



# Connaught Public School Newsletter

## JANUARY 2021

300 Peel Street  
Collingwood, Ontario L9Y 4N9  
(705) 445-1241

Principal: Don Shackell  
Vice Principal: Dave Richter  
Office Support: Tara Eskra

### IMPORTANT DATES

Jan. 6 - CCI Virtual Open House - Gr. 8 Families (Go to the CCI Website [cci.scdsb.on.ca](http://cci.scdsb.on.ca) and the link will be on the homepage. Videos will be posted at 6:00PM and drop in questions will start at 7:00PM).  
Jan. 29 - Elementary Professional Activity Day

### COVID-19 SELF-ASSESSMENT

All students and staff will be expected to self-screen prior to attending school each day, using a self-assessment tool provided by the SMDHU. Students or staff with symptoms must stay home from school. To access the COVID-19 self-assessment tool, please visit the SMDHU website at [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org).

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*

### KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2021 IS OPEN!

Kindergarten is the beginning of a wonderful journey of learning and we want your child to begin their journey in a SCDSB school! Do you have a child who is turning four in 2021? If so, we invite you to register your child for kindergarten. To register online or for more information visit: [www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning\\_for\\_school/kindergarten](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/kindergarten).

### HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION EVENTS FOR GRADE 8 STUDENTS

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information events will happen virtually this winter. Student leaders and staff at the school will give an overview of what's new and what to expect. Different pathways and courses offered will be explained. Visit your school's website for more information.

**Save the date grade 8 families - CCI Virtual Open House - Wednesday, January 6th, 2021 - 6:00PM**

### CHARACTER ATTRIBUTE FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

Honesty - we behave in a sincere, trustworthy and truthful manner.  
More information about character education can be found here: [www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character\\_education](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education).

### DAYS OF AWARENESS AND RECOGNITION TAKING PLACE IN JANUARY

Throughout the year, there are many awareness days that focus on different causes and recognition. The Simcoe County District School Board has developed a list of these days as a guide for schools. Schools may participate in recognizing some or all of these days in various ways. This list is not exhaustive. Following are the days of awareness and recognition that the SCDSB will recognize during the month of January:

Jan. 27	Family Literacy Day
Jan. 27	International Holocaust Remembrance Day
Jan. 29	Bell Let's Talk Day



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## 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](http://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca). Our school is in the **WEST** zone.

**When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, as in previous years. It is always a family decision whether or not it is safe for your child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions.**

**This year, please note that students who are unable to attend school due to bus cancellations will be able to access learning materials on the digital learning platform assigned by their teacher, either Desire2Learn (D2L) or Google Classroom.**

**Students in the Learn@Home program will continue with regular programming as scheduled.**

The SCSTC 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>

## SCDSB to offer Grade 9 French Immersion beginning in September 2021

Starting in September 2021, The Simcoe County District School Board will begin to offer French Immersion (FI) courses to Grade 9 students. There are seven designated secondary school sites that will run FI programs. These sites are:

- Banting Memorial High School (Alliston)
- Barrie North Collegiate (Barrie)
- Collingwood Collegiate (Collingwood)
- Georgian Bay District Secondary School (Midland)
- Innisdale Secondary School (Barrie)
- Nantyr Shores Secondary School (Alcona)
- Twin Lakes Secondary School (Orillia)

Grade 9 students will take four courses in French: French language, geography and health and physical education, as well as an arts course. By the end of Grade 12, students in the FI program will have taken 10 courses in French. To learn more, including how to register and what school your child would attend, visit [www.scdsb.on.ca/secondary/program\\_options/french\\_as\\_a\\_second\\_language](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/secondary/program_options/french_as_a_second_language).

## Brush as a team until age 8

Baby teeth are important, and kids under age 8 still need help from an adult to brush. Help your child to brush their teeth twice a day for two minutes using a pea-sized amount of fluoridated toothpaste. Before school and before bed are two great times to get into the habit of brushing. Cavities can be painful and can lead to infection, so be sure to get any toothaches checked by a dental professional.

