



# Falcon News

Fieldcrest  
Elementary School  
100 Professor Day Dr.  
Bradford, Ontario L3Z 2B5

## October 2016

Telephone  
(905) 778-2010  
Fax  
(905) 778-2021  
Fieldcrest.edublogs.org  
Inclement Weather Zone:  
South

David Brownlee, Principal  
Heather Booth, Vice Principal  
Daryl Halliday, Superintendent

THIS MONTH AT FIELDCREST

- Oct. 3rd**
  - Volunteer Orientation 6:00 pm
  - School Council Elections & Meeting 6:30 PM
  - Character Education Assemblies: Gr. 1-3 @ 9:30 am; Kind. At 10:15 am and Gr. 4-8 @ 11:45 am
- Oct. 5th**
  - Area Cross Country Meet in Tottenham
- Oct. 6th**
  - Flag Football Zones in New Tecumseth
- Oct. 10th**
  - Thanksgiving Day  
NO SCHOOL
- Oct. 12th & 13th**
  - Picture Day
- Oct. 21st**
  - PA Day  
NO SCHOOL
- Oct. 28th**
  - Character Education Assemblies Gr. 1-3 @ 11:45 am; Gr. 4-8 @ 9:30 am and Kind. @ 12:30 am
- Oct. 31st**
  - Dance-a-Thon
- Tuesdays**
  - Bucket Drumming Club Gr. 5-8

**Picture Day**  
All Classes will have their pictures done on Wednesday, October 12th EXCEPT for ALL Kindergarten classes, Ms. Germaine and Ms. Wren's classes. They will have pictures taken on Thursday, October 13th.  
Proofs will go home approximately 10 days after picture day. You will have a choice of poses and backgrounds. You also have a choice to select photos and pay online. There are more picture options available online so you will want to check out this great feature.

**Signing IN/OUT at the Office**  
Any late students are required to sign IN at the office and receive a late slip before going to class. If you are picking your child up early please send a note to your child's teacher. They must be signed OUT in the office by an adult on their emergency list. **The office will not be able to call student's for dismissal between 3:15 and 3:35 as classes are busy getting students ready for dismissal**

**Lost & Found**  
Please check Lost & Found (bin in front foyer) by Friday, Oct. 7th as any items left will be donated to charity.

**School Times**

Supervision Begins	9:00 am
Warning Bell	9:12 am
Entry Bell	9:15 am
Instructional Time	9:15 to 10:55 am
Nutrition Break (Kind.-Gr. 3)	10:55 to 11:15 am
Outdoor Play (Gr. 4-8)	10:55 to 11:15 am
Nutrition Break (Gr. 4-8)	11:15 to 11:35 am
Outdoor Play (Kind.-Gr. 3)	11:15 to 11:35 am
Instructional Time	11:35 to 1:15 pm
Nutrition Break (Kind.-Gr. 3)	1:15 to 1:35 pm
Outdoor Play (Gr. 4-8)	1:15 to 1:35 pm
Nutrition Break (Gr. 4-8)	1:35 to 1:55 pm
Outdoor Play (Kind.-Gr. 3)	1:35 to 1:55 pm
Instructional Time	1:55 to 3:35 pm
Dismissal:	3:35 pm

Please ensure your children are aware of the time that school begins so that they will be on time. Chronic lateness is very disruptive to classes and late students miss important information.

## Arrival & Dismissal-Keeping Students Safe

The safety of students is our top priority. Arrival and dismissal are busy times at our school. We need to work together with parents/guardians and childcare providers to make sure students are safe.

Here are key points to be aware of when planning pick up and/or drop off of students:

- Supervision starts at 9:00 am and dismissal is at 3:35 pm. School staff will contact the parent/guardian, followed by emergency contact, for any student who is not picked up within this time. If late pickup happens often, additional support services may be involved.
- If parents/guardians arrange for other people to pick up their children, like a private childcare provider, the parent/guardian is responsible to ensure the alternate person/program is picking up on time.
- Designated bus loading zones are out-of-bounds during arrival and dismissal times, with the only exception being Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium buses. Private childcare providers will be asked not to use these areas. Parents are also not allowed to drop off or pick up in the bus zones.
- Once buses have departed and the loading zone has been opened up by school staff, vehicle traffic may begin to flow through the area to pick students up. Traffic must be in constant flow in this area at all times, meaning no unattended parked vehicles in this area.
- Unattended vehicles must be parked in an approved parking space with the engine turned off.

A full description of the Supervision, Arrival and Dismissal Procedures is available at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) – Parents – Safe and Healthy Schools – Procedures.

## Health Unit Reminder

### A reminder from the Health Unit: Keeping your child's immunization record up-to-date

The Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA) states that The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is required by law to keep an up-to-date immunization record on file for every student who attends elementary or secondary school. As of July 1, 2014 ISPA has been updated and includes the following vaccines:

- Varicella (chickenpox) two doses for children born in or after 2010
- Meningococcal (meningitis)
- Tetanus, diphtheria, polio and pertussis (whooping cough) - at least 4 doses
- Measles, mumps and rubella - after the first birthday

The health unit does not receive immunization information directly from doctor's offices. Parents need to contact the health unit each time students receive a vaccine from their health care provider. If a student's immunization record on file with the health unit is not up to date, the health unit will mail a notice asking for immunization information or proof of a valid exemption. If the information requested is not given to the health unit, the student may be suspended from school. If your child is due for immunizations, an appointment can be made with your health care provider or at a health unit immunization clinic by contacting Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520. Up-to-date immunization information can be provided to the health unit by a secure online form, mail, fax or by dropping off a copy at a local health unit office. For more information, visit [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org).

