent EQAO results show:

The percentage of Grade 3 students who report they "like to read" has declined from 76% in 1998/99, to 50% in 2010/11.

In Grade 6, the percentage of students who say they "like to read" has declined from 65% in 1998/99 to 50% in 2010/11.

Activities done every day or almost every day by students:

In Grade 3, among female students, the most frequently reported activity is reading by themselves, while among male students it is playing video games and participating in sports

In Grade 6, among female students, the most frequently reported activities are using the Internet and reading by themselves, while among male students it is using the Internet and participating in sports.

PLEASE MAKE THE LOVE OF READING A PRIORITY IN YOUR HOME! It will make a difference. Thank you!

Used Book Sale

The Global Action Committee will be hosting Sunnybrae's first ever **USED BOOK SALE** during the week of Feb. 21 - 24 to raise funds for "Free the Children". This is how you can help. We are asking for families to donate gently used children's picture and chapter books. Simply bring the books to school on Tuesday or Wednesday (21st - 22nd). These books will be sold for a quarter on Thursday and Friday. What a great way to recirculate the books your children are finished with, to get new reading materials and to support people in other parts of the world. Thanks for your help!



Family Fun Fitness and Nutrition Night Wednesday, February 29th Grade 5

Students in grade 5 and their families are asked to join our family night on Wednesday, February 29th. This is the last of three Family events put on this year. Students are able to make lunches for the next school day with the assistance of our Eat Well to Excel volunteers. Families (parents too) will be engaged in cooperative activities and a game of massive beach volleyball. Well done to all who were able to participate in our previous events (grade 3 & 4).

Report Cards



Kindergarten

Parents of Junior Kindergarten had the opportunity to discuss their child's progress at the November parent/teacher conference and will be receiving their child's first report card on February 17th. Parents of Senior Kindergarten students received a conference/report form on November 11th and will receive a report card February 17th.

Grades 1 - 8

Report cards are scheduled to go home on Friday, February 17th. The fall Progress Report, which you received on November 11th, was designed to facilitate better communication among parents, teachers and students by assessing students early in the school year. It reported how a student was progressing.

As per current Ministry of Education policy, the first provincial report card is scheduled to go home on February 17th.

As this format is still somewhat new to all teachers in the province, and there is latitude within each board and each school in the implementation, please understand that there will be broad variations in the implementation stage. Please also understand that there were different interpretations of what each of the 3 boxes meant in the progress report.

When looking at your child's report card, please do not focus on the marks. Although they are important, the comments attached to them and the Learning Skills are more important. If your child showed excellent effort then you should be proud of their achievements regardless of marks. One of the goals of the reporting process is to make the report card more "parent friendly" so that it is easier to understand. As a school we continue to move in that direction but it will take more practice before we get there. Thank you for your understanding.

If after receiving the report card you would like to meet with your child's teacher please contact them to set up a time.



Student Sports/ Clubs

Have you noticed all of the sports teams, intramurals, other clubs and a musical that Sunnybrae offers the students? Aside from the school sports teams of volleyball and basketball the school currently offers wrestling, intramural basketball, skipping, a musical, a keyboarding club and a speak up club. We also have a study hall during the morning recess for those students who either don't have their work completed or who want to stay in to complete some work. We have also started a Rainbows program on Tuesday evening. All of these activities are run by staff volunteering their time so that the students see school as more than a place for academics. Thank you to all of the staff who give up their free time to make Sunnybrae an enjoyable place to be.

FEBRUARY - BULLYING PREVENTION

Think and talk positively about yourself and others. Notice similarities and appreciate the differences in others. Treat each other with kindness and respect. Give each other support and encouragement. Resolve conflicts peacefully and effectively

Check it out: www.bullycourse.com Stand Up - Reach Out - Tell Someone

Inserts

February Calendar

Enjoying Winter at Sunnybrae PS!

Students are invited to bring their snowshoes and cross country skis to school on our "Enjoy the Snow" days during the month of February. These opportunities encouraged physical activity and fitness for all. Students are asked to play cooperatively and safely when using this equipment. Parents are asked to deliver this equipment, weather and conditions permitting, via car as the school bus can not accept these over-sized items. Please ensure names are on all equipment. Equipment can be stored at school for the designated week!

The dates are:

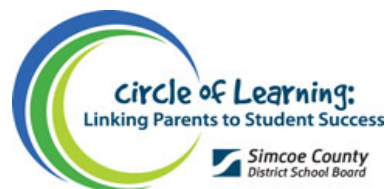
Cross country ski equipment - week of Feb. 13 to 17th
Snowshoes - week of 20 to 24th

Canadian Tire Money

We believe that if we provide students with equipment to play with during recesses they are more likely to have an enjoyable time. Mr. Dunkley has set up bins of assorted balls and other equipment for the different divisions of students. From time to time we have to replenish this equipment as the items get lost or damaged. To help us with the cost of this we are collecting any Canadian Tire money that you might be willing to give us. The money that we receive will be used to purchase new balls, skipping ropes and other assorted items. We have a box just inside the office where any donated Canadian Tire money can be placed. Thank you in advance for any of the Canadian Tire money that you might be able to spare.

Mark Your Calendars!

The 4th Annual Circle of Learning Conference for Parents



will be held on
Saturday, April 21, 2012
at the SCDSB Education Centre,

1170 Highway 26, Midhurst, ON.

The Simcoe County District School Board's fourth annual *Circle of Learning Conference: Linking Parents to Student Success* will be taking place on Saturday, April 21, 2012. This event is organized by the SCDSB's [Parent Involvement Committee](#) (PIC) to support parent involvement in education. It is funded through the Ministry of Education's base grants for Parent Engagement.

School Council

Our next meeting is on Monday, February 6th at 6:30p.m. in our library. We would love to see you there.