

Principal: Don Shackell  
Vice Principal: Dave Richter  
Senior Administrative Support: Chris Boyd  
Website: [con.scdsb.on.ca](http://con.scdsb.on.ca)  
300 Peel Street, Collingwood, ON, L9Y 0A7  
(705) 445-1241



# Connaught Public School

October 2018

**Thank-you to all of the students, staff, parents and guardians for making our first month such a success! We are off to a great start!**

## Office Staff

Ms. Boyd will be on a medical leave as of October 9<sup>th</sup>. We wish her a speedy recovery! Replacing Ms. Boyd during her absence will be Mrs. Wells on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays, and Mrs. Ledden on Thursdays and Fridays.

## Dental Screening Program

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Oral Health team will be at our school on **Monday November 12<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday November 13<sup>th</sup> 2018** to conduct dental screenings. A dental screening is a quick look in the mouth using a sterilized tooth mirror. Don't forget to look for the information letter from the health unit, which will be coming home with your child.

## Gifted Screening

If you would like to nominate your child for gifted screening, please contact your child's teacher. For more information, please contact the school. Nominations are due by October 4<sup>th</sup>.

## School Council members invited to *Connections* event on Oct. 23

School council members are invited to join us at Connections, the Simcoe County District School Board's (SCDSB) school council development and networking event.

When: Tues. Oct. 23, 4 to 7 p.m.

Where: SCDSB Education Centre, 1170 Hwy. 26, Midhurst

Participants can gather tips and important information to help you in your role on school council, contribute to group discussions, browse booths and enjoy snacks from our approved vendors, and network with fellow school council and Parent Involvement Committee members. This year, we welcome Jacqui Strachan, Communications Director, People for Education, who will discuss fundraising and equity within a school council. Register at [www.scdsb.on.ca/connections](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/connections). Register by Oct. 16 for your chance to win a \$500 parent engagement grant for your school. The winner(s) will be drawn at the event. You must be in attendance to win the prize.

## School bus transportation information available from the SCSTC

For school bus transportation information, visit the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s website at: [main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca). Also, remember to bookmark the school bus

information page at: [simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://simcoecountyschoolbus.ca) for bus delay and cancellation information on inclement weather days.

### School Bus Safety Week and School Bus Driver Appreciation Day

School Bus Safety Week takes place October 22 to 26, 2018. To support schools in promoting school bus safety to students, the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC), in partnership with school bus operators, will offer bus evacuation training to all home-to-school transported students. During this week, school bus drivers will educate students on how to evacuate a school bus safely in an emergency situation. Wed., Oct. 24 is School Bus Driver Appreciation Day in the province of Ontario. It's a great opportunity for the school community to thank our bus drivers for all their hard work transporting students to and from school safely. For more information, visit the SCSTC website at [main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/](http://main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/).

### Want to be a volunteer at our school? Here's what you need to know.

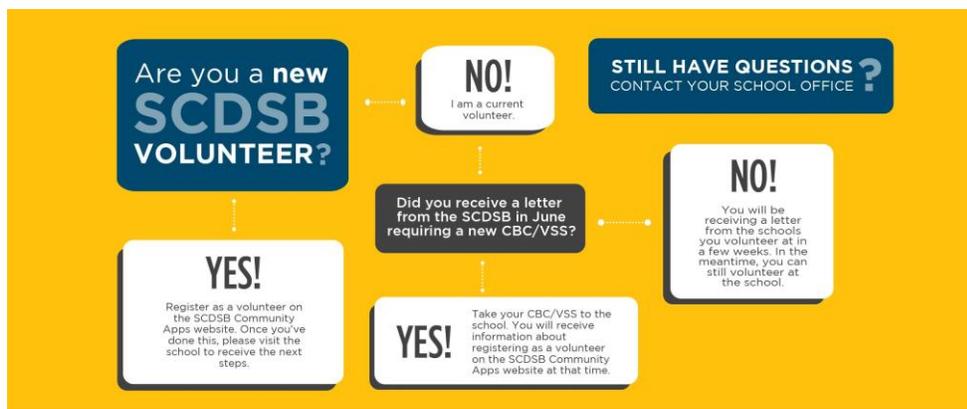
We appreciate the commitment of all who volunteer at our school. This school year, we are implementing a new online Volunteer Portal. SCDSB Community Apps (<http://communityapps.scdsb.on.ca>) is a new online portal that allows you to begin the process for volunteering at our school. Here is some information to share as we've been receiving some questions:

- Only NEW volunteers or those who received a letter in June indicating you require an updated Criminal Background Check Vulnerable Sector Screening (5-year renewal) are able to register as a volunteer on the Community Apps website at this time.
- If you're a current, approved school volunteer, you can still volunteer at our school for the time being. You should have recently received a letter with your access code. This code will allow you to register as a volunteer on the Volunteer Portal through the Community Apps website.