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit offers some free dental services for children and teens. Contact Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or visit [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org).

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## Get into coding!

Interested in exploring coding with your child at home? There are several user-friendly programs that make coding fun, accessible and easy to discover! [Code.org](https://code.org) is a nonprofit dedicated to expanding access to computer science in schools and increasing participation by young women and students from other underrepresented groups. They offer easily accessible coding projects, lessons and experiences for students to create and alter code.

Visit this website for Hour of Code tutorials (<https://studio.code.org/courses>) or try some of the ones we recommend below!

- Dance Party - <https://studio.code.org/s/dance-2019/stage/1/puzzle/1>
- Minecraft Voyage Aquatic - <https://studio.code.org/s/aquatic/stage/1/puzzle/1>
- Flappy Code - <https://studio.code.org/flappy/1>
- Classic Maze - <https://studio.code.org/hoc/1>

**Scratch Junior ([www.scratchjr.org/](http://www.scratchjr.org/))** - With the ScratchJr iPad app, young children (ages 5-7) can program their own interactive stories and games. In the process, they learn to solve problems, design projects and express themselves creatively on the computer.

**Scratch (<https://scratch.mit.edu/>)** - Scratch is a web-based tool where you can program your own interactive stories, games, and animations and share your creations with others in the online community. Scratch includes easy to follow tutorials, and endless project ideas to get your young coder creating and exploring the world of code.

Check out some of the great Scratch Tutorials (<https://scratch.mit.edu/ideas>) or try some of the ones we recommend below!

- Animate your Name - <https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/462492913/editor>
- Make a Chase Game - <https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/462493493/editor>
- Create a Story - <https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/462493360/editor>

## It's all about the connection

Young people are more likely to grow up successfully when they have close connections with the important adults in their lives. Through these connections, young people discover who they are, what they are capable of and how to make a positive contribution in their community. Here are some ways to help keep your relationship with your child strong:

- ✦ *Show me that I matter to you.* Encourage my efforts, and believe in me
- ✦ *Push me to keep getting better.* Expect my best, while helping me learn from mistakes
- ✦ *Help me complete tasks and achieve goals.* Stand up for me when I need it
- ✦ *Treat me with respect and give me a say.* Take me seriously and treat me fairly

*Connect me with people and places that broaden my world.* Inspire me about my future.

Looking for more parenting support? Speak with a public health nurse by calling 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or visit [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org).

## Join us for some Time Well Spent

The SCDSB acknowledges the existence of systemic racism in society, and the importance of addressing it. We share responsibility in standing up against racism, hate and oppression of all kinds. One of the SCDSB's [Strategic Priorities](#) is Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. Our focus continues to be educating our students and staff about the injustice and impact of systemic racism, and on working to create and maintain safe spaces within our schools and broader communities.

Our work within the pillar of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion stems from the fundamental principle that every student should have the opportunity to experience academic success and personal well-being regardless of their identity. With that in mind, the SCDSB Equity, Diversity and Inclusion department developed a video series focused on addressing the impacts of all forms of racism. Interviews with experts in the field, members of local and national community organizations, parents/guardians, staff and trustees have been recorded and shared with staff and with the public through our social media channels. To watch, visit the SCDSB YouTube channel at: [www.youtube.com/SimcoeCountyDSB](http://www.youtube.com/SimcoeCountyDSB) and select the Time Well Spent playlist. For more information about the SCDSB's commitment to equity and inclusion, please visit the equity and inclusion page of our website at: [https://scdsb.on.ca/about/equity\\_and\\_inclusion](https://scdsb.on.ca/about/equity_and_inclusion).



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## SAFE ARRIVAL

If your child is going to be absent or late please call the school's SAFE ARRIVAL line (705)445-1241 Press 1.  
Our Safe Arrival line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

## SCHOOL WEBSITE

[con.scdsb.on.ca](http://con.scdsb.on.ca)



# January 2021

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3	4	5	6 Virtual Open House - CCI	7	8	9
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