



HURONIA HIGHLIGHTS

DECEMBER 2022 UPDATE

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Website <http://huc.scdsb.on.ca> **Twitter:** @HuroniasCES

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HCES Safe Arrival Phone Number 705-322-1101 Press #1

Safe Arrival Email: hucattendance@scdsb.on.ca

Principal's Message

As we make our way to Winter Break, our students and staff have been working hard learning in the classroom, around the school, in the yard and in the community. We appreciate the volunteers who have joined in to help us with a variety of experiences. Student led-conferences were a wonderful opportunity for students to celebrate their learning with an chance to share their work with their families. It was so nice to have the sound of families in our building once again. For those who supported the Book Fair, thank you. We raised almost \$4000 for books and resources for our school.

We wish all of our students and their families a wonderful Winter Break. If this is a time of celebration for your family, we hope your days are filled with fun, food, festivities, family and friends. We hope your have a chance to rest and restore, enjoying those people and places in your life that are most important to you.

Best wishes, Cathy Lethbridge

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 opened Thursday, Dec. 1 at 9 a.m. and will close at 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 16.

Entry into the FI program is determined through a digitally randomized lottery system.

Character attribute for the month of December

Empathy - we strive to understand and appreciate the feelings and actions of others.

More information about character education can be found here: www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education.



COVID Self assessment

All students and staff are encouraged to complete the daily COVID19 self assessment screening tool prior to entering SCDSB schools and buildings and follow the direction of the screening tool. The COVID19 self assessment screening tool can be accessed here: [School Screening Tool](#).



Night School

Register now for night school (semester two) to complete high school, prepare for post-secondary education

Night school offers secondary school credits in a variety of subjects for students completing their Ontario Secondary School Diploma, and for students who are preparing for post-secondary education. Subjects include math, English, chemistry, biology, physics and social science. All night school courses this year are offered as teacher-led, synchronous online classes using Brightspace/D2L. Classes are held two nights per week from 6 to 9 p.m. on either a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday schedule, with online student attendance being mandatory. Night school classes run given sufficient enrolment.

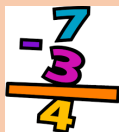
Learn more at: www.thelearningcentres.com.

Math Support

Looking for ways to support your child in their math learning at home?

The Ministry of Education has a page with ideas on how to support your child and make math part of your day-to-day routine. There are general routines and grade-level ideas to explore.

Learn more: www.ontario.ca/page/support-your-childs-math-learning.



Days Of Significance - December 2022

Dec. 3rd - Maun Agiyaras (Jainism)

Dec. 6th - National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

Dec. 7th - Sanghamitta Day (Buddhism)

Dec. 8th - Badhi Day/Awakening Day (Buddhism)

Dec. 13th - Birthday of Iman Aga Khan (Islam)

Dec. 18-26 - Chanukah (Judaism)

Dec. 21st - Yule/Winter Solstice (may be observed Dec. 19-23) (Wicca)

Dec. 24th - Christmas Eve (Christianity)

Dec. 25th - Christmas (Christianity)

Dec. 26th - Zarathosht-no-diso (FC)

Dec. 26th - Boxing Day (Canadian Holiday)

Dec. 31st - New Year's Eve



Adult English as a Second Language Program

Looking to improve your English skills? Join our adult English as a second language (ESL) classes to improve your listening and speaking skills through class discussions and presentations. Develop your English skills to advance in your current job or open the door to new employment opportunities. Learn more about your local community and explore Canadian culture and history. Adult ESL classes are offered year-round with a continuous intake.

To register for the program, please contact the Barrie Learning Centre at 705-725-8360 ext. 45151, or email ganderson@scdsb.on.ca.

**Please note all students starting ESL for the first time must be assessed prior to starting the class. Fees apply for visitors to Canada and work/study permit holders.*

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, staff and within the SCDSB's broader school communities.

There are three remaining webinars in the learning series specifically planned for parents, guardians and other caregivers during this school year.

Feb. 9, 2023 Guide to Attuned Limit Setting

March 2, 2023 Emotional Regulation for Kids and Adults

April 27, 2023 The Biology of Stress



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>.

Learn more about PRI by visiting their website at www.pineriverinstitute.com.

Upcoming Spirit Days:

As we come back in the new year, we are planning a number of spirit days. Families have asked for advanced notification about these special days to help with planning at home:

December 23 Pyjama Day

January 20 What I want to be when I grow up day

February 24 School colours/spirit wear day

March 31 Pyjama Day

April 21 Sports Team/Sports Wear

May 26 Dress like your favourite character (same considerations as Halloween costumes)

June 16 Celebrate summer Beach Day

Early learning and child development

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!



New schools and construction projects.

The Simcoe County District School Board has a variety of projects on the go, whether it's building new schools, renovating older schools, or completing additions on existing buildings. For more information about how new schools are planned and funded, visit the capital planning page on our website (www.scdsb.on.ca/about/capital_planning).

If you are interested in information about recently completed projects, projects under construction and new projects, please visit the new schools page on our website (www.scdsb.on.ca/about/capital_planning/new_schools) or our Capital Priorities Overview (storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/bbeca797d75f4aef933c79047ff2a28c).

The Season Of Giving

December marks the season of giving, and is a great time to teach your children about the benefits of giving back to their community and others. Many people think the only way to help their community or support their favourite charity is with a financial donation—think again! While financial donations are integral to non-profits, there are many other ways that you can give back, make a difference in your community and have fun—all at the same time!

Here are a three ways your family can make a difference this giving season:

Volunteer As A Family

Volunteering is a great way to teach kids about empathy and compassion. It shows them that a simple act can make a big difference, and helps them practice valuable life skills. Start small, like spending an hour helping a neighbour, and work your way up to bigger commitments, like going to a shelter or animal rescue once a week.

Get Crafty For A Cause

A fun way to get the whole family involved is to make arts and crafts to share with others. Many retirement homes and long-term care homes collect handmade cards, drawings and crafts from the community to share with seniors during the holidays. This is a fun activity that lets kids be creative, and brings great joy to those receiving the handmade items.

Give Old Clothes Or Toys A Second Life

Have your kids outgrown any of the items they used to love? Consider giving gently worn clothing or used toys a second life by donating them to a local non-profit. Many shelters that support struggling families, refugees or immigrants rely on clothing and toy donations. Have your family collect any items they want to donate and explain to your children that their once loved items will be going to a new home to bring joy to other children that need it.

Local charities, like the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka, run on the generous support of individuals and families like yours. If you'd like to learn more about the ways you can give back to the YMCA, visit www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca. No matter how you decide to give back to your community, you and your family can feel good knowing you are making a positive difference in the lives of other.