### Reorganization balances class sizes to support your child's success

Each September, our school starts off with a certain number of classes and teachers - these numbers are based on estimates made the previous spring about how many students will be enrolled during the next school year. As you may be aware, the Ministry of Education has class size goals that all school boards are required to meet. When the Simcoe County District School Board organized its schools in the spring, they adhered to this expectation. Each September, the board compares actual enrolment numbers to the numbers projected by the board in the spring. At times it is necessary to reorganize classes. After reorganization, some students may move to another class in order to balance class sizes. In some cases, it may be necessary to move teachers to a new school. If your child was affected by a change, you should have received a letter with details following reorganization. Please be assured that these changes will not

affect the quality of education your child will receive at Connaught P.S.. Our staff have the skills, training and resources to work effectively with students in a variety



of settings.

### **Pay for field trips, lunch days, etc. with SchoolCash Online**

We have made it easy for parents to make their school purchases from the convenience of their own home. Whether it's lunch days, field trips or school wear, we have it online for you! Follow these three steps to get started:

1. Go to [simcoecounty.schoolcashionline.com](http://simcoecounty.schoolcashionline.com) or visit our school website and click on "Pay Fees"
2. Register and add your child to the newly created account
3. View and purchase items through bank transfer or credit card

It's safe, fast and convenient. Contact the office with any questions.

### **Parent Portal gives parents real-time access to Attendance Information**

The SCDSB Parent Portal is a secure online tool that provides parents/guardians (of students less than 18 years of age) with quick access to their children's attendance and grades and includes the option to sign up for email notifications. To access the Parent Portal, parents/guardians will need their child's SCDSB Pupil ID Number, which can be found on the Student Information Verification Form, as well as an Access ID. The Access ID will be provided in a sealed letter this fall with instructions on how to create an account. If you lose the Access ID, you can visit us in the school office and we'll provide it to you after verifying your identity.

### **Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 7 to 13**

This year's Fire Prevention Week theme focuses on three fundamental actions people can take to be fire-safe:

- LOOK for places fire could start. Take a good look around your home. Identify potential fire hazards and take care of them.
- LISTEN for the sound of the smoke alarm. You could have only minutes to escape safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Go to your outside meeting place, which should be a safe distance from the home and where everyone should know to meet.
- LEARN two ways out of every room and make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily and are free of clutter.

### **It's time to update your child's immunization record *(for elementary and secondary schools)***

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is required to keep up to date immunization records for all students who attend elementary or secondary school in the County of Simcoe and the District of Muskoka. Parents are responsible for reporting immunizations to the health unit each time their child receives a vaccine from their health care provider. It's easy to update your child's immunization status. Go to [www.smdhu.org/immsonline](http://www.smdhu.org/immsonline) to update your child's record, or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 (toll free).

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*

### **October is International Walk to School Month**

Get in on the fun and be part of this worldwide event! Encourage your child or teen to walk or cycle to and from school if you live close by and team up with others to make the trip more fun. If you usually drive your child to school, try getting them to walk part of the way. If your child takes the bus, walking to and from the bus stop is a great way to add physical activity minutes into the day. Walking or cycling allows

kids to enjoy the outdoors and get their recommended 60 minutes of physical activity each day. Learn more: <http://ontarioactiveschooltravel.ca/international-walk-to-school-month/>.  
 Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

### Collingwood Skating Club

Does your child want to play hockey or figure skate? Check out the Collingwood Skating Club at:

[www.collingwoodskatingclub.com](http://www.collingwoodskatingclub.com)

~ October 2018 ~						
◀ Sep 2018						Nov 2018 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> Orange Shirt Day	<b>2</b> School Council Meeting @6pm	<b>3</b> Dare – Miss Linton	<b>4</b> Gifted Screening Nominations Due	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Thanksgiving (holiday)	<b>9</b> Fire Prevention Week  Fresh From the Farm - Orders Due  Little Caesar's Pizza Kit Orders are Due	<b>10</b> Fire Prevention Week	<b>11</b> Fire Prevention Week	<b>12</b> Fire Prevention Week	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Dare – Miss Linton	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Dare – Miss Linton  Bus Driver Appreciation Day	<b>25</b>  Pick Up Little Caesar's Pizza Kits	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Halloween	<b>31</b> Dare – Miss Linton	<b>Notes:</b>  <b>It's Walk to School Month!</b>		