## Dogs On Property

Dogs should not be brought onto school property especially during entry and dismissal times. We have several children who are afraid of dogs even the small ones. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Bus Cancellation Information-Inclement Weather

Although fall has just arrived, winter is just around the corner in Simcoe County. With it comes the possibility of severe weather, challenging winter driving conditions and, as a result, possible bus and school event cancellations.

All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's bus information website at [www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca). Our school is in the South zone. When buses are cancelled, please remember that schools are still open (unless otherwise noted) for student learning. **DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL TO DETERMINE IF BUSES ARE CANCELLED.**

The Consortium, in conjunction with bus operators, will make the decision to cancel school buses before 6 a.m. and as such, will make every effort to post announcements between 6 and 7 a.m. Parents should also note that 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 also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions> and you can follow the Consortium on Twitter @SCSTC\_SchoolBus.

## Fire Prevention Week-Oct. 9th to 15th

Fire Prevention Week is October 9 to 15, 2016 and local fire departments want you to join the *Don't Wait, Check the Date!* selfie challenge. Smoke alarms wear out over time and need to be replaced within the time frame indicated by the manufacturer, usually 10 years. The date of manufacture is indicated on the back of the smoke alarm and the expiry date is taken from that date. Smoke alarms are required on every floor of your home and outside all sleeping areas. Test all of your smoke alarms monthly by pushing the test button on the alarm, and replace batteries at least once a year or when the alarm's low battery signal begins to chirp.

Families are challenged everyone to take a selfie of their family checking the expiry date of their smoke alarms and post it on social media using #checkthed8. For more information about testing and replacing your smoke alarms, visit: [www.ontario.ca/firemarshal](http://www.ontario.ca/firemarshal).

## School Grounds-Smoke Free

This is a reminder to students, parents, guardians, and community members that under the Smoke-Free Ontario Act it is against the law for any person to hold lit tobacco or to smoke anywhere on school property at any time. Please respect this law when visiting the property for purposes such as to pick up students, to meet with staff and to attend school performances and sports events. Your actions encourage youth to obey the law and to choose tobacco-free lifestyles. Have questions? Contact the Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or visit [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org).

## October-International Walk To School Month

Did you know that October is International Walk to School month? It is a great way for children to get recommended 60 minutes of physical activity each day and also gives parents and staff a chance to be part of a worldwide event that celebrates the many benefits of walking. Get in on the fun and try these activities:

- Create a walking group/"bus" to and from school
- Create a fun walking challenge for your school community involving students, parents and teachers

Create and sign a Walk to School pledge

Check out the website at [www.saferoutestoschool.ca](http://www.saferoutestoschool.ca) for more information. You can also call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 and speak with a public health nurse or visit the health unit website at [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org).

## Parking Lot in Morning

We have grown once again and this means that our staff has grown as well. This means that they need a spot in our parking lot. Please be respectful of the fact that our parking lot is very busy. Walk to school with your children, or park in a legal spot on the street and walk to the school grounds. This will ensure our staff will be able to obtain a spot in the parking lot.

## Safe Arrival

If your child will be absent/late please call the school's safe arrival line at 905-778-2010 and press 1. Leave a message with your child's name (spelling the last name), teacher, date of absence and the reason for the absence. This is a 24 hour machine where a message must be left if your child will be absent or late. If your child is absent for 3 or more consecutive days please send a note. Please do not leave an e-mail or voice mail with your child's teacher.

## School Council

Our first School council meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2016 at 6:30 pm. All parents are welcome to attend our meetings.

### School Council Election Process

- Nominations were due to the office by September 30th (per previous newsletter)
- Candidates Forum and Election Day (if needed) - October 3rd at 6:30 PM
- First School Council meeting for 2016/2017—October 3rd after elections

WE ARE LOOKING FOR PARENTS WILLING TO BE PART OF OUR COUNCIL. WE MEET NO MORE THAN ONCE A MONTH. BECOME INVOLVED IN YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL.

## Gifted Screening

Students who display an advanced degree of general intellectual ability may require additional program support in order to reach their educational potential. This support may be through enhancing the curriculum, differentiated instruction and through providing program modifications. This type of programming is important to engage, motivate and challenge students who are identified as gifted in either the regular classroom or in gifted classroom placements. In consultation with parents, school staff determines who these students are through the gifted screening process. Students may be nominated by either a teacher or parent. The gifted screening process consists of three components:

- a Teacher Rating Scale;
- a Parent Questionnaire;
- standardized test results (the Otis Lennon School Ability Test)

Parents of a student currently in Grade 3, who wish the school to consider their child for screening, are asked to contact Ms. West-Kolb before October 7, 2016.

If your child is nominated a teacher from the school will contact you regarding the screening process. You will be asked to sign a consent form as your child will be taking a standardized test (OLSAT). Your child will be given some instruction regarding the test and will have the opportunity to take a practice test prior to the actual test. Once the school receives the results, you will be contacted and these results will be shared with you. The school staff will also explain what any next steps may be. If you require additional information regarding the gifted screening process, please contact Ms. West-Kolb at the school, 905-778-2010.

## This Months Character Trait is Cooperation

We work together towards shared goals and purposes!

“The way a team plays as a whole determines its success. You may have the greatest bunch of individual stars in the world, but if they don't play together, the club won't be worth a dime.” - Babe Ruth

## Halloween

Students who wish to dress up on October 31st are welcome to do so. However, please note that costumes should not show violence and should not include weapons (Guns, knives, etc.) or masks that cover the face area. This is optional and students do not have to dress up